



iale BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY

Season's greetings from our president

Dear IALE members,

As the year of 2025 is reaching its end, it is time to reflect on our collective experience as an international professional organization and to look forward to a prospective new year of 2026.

In the year of 2025, we have faced a more fragmented world from different fronts: global trade war due to high tariffs to major trade partners, the lack of progress on key goals for global climate negotiation of COP 30, and geopolitical fragmentation and ongoing conflicts and instability in different parts of the world, to name a few. Meanwhile, AI technology accelerated its progress which has huge implications for the future of work.

In this world with the increasing fragmentation, environmental degradation, and an uncertain future, it is even more important for us as an international organization of landscape ecologists to keep our anchor in advancing the landscape ecology knowledge frontier, supporting our members' growth, and promoting global collaboration. Our national chapters have actively organized a variety of landscape ecology themed conferences to do just that, such as IRALE (IALE India) 2025 Conference (Feb. 26-28) in Madla, IALE's Czech Republic Chapter's annual conference (Mar. 20-21) in Ostrava, IALE-Chile's biennial Landscape Ecology meeting (May) in Santiago, Landscape Ecology UK Conference (July 1-2) in Edinburgh, IALE China's Twelfth National Symposium on Landscape Ecology (Aug. 16-18) in Kunming, to name a few. Collaborations at the regional level remain active through the organization of three major regional conferences, i.e., IALE-North America Annual Meeting (Apr. 13-15, 2025) in

Raleigh, NC, IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress (Sep. 2-5) in Bratislava, Slovakia, and the first Tri-national Meeting on Ecology – Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay (Oct. 5-10) in Mendoza, Argentina. Finally, we honored Professor Joy Obando, the Chair of 2023 IALE World Congress, and reinvigorated IALE-Africa by organizing from a four-month online memorial lecture this fall around the theme "Transboundary Resource Management, Climate Change, and Environmental Resilience: Continuing the Legacy of Prof. Joy Obando".

Our members continued to make intellectual contributions to our society through publications, workshops, and research projects that have real world implications, and some of them have been highlighted in our widely circulated IALE bulletins and in different high-impact journals. The valuable collaboration with our affiliated journal Landscape Ecology ensures our active members enjoy a 50% discount off the article processing charge of their paper from Springer Nature.

This June, the executive committee welcomed three VPs elected by IALE members: Cristian Echeverria, Marketa Santruckova, and Weiqi Zhou, who have rich experience in serving both their respective national chapters and IALE-W. I am delighted that there were a total of five candidates who had been nominated for these three vacant VP positions. I sincerely appreciate the other two members, Laura Mussachio and Darrel Jenerette, who were nominated and submitted their election material, for their interest in serving IALE and considerable time and effort devoted to preparing their election material.

In 2025, the Executive Committee (EC) members conducted bi-annual meetings and numerous ad hoc working group meetings during 2025 in April and November. We have worked on a variety of IALE-W issues, including the financial health of the organization, communication issues, wider global participation/collaboration in current political climate, young scientists' working group, world congress planning process and structure, and possible new regional chapters.

Our key priorities remain the same in 2026: we are committed to promoting the participation of our members, particularly junior scholars, fostering global collaborations, and addressing emerging challenges in the field of landscape ecology. I would like to draw your attention to an open call from IALE-W: we will issue grants to our member chapters and working groups to support their effort in conferences, communications, and traveling, particularly to professionals at early career stages and foreign scholars for 2026.

I am deeply grateful to your continuous support and wish you all the best in the new year of 2026!

Peilei Fan
IALE President
December 1, 2025

Chapter Updates

1. Updates from IALE Argentina

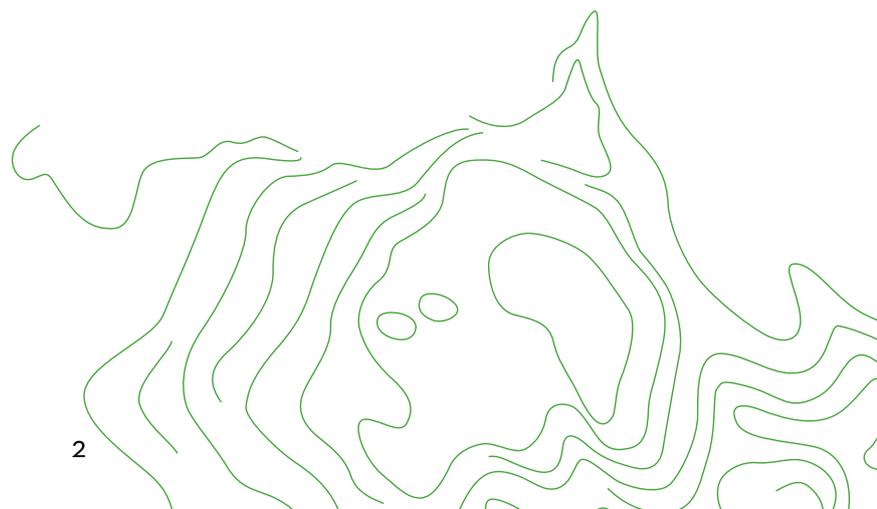
ASADEP (Asociación Argentina de ecología de Paisajes) participated in the First Tri-national Meeting on Ecology – Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay from October 5th to 10th, 2025.

On this occasion, we presented the workshop "Landscape Ecology for Beginners (and Not So Beginners)" with professors from Argentina and Brazil. The workshop was aimed at young students and professionals seeking to update their knowledge, techniques, and methods for landscape analysis, planning, and management from an ecological and sustainable perspective. Participants included students from Chile and Argentina.

In addition, during the meeting, ASADEP also organized the symposium "Landscape Ecology and the Local Scales of Global Change," where various speakers from Chile, Brazil, and Argentina shared their research experiences. Participants from Uruguay and Bolivia also attended the presentations.

The symposium also included a session led by Massimo Palme, chairman of the organizing committee, to promote the upcoming IALE World meeting in Chile in 2027.

The photos show moments of the workshop, the symposium and the time of sharing relaxing time.





3. Updates from IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress



The IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress, titled “Landscape Perspectives in a Rapidly Changing World,” was held at Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia. The Congress was organized by the Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Comenius University Bratislava, IALE-Europe, the Czech Society for Landscape Ecology (IALE-CZ), and Mendel University in Brno. Patronage over the Congress was granted by Mr. Juraj Droba, Chairman of the Bratislava Self-Governing Region, and Mr. Matúš Vallo, Mayor of the City of Bratislava.

The Congress welcomed 428 researchers and PhD students from 36 countries. Although most were from Europe, researchers from abroad (Chile, the USA, China, Indonesia, Korea, and Australia) were also present. The thematic framework of the congress reflected the shifts in research brought about by our rapidly changing world of late, which brings new themes, new challenges and opportunities, but also new methods, technologies, and solutions. The scientific program included three days of lectures, which were held in two auditoriums and five lecture halls. The keynote lectures were delivered by distinguished scholars: Prof. Naomi Millner (University of Bristol, UK), Prof. László Miklós (Institute of Landscape Ecology SAS, Slovakia), and Prof. Marc Metzger (University of Edinburgh, UK). The participants presented a total of 323 oral and 96 poster presentations. The scientific lectures were divided into 40 sessions and workshops that were assigned to four themes:

1. Understanding ongoing and emergent drivers and pressures of landscape change.
2. Monitoring the landscape conditions and the impact of landscape change.
3. Responding to changing landscapes.
4. Advancing with new data, tools, and methods in landscape ecology.

2. Updates from IALE Chile

In May, IALE-Chile held its fifth biennial meeting at Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez in Santiago, bringing together more than 100 participants from across several regions of Chile. The theme was “Opportunities and challenges for landscape ecology in a context of global change: generating actionable science for a changing world.” On that occasion, IALE-Chile renewed the board of directors, and new members joined the national chapter, strengthening its presence and continuity since 2016. The book of abstracts from this biennial meeting can be downloaded from its website at www.iale-chile.cl/reunion-2025. During the meeting, a new board of directors for the 2025–2027 period was elected:

- President: Dr. Ignacio Fernández, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez
- Vice President: Dr. Carolina Ojeda, CIGIDEN
- Treasurer: Dr. Isabel Rojas, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- Secretary: Dr. María Paz Acuña, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez
- International Delegate: Dr. Francisco de la Barrera, Universidad de Concepción

In recent months, IALE-Chile organized a student competition to “sembrando redes” (seeding networks”), which resulted in a five-day gathering in the Los Lagos Region under the theme “Theoretical–practical encounters on rural landscape ecology,” in collaboration with Universidad de Los Lagos and Universidad Austral de Chile. The event was a success, with strong student participation, mainly from southern Chile.

Among other initiatives, IALE-Chile renewed the chapter’s visual identity, including a new logo and updates to both the website and communication platforms. IALE-Chile is also currently revising its bylaws and supporting the organization of the upcoming IALE 2027 World Congress, to be held in Valparaíso and Viña del Mar. Current tasks for the congress include confirming the committees associated with the different responsibilities. For inquiries, please contact IALE-Chile at ialechile.ag@gmail.com.



Encuentros teórico-prácticos de ecología del paisaje rural

Del 18 al 22 de Noviembre 2025

Temáticas:

Fenómeno de parcelaciones	Jorge Herrera-Benavides	Sala virtual
Dinámica fluvial del paisaje	Valeria Zingaretti	ULA, UACH
Oficios para la restauración	Joaquín Ulloa	ULA, UACH
Manejo de bosques nativos	Leandro Chaura	ULA, UACH
Diseño para la conservación	Gabriel Garín-Endress	ULA, UACH
Visita a predio demostrativo	Predio Chiscailhue (FESC)	Puyehue

Inscripción general

Financiado por Fondo Sembrando Redes de la IALE Chile

Organizado y ejecutado por

Unidad Académica de Chile

Financiado por



Participants of excursion to Banská Štiavnica in front of the Bartolomej mine. Photo: E. Paudišová



Part of organising team. Photo: S. Košánová, H. Hilbert

During the Congress, competitions were organized to award outstanding contributions; winners were announced at the closing ceremony. The Poster Competition winners were Anna Kowalska, Ewa Kołaczowska, Edyta Regulska, Jacek Wolski, Zofia Jabs-Sobocińska, Martyna Zarzycka, Bożena Omeliańska, Piotr Sikorski, and Andrzej Affek, with a poster entitled “Assessing Ecosystem Condition and Service Potential under Goldenrod Invasion: Methods and Indicators for a Multifaceted Approach”. The PhD presentation winner was Agnish Kumar Das, who, together with his co-authors, prepared a paper entitled: “Simulating the Increasing Role of Drought as a Trigger for Bark Beetle Outbreaks and Its Potential to Transform Central European Forests under Climate Change”.

The IALE Europe General Assembly met during the Congress to summarize the activities of IALE Europe in the past period, elect a new Executive Committee, and plan future activities.

One Congress day was devoted to excursions to western Slovakia and south Moravia (Czech Republic). In total, 10 excursions with rich participation were organized, thematically focused

on different landscape types, natural features, and landscape management. Excursions offered the opportunity to visit an agricultural landscape of SW Slovakia, a viticulture landscape in Svätý Jur, a hilly steppe landscape (Pálava and Devínska Kobyla), a riverine landscape (Danube and Morava river floodplains), a mining landscape (Banská Štiavnica), an urban landscape (Bratislava, Piešťany, Banská Štiavnica), and a historic cultural landscape (Lednice-Valtice). One excursion included a visit to Piešťany to see Hotel Máj, where IALE was founded in 1982.

The gala congress dinner took place at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Bratislava, featuring a festive dinner with a rich cultural program, presenting Slovak folk traditions performed by the Karpaty folklore ensemble and the women’s vocal group LES SIRÈNES. They created a wonderful, unique atmosphere and engaged the audience.

At the Congress closing ceremony, final remarks were delivered by the director of the Institute of Landscape Ecology SAS, Dr. Ľuboš Halada, the president of IALE-Europe, Prof. Veerle van Eetvelde, and Prof. Werner Rolf, communications manager of IALE-Europe. Reflections and impressions

from participants were also shared, adding a personal and human dimension to the closing session. Finally, Prof. Cristian Echeverria informed participants about the next IALE World Congress that will take place from November 8 to 12, 2027, in the cities of Valparaíso and Viña del Mar, Chile. Following the Congress, the IALE Europe PhD course was organized in cooperation with IALE-Europe and Mendel University in Brno (Czech Republic). Participants, who consisted of 11 students, met shortly before the congress started, attended the entire congress, and after it ended, moved to Lednice (South Moravia), where the course itself took place. During five intensive days, students together with lecturers discussed their papers and posters prepared in advance. The PhD course contained lectures about paper writing, epistemology of science, ecological history, landscape ecology methods, landscape planning methods, and hazards in cultural landscapes.

More information about the Congress can be found on the Congress web page:

www.iale2025.sav.sk/

the book of abstract is available at:

www.uk.e.sav.sk/doi/iale2025.pdf

Participants of the IALE Europe PhD course 2025. Photo: M. Šantrůčková



Participants of the IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology congress from bird perspective. Photo: T. Rusňák





Students participated and secured prizes in various competitions of National Wildlife Week 2025

4. Updates from IRALE (IALE India)

IRALE 2026 Conference

The IRALE 2026 Conference will take place in the gripping landscape of Thekkady, Kumily, Idukki, Kerala from 26-28 February, 2026. The theme of this year's Conference is "Social Inclusivity towards Landscape Integrity and Resilience." Aligning with the key theme of the United Nations for the year 2026, social inclusivity plays a crucial role in enhancing landscape integrity and resilience. Involving diverse community groups, especially marginalized and indigenous populations, in decision-making processes on natural resource management, we can create more equitable, robust, and sustainable landscapes.

The Conference will explore strategies to promote multidisciplinary discourse and collaboration among scientists, policymakers, practitioners, experts, researchers, students, working professionals, representatives from government agencies and non-profit organizations, and communities with the goal of fostering innovative, science-based restoration approaches that enhance landscape integrity. As a result, we welcome landscape ecologists from India and beyond

to investigate and discuss these concerns. The themes of the sessions include:

1. Landscape Structure and Connectivity
2. Ecosystem Services and Resilience
3. Urbanization and Climate Change
4. Nature-Culture Heritages
5. Ecosystem Restoration
6. One Health Landscapes

Here are some important dates

Call for abstracts deadline: 15/12/2025

Registration deadline: 20/12/2025

Further information can be found at www.irale.org/Conference_2026.php, it is also possible to contact the organizers via: iraleconference@gmail.com and info.irale@gmail.com.

Please save the date and help share this information with colleagues and other possible attendees.

Reflections from IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025

IRALE actively participated in the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi which united over 10,000 representatives from diverse sectors

to shape global conservation priorities for the next two decades. The Congress highlighted five core areas: scaling resilient conservation, reducing climate overshoot risks, equity, nature-positive economies, and disruptive innovation. IRALE members, namely, Dr. PV Karunakaran, Dr. Neha Jaiswal, Ms. Asha, and Ms. Priyanka Sharma, engaged in fruitful discussions in sessions covering species conservation, nature-based solutions, climate adaptation, restoration, indigenous leadership, GIS innovation, and AI-driven ecological monitoring, thereby witnessing innovative approaches to landscape ecology that can enhance resilience and promote sustainable development. Dr. Ramesh Krishnamurthy contributed to two sessions, focusing on nature-based solutions, agriculture-conservation linkages, and planning for climate resilience, which added meaningful perspectives to global dialogues. IRALE returned with fresh insights and new connections that will significantly enhance our future initiatives. The Members' Assembly adopted 147 policy motions and approved IUCN's 20-year Strategic Vision, setting the direction for future global action on biodiversity, climate, and pollution. IRALE remains committed to strengthening its involvement in global forums, both to learn and gain, and to share and give while ensuring India's conservation narratives are heard and further integrated into global conservation initiatives.

Celebrating Wildlife Week 2025: IRALE's Leadership and Student Engagement at MDSU (Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University)

IRALE was proud to jointly organize the Wildlife Week 2025 with the Department of Environmental Science & Department



of Zoology, Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, and the Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT) at Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, Rajasthan from 2nd to 8th October 2025. The event aimed to strengthen awareness and engagement in wildlife conservation and landscape ecology. Key activities included a hands-on workshop by Dr. Chetan Mishra (WCT) on Designing an Ecological Study, where students learned essential field research and ecological study design skills. A documentary by Roundglass Sustain highlighted the power of community-led conservation efforts in Rajasthan. The concluding Campus Bird Count encouraged students to explore campus biodiversity, identify bird species, and appreciate the value of urban ecological spaces. IRALE enriched the week by emphasizing landscape-scale ecological thinking, student involvement, and the role of institutions as living ecological laboratories. Several students actively participated in the competitions and secured prizes, making the celebration both meaningful and memorable.

IRALE's Landscape Lens: *Driving the Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) Conservation Dialogue in Rajasthan*

A Consultation Workshop on Developing a Roadmap for Open Natural Ecosystems (ONEs) was held at ICFRE-AFRI, Jodhpur on 16th September 2025, bringing together scientists, policymakers, community leaders, and conservation practitioners. The discussions focused on the ecological value of ONEs – Oran, grasslands, scrublands, and fallow lands – along with emerging challenges such as land-use change, fragmentation, and groundwater decline. Key recommendations included creating an Oran Atlas, strengthening policy recognition of ONEs, promoting community-led restoration, and integrating traditional knowledge with scientific tools. IRALE played a pivotal role in emphasizing the need for landscape-level ecological planning. It advocated for mapping ONEs using landscape ecology approaches, fostering cross-sectoral collaboration, and building local capacity for community-inclusive conservation. The workshop marked an important step toward shaping Rajasthan's state-level ONE Roadmap, with IRALE reinforcing its commitment to science-based and culturally grounded landscape stewardship.



5. Updates from IALE NA (North America)

Due soon for the IALE-North America 40th Anniversary Meeting in Athens, Georgia from 26th to 30th of April 2026

We're excited to invite you to [submit an Abstract](#) for the 2026 IALE-North America Annual Meeting taking place from Sunday, April 26 to Thursday, April 30, at The Classic Center. This will be our 40th meeting, and we will be gathering back where it all started in 1986 in Athens, Georgia!

The submission form will ask you to indicate which of the following Presentation Types applies to your submission:

- Oral Presentation (General Contributed) that will be grouped into a Track by the Program Committee
- Oral Presentation that is part of an Organized Symposium (see [information here](#) about Symposia)
- Poster Presentation that is printed and can be up to 44"x44"
- Digital Apps and Visualizations

Deadline & Notification

Notifications of acceptance will be sent to the Primary/Presenting Author by late December. Details about placement in the schedule will be sent in January. Please submit an abstract **ONLY** if you plan to attend the conference. Presenting authors must be registered and pay applicable registration fees for the conference on the day of their scheduled presentation. Learn about available student travel awards [here](#).

Questions? Contact Leslie Pelch at leslie@delaneymeetingevent.com.

NASA-MSU Professional Enhancement Awards

With support from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Michigan State University (MSU), [NASA-MSU Professional Enhancement Awards](#) are given to students, postdocs, and junior researchers (e.g., assistant professors) to cover expenses associated with attending the meeting of [IALE-North America](#) (North America Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology), which will be held in Athens, Georgia, April 26-30, 2026. This will be the 25th anniversary of the NASA-MSU Program.

The application materials include a cover letter, application form, abstract, resume/CV, and budget. The abstract should also have been submitted to the [IALE-NA meeting website](#). Applications are judged based on the merits of the applicants' abstracts, financial needs, and professional backgrounds and goals.

Presentations (oral or poster) should focus on [telecoupling](#) (environmental-socioeconomic interactions over distances, such as human and animal migration, species dispersal, species invasion, disease spread, sound/noise transmission, spread of pollutants and wastes, trade of goods and products, flows of ecosystem services, environmental and hydrological flows, foreign investment, technology transfer, water transfer, and tourism) and/or [metacoupling](#). Topics may include applications of the [telecoupling framework](#) or [metacoupling framework](#) to address issues across landscapes or coupled human and natural systems (e.g.,

dynamics, pattern, process, structure, function, and sustainability). For more information about coupled human and natural systems, please see: [Science](#) and [Ambio](#).

Awardees will also have opportunities to interact with some leading scientists and other meeting attendees, including a special dinner on April 27, and telecoupling / metacoupling workshop #4 (www.ialena.org/workshops-2026.html) and symposium #5 (www.ialena.org/symposia-2026.html).

Students, postdocs, and other junior scholars (e.g., assistant professors) from around the world (except former award recipients) are welcome to apply. Please [apply here](http://www.msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9nsQ6KiZMNCyWFg) (www.msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9nsQ6KiZMNCyWFg). The application deadline is December 15, 2025.

Questions can be directed to:

Dr. Jianguo (Jack) Liu

Rachel Carson Chair in Sustainability

Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability

Michigan State University

East Lansing, MI 48824, USA

liuji@msu.edu

IALE-NA Urgently Seeks a Host for the 2027 Annual Meeting

IALE-NA urgently needs a volunteer host committee for the 2027 annual meeting. Responsibilities are shared with the Executive Committee and Delaney Event Management. This rewarding opportunity is not as time-consuming as expected. Learn about past meetings [here](#). Contact: [Kevin Potter](#)

IALE-NA 40th Anniversary T-Shirt Design Contest!

Our 2026 Annual Meeting will mark 40 years since the first United States Landscape Ecology Symposium was convened in January 1986 at the Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia. To celebrate, IALE-North America is excited to announce a [t-shirt design contest](#) to commemorate four decades of advancing the science and

practice of landscape ecology across our region. We're looking for creative designs that capture our legacy, celebrate our community, and inspire the next generation of landscape ecologists. The t-shirt will be available for purchase during conference registration for our annual meeting in spring 2026, taking place in Athens, Georgia April 26-30.

See your design worn by landscape ecologists from across North America and contribute to our 40th anniversary celebration! The winner will receive a discount on conference registration, special recognition, and a free t-shirt with their design. Submissions due January 20, 2026. Please share this opportunity with your colleagues, students, and fellow landscape ecologists.

Show us how you see 40 years of landscape ecology: to submit your design, complete the form at bit.ly/IALENA40_Tshirt.

Working Groups Updates

Update from the 'Historical Landscape Ecology' Working Group

The Working Group (WG) 'Historical Landscape Ecology' was founded in 2017 to create a shared platform for information exchange, scientific collaboration, and event organisation. The WG aims to promote and facilitate historical landscape research, disseminate new findings, and stimulate innovative research initiatives.

Eight years later, the group counts 94 members from fields such as ecology, history, archaeology, and paleoecology among others. This continued growth reflects the ongoing need for a physical and virtual space that fosters cross-fertilisation of ideas, projects, and publications. Despite the field's vibrancy, few conferences or journals focus specifically on historical landscape ecology; much of our research is hosted within broader networks such as IALE or published in journals

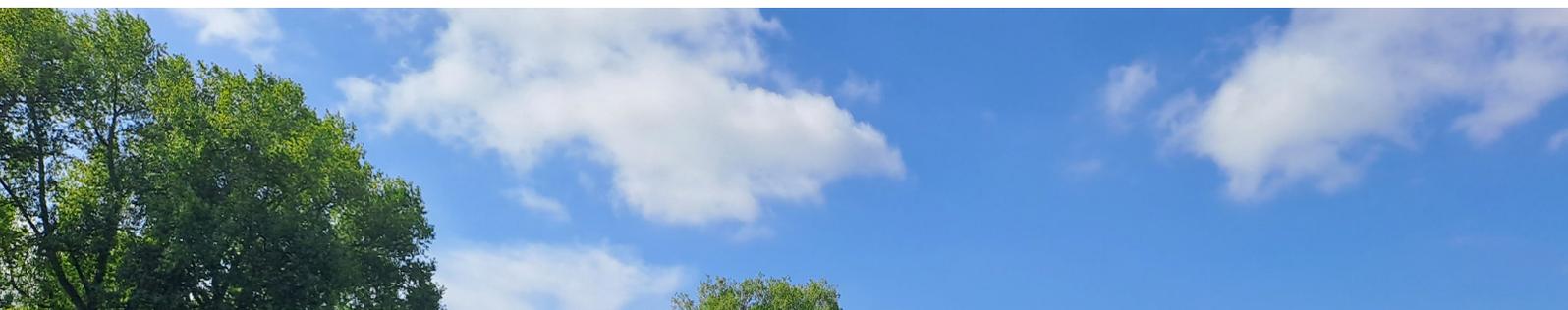
like *Landscape Ecology, People & Nature, Historical Geography, and Landscape History* - this is why we see this group as an essential contribution to filling this gap.

As newly elected coordinators, Rebekka Dossche and Catalina Munteanu have reflected on how to carry on and complement the work of their predecessors. Beyond sharing information, they aim to strengthen active collaboration through sessions, workshops, and joint events. To this end, they have launched a Google Group ('Historical Landscape Ecology WG') to facilitate user-friendly communication and exchange of publications, events, and collaboration opportunities. They are currently running a [survey](#) to identify members' needs and expectations and plan the future of the WG (results will be

discussed in an online meeting in early 2026). This spring, they also plan to host a hybrid seminar featuring presentations of members' recent work.

Through these initiatives, they seek to build on the foundation laid by former coordinators, continuing to provide a forum for discussion, debate, and methodological development in historical landscape ecology.

All interested colleagues are warmly invited to join the Working Group - please send an email to Catalina Munteanu (catalina.munteanu@wsl.ch) or Rebekka Dossche (rebekka.dossche@unige.it) or subscribe immediately to the group writing at historical-landscape-ecology+subscribe@googlegroups.com.



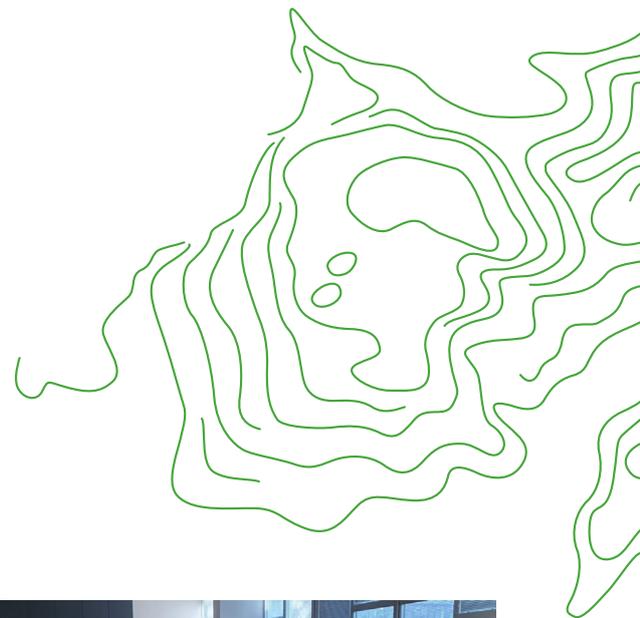


Who they are:

Catalina Munteanu: My research in historical landscape ecology revolves around understanding long term changes in physical and perceived landscapes and the ecological legacies they produce. I graduated from the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and have since worked on several landscapes around the globe. My work taught me that without consideration of past ecological and management processes, contemporary ecosystems and their biodiversity may be misunderstood or misinterpreted. As a colleague and collaborator, I cherish flexibility, transparency, self-reflection, and constructive feedback. I am convinced that multi-disciplinary teams are the best environment for developing cutting-edge research, and look forward to collaborating with members of this Working Group to push historical landscape ecology to the forefront of landscape ecological research. On a personal level, I love spending time outdoors with my family and woodworking.

Rebekka Dossche: I am an assistant professor in Geography at the Department of Antiquities, Philosophy and History, University of Genoa, Italy. I lecture topics related to historical geography and landscape studies, with a spatio-temporal approach and from an interdisciplinary point of view. My origins are from a physical geographers' background at the University of Ghent (Belgium) but I moved during my professional path more and more in the direction of landscape and environmental geography. I am specialised in historical geography and historical ecology, Land Use Land Cover changes based on historical cartography and aerial imagery, and rural development studies based on participatory techniques, especially in rural mountain areas.

During the IALE Europe conference in Bratislava, members of the WG participated in the excursion to Great Lel Inner Island. This excursion highlighted the management of Velký Lél Island (Great Lel Inner Island), one of the Danube's largest islands, offering key ecological benefits. The Velký Lél project focuses on restoring a vital Danube branch and improving the region's wetlands through measures like extensive grazing, mowing, head willow management, and the restoration of floodplain forests to preserve bird habitat.



Meeting of the Landscape Planning WG during the IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress

Several members of the Landscape Planning Working Group met during the IALE 2025 European Landscape Ecology Congress in Bratislava. The meeting began with brief participant introductions, followed by an overview of the group's activities in recent years, particularly the organization of thematic sessions at the European and World Landscape Ecology congresses. Participants then discussed

the growing need for landscape planning to respond to rapidly changing societal and environmental conditions. Topics included the spread of misinformation about natural events and the increasing influence of political decisions on landscape management. Members also shared insights into differences in landscape planning approaches across their countries. Staying in touch within the group remains

challenging, as members are spread across different social media platforms and rely on diverse communication channels. The Congress therefore offered an ideal opportunity to exchange news on ongoing projects and initiatives and to reflect on future directions for landscape planning within the broader context of landscape ecology.

Opportunities and News #IALE

Connect with IALE on LinkedIn!

We invite all our members to join the official [International Association for Landscape Ecology \(IALE\)](#) page. It's the perfect place to share your research, learn about upcoming IALE events, and connect with the global landscape ecology community. When you share your work or post about IALE-related topics, remember to tag us and use relevant hashtags (#IALE); we love to see and promote your contributions!

Update from the Global Forum of the Society on Ecological Restoration's 2025 World Conference

As Vice President of IALE World (International Association for Landscape Ecology), Dr Cristian Echeverría served on the organizing team and as an invited expert at the 6th Global Forum on Ecological Restoration: Principles, Standards and Guidelines for Landscape and Seascape Restoration, held on 29 September 2025 in Denver, USA, in advance of the SER World Conference on Ecological Restoration (SER2025). The Forum was convened by the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration (GPFRLR), the International Association

for Landscape Ecology (IALE), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Bringing together more than 35 invited international experts (See photo below), the Global Forum worked to advance shared principles, standards and guidance for landscape and seascape restoration. Discussions focused on how to bridge critical gaps between dispersed, site-scale restoration projects and integrated strategies at broader land- and seascape scales, in line with global commitments such as the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Dr Echeverría contributed landscape-ecology and sustainability perspectives, emphasizing the importance of spatial planning and thinking at the landscape level to achieve resilient, long-term outcomes for both nature and people.

Journal of European Landscapes Publishes Special Issue on 25 Years of the European Landscape Convention (ELC)

The [Journal of European Landscapes \(JEL\)](#) is publishing, under the patronage of [UNISCAPE](#), a special issue that explores 25 years of European Landscape Convention,

and beyond. Guest editor Prof. Saša Dobričić and JEL editor Dr. Arjan Conijn compiled a selection of papers of which the first 11 have been published open access on their [website](#). The full collection of papers will also be published as a hardcopy later in 2025. For more information on purchasing the hardcopy, please contact JEL editor Arjan Conijn (Managing Editor for the [Journal of European Landscapes](#)).

Apply to attend the 2026 Spectral Ecology Summer School

Applications are now open for the fully funded 2026 Spectral Ecology Summer School - a program that introduces graduate students and postdocs to ecological remote sensing, data from the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), open and team science, and scientific leadership. Learn more here:

www.specschool.org/

Link to the application from here:

www.specschool.org/participate.html

Or access the application directly here:

forms.gle/3J9BGrd6JSDaPGiHA



Call for abstracts for the International Conference “Nature for Sustainable Cities:

Planning Cost-Effective and Just Solutions for Urban
Issues” (Naples, 26-27 February, 2026)



The Conference will explore the complex relationship between Nature-based Solutions (NBS) and urban and regional planning, addressing both their transformative potential and the challenges that arise when they are implemented in different territorial and socio-economic contexts. A key focus will be placed on the assessment of positive and negative impacts of NBS, including the need for robust, spatially sensitive, and context-specific methodologies for evaluating ecological, social, and economic outcomes.

Authors are invited to submit an abstract (no more than 200 words) by 15 January 2026 to the following address: natsolis2026@gmail.com. Full papers will be published in a Springer edited volume indexed in Scopus.

Further information, updates, and deadlines are available at: www.natsolis.unict.it/content/natsolis-conference

Recent publications

'Eighty-six Milestones in Landscape Ecology: A Tribute to the Discipline's 86th Anniversary' by Drs. Jianguo (Jingle) Wu, Alex Buyantuev, Ignacio Fernandez, Josh Gilman, G. Darrel Jenerette, and Xin Wang



The compilation "86 Milestones in LE" provides a chronological overview of significant publications and events that have shaped the field of landscape ecology. It highlights key contributions, from Carl Troll's coining of the term "landscape ecology" in 1939 to more recent developments like landscape sustainability science in 2013. The document meticulously details how core concepts such as patch dynamics, island biogeography, metapopulations, and spatial scaling evolved, emphasizing their

influence on the discipline. Furthermore, it marks the establishment of important organizations like the International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE) and the launch of the journal Landscape Ecology, showcasing the formalization and global spread of this scientific area. Overall, the text serves as a historical record of theoretical advancements, methodological innovations, and institutional growth within landscape ecology, demonstrating its progression as a distinct and influential ecological subfield.



The IALE Bulletin is distributed several times a year to the members of IALE. IALE - the International Association for Landscape Ecology was founded in 1982 to promote communication between scientists, planners and interdisciplinary scientific research.

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PLEASE: Send your contributions to the Bulletin Editor **Amélie Davis**:

davis.amelie@gmail.com (please add this email address to your address book) and info@landscape-ecology.org