



# Bulletin

## International Association for Landscape Ecology

### WELCOME IALE ARGENTINA

by Silvia D. Matteucci ([smatt@arnet.com.ar](mailto:smatt@arnet.com.ar)) & Sandra Luque ([Sandra.luque@cemagref.fr](mailto:Sandra.luque@cemagref.fr))

The **First Argentinean Landscape Ecology meeting** was held in Buenos Aires, in November 2-4, 2005. Rob Jongman was representing IALE and providing useful inputs for the launching of the Chapter. The new chapter „Asociación Argentina de Ecología de Paisajes“ (ASADEP), was registered as ASADEP-IALE. The Assembly gathered 33 participants. The meeting in all had 110 participants, 45 oral presentations and 5 plenary sessions were presented. Participants came from various Argentinean eco-regions, and from Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Chile and Bolivia and the Netherlands.

During the First Argentinean Landscape Ecology meeting, most of the papers presented dealt with natural ecosystems conversion and were included in two sessions: Agricultural and Forestry Frontiers (10 contributions), and Urban Frontiers (8 contributions). Many papers referred to landscape ecology applications to planning (10 contributions), most of them by researchers from schools of architecture and design. Other sessions were: Landscape Ecology Contributions to Ecosystems and Species Conservation (10 contributions); and Spatial Pattern Identification (7 contributions).

The main objectives of ASADEP-IALE are to promote the development of knowledge in subjects of regional interest to solve local problems and to coordinate international research and development projects within eco-regions across South America (as opposed to within countries). During the next two years, the Argentine IALE Chapter will be located in GEPAMA-UBA (University of Buenos Aires). Among the plans for the near future a Seminar was planned on “Landscape Ecology in Patagonia” to be held in November organized by the “Universidad del Comahue”, Bariloche. An international workshop on forest fragmentation will be held June 26-30, this year in Bariloche ([http://www.grenoble.cemagref.fr/workshop\\_bariloche/](http://www.grenoble.cemagref.fr/workshop_bariloche/)); details of this workshop are posted in this IALE bulletin under meetings.

This year also between 22-25 August in Cordoba, Argentina, a symposium on Landscape Ecology organised by ASADEP-IALE will take place within the framework of the Annual Argentinean Congress of Ecology (<http://www.rae2006.com.ar>).

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## IALE IN LATIN AMERICA

by Sandra Luque, Silvia D. Matteucci,  
Jean Paul Metzger<sup>1</sup>

Since November 2006 we have two new IALE chapters in Latin America.

Just to do a bit of history on the issue: at the 6th IALE World Congress in Darwin it was decided to put efforts into organizing a IALE chapter in Latin America. First of all a critical mass of Landscape Ecologists and others interested in a Latin American chapter had to be identified. After almost two years of discussion we realized that a single Latin American IALE chapter would be too big and too heterogeneous to have a future. Therefore national and regional initiatives have been encouraged.

As a result of these initiatives individuals from Argentina launched the first Latin American IALE chapter followed immediately by Brazil and we hope others will follow in the near future.

During the Landscape Ecology meeting in Argentina, participants from Venezuela and Colombia expressed their interests to launch their chapters. However the number of interested researchers in these countries seems to be relatively small at the moment. Thus, it was agreed that both existing Latin American chapters act as hosts for interested individuals from other Central and South American countries. This will ensure scientific information exchange and strong links among researchers in South America. It will also facilitate the formation of new regional chapters.

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Due to some communication problems at the editorial office the articles on IALE-Brazil and IALE-Argentina did not appear in one and the same IALE-Bulletin. This caused some concerns for some members of the respective regions. We apologize for this error and welcome both chapters in IALE community.

ECO-TOURISM IN THE HIMALAYAS:  
A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

by Kalpana Bhakuni, Dept. of Geography,  
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Himalayas - 'the Jewel of the world' is endowed with unparalleled grandeur and beauty. Being one of the richest biodiversity regions in the world, it has immense potential for resource development. The Himalayan ecosystem is considered to be most fragile because of its newness. Opening such a sensitive region for the economic, social and aesthetic benefit of the world, without appropriate planning and management, can cause irreversible and irreparable damage.

However, protection and conservation of the Himalayas in a strict conventional sense is not the answer. We rather need to adopt a conscious and forward-looking approach to making a viable resource of the Himalayan community, that is somehow left behind and alienated economically and socially.

Tourism industry is the most potential economic sector to be realized in the Himalayan region. The resource base of tourism encompasses the nature and the people of a region – in a co-existence. Therefore, eco-tourism emerges as the most viable option for the development of the Himalayan region, and offers an alternative to mass tourism. Eco-tourism as an approach is an outcome of the dissatisfaction with mass tourism, which has ignored, in a general sense, the ecological integrity in favour of a more economically profitable objective. Mass tourism has inflicted widespread damage to the Himalayan system within the last two decades. The deforestation at alarming scale, indiscriminate construction of roads and buildings, heavy vehicular movements and insensitive and irrational behavior of tourists; all these have put a degenerative pressure on the sensitive mountain system causing immense ecological destruction.

Eco-tourism is difficult to attain because of its comprehensiveness i.e. protecting natural integrity, preserving cultural heritage, eliminating poverty and unemployment, creating new skills, enhancing the status of women, promoting social and cultural relationship between users and host community, and facilitating the growth. Eco-tourism is a value-oriented economic activity and should show the inherent quality of sustainability.

Sustainability is not a philosophy, it is a strategy to ensure the longevity to tourism, which involves the progressive fulfillment of potentials. Sustainable implies a growth that can be maintained on lasting basis. If tourism is to evolve as a sus-

tainable phenomenon, it must be economically viable, environmentally sensitive and culturally appropriate, that means the human as well as nature components under tourism should be in balance with each other. And therefore, eco-tourism is the form of tourism that is most appropriate in the terms of sustainability.

The simplest and most straightforward definition of eco-tourism by International Eco-tourism Society, 1991 resounds this concern – “Eco-tourism is responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of the local communities.” So the key elements of eco-tourism are – a well preserved eco-system to attract tourists; a conscientious, low-impact visitor behavior in various cultural and adventure activities; lowest possible consumption of non-renewable resources; active involvement of the locals who are able to provide authentic information about nature, culture and their ethnic traditions to the visitors, and finally, empowering the local population to manage eco-tourism through alternative livelihood opportunities.

The potential of eco-tourism is highest in those areas, which are naturally unique, and the people are directly dependent on nature for their sustenance. The Himalayas may emerge as the finest name in the field of eco-tourism as it is endowed with the finest ingredients required for eco-tourism.

The Eco-tourism development in the Himalayas needs a cautious strategy, which includes the following:

- 1) An inventory of the resources showing the priority areas for the development of eco-tourism.
- 2) Channelize tourists circuits: priority areas should have a smooth flow of tourists.
- 3) Estimating the carrying capacity: Eco-tourism often depends on natural areas where resource protection requires low visitor density and small group size.
- 4) Facilitated access, where the scenic value is very high and the potentiality shows a high promise. Promote the use of eco-friendly transport options.
- 5) Codes of conduct and procedures should be established. The importance of ethics among operators, the community and consumers should be held high. Himalayan Environment Trust (HET), during the international conference in Tokyo (1991) has formulated such a ‘Himalayan Code of Conduct’ to build a fierce sense of responsibility among tourists.

- 6) Involvement of local communities in the eco-tourism development, management and monitoring process.
- 7) Exchange of information between communities and policy makers. Eco-tourism should be best developed to enhance and complement current community lifestyles and economic activities, rather than introducing a completely new activity.
- 8) Internet should be adopted as an effective tool of promoting eco-tourism.
- 9) There is a need to mobilise funds, at least in the initial phase, by the international bodies and trusts. Financial mechanism should ensure that a significant proportion of the income generated from eco-tourism remains with the local community and serves the conservation purposes. The benefits of eco-tourism development should be reinvested in favour of local communities and their quality of life.
- 10) Redress the inequity associated with gender by empowering the women.
- 11) Use of alternative and non-conventional means of energy and water. Harmonising tourist infrastructure with the surrounding environment.
- 12) The use of word ‘eco-tourism’ should be prevented for those who do not adhere to its principles.

The Himalayas has the potential to emerge as a landmark in eco-tourism if an earnest strategy is followed with a sustained effort. The eco-tourist to the Himalayan Kingdom should get physically invigorated, mentally rejuvenated, culturally enriched and spiritually elevated and you should feel the Himalayas therein.





Wageningen The Netherlands  
Website: <http://www.iale2007.com>

The IALE congress accepts now proposals for paper contributions, posters, workshops and short presentations. Four major contributions are distinguished:

1. **Oral contributions and posters:** The Scientific Committee requests participants of the Congress to send in short abstracts of their contributions (papers [oral contributions] and posters). The submission of contributions follows two phases: a short abstract by September 1, 2006, and a 2-page summary by February 1, 2007.
2. **Workshops:** These will be more informal. They can be explorative in character, i.e. concern topics that may become important in the future. Deadline for workshops is September 1st 2006. Decisions concerning acceptance of the workshops will be made by the Scientific Committee by 19 September.
3. **Short presentations:** These should be linked to the posters and will be five minutes only. This type of presentation is open for all scientists presenting posters. Deadline for short presentations is September 1st 2006. Decisions will be made by the Scientific Committee by 19 September.
4. **Intensive courses and PhD courses**

#### 1 Oral contributions and posters

The Scientific Committee requests participants of the Congress to send in short abstracts of their contributions (papers [oral contributions] and posters). These contributions can be either part of organized symposia (see list below) or part of open sessions. The submission of contributions follows two phases: In the first phase participants are requested to send in a **1/2-page abstract before September 1st 2006**. In the second phase a contribution of two pages is requested for publication in the Congress proceedings. The deadline for this document will be February 1st 2007.

Abstracts should be submitted to the Congress organisation via email following the format given in [www.iale2007.com](http://www.iale2007.com) (e-mail: [rob.jongman@wur.nl](mailto:rob.jongman@wur.nl)) if you are applying to the open sessions. These abstracts will be checked by the Scientific Committee and authors will be notified on the acceptance by October 1st. If you participate in the scheduled symposia, please send in your abstract to the symposium organizer with a cc to the congress organization **before September 1st 2006**.

If your contribution is accepted as an oral contribution you will be requested in October to send in a **contribution of maximum 2 pages before 1 February 2007**. Guidelines will be found at the congress website.

If your contribution is accepted as a poster, you will be requested in October to send in **your poster in digital format (as pdf-file) before 1 February 2007**. Guidelines will be found at the Congress website. The posters will be burned to CD and distributed along with the printed proceedings.

#### 2 Call for Workshop Proposals

The Congress is intended to cover all aspects of Landscape Ecology. Workshops are explorative sessions on new aspects of landscape ecology. A summary of the idea behind the workshop should be prepared on no more than half a page. The workshops will facilitate informal presentations and applications of new concepts and will allow audience participation and/or round-table discussion for exploration of new or controversial issues. Workshops are not meant as symposia and should therefore not include a list of speakers, but must include an appropriate chairman. All workshops organizers must be registered for the meeting.

All workshop proposals should be submitted **by 1st September 2006 to the Organization Committee** through the website or directly ([rob.jongman@wur.nl](mailto:rob.jongman@wur.nl)).

#### 3 Call for short presentations

Five minute presentations can be used to present initial and preliminary results or stimulate discussion and provide participants with useful comments for follow-up work. These presentations should be linked to the poster sessions.

**A summary of no more than 1/2 a page with authors and affiliations should be sent by September 1st 2006** to the Organization Committee through the website or directly ([rob.jongman@wur.nl](mailto:rob.jongman@wur.nl)).

#### 4 Intensive courses and PhD courses

The following intensive courses and Master classes are proposed:

1. FRAGSTATS analysis of landscape patterns
2. Land change modelling methods: calibration, validation and extrapolation
3. Landscape Ecology for Impact Assessment (EIS, strategic IA)
4. Integrated Wetland Management
5. Module on LE: Understanding Processes from Patterns
6. Multifunctionality of Landscapes
7. Governing for sustainability on Local Level
8. Landscape and Sustainability

More information will be published at the website soon.

#### Important dates and deadlines

The time schedule for the preparation of the congress is as follows:

**September 1st 2006:** Deadline for symposium organizers and individual authors to submit detailed programs and abstracts for presentations

**September 1st 2006:** Deadline for workshop, posters and short presentation proposals

**September 19th 2006:** Review of abstracts for contributions and proposals for workshops and posters

**October 2006-January 2007:** Period of writing papers and posters

**February-March 2007:** Period of reviewing papers and feedback to contributors

**May 2007:** Papers to the printer, posters to be burned on CD.

**July 1st:** Proceedings printed

## MEETINGS

**Overview of the organised symposia (short title, organizers published soon on <http://www.iale2007.com>):**

- Globalisation and the sustainability of agricultural landscape systems
- Effects of roads and traffic on wildlife populations and landscape function
- Landscapes and rivers
- Design, planning and management principles for landscape sustainability
- Biogeochemical hotspots in a landscape context: implications for catchment water management
- Monitoring at the landscape scale
- Alternative principles for landscape management
- Effects of climate change on fragmented landscapes
- Modelling landscape change
- Landscape functions and sustainability thresholds
- Landscape genetics: testing landscape effects on gene flow
- Beyond growth? Scientific and policy strategies for non growing and shrinking urban landscapes
- Land abandonment
- Consequences of climate change for freshwater wetlands
- Concepts and methods of landscape change assessment
- Advances and applications of landscape character mapping
- Landscape diversity and biological diversity cultural landscapes (Europe)
- Mountain landscapes
- Ecological infrastructure: theory and application
- Applying landscape ecological principles in urban environments
- Predictive landscape ecology
- Landscapes for life
- Identification assessment and management of landscape changes
- Developing landscape visions and applications in real world
- Land-use changes and ecological impacts
- Forest fragmentation and biodiversity loss: the forgotten native forests
- Animals on thermal landscapes
- Origins of spatial heterogeneity in landscapes
- Land consumption in Europe
- Landscape ecology of energy

June 20-30, 2006

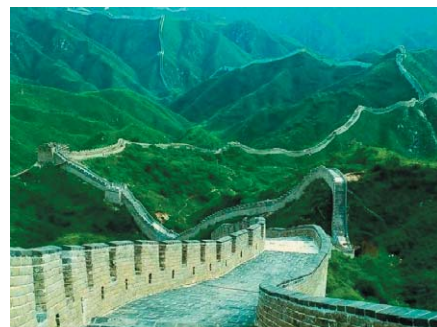
**Advances in Forest Landscape Modeling: Approaches, Standardization, Validation, and Application.** International Workshop of Forest Landscape Modeling. Beijing, China

The purpose of the workshop is to bring together world experts to evaluate the history and development of forest landscape models (FLM), the new challenges (particularly for Asian forestry), application of FLM's, and new analytical methods that are needed. By bringing together model developers and users with diverse social and cultural backgrounds, a workshop can facilitate the exchange of ideas and rapidly advance the science of FLM's.

The workshop presentations and discussions will focus on the following areas:

1. Presentation and discussion of new approaches and recent developments related to FLM's.
2. Model evaluation - approaches and methods for analyzing spatial and nonspatial uncertainties and sensitivities.
3. Model validation - approaches and methods.
4. Model reusability, standardization, and interchangeability.
5. Demonstration of model applications, including the work of planners and managers using FLM's to assist in decision making.

More information: <http://www.landscape.ac.cn>



The IALE Bulletin is distributed six times a year to the members of the IALE. The IALE - International Association for Landscape Ecology - was founded in 1982 to promote communication between scientists, planners and interdisciplinary scientific research. IALE Executive Committee: **President:** Bob Bunce 2003-2007, ALTERRA Green World Research, Wageningen UR, Postbox 47, 6700AA Wageningen, The Netherlands, [bob.bunce@wur.nl](mailto:bob.bunce@wur.nl); **Secretary General:** Marion Potschin 2003-2007, School of Geography, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD, [Marion.Potschin@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Marion.Potschin@nottingham.ac.uk); **Treasurer:** Rob Jongman 1995-2007, ALTERRA Green World Research, Wageningen UR, Postbox 47, 6700AA Wageningen, The Netherlands, [Rob.Jongman@wur.nl](mailto:Rob.Jongman@wur.nl) or [rob.jongman@planet.nl](mailto:rob.jongman@planet.nl); **Past President:** Richard J. Hobbs 2003-2007, School of Environmental Science, Murdoch University, Murdoch, WA 6150, Australia, [rhobbs@essun1.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:rhobbs@essun1.murdoch.edu.au); **Vice Presidents:** Louis R. Iverson 2003-2007, USDA Forest Service, 359 Main Rd., Delaware, OH, 43015, USA, [liveron@fs.fed.us](mailto:liveron@fs.fed.us); Nobukazu Nakagoshi 2003-2007, Hiroshima Univ., Dept of Environmental Studies, 1-7-1 Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima 739-8521, Japan, [nobu@hiroshima-u.ac.jp](mailto:nobu@hiroshima-u.ac.jp); Maria Kozova 2005-2009, Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Ml. dol. B-2, 842 15 Bratislava 4, Slovakia, [kozova@fns.uniba.sk](mailto:kozova@fns.uniba.sk); Sandra Luque 2005-2009, Cemagref - Institute for Agricultural and environmental engineering research, 2, rue de la papeterie, BP 76, F-38402 St-Martin-d'Hères, cedex, France, [sandra.luque@cemagref.fr](mailto:sandra.luque@cemagref.fr); **Bulletin Editor and Deputy Secretary General:** Felix Kienast 1999-2007, Swiss Federal Institute of Forest, Snow and Landscape Research, Division of Landscape Dynamics and Management, 8903 Birmensdorf, Switzerland, [felix.kienast@wsl.ch](mailto:felix.kienast@wsl.ch); **Chairman of Council:** Jesper Brandt 1995-2007, Roskilde University, P.O. Box 260, DK 4000 Roskilde, Denmark, [brandt@ruc.dk](mailto:brandt@ruc.dk).

IALE on the Internet: IALE International: [www.landscape-ecology.org](http://www.landscape-ecology.org)

...continued from page 5 (Meetings)

June 26-30, 2006

**Understanding Biodiversity loss.** A workshop on forest fragmentation in South America. Place San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina

The focus of the WORKSHOP is to bring together experts working in the evaluation of temperate and subtropical forests in the region (South America). At the same time to reinforce links with former and present projects for the Region. It is expected to obtain a diagnostic of the situation for the region, the state of the art on the subject and the identification of gaps in research.

Contributions are expected in the following topics:

1. Forest fragmentation and biodiversity loss
2. Species diversity in managed/unmanaged forest landscapes.
3. Forest landscape planning and management.
4. Forest Conservation issues and protection of biodiversity.
5. Restoration ecology in response to human impact.

Other contributions of interest are those related with forest management, providing examples of successful case studies, applications, and comparative analyses in South America.

More information:

[http://www.grenoble.cemagref.fr/workshop\\_bariloche](http://www.grenoble.cemagref.fr/workshop_bariloche)

August 22-25, 2006

**XI Landscape conference on Landscape Studies** – theory, methods, regional studies, practice. Moscow Lomonosov State University, Moscow, Russia

More information: [http://www.landscape-ecology.org/events/Landconf\\_first\\_circular\\_Moscow.doc](http://www.landscape-ecology.org/events/Landconf_first_circular_Moscow.doc)

September 11-15, 2006

**36th Annual Conference of the Ecological Society of Germany, Switzerland and Austria (GfÖ).** Bremen, Germany

The scientific programme reflects focal points of current ecological research, addressing both basic and applied topics. Internationally renowned scientists will give keynote lectures on, e.g., global change, multitrophic interactions, genetically modified organisms, landscape fragmentation and long-term studies. A number of further symposia will address a wide variety of ecological topics, ranging from microbial ecology to paleoecology

More information: <http://www.gfoe-bremen-2006.de/>

September 26-29, 2006

**Patterns and Processes in Forest Landscapes: Consequences of Human Management.** IUFRO 8.01.03 Landscape Ecology – Conference. Locorotondo, Bari, Italy

This Conference will contribute to explore the theme of how culture affects forest landscapes and, in turn, how landscapes are influenced by humans.

Contributions are expected in the following topics:

1. Forest ecology in response to human management and impact;
2. Species diversity in managed/unmanaged forest landscapes;

3. Forest landscape planning and management - including urban forests;

4. Patterns & processes at multiple spatial and temporal scales.

More information: <http://www.greenlab.uniba.it/events/iufro2006>

November 13-14, 2006

**NatureProtection: GIS.** International Symposium on Geoinformatics in European Nature Protection Regions. Dresden, Germany

This symposium aims at raising awareness in scientific, economical and political fields of action concerning the importance of establishing and maintaining spatial data networks in and between European nature protection regions by means of geoinformatics. We are especially looking forward to discuss and develop strategies of transnational networking for the management of green corridors interconnecting European regions.

More information: <http://www.natureprotection-GIS>.

May 22-27, 2007

**Eco Summit 2007.** Ecological complexity and sustainability: challenges and opportunities for 21st-century's ecology. Beijing, China

The aim of this Eco Summit is to encourage a greater integration of both the natural and social sciences with the policy and decision-making community to develop a better understanding of the complex nature of ecological systems. This understanding will provide the basis for sustainable solutions to environmental problems.

We invite submissions for:

- Symposium proposals: between March 15 and August 20, 2006
- Special evening session proposal: between March 15, 2006 and January 31, 2007
- Abstracts of oral presentations as part of an accepted symposium: between September 10, 2006 and January 15, 2007
- Contributed oral or poster presentations: between August 4, 2006 and January 15, 2007

More information: <http://www.ecosummit2007.elsevier.com/>

Deadline Bulletin Vol. 24 no. 3 is June 15, 2006

## ALL OLD IALE BULLETINS ONLINE

Thanks to Jesper Brandt that searched through the old archives of IALE and an enormous scanning effort done by students and professionals at the Swiss Federal Institute of Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), you have access to all IALE Bulletins that have come out since the foundation of the organization. Unfortunately the quality of some Bulletins was so poor that text recognition could not be performed. Thus only scanned images are displayed.

Please visit the following Web-Site for download:

<http://www.wsl.ch/land/iale/bulletin.php>