



Bulletin

International Association for Landscape Ecology

IALE WORKING GROUP

LANDSCAPE SYSTEM ANALYSIS IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Symposium of IALE "Landscape transformation in Europe", which was held from 9-12 October in Warsaw, Poland, was also the third meeting of the Working Group of IALE "Landscape system analysis in environmental management". Seventy people from 17 countries participated in the symposium. Thirty six lectures were delivered, the majority concerned the transformations of landscape which occurred on various scales, caused by different reasons. The poster session and organizational meeting of the working group also took place. On the last day there was an excursion in the vicinity of Warsaw, and the main item was a visit to the Kampinos National Park, and a presentation of the Park's recently completed conservation programme. The publication of symposium papers is in preparation and should be published within the next few months.

I would like to inform you that in connection with the appointment of Prof. Michael Moss to the post of General Secretary of IALE, he has resigned as leader of the Working Group, and the assembly entrusted the undersigned with the function. During the establishing of the Working Group, a few sub-groups were created within the framework in order to realize the main subjects of interest. These are the following subjects:

1. Methodology and techniques of landscape system analysis and their application in environmental management.
2. Landscape development and evolution from a historical perspective and its relevance to understanding the current conditions.
3. The significance of ideas of landscape stability, integrity and health, particularly in regions of rapid socio-economic change.
4. Landscape analysis as a critical basis for identifying zones of environmental stress/hazards.
5. The importance of the perception and aesthetic value of landscapes and the significance of this in people's approaches to, and their understanding of, landscape.

We have ascertained that these studies should be continued. Prof. Gunter Schönfelder (Ernst von Harnack Hof 6, D-06120 Halle/Saale, Germany, tel/fax: +49 345 550 4247), continues in the office of coordinator of work of the first sub-group. Since we cannot get in touch with Prof. Jorge Cervantes, Dr Zdenek Lipsky (Czech University of Agriculture, Institute of Applied Ecology, CZ-281 63 Kostelec nad Cernymi lesu, Czech Republic, tel/fax: +42 203 97500) has taken over the continuation of the work. The coordinator of the third group is still Prof. J Tesitel (Institute of Landscape Ecology, CZ-370 05, Ceske Budejovice, Na Sadhac 7, Czech Republic, fax: +42 38 45719, e-mail: jante@dale.uek.cas.cz), in close cooperation with Dr Jerzy Solon (Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences, 00-114 Warsaw, Twarda 51/55, Poland), and Prof. Andrzej Richling. Due to the resignation of Prof. Jan Drdos, Prof. A J Reteyum (Moscow State University, Faculty of Geography, Moscow, Russia, fax: +7 095 921 0980) has taken over his function. Prof. Frans Snacken (Gäverlandstraat 23, Drongen-Gent, Belgium, tel: +32 92 823 851) deals with the matter of perception and aesthetics of landscape.

The meeting of the Working Group is expected to be held in Nitra (Slovakia) in November 1997, together with the 11th Symposium on Landscape Ecology organised by the Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences and Department of Landscape Ecology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University Bratislava.

The participation of the Working Group does not involve any formalities. All members of IALE and others interested in our activities are invited.

Professor Andrzej Richling
Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies
Warsaw University
00 927 Warsaw
Krakowskie Przedmiescie 30
Poland
Tel: +48 22 826 9871
Fax: +48 22 826 1965
e-mail: gzkol@plearn.edu.pl

Book review

LAND MOSIACS. THE ECOLOGY OF LANDSCAPES AND REGIONS.

author: Richard Forman, pp 632
 ISBN 0521 474620
 Price: Hard cover, GBP 65.00
 Paperback: GBP 24.95

During the past months, I carried 1.5 kg of literature with me which actually covered a whole library. It is the latest book by Richard Forman which totally updates "Landscape Ecology" (Forman and Godron 1984). In this book, Forman systematically goes through the analysis of patterns in regions and landscapes, and gives entrances to the processes which are ongoing in these landscapes, without methodological detail. His book is divided into five parts, (1) landscapes and regions in general, (2) patches, dealing with size, number, boundaries and shape, (3) corridors, dealing with attributes, functions, types and relations with the matrix, (4) mosaics and flows, dealing with patterns, flows and species movement through mosaics, and (5) changing mosaics, dealing with transformations, planning, management sustainability. Every chapter has an appendix with equations and definitions.

It is not possible to treat all five parts and 14 chapters in this short review. I have read them with pleasure, and the many examples create the impression of a book which is fully part of a rapidly developing living part of science. I must admit, sometimes I wanted to have more detailed information, but in the context of this book which deals with all aspects of patterns in landscapes and regions, I realised that that was too much. The extensive references to literature however, gives a good start towards other literature and further reading.

Land Mosaics deals with many patterns in all aspects. All important issues on mosaics of, spatial relations between, and flows between terrestrial ecosystems in relation to land use and landscape structure are dealt with.

Land processes such as the hydrological cycle and species migration are not treated. There are other good books on that, but the title of **Land Mosaics** could suggest that these are covered as well. A chapter on hydro-ecology, river networks and catchment plains could have had an added value, especially because of their important role as corridors. The corridor function of streams is, of course, treated in the chapter on corridors.

The book aptly shows the links between science and regional planning. Although it has to maintain a general description, to a European it still feels a little bit American. Land use and land transformation is different in different parts of the world. Sustainability however, is general, and can be included in all kinds of plans, and that is what the last part of the book is aiming at. It makes one think about the problems related to planning and about the concepts to be applied. Of course, one cannot find one's specific regional solution, therefore one has to include one's own national or regional planning system and the historical content.

Forman has used over 1900 literature references from many important journals, and he includes the most important research groups. He solved the problem of citation by numbering them and referring to these numbers, as well as referring to the reference pages in the literature list. An extensive index (27 pages) is added, which makes the book accessible and useful, despite its size and complexity. In addition to the index, the appendices at the end of each chapter, with definitions and equations, makes this book especially useful for all who want to develop a coherent view on landscape ecology. It is a perfect book for university students in landscape ecology and land use planning. However, I think the price might be a problem in most parts of the world.

Rob Jongman

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, John A. Wiens (USA), Fax: +1 970 491 0649, e-mail: jaws@lamar.colostate.edu; Past President, Henri Decamps (France); Vice-Presidents, Joan Iverson Nassauer (USA), Paul F.M. Opdam (The Netherlands), Almo Farina (Italy), Xiao Duning (China); Secretary General, Michael Moss, Faculty of Env. Science, Blackwood Hall, Trent Lane, University of Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1, Canada, Tel: +1 519 824 4120, Fax: +1 519 763 4686, e-mail: mike@envsci.uoguelph.ca; Deputy Secretary General and Bulletin Editor, Jesper Brandt, Inst. of Geography & International Development Studies, Roskilde University, P.O. Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark, Tel: +45 46 757 781 ext. 2463, Fax: +45 46 753 970, e-mail: brandt@geo.ruc.dk; Treasurer, Rob Jongman, WAU, Dept. of Physical Planning & Rural Development, Gen. Foulkesweg 13, NL-6703 Wageningen, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 317 483 713, Fax: +31 317 482 166, e-mail: rob.jongman@plano.rpv.wau.nl.

Deadline Bulletin volume 15 no 3 is May 1, 1997

**EVALUATION AND PERCEPTION OF
LANDSCAPE PATTERNS**

III INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
"CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT"
Banská Stiaavnica, 23-25 October 1997

The basic principles of the conference:

The historic use of landscapes is a decisive component of the human environment and cultural heritage of nations.

"For the future of European regional sustainable development and to preserve our cultural heritage, cultural landscapes are the most effective units to designate regions within Europe. If regions of Europe are taken seriously, then cultural landscapes will be taken seriously and all sectors of society can benefit.

New interdisciplinary methods for evaluation of the landscape should be developed, incorporating classifications based on different hierarchical levels or dimensions. This includes concrete typification of cultural landscapes on the national level and comparative studies between countries, leading to common studies among countries on border regions".

(From the conclusions of the II International Conference on "Culture and Environment").

The III Conference on Culture and Environment should:

- following the conclusions of the I and II Conference, promote further development of those ideas,
- compare existing methods and objective indicators for the evaluation and perception of landscape structures,
- expand our understanding of the importance of the relation of culture and environment in cultural landscapes.

Contact: see Diary

**SYSTEM APPROACH TO LANDSCAPE
RESEARCH**

The 11th International Landscape Ecology Symposium, organized by the Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, will be held in Nitra, Slovakia, from 12-16 November 1997. There will also be a one-day excursion during the Symposium. Accommodation and all meals will be provided or will be available in Nitra.

Section themes:

1. Geosystem and ecosystem research in landscape ecology.
2. Macro- and microstructures of landscape.
3. Landscape patterns and processes in the changing environment.

4. The present-day approaches and trends in teaching landscape ecology.

Contact: see Diary

**LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS IN ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**

The International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE) Working Group conference on "Landscape Analysis in Environmental Management", held as a part of the 11th International Symposium on Landscape Ecology - organized by the Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences (see the first circular on the Symposium).

The conference will be held in Slovakia (Nitra), in November 1997 during the 11th Symposium on Landscape Ecology, in form of a separate Session (5th Section of the Symposium). The conference language is English. The place and date: Nitra (Agro-Institute), 12-16 November 1997.

Topics to be addressed:

1. Methodology and techniques of landscape system analysis and their application in environmental management.
2. Landscape development and evolution from a historical perspective and its relevance to understanding current conditions.
3. The significance of ideas of landscape stability, integrity and health, particularly in regions of rapid socio-economic change.
4. Landscape analysis as a critical basis for identifying zones of environmental stress/hazards.
5. The importance of the perception and aesthetic value of landscapes and the significances of this in people's approaches to, and their understanding of, landscape.

Contact: see Diary

**DEADLINE FOR THE
NEXT BULLETIN IS
10 MAY 1997**

DIARY

1997

29-31 May

"Biodiversity in Managed Forests – Concepts and Solution", Uppsala, Sweden, contact Skog-Forsk, Glunten, S-751 83 Uppsala, Sweden, fax: +46 18 188600, e-mail: carl-henrik.palmer@skogforsk.se

9-11 September

IALE (UK) conference: "Species dispersal and land use processes", University of Ulster, Coleraine. Contact Dr Alan Cooper, School of Environmental Studies, University of Ulster, Coleraine, BT52 1SA, County Londonderry, Northern Ireland, tel: +44 1265 324692, fax: +44 1265 324911, e-mail: a.cooper@ulst.ac.uk

6-10 October

Landscape Ecology: things to do. Proactive thoughts for the 21st century, Amsterdam. 25th anniversary of the Dutch Association for Landscape Ecology WLO. Contact Secretariat WLO-25 congress, P O Box 23, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands, tel: +31 317 477986, fax: +31 317 424988, e-mail: wlo@itn.dlo.nl, <http://www.ecnc.nl/wlo-25>

23-25 October

"Evaluation and perception of landscape patterns", III International Conference on Culture and Environ-

ment, Banská Stiavnica, Slovak Republic, tel and fax: +421 859 621 065, e-mail: unchair@zv.sanet.sk

26-29 October

Science for a sustainable society – integrating natural and social science. Workshop themes: Sustainable industrial development, Working life and human resource, Energy and the environment, Sustainability and human environment, Sustainable land use. Contact Roskilde University, Denmark, <http://www.teksam.ruc.dle/sustain/>

12-16 November

System approach to the landscape research. 11th International Landscape Ecology Symposium. IALE (SK) Working Group conference on "Landscape analysis in environmental management", Nitra, Slovak Republic. Contact Juraj Hresko, Csc. Ustav krajinskej ekologie SAV, Akademika 2, P O Box 23/B, 949 01 Nitra, Slovak Republic, tel: +421 87 35604, fax: +421 87 35608

17-22 November

Universidad de la Habana: "II Taller Internacional sobre Ordenamiento Geocologico de los Paiges", contact Eduardo Salinas Chavez, Facultad de Geografia, Universidad de la Habana, Zona 6, Alamar, CP 12500, La Habana, Cuba, tel: +537 651304/5105/652221, fax: +537 652221, e-mail: geo@fgeo.uh.cu

Please send all articles to:

Jesper Brandt,

Inst. of Geography & International Development Studies,
Roskilde University,
P.O. Box 260, DK-4000 Roskilde, Denmark,
Tel: +45 46 757 781 ext. 2463,
Fax: +45 46 753 970,
e-mail: brandt@geo.ruc.dk