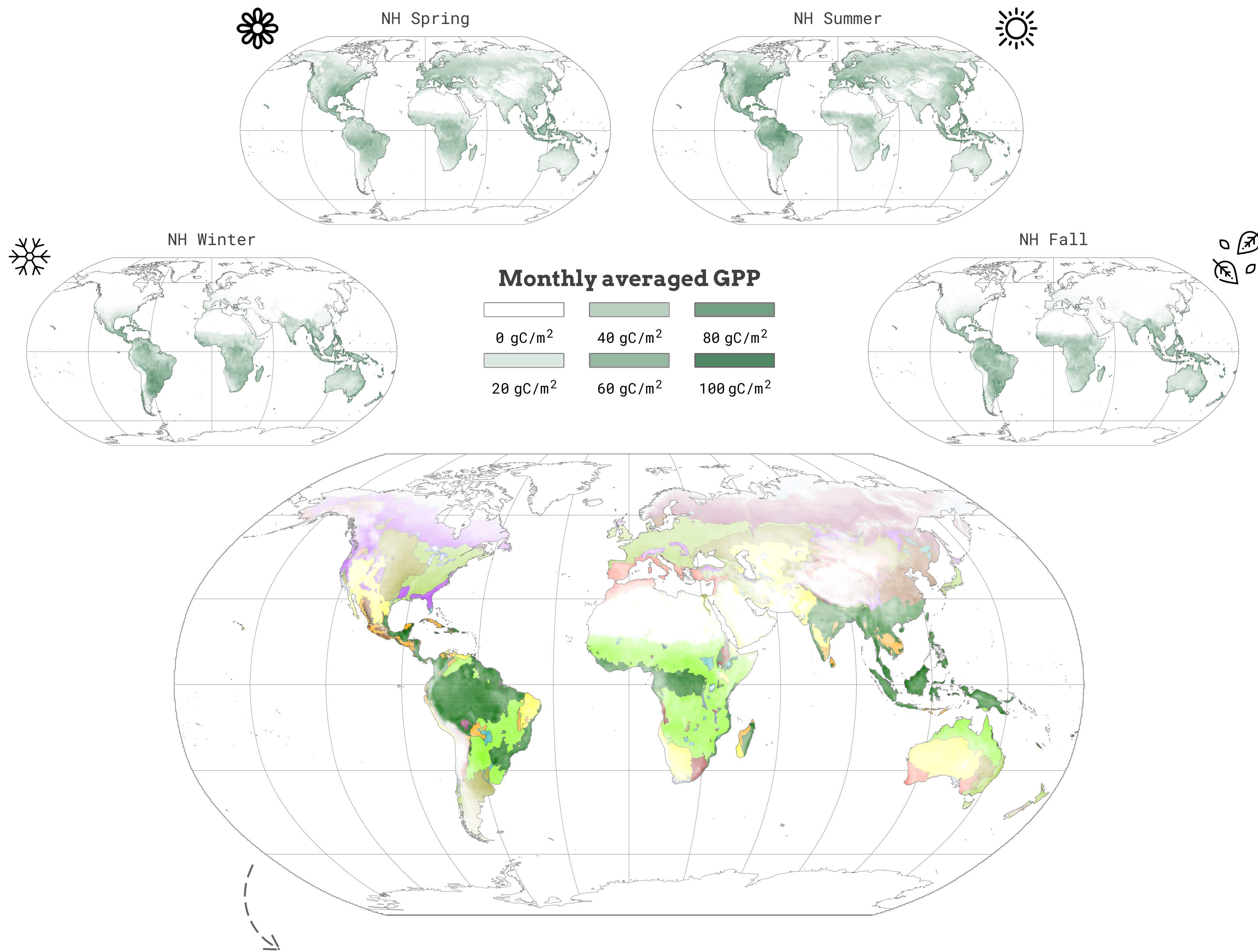


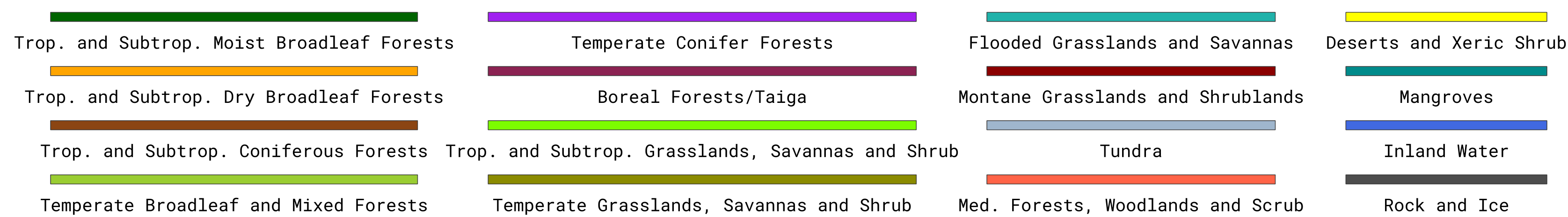
Modelling global biomass dynamics

Photosynthesis is the most important process to assimilate carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. By using the solar energy plants generate carbohydrates and thus biomass. The process depends on the intra- and interannual meteorological changes as well as the distribution and composition of global ecosystems. However a distinction must be made between **Gross Primary Production (GPP)** and **Net Primary Production (NPP)**.

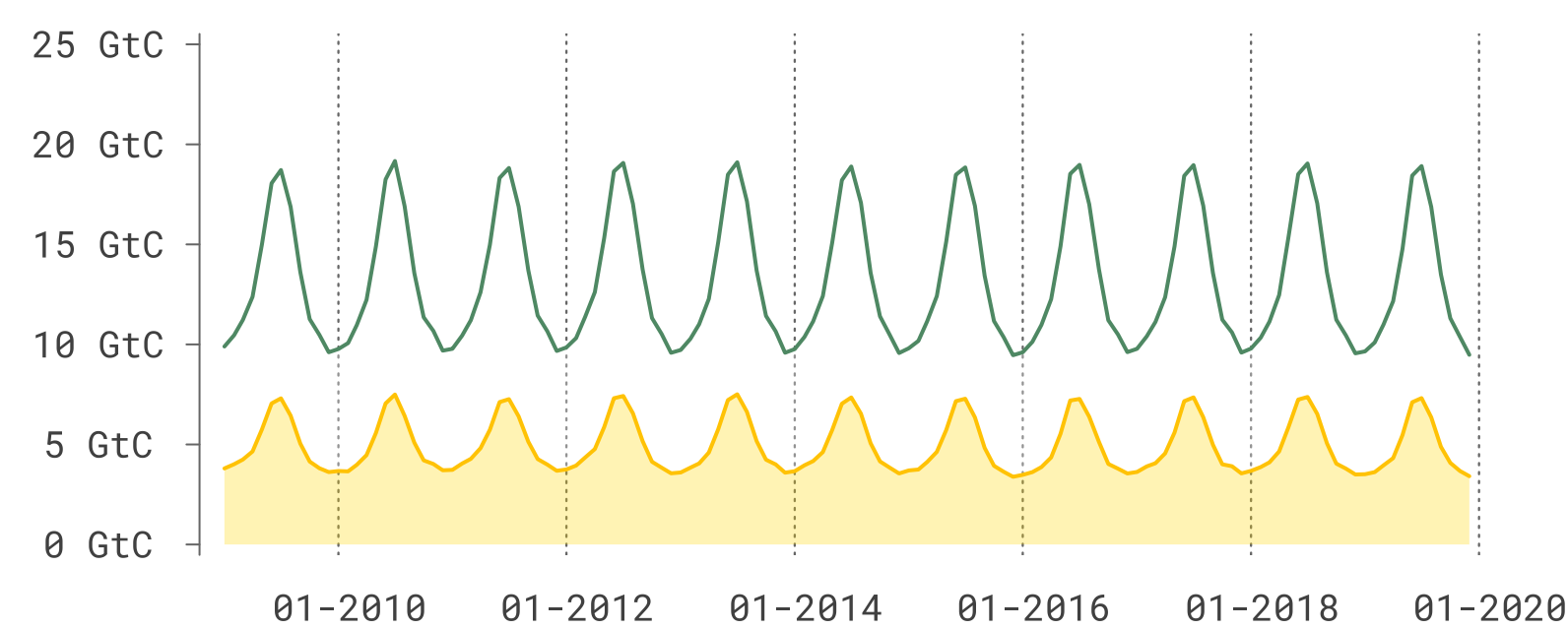
While GPP accounts for all carbon beeing fixated NPP also accounts for the plants' respiration. Some ecosystems, on the global scale **biomes**, account for the highest share of GPP/NPP.



Colour scale changed after global biomes (Olson et al. 2001):



Global **GPP** & **NPP** within the past 10 years



Each biome's contribution to annual GPP

