



Issue No. 11 – January 2010

1. *Introduction*

HAPPY NEW YEAR and a new LANDSCAPE EUROPE Website

We are pleased to start off the New Year by presenting LANDSCAPE EUROPE in a new dress – namely a different layout of our website www.landscape-europe.net. The old webpage has been with us for quite some time and has served its purposes. The new site features an animated version of the unique LANDSCAPE EUROPE logo on top of a lighter and – as we feel – a more membership-oriented main body. In order to strengthen our member's presence even more, we would like to encourage all of you to steadily provide information on your recent publications and news that can be related to LANDSCAPE EUROPE's mission. We are keen to make them visible on the front page.

Though our attention will be further focussed on the European research agenda (note e.g. the announcement of the major event of our Living Landscape Conference 18 – 19 October 2010 in this newsletter), national and regional approaches towards sustainable landscapes are certainly worth considering as well. Bilateral studies such as between Natural England and Alterra on comparing landscape planning tools between The Netherlands and England, the publication on European landscape planning and policy



instruments by our colleagues from the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia, as well as last year's exhibition and publication on Europe's Green Belt led by Thomas Wrška illustrate the diversity of activities in which LANDSCAPE EUROPE members are involved (see section 5.).

From my own perspective I would like to add that 'food planning' must be considered as an emerging issue at the interface between sustainable development and landscape research. As the term suggests, it goes beyond the agricultural sector and research, but requires knowledge and data on urban consumption patterns, food kilometers, metropolitan agriculture, agricultural system innovation and regional planning. The peri-urban environments of city-agglomerations are becoming more and more important in fulfilling a variety of services – among which *local* food production has been conveniently overseen because agricultural land use is often interpreted from mainly scenic or agrobiodiversity points of view. In the future, landscape planners and scientists are likely required to expand their field of expertise towards even more holistic approaches – addressing 'foodprints' of Europe's metropolitan centres.

D.M. Wascher

This is the 11th Newsletter of LANDSCAPE EUROPE, International Network of Expertise on Landscape. More information on LANDSCAPE EUROPE you can find on our website: www.landscape-europe.net. Please feel free to forward the newsletter to other interested people in the wide field of landscape science that seeks to integrate natural, social and economic research. If you do so, please ask them to mail (landscape.europe@wur.nl) their contact information.

On behalf of LANDSCAPE EUROPE:

Bas Pedroli (Bas.Pedroli@wur.nl)
secretary general

Dirk Wascher (Dirk.Wascher@wur.nl)
network coordinator

2. *LANDSCAPE EUROPE* membership

Membership

The following institutes are now members of LANDSCAPE EUROPE:

Full members:

- Alterra Green World Research
- Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (CEH)
- Cemagref
- Eidgen. Forschungsanstalt für Wald Schnee und Landschaft (WSL)
- Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO)
- Umweltforschungszentrum Leipzig-Halle (UFZ)
- Joint Research Centre (JRC)
- National Environmental Research Institute (NERI)
- Countryside Council Wales (CCW)
- University of Salzburg (Z_GIS)
- Landbouw Economisch Instituut (LEI)
- University of the Aegean
- Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), Department for Habitat Management and Landscape Ecology
- University of Dortmund, Chair of Landscape Ecology and Landscape Planning (LLP)
- Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development (IOER)

Associate members:

- Norwegian Institute of Land Inventory (NIJOS)
- University of Vienna, Institut für Ökologie (IFO)
- University Western Hungary (UWH) Institute of Environmental Sciences, Sopron
- University of Bucharest (UNIBUC)
- University of Tallinn (TLU)
- Charles University of Prague, Faculty of Science, Department of Physical Geography and Geoecology (KU)
- University of Udine, Department of Crop and Environmental Science (DISAA)
- Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (ILE SAS)
- University of Alcalá de Henares (UAH)

Executive Board

Current composition of the Executive Board:

- Alterra (NL): Bas Pedrolí (secretary general)
- NERI (DK): Pia Frederiksen (treasurer)
- CEH (UK): Paul Scholefield
- UFZ (D): Christopher Görg
- Cemagref (F): Daniel Terrasson
- JRC (int): Maria Luisa Paracchini
- INC (B): Geert de Blust
- TLU (EE): Hannes Palang

Network Co-ordinator is Dirk Wascher (Wageningen, NL)

Website and Forum page

The website of LANDSCAPE EUROPE, www.landscape-europe.net, has updated information on conferences, publications and international vacancies. For more information please contact the webmaster (marion.bogers@wur.nl)

3. Contributions

A) LIVING LANDSCAPE: The European Landscape Convention in research perspective

**Scientific Conference Florence+10
Florence, 18 – 19 October 2010**

LANDSCAPE EUROPE in collaboration with UNISCAPE is organizing a scientific conference on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Florence Convention. Aim of the conference is to discuss cutting-edge research results at the crossroads of sciences and humanities, design and empiricism. Interdisciplinary contributions explicitly referring to the principles of the Landscape Convention are especially welcomed.

Four themes are chosen for the parallel sessions:

- perception studies;
- landscape identification and typology;
- effects of policy development on landscape;
- and participation studies.

Papers will be prepared in advance, and selected as a basis for the debate in the conference. The results of the debate will be presented to the political audience present for the Florence+10 event on 20 October. After the conference the papers will be updated and published in scientific journals. For more information see the announcement attached to this newsletter

B) Summer Schools

**GISLERS Summer School 2010 on “Bridging GIS, Landscape Ecology and Remote Sensing for Landscape Planning”
29. June – 09. July 2010 in Salzburg, Austria**

The international Summer School GISLERS is dedicated to the theme of "Bridging GIS, Landscape Ecology and Remote Sensing for Landscape Planning" and is hosted by Salzburg University's Centre for Geoinformatics (> www.zgis.at). In a set of lectures, group work and practicals participants focus on using Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis techniques to model spatially explicit processes, and develop reliable models for scenario output. The course emphasises on spatial patterns, landscape management and resource protection while considering the spatial distribution and flow of substances, materials, energy and individuals in the environment - and in consequence the distribution of landscape features. The Summer School will provide an insight into leading edge developments of GIS and object based image analysis (OBIA). Participants have the opportunity to attend sessions at the GI Forum 2010 (> <http://www.gi-forum.org/>) and AGIT Symposium (< <http://www.agit.at>).

Information and Registration: <http://www.edu-zgis.net/ss/gislrs2010>

**EnviSDI Summer School 2010 on
"Spatial Data Infrastructure for environmental datasets"
29. June – 09. July 2010 in Salzburg, Austria**

The international Summer School EnviSDI aims at establishing a European education network to improve the access to spatial environmental data for public sector bodies, private companies and citizens. The Summer School considers aspects of data organisation, data harmonisation as well as semantic and technical interoperability in order to produce seamless geospatial information across Europe and to improve the data access for a wide community of different user groups. Learning about methodologies and the application of structural specifications for the description and harmonisation of spatial environmental data within Europe as well as the operation of a corresponding Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) are main objectives. Participants will establish and operate an education network (SDIe_NET) dealing with services for spatial datasets and metadata. The ultimate training objective of the Summer School is to jointly set up a (geo-) web service to discuss data schemes from different disciplines in order to understand the challenge of arriving at one denominator within a very heterogeneous field of researchers and applications. Participants have the opportunity to attend sessions at the GI Forum 2010 (> <http://www.gi-forum.org/>) and AGIT Symposium (< <http://www.agit.at>).

Information and Registration: <http://www.edu-zgis.net/ss/envisdi2010>

Registration starts on January 1, 2010. Applications are accepted until May 15, 2010. Due to limited places we strongly recommend an early registration!

4. *New members*

RESEARCH GROUP ON HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (Department of Geography, Alcalá University) Alcalá de Henares (Madrid, Spain).

The Research Group on Human Geography is part of the Department of Geography at the University of Alcalá (UAH) in Spain. Its research activity is focused on two main areas:

a) The contribution of Geographic Information Technologies to the understanding, characterisation and simulation of urban growth processes and to the assessment of their sustainability. This comprises the analysis of land use changes in metropolitan areas, the use of both normative and predictive models for the simulation of urban growth, the design of systems of indicators for the assessment of sustainability in urban planning and the promotion of sustainable transport and mobility systems within the city, among other topics.



b) The use of GIS to mitigate social conflicts derived from the location of undesirable facilities on the territory. It involves, for instance, identifying the territorial vulnerabilities with respect to various threats and impacts, discovering the optimum locations for the controversial facilities, and risk mapping.

At the moment, this research group is principally dedicated to the project SIMURBAN, whose objectives are: the characterisation of recent urban growth, the simulation of scenarios for the future and the assessment of their sustainability. This project is being undertaken jointly with another three research groups, from three different Spanish universities (the National University of Distance Education, the Rey Juan Carlos University and the University of Granada), with funding from the Ministry of Science and Innovation for Spain. The territory under analysis is comprised by the metropolitan regions of Madrid and Granada, which have been selected as study areas due to their different sizes and distinct evolutionary processes.



Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences ILE SAS (Slovakia)

The Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences is an interdisciplinary scientific institution for basic and applied research in landscape ecology. ILE SAS was established in 1990, as the continuator of the Institute of Experimental Biology and Ecology SAS and Institute of Landscape Biology SAS (since 1965). Institute of Landscape Biology SAS was the first one in former Czechoslovakia which started to deal with the problems of landscape ecology in time when this discipline was not established yet. In the present, the institute is built by 3 departments: Department of ecosystem analyses, Department of landscape-ecological syntheses (both based in Bratislava), and Department of biodiversity of ecosystems and landscape (based in Nitra). ILE SAS is the mother institute of the methodology of landscape ecological planning LANDEP, which was suggested as methodology for integrated approach to management of natural resources in the Agenda 21 (The Summit in Rio de Janeiro, 1992).

The main research topics of ILE SAS are as follows:

- the analyses, syntheses and interpretations of the abiotic, biotic and socio-economic elements of landscape for landscape ecological planning, optimal spatial organization and utilization of the landscape,
- ecological issues of agricultural landscapes, ecological networks, maintenance of biodiversity,
- the impact of anthropogenic factors on the landscape and EIA methodology,
- territorial system of stress factors, structure of the present man - made landscape and
- the nature conservation issues and management of protected areas threatened by impact of human activities.

ILE SAS has a rich experience in international cooperation. It was a consortium member of the European Topic Centre (ETC) on Nature Protection and Biodiversity (2001-2004) and continues in the ETC on Biological Diversity (2005-2008, 2009-2014). ILE SAS is active both in regional and world networks for long-term ecological research (LTER EUROPE, ILTER), co-ordinates national network of LTER Slovakia and participates in the Network of Excellence ALTER-Net, which was established during the 6th FP and continues as ALTER-Net2. Institute participated or is participating in several projects of 5th, 6th and 7th FP. ILE SAS carried out numerous national or international projects related to the main research topics of the Institute.

The Institute organizes every 3 years international symposium on problems on landscape ecological research. At the 6th International symposium organised by the ILE SAS in Piestany in 1982, the International Association of Landscape Ecology (IALE) was founded. 15th International symposium on Problems of Landscape Ecological research will take place in September 2009 in Bratislava (for more details see section "Forthcoming events").

ILE SAS is the publisher of international scientific journal *Ekológia* (Bratislava).



5. Recent Publications

- Fjellstad, W. and W. Dramstad Use of Landscape Sciences for the Assessment of Environmental Security. 2008 In: Petrosillo et al. 2008. Landscape monitoring as a tool in improving environmental security. Springer Netherlands Pages 131-141.
- Gómez Delgado, M. y Tarantola, S.: "Global sensitivity analysis, GIS and multi-criteria evaluation for a sustainable planning of a hazardous waste disposal site in Spain", 2006, *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, 20, pp. 449-466.
- Gómez Delgado, M. y Barredo Cano, J.I. "Modeling urban land use change in Europe", 2008, en Paegelow, M. y Camacho Olmedo, M.T., (Eds.): *Modelling Environmental dynamics*, Heidelberg, Springer Verlag.
- Gómez Delgado, M. y Bosque Sendra, J. Validation of GIS-performed analysis. 2009 In Joshi, P.K.; Pani, P.; Mohapatra, S.N. y Singh, T.P. (Eds.): *Geoinformatics for natural resource management*. New York, NOVA Science Publisher.
- Helming, K. Sieber, S., Wiggering, H., Wascher, D.M., Tabbush, P., Dilly, O. and Bach, H. 2007. Sustainability Impact Assessment of Multifunctional Land Use. In: Starret et. al. 2007. *Environmental Science and Technology* 2006 (2). Proceedings from the Second International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology, held August 19-22, 2006 in Houston, Texas, USA; American Science Press, pp. 495-500
- Henle, K., Alard, D., Clitherow, J., Cobb, P., Firbank, L., Kull, T., McCracken, D., Moritz, R.F.A., Niemelä, J., Rebane, M., Wascher, D., Watt, A., and Young, J. 2007. Identifying and managing the conflicts between agriculture and biodiversity conservation in Europe—A review. *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment*, 12 pages; available online www.sciencedirect.com
- Kizos, T. and Th. Terkenli, (2007) Island Lifestyles in the Aegean Islands, Greece: Heaven In Summer, Hell In Winter? In Palang, H., Sooväli, H., and Printsman A. (eds.) *Seasonal Landscapes*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, p. 127-149.
- Nassauer, J.I. and Wascher, D.M. 2007. *The Globalized Landscape: Rural Landscape Change and Policy in the United States and European Union*. In: Westcoat, J.L. and Jonston, D.M. *Places of Power, Political Economies of Landscape Change*. Pp275-315 (in press)
- Palang H., A. Printsman, É. Konkoly Gyuró, M. Urbanc, E. Skowronek & W. Woloszyn (2006). *The Forgotten Rural Landscapes of Central and Eastern Europe*. *Landscape Ecology* 21 (3): 347–357.
- Palang, H.; Sooväli, H.; Printsman, A. (eds) 2007: *Seasonal Landscapes*. Berlin: Springer-Verlag.
- Pedroli, G.B.M., Th. Van Elsen & J.D. Van Mansvelt (2007): *Values of rural landscapes in Europe. Inspiration or by-product*. *NJAS – Wageningen Journal of Life Sciences* 54 (4): 431-447.
- Pedroli, B., A. van Doorn, G. de Blust, M.L. Paracchini, D. Wascher & F. Bunce (2007). *Europe's living Landscapes. Essays exploring our identity in the countryside*. KNNV Publishing, Zeist / LANDSCAPE EUROPE, Wageningen.
- Pineda Jaimes, N.B.; Bosque Sendra, J.; Gómez Delgado, M. & Franco Planta, R. "Exploring the driving forces behind deforestation in the state of México (México) using geographically weighted regresión", *Applied Geography*, in revision.
- Plata Rocha, W.; Gómez Delgado, M. y Bosque Sendra, J. "Spatial and statistical analysis of factors explaining urban growth in Madrid región (Spain)", *Geographical Analysis*, in revision.

6. Outlook

9th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention

III National Congress of Landscape and Infrastructures

Date: 15-16 April 2010

Place: Cordoba, Spain

Organisers: Council of Europe

Further information: www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention

REAL CORP 2010 - 15th International Conference on Urban Planning, Regional Development and Information Society.

Date: 18-19 May. 2010

Place: Vienna, Austria

Organisers: CORP

Further information: www.corp.at

International Conference and Workshop - Solutions for Sustaining Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services: Designing SocioEcological Institutions

Date: 7-11 June 2010

Place: Salzau Castle and Kiel University

Organisers: Ecosystem Service Partnership

Further information: fmuller@ecology.uni-kiel.de

Workshop on "Social-Ecological Resilience of Cultural Landscapes"

Date: 15-16 June 2010

Place: Berlin, Germany

Organisers: Ecosystem Services Research Group at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Further information: www.ecosystemservices.de/news/resilience

The 1st IALE-Europe Thematic Symposium on Landscape Ecological Knowledge in Practice: implementation of landscape ecological knowledge in practice (ileco2010)

Date: 16-19 June 2010

Place: Poznan, Poland

Organisers: University Poznań, IALE– Europe, European Landscape Ecology in Practice, International Society for the Science of Urban Ecosystem, Polish Association of Landscape Ecology, Polish Academy of Science, Center of Metropolitan Research

Further information: www.ileco2010.amu.edu.pl

Fábos International Conference on Landscape and Greenway Planning

Date: July 8-10. 2010

Place: Budapest, HUNGARY

Organisers: University of Massachusetts Amherst and Corvinus University of Budapest

Further information: www.fabos.uni-corvinus.hu

International Conference in Landscape Ecology. Landscape structures, functions and management: response to global ecological change

Date: 3- 6 September, 2010

Place: Brno/Prague, Czech Republic

Organisers: CZ IALE

Further information: www.iale.cz/icle2010

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