

iale BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY

Chapter Updates

1. Updates from IALE North America



Registration is open for our Annual Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2025 IALE-North America Annual Meeting, to be held Sunday, April 13 - Thursday, April 17 at the Sheraton Raleigh Hotel in Raleigh, North Carolina!

The theme of this year's meeting is Landscapes of Change: Dynamic Interactions between Nature and People. We hope you'll make plans to join us (see details at www.ialena.org/annual-meeting.html)!



2. Updates from IALE Deutschland

Celebrating 25 Years of IALE-D: Advancing Landscape Ecology in German-Speaking Regions

iale Region
Deutschland
25 Jahre 06.05.1999



IALE-D members celebrating 25 years with a ceremonial cake cutting at the General Assembly (Photo IALE-D)

The discipline of landscape ecology has a long and dynamic history in Germany, with its origins dating back to the 1930s when the term "Landschaftsökologie" was coined by cartographer and ecologist Carl Troll, marking its establishment as a scientific discipline. Since its inception, German landscape ecologists have played key roles in the International Association of Landscape Ecology (IALE), shaping its early development and actively contributing to its initiatives. For instance, Karl-Friedrich Schreiber was a member of the inaugural IALE Executive Committee and served as Vice-President until 1988, after which Wolfgang Haber took over until 1991. In 1987, the second IALE World Congress was hosted in Münster, Germany, with a focus on the concept of "Connectivity in Landscape Ecology." This landmark event played a pivotal role in shaping the development of this principle.

Building on Germany's strong involvement in IALE, the German Chapter IALE-D was officially established on 5 May 1999, when approximately 30 colleagues from Austria, Germany, and Switzerland gathered in Basel, Switzerland. The objective was to unify German-speaking researchers, planners, and other stakeholders in the field of landscape ecology. During its formal establishment, IALE-D defined its mission as promoting science, research, and education in landscape ecology and its practical applications. To fulfill this mission, IALE-D organizes conferences, seminars, and workshops, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration. Additionally, it supports study visits and internships for students, collaborates with national and international institutions, and disseminates information to the public.

The inaugural IALE-D Annual Congress took place in Nürtingen in 2000, featuring over 40

insightful talks on the theme "The future of Central European landscapes." Since then, more than 20 such congresses have been held almost annually, with over 800 presentations — a number that does not include the numerous additional workshops. The focus of these congresses has evolved over time, expanding beyond key research areas such as landscape pattern quantification, land use and land cover change, ecological processes, ecosystem services, and landscape conservation. More recent discussions have addressed pressing global challenges, including biodiversity loss, climate change, and landscape transformation. The recent publication by Rolf & Schirpke (2024) provides an overview of 25 years of landscape ecology discussions in the German-speaking IALE community. Among its many initiatives, IALE-D has been publishing the peer-reviewed, open-access journal *Landscape Online* since 2007. At the time of its inception, it was one of the first open-access scientific e-journals in landscape ecology. Over the past 15 years, it has grown from an initiative driven by the German-speaking IALE community in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland to a well-established journal connected to the international IALE community. It now receives support from multiple IALE chapters and landscape ecologists worldwide. The editorial by Rolf & Schirpke (2002) provides a comprehensive review of the journal's development. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted IALE-D's traditional



IALE-D Conference 2024: President Christian Albert addressing participants during the opening ceremony (Photo Renate Reue)

in-person congresses, leading to events being held online and in hybrid formats. Recognizing the importance of face-to-face engagement, the 2024 IALE-D Annual Congress took place in Bernburg, Germany — the first major physical congress since the pandemic. With over 70 participants, around 40 presentations, and several workshops, the event focused on the theme "Resilience vs. Transformation in Urban and Rural Areas – What Can Landscape Ecology Contribute?" It also marked a significant milestone, celebrating 25 years of collaboration and networking within the German-speaking landscape ecology

community. Looking ahead, the next IALE-D Annual Congress is scheduled to be held in Hildesheim in 2026, situated between the European Congress in 2025 and the World Congress in 2027. As IALE-D continues to foster research, collaboration, and knowledge exchange, its role in addressing contemporary landscape ecology challenges remains as vital as ever. At present, the German Chapter of IALE-D boasts approximately 150 members. The present board is constituted by Christian Albert (President), Werner Rolf (Vice-President), and Roman Lenz (Treasurer),

along with committee members Dagmar Haase, Uta Schirpke, and Ulrich Walz.

References

Rolf, W., & Schirpke, U. (2024). Reflections on twenty-five years of landscape ecology discussion in the German-speaking IALE community. *Landscape Online*, 99, 1131. <https://doi.org/10.3097/LO.2024.1131>

Rolf, W., & Schirpke, U. (2022). Fifteen years of *Landscape Online*: Looking back at the development of an e-journal. *Landscape Online*, 97, 1106. <https://doi.org/10.3097/LO.2022.1106>

3. Updates from IALE's Czech Republic Chapter

The IALE-CZ Chapter holds an annual conference with a general membership meeting. This year we will meet March (20th and 21st) in Ostrava and the main topic will be "Transformation of the post-

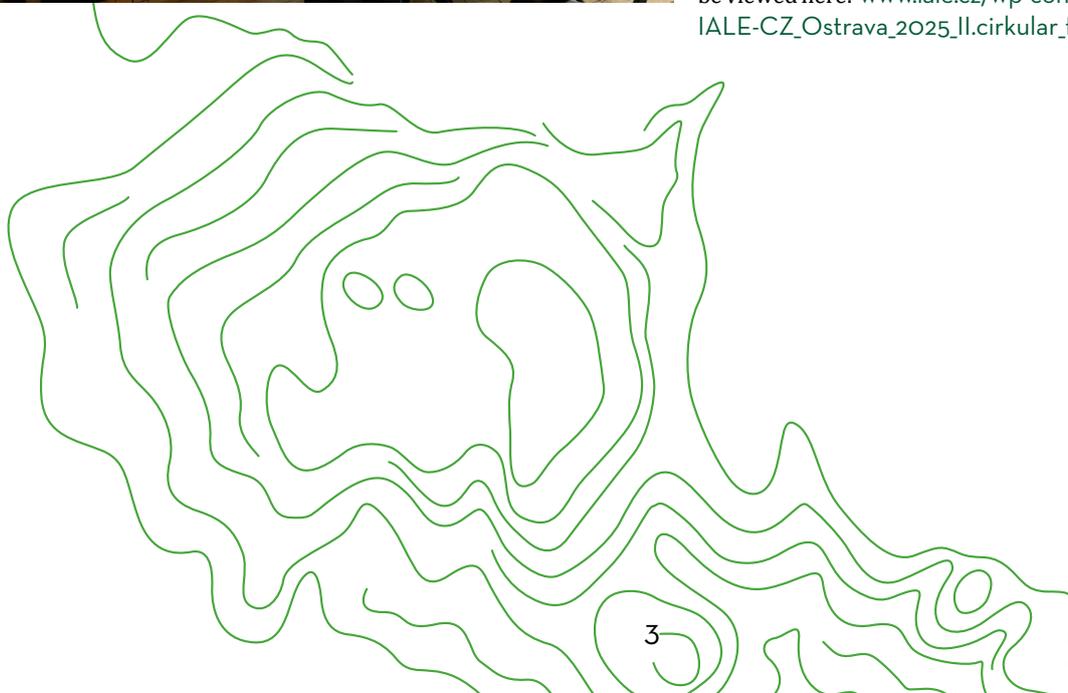
industrial landscape". This includes the transformation of landscapes in general in times of climate change, wars and social polarization, especially as landscapes are becoming a political issue. We are also

continuing our public lectures with the aim of attracting an enthusiastic public to the field of landscape ecology. The last lecture was on conservation and recreation (see photos below).



Photo caption: public lecture on conservation and recreation by Dušan Romportl and Tomáš Janík. Photo credit: Tomáš Janík

The invitation to the annual conference in Czech language can be viewed here: www.iale.cz/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/IALE-CZ_Ostrava_2025_Il.cirkular_fin.pdf.



4. Updates from UK chapter of IALE including a rebranding!

ialeUK Is Now 'Landscape Ecology UK'



Recently, the UK regional chapter of IALE rebranded from ialeUK to Landscape Ecology UK. Their name change accompanies a new website hosted at a new web address: www.landscape-ecology.uk

In the past, the members of ialeUK found they spent a lot of time explaining the acronym - and how to pronounce it! This new name will make it easier for people to recognise what they are all about - promoting interest, learning and understanding of landscape ecology in the UK and beyond.

The new Landscape Ecology UK website will also make it easier for them to achieve this mission. In their [News feed](#), they will share the latest landscape ecology news, including projects and publications from UK members and around the world. In their [Events section](#), they will post details of all their events to facilitate communication between scientists, policy makers, planners and practitioners, as well as related events run by others.

They have also added a series of [Landscape Learning 'lessons'](#) - pages that offer accessible introductions to key aspects of landscape ecology. Currently, this encompasses four main topics: an overview of landscape ecology, key theories and concepts, methods and tools, and applications in policy and practice. The content has been written by members of the Landscape Ecology UK committee and suggests additional reading for those who want to explore further.

Please visit and interact with [the new Landscape Ecology UK website!](#)

Landscape Ecology UK Conference 2025: Monitoring ecosystem recovery at the landscape scale

Join [Landscape Ecology UK](#), formerly ialeUK, at the [Edinburgh Climate Change Institute](#) on the 1-3rd July for our conference on monitoring ecosystem recovery at the landscape scale! This

international conference will explore how innovative monitoring approaches can help understand and report progress towards reversing biodiversity decline, restoring ecosystem functioning and the enhanced provision of ecosystem services at the landscape scale.

The program will include two days of oral and poster presentations within the four themes:

- Technological innovations in landscape scale monitoring
- Nature restoration exemplars
- Scaling monitoring to the landscape scale
- Novel reporting solutions

On the third day you can join excursions to [Lauriston Farm](#) – a 40ha regenerative farm run by a workers cooperative- or the [Carrifran Wildwood](#)- a 650ha valley restored to a wooded wilderness by volunteers since 2020. You can find more information, including instructions for abstract submission [here](#).

Updates from our working groups

Urban and Peri-Urban Governance Working Group

The working group on Urban and peri-urban governance has been busy with:

- Conducting research concerning policy and governance mixes implemented in various peri-urban regions: www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264275124007224
- Researching policymaking which addresses ecosystem service trade-offs in peri-urban landscapes: www.mdpi.com/2073-445X/13/7/106.
- Preparing an interactive session proposal for the IALE Europe congress in Bratislava: Session 2H – Ontology of Landscape Open Spaces in Urban-to-Peri-Urban Gradients

- Preparing a proposal for an interactive workshop at Sustainable Research + Innovation Congress that will be in June in Chicago. The title of this workshop is "Data-driven collaborative decision-making to support resilient futures of urban and peri-urban open spaces in the Global North and Global South".

Plans for future research include:

- Researching neglected open spaces in the urban landscape
- Studying transformations of brownfields in transition landscape of Upper Silesia (Czech Republic and Poland)
- Establishing collaborations with colleagues from the Global South concerning ontology and planning of open spaces in urban and peri-urban contexts.

Updates from The Spatial Analysis of Ecosystems Working Group for 2024

Activities of our working group members in 2024 were focused on tree species diversity and its influence on forest dynamics, particularly within temperate old-growth and tropical ecosystems. A series of studies explored the relationships between species and size diversity, the role of landscape features in biodiversity patterns, and the impact of disturbances on forest composition. These investigations highlight the importance of spatial and temporal factors in understanding forest ecosystem structure, which is central to landscape ecology and effective forest conservation.

A study by Erfanifard et al. (2024) assessed spatial and temporal species diversity in Białowieża Forest (BF), a UNESCO World Heritage site and Old-Growth Forest (OGF). BF has faced challenges from pest outbreaks, especially in 2016-2017, which impacted species composition. Using Airborne Laser Scanning (ALS) and Color InfraRed (CIR) datasets from 2015 and 2019, the study employed the Random Forest algorithm to identify 14 species across 458 plots. It compared biodiversity indices, including α , β , and γ diversity, using both Field Observations (FO) and Remote Sensing Analysis (RSA). While α diversity showed no significant differences between FO and RSA, discrepancies in species richness were attributed to low species frequency and insufficient reference individuals. Despite this, RSA successfully identified dominant species and tracked changes in their Importance Value Index (IVI). Furthermore, RSA explored scale-dependent density shifts of broadleaved species around conifers, yielding results consistent with FO in detecting changes in community dominance. In conclusion, the study shows that RSA is a valuable method for monitoring biodiversity, particularly in assessing species composition and community dynamics in OGFs like Białowieża Forest. The integration of remote sensing provides promising insights for biodiversity monitoring and forest conservation, particularly in the face of disturbances. Linking these findings to landscape ecology, the study emphasizes the role of spatial heterogeneity in biodiversity monitoring. Disturbance patterns (e.g., pest outbreaks) influence species distributions and ecosystem dynamics. Remote sensing helps capture these changes, supporting landscape ecology principles where both spatial and temporal scales are essential for understanding biodiversity in dynamic forest landscapes.

A study by Nguyen et al. (2024a) investigates how species and size diversity affect Above-Ground Biomass (AGB) in tropical forests. It finds that species diversity contributes significantly to AGB in homogenous landscapes, while structural diversity (tree size variation) enhances AGB in more heterogeneous topographies. The study emphasizes the influence of local topographical conditions, such as slope, on the relationship between biodiversity and carbon storage. These findings highlight the importance of maintaining both species and structural diversity for forest management and climate change mitigation. Another study by Nguyen et al. (2024b) examines Ecological Species Groups (ESGs) and interspecific associations among dominant woody species in a seasonal tropical forest in Laos. By analyzing environmental factors like soil properties and topography, the study identifies key ecological groups and their interspecific relationships. The results highlight the role of microhabitats in plant community stability and distribution. Understanding these interactions is crucial for forest conservation and ecological research, as it underscores the role of environmental factors in shaping plant communities. Both studies reinforce the connection between landscape features and biodiversity, contributing to forest function and structure, key aspects of landscape ecology. The first study shows how topography influences the relationship between species and structural diversity, suggesting that landscape heterogeneity (e.g., varied topographies) can enhance ecological processes like carbon storage. The second study, focusing on environmental factors such as elevation, slope, and soil composition, further links landscape structure to biodiversity patterns and ecosystem stability, emphasizing the critical role of landscape features in shaping species distributions and interactions.

- Erfanifard, Y., Lisiewicz, M., & Stereńczak, K. (2024). High resolution remote sensing for biodiversity assessment and monitoring: A case study of dominant tree species in an old-growth forest. *Forest Ecology and Management*, 566, 122094. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2024.122094>
- Nguyen, H. H., Pham, V. D., Bui, T. D., Trinh, H. M., Nguyen, V. Q., & Nguyen, T. T. (2024a). Effects of species and tree size diversity on above-ground biomass in diverse heterogeneous tropical evergreen forests, Quangbinh Province, north central Vietnam. *Annals of Forest Research*, 67(1), 31-40. <https://doi.org/10.15287/afr.2024.3293>
- Nguyen, V. Q., Pham, V. D., Nguyen, V. T., Ngo, T. L., Vu, M., Trinh, H. M., Le, V. C., Pham, T. T., Nguyen, V. H., Nguyen, T. T., Khamphet, P., Do, P. L., & Nguyen, H. H. (2024b). Ecological species groups and interspecific associations of dominant woody species in a seasonal tropical forest of Laos. *Annals of Forest Research*, 67(2), 167-184. <https://doi.org/10.15287/afr.2024.3595>



Recent publications



New Publication from the Global Mountain Safeguard Research Center at Eurac Research

Adem Esmail, B., Anderson, C.C., Bast, S. et al. Geodesign to advance boundary work in urban planning: A study in Stockholm focused on nature-based solutions. *Ambio* 54, 285–304 (2025): <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-024-02083-8>

The recently published article deals with geodesign for sustainable urban planning in Stockholm. The article was published with @SpringerNature in the journal *Ambio - A Journal of Environment and Society*. For further details, please refer to the following link: <https://rdcu.be/dXv7l>.

Recent Publications from our Czech Chapter Members

1. *Janík, T., Zýka, V., Demková, K., Havlíček, M., Borovec, R., Lichová, A., Mrkvová, B. and Romportl, D.*, 2024. Anthropogenic pressure in Czech protected areas over the last 60 years: A concerning increase. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 250, 105146: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2024.105146>

[landurbplan.2024.105146](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2024.105146)

The study examines anthropogenic pressure in large protected areas of the Czech Republic over the past 60 years. During this period, there has been an increase in built-up and recreational areas, with the intensity of these changes varying between individual protected areas. Built-up areas expanded more significantly near large cities, especially after 1990. Recreational areas have grown the most in attractive locations, such as mountainous regions and spa towns. The density of roads has remained more or less stable during the observed period, while have disappeared from open landscapes and increased in forested areas due to recreation and timber harvesting. Overall, anthropogenic pressure and landscape fragmentation have increased, with varying impacts across different parts of the Czech Republic.

2. *Janík, T., Skokanová, H., Havlíček, M., Borovec, R. and Romportl, D.*, 2024. Landscape changes in Czech large protected areas 1950–2020: Two different landscape types on the same path. *Journal of Nature Conservation*, 81, 126705. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnc.2024.126705>

The article focuses on land cover changes in large protected areas of the Czech Republic between 1950 and 2020. The study shows that these areas experienced an increase in the extent of forests, permanent grasslands, and built-up areas, while arable land decreased. At the same time, most areas underwent a significant simplification of landscape structure. Additionally, the authors identified two types of areas: more stable forested areas and cultural landscapes with greater changes. The results suggest that in the first type of area, it is desirable to maintain a stable and extensive forest environment, while in the second type, efforts should focus on enhancing the structural diversity of the protected landscape.

3. *Pohanková, T. and Pechanec, V.*, 2024. Assessing the Cooling Potential of Vegetation in a Central European Rural Landscape: A Local Study. *Land*, 13(10), p.1685. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land13101685>

The study examines the cooling potential of vegetation in the Czech rural landscape. Using remote sensing techniques, the Cooling Capacity Index is assessed to measure the ability of green areas to reduce air temperature. Landsat satellite

data and meteorological data were used to calculate the index based on vegetation cover, albedo, and evapotranspiration. The results show that forests have the highest cooling potential, while urban areas with heat-absorbing materials have the lowest potential. The study demonstrates the possibility of using remote sensing to quantify the cooling ecosystem services of vegetation and highlights the crucial role of vegetation in mitigating urban heat islands and climate change.

4. Sychrová, M., Skokanová, H., Musil, M. and Divíšek, J., 2024. Landscape heterogeneity shows contrasting spatial patterns but similar temporal changes since the 1840s. *Applied Geography*, 172, p.103431: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2024.103431>
The article focuses on landscape heterogeneity in the Czech Republic since the 1840s and its changes over time, which are crucial for understanding ecosystem dynamics and biodiversity conservation.

Opportunities

Call for papers in the Journal of European Landscapes - Due May 1!

Due to miscommunication, we missed the call for papers for the 25 years European Landscape Convention in the Journal of European Landscapes. Please find the CfP here. Although the official deadline for abstracts has passed, the editors are open to discuss possibilities if final articles can be finished before the 1st of May. Please contact Dr. Arjan Conijn at arjan.conijn@gmail.com or Prof. Saša Dobričić at sasa.dobricic@ung.si.

Invitation to contribute to a special issue in *Land* on Applications of Trajectory Analysis to Describe Changes in a Time Series of Maps - Due July 31st

Trajectory Analysis is a new methodology that can be used to summarize the patterns in a time series. This method overlays a temporal sequence of raster maps of a non-negative variable for a spatial extent. For example, if users want to analyze a land cover category, then 1 represents the presence and 0 represents the absence of the category for each pixel at each time

The study analyzes two components of landscape heterogeneity: land cover composition and the spatial configuration of landscape features. The results show that spatial patterns of heterogeneity vary with elevation. Since the 1870s, heterogeneity has increased in lowland and mid-altitude areas, primarily due to land conversion into urban and agricultural areas. In contrast, in mountainous regions, landscape heterogeneity has decreased as a result of afforestation. The study highlights the importance of considering both components of landscape heterogeneity in ecological research.

5. Václavík, T., Beckmann, M., Bednář, M., Brdar, S., Breckenridge, G., Cord, A.F., Domingo-Marimon, C., Gosal, A., Langerwisch, F., Paulus, A. and Roilo, S., 2024. Farming system archetypes help explain the uptake of agri-environment practices in Europe. *Environmental Research Letters*, 19(7),

074004. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ad4efa>

The study analyzes the uptake of agri-environmental measures in European agriculture and presents a novel farm typology developed for better targeting of agricultural policies. The typology is based on data from nearly 8,000 farms in the Czech Republic, Germany, and the United Kingdom, identifying groups of farms that respond similarly to policy tools. The results show that large farms dominate in all regions and are more likely to adopt a broader range of agri-environmental measures. In contrast, economically smaller farms focus on a narrower range of measures and account for up to 70% of all farms that do not implement any of the available measures. The proposed typology represents a compromise between highly targeted but costly incentives for individual farms and the broad application of agri-environmental policies that fail to account for differences in farm characteristics and landscape parameters.

point. The outputs of Trajectory Analysis outputs maps and graphs that describe the spatial and temporal patterns of gross changes. Trajectory Analysis summarizes the sequence of changes in each pixel as one of eight trajectories concerning gross losses and gains during the sequence of time intervals. The method also synthesizes the changes in terms of three components: Quantity, Exchange, and Alternation. Alternation occurs when a pixel experiences both loss and gain during the time series. A free R package computes the results at multiple spatial resolutions, thus revealing the patterns of gross changes in space. In addition, the R package computes the results at multiple temporal resolutions, revealing the patterns of gross changes in time. The seminal paper concerning this methodology can be found at www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15481603.2024.2409484, a preliminary conference proceeding can be found at wordpress.clarku.edu/rpontius/wp-content/uploads/sites/884/2024/10/Pontius-Jr-et-al.-2023-Trajectories-of-losses-and-gains-of-soybean-cultiv-1.pdf, and the computer package in the language R is available for free at www.github.com/bilintoh/timeseriesTrajectories.

We invite authors to contribute to this

land
an Open Access Journal by MDPI

IMPACT FACTOR 3.2
CITESCORE 4.9

Applications of Trajectory Analysis to Describe Changes in a Time Series of Maps

Guest Editors
Prof. Dr. Robert Gilmore Pontius, Jr., Dr. Thomas Mumuni Bilintoh

Deadline
31 July 2025

mdpi.com/si/224050

Special Issue
Invitation to submit

Special Issue with original research and case studies that apply Trajectory Analysis. The aim of this Special Issue is to provide an overview of the applications of Trajectory Analysis so that we can determine its range of uses and interpretations. We are particularly interested in applications related to land change in Latin America, and especially those that employ MapBiomass data. Trajectory Analysis has been designed for any non-negative variable, which allows the procedure to analyze variables such as precipitation and biomass. Trajectory Analysis can provide insights into the quality of data, because it is effective in finding suspicious patterns. Therefore, Trajectory Analysis can aid in the early phases of creating a time series, and is particularly effective at cross-site comparisons.

For more details, please visit www.mdpi.com/journal/land/special_issues/IND622A7Lo and read www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15481603.2024.2409484

Interpreting Cairo's
changing landscape
colours through history
& the Nile's cultural and
natural influence.

Join LRG's Cairo Critical Field Study - Explore Egypt's Transforming Landscapes

We are excited to announce that applications are now open for the Landscape Research Group's Cairo Critical Field Study, taking place September 19th – 25th, 2025. This immersive, six-night, five-day program offers a unique opportunity to explore the rich and layered landscapes of Cairo, investigating the city's historical, social, and ecological dimensions.

The study aims to generate new research insights and foster impactful academic contributions to the understanding of Cairo's dynamic landscapes. Through a series of immersive site visits and engaging discussions, participants will investigate the evolution of Cairo's landscapes, focusing on the city's complex situational dynamics. The program examines how historical and contemporary spatial, social, cultural, economic, and environmental shifts have shaped both natural and urban environments. From the transformative role of the Nile to the pressures of rapid urbanisation that challenge ecological, social, cultural and economic integrity, participants will gain critical insights essential for reimagining Cairo's sustainable future.

Program Highlights:

- Thematic exploration - Examine how the Nile has shaped both Cairo's natural and cultural heritage, and the shifting landscape colours of the city across its historical transformations.
- Site visits & activities - Engage in guided visits, discussions, and expert-led presentations offering deep insights into Cairo's dynamic landscapes.
- Collaborative networking - The program is specially designed to help participants connect with

international and local scholars, researchers, and practitioners - fostering new collaborations, partnerships, and research outputs.

Key Details:

- Dates: 19th – 25th September 2025
- Cost: £400 for international participants (plus £240 for accommodation) | £200 for local participants
- Participation: Competitive, with spaces limited to 25 international and 5 local participants. Groups are carefully curated to encourage collaboration, synergy, and impactful academic outcomes.

Register your interest today to secure your spot – early registration is recommended.

More information & to register:
landscape-research.org/event/cairo-cfs

Contact details: charlotte.mitchell@landscape-research.org

Save the Date! The 24th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species will be hosted by Queen's University Belfast, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Aug. 23-27, 2026.

We are pleased to announce that the conference theme is 'Transcending Boundaries'. We aim to explore how aquatic invasive species can be addressed through integration of research and practice across habitat types, geographic regions, scientific and other disciplines, and research-policy interfaces.

The International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species (ICAIS) is the most comprehensive international forum to address new and emerging issues in freshwater, marine, and estuarine environments. ICAIS provides an international platform for the presentation of research to advance global action to limit the introduction and spread of AIS worldwide and serves as a catalyst for international collaboration on research and management projects.

Through knowledge sharing and networking, ICAIS connects those involved in science and policy with practitioners and industry professionals on the front lines of AIS prevention and management.

Stay tuned for upcoming program information, including:

- Daily international keynote speakers
- Panel discussions
- Programs specific to students and early career professionals
- Opportunities for networking
- Specialist workshops

Cohosted by The Invasive Species Centre and Queen's University Belfast

Organizers:

Jaimie Dick, Queen's University Belfast
Ross Cuthbert, Queen's University Belfast
Deborah Sparks, ICAIS Secretariat

Contact:

ICAIS@invasivespeciescentre.ca

Conference website:

<https://icais.org/icais-2026/>

The banner features a blue and green color scheme. At the top left is the ICAIS logo (a stylized blue swirl) and the text '24TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES'. Below this, in large green letters, is 'SAVE THE DATES', followed by 'August 23 to 27, 2026' in yellow text on a dark blue background. The background of the banner is a scenic aerial view of a large body of water with green islands. At the bottom left are the logos for Queen's University Belfast and the Invasive Species Centre. At the bottom right, the text 'Belfast United Kingdom' is displayed in white and yellow.



IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress Call for abstract prolonged until March 14, 2025

The IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress will take place in Bratislava (Slovakia) on 2-5 September 2025, the main theme is *Landscape Perspectives in Rapidly Changing World*. Despite this event is organised as European congress, we warmly welcome contributions and participation also from beyond Europe.

We have received requests to extend the call for abstracts and therefore, we have extended the deadline until **March 14, 2025**. Consequently, the timeline for abstract acceptance has also been adjusted accordingly. This extension provides additional time for authors to

finalize their submissions. We encourage all interested participants to take advantage of this opportunity and submit their abstracts before the deadline.

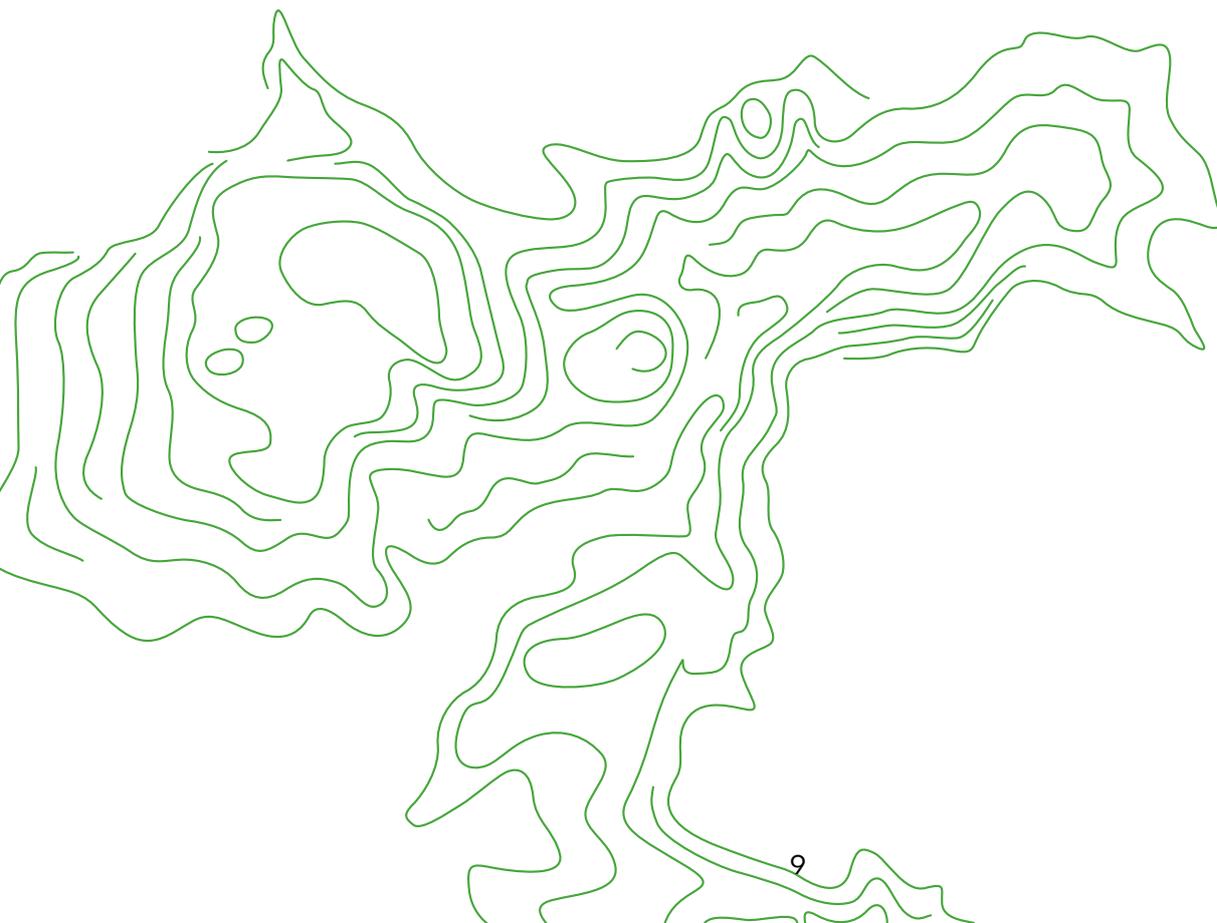
In total, 39 sessions and workshops are proposed (see www.iale2025.sav.sk/programme/sessions) that cover broad range of topics related to four main themes of the congress, the abstracts should be proposed to these sessions and workshops. We are pleased to announce that our invitation to present keynote speech at the Congress accepted Ass. Prof. Naomi Millner (University of Bristol, United Kingdom), Prof. Marc Metzger (University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom) and Prof.

Lázsló Miklós (Institute of Landscape Ecology SAS, Slovakia).

Contributions from the congress could be published as papers in special or regular issues of several journals focused on landscape ecology and related disciplines, more information can be found on the website www.iale2025.sav.sk/about/publication-possibilities/.

All information about the *IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress* is available at the Congress website: www.iale2025.sav.sk/.

Luboš Halada



Updates from Landscape Online and call to submit reviews, high quality manuscripts and join the editorial board

Landscape Online
open access peer reviewed



Building Momentum: Landscape Online Aims for Greater Recognition in 2025

We have handled about 42 manuscripts in the last year, of which 33 were new submissions. Out of these, 12 were published in the issue of 2024 - several manuscripts are still under review and are expected to be published in the coming months. Over the last three years, the average acceptance rate has been around 40%.

IALE-Europe and IALE-North America, the national chapters of IALE-Chile, IALE-Italy – SIEP, and the Landscape Ecology UK chapter. Since its launch in 2007 by the German IALE chapter, Landscape Online has grown into a more internationally recognized journal. We also thank IALE for the financial support that enables us to offer all IALE members the opportunity to publish in our journal with a fee waiver. Furthermore, we are grateful for the support of our 22 editorial board members: Leila Mahmoudi Farahani (Australia),

challenges as a small journal. Publishing internationally visible articles remains crucial for this step. Although bibliographic databases such as Scopus, EBSCO, DOAJ, etc., contribute to the high visibility of articles, this does not yet happen regularly enough.

To further increase our journal's visibility and impact, we invite authors to submit high-quality research articles, especially reviews on current topics with broad appeal. We look forward to receiving your insightful manuscripts and continuing to further grow Landscape Online.

Appreciation of additional external reviewers 2024:

Adriana Galvani, Agnieszka Latocha-Wites, Alina Alvarez Larrain, Andrzej Affek, Brian Rotich, Carlos Rivas, Cristian Echeverria, Debajit Datta, Didit Okta Pribadi, Douglas Spieles, Elena Lucchi, Emily Iskin, Fatmir Guri, Gowhar Meraj, Ioan-Cristian Iojă, Iris Schröter, Jiaxiu Cai, Jingsen Lian, Jirka Panek, Kitti Biró-Varga, Łukasz Moszkowicz, Mara Chen, Maria Zachwatowicz, Maryam Naghibi, Mona Hess, Natalia Borowiec, Noriko Akita, Olaf Kühne, Olga Vigiak, Olivia Guadalupe Millán Aguilar, Ramesh Raj Pant, Sebastian Bernat, Susan Aragón, Tomáš Měkota, Ulrich Walz, Yuyang Peng

Navigating Challenges, Upholding Scientific Integrity in 2025

As we embark on 2025, we extend our warmest wishes for a positive and productive year. In a time of global challenges and increasing pressures on academic freedom, it is more important than ever to stand together and safeguard open and critical research. We hope to engage with many of you in the months ahead, including at the European Congress in Bratislava.

Best wishes,

Werner Rolf and Uta Schirpke (Co-Editors-in-Chief) on behalf of the Editors of Landscape Online and the Executive Committee of IALE-Germany:
Christian Albert, Dagmar Haase, Roman Lenz, Ulrich Walz

You will find all publications of the 2024 issue at a glance under the following link: <https://landscape-online.org/index.php/lo/issue/view/LO.2024>

In last year's international journal rankings, Landscape Online achieved a CiteScore of 2.6, placing us in the 2nd quartile. Once again, we are ranked in the top half of scientific journals in Nature and Landscape Conservation and Ecology.

We would like to thank all our supporters in 2024 - without whom our journal would not have been possible

These achievements would not have been possible without the invaluable support of many contributors. First, we thank all our reviewers (see list in alphabetical order in the call out box) for dedicating their valuable time and expertise during the review process. Furthermore, we would like to thank all IALE chapters that became journal partners to support our work, namely the regional chapters of

Veerle Van Eetvelde (Belgium), Jochen A. G. Jaeger (Canada), Cristian Echeverria (Chile), Dolores Armenteras (Colombia), Andreas Aagaard Christensen (Denmark), Hannes Palang (Estonia), Aude Zingraff-Hamed (France), Angela Lausch, Christoph Merz, Olaf Schroth, Stefan Heiland, and Uta Steinhardt (Germany), Emilio Padoa-Schioppa and Irene Petrosillo (Italy), Wendy McWilliam (New Zealand), Janez Pirnat (Slovenia), Simona R. Grădinaru (Romania), Ana Beatriz Pierri-Daunt (Spain), Audrey L. Mayer, Jessica Price, and Jingle Wu (USA). As we are continuously looking forward to complementing and enhancing our editorial board with further competencies, please get in touch with us if you are interested in becoming involved.

Aiming for Web of Science: Progress and Challenges for a Small Journal

Our next major goal is to be included in the Web of Science citation database. While an initial assessment shows we meet many of the 24 quality criteria, we still face



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Bulletin Deadline

Vol. 43 no. 2: 20 May 2025

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