



1. **Introduction**
2. **Membership**
3. **Projects**
4. **Network News**
5. **Announcements**
6. **Outlook**

**LANDSCAPE EUROPE**

*Newsletter*

**Issue No. 7 – October 2006**

## *1. Introduction*

### **The fortune of landscape**

The sky above the brown hilly landscape is heavy. We stroll into the drizzly morning. John Smith, – Welsh accent, big beard – starts telling enthusiastically about the layers in the earth that you may become aware of in the forms of the land here near Blaenavon, South-Wales. The heather vegetation at our feet is growing on scars where in prehistoric times iron was mined. With John, I try to look ‘through the soil’, and suddenly I also see the layers of iron ore draped around the hills in the landscape. In early times the forests had been cut to heat the primitive furnaces for melting the iron. Precious objects from these workshops have been found back astonishingly deep on the continent.



A bit further down we enter the yard of an impressive 18<sup>th</sup> century ironworks. On a terrace cut into the hill two ruins of high blast furnaces remain, ending in chimneys. The use of coal from deep underneath and steam engines marked the start of the industrial revolution. With fervour the guide gives an account of quarries, mines, tips, tramways, canals and buildings that changed the landscape.

Technological innovations made the industrial South-Wales the centre of the world.



Lower down the hill I discover a shadowy canal, level along the slope. Only after an hour walking it passes a sleepy miners village in the valley. After the dramatic closing down of the mines, stillness has returned, but it does not yet feel comfortable. You can rent a boat to sail the narrow canals. When weather is nice, there is a beautiful view on the forested hills in the distance. A kingfisher shears over the water, steel blue with orange accent.

Would experiencing nature offer a new fortune for this area that in prehistory had connections all over Europe, in Middle Ages attracted the Normans, and in recent centuries produced iron for the whole world. For this misty backside landscape that – with many cast-iron railings around the small gardens – forms the edge of Wales?

*Bas Pedrolì*

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> Newsletter of LANDSCAPE EUROPE, International Network of Expertise on Landscape. It brings you news from the members to the members but also to a wider audience of experts in landscape science in its broadest sense. More information on LANDSCAPE EUROPE you can find on our website: [www.landscape-europe.net](http://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](mailto:landscape.europe@wur.nl)) their contact information. If you no longer wish to be on our distribution list, inform us as well.

On behalf of LANDSCAPE EUROPE:

**Bas Pedrolì** ( [Bas.Pedrolì@wur.nl](mailto:Bas.Pedrolì@wur.nl) )  
*secretary general*

**Dirk Wascher** ( [Dirk.Wascher@wur.nl](mailto: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)

#### **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 Bukarest (UNIBUC)
- University of Tallinn (TLU)
- Countryside Council Wales (CCW)
- University of Salzburg (Z\_GIS)
- Landbouw Economisch Instituut (LEI)
- University of the Aegean

### Executive Board

Current composition of the Executive Board:

- Alterra (NL): Bas Pedroli (general secretary)
- NERI (DK): Hanne Bach (treasurer)
- CEH (UK): Sandrine Petit
- UFZ (D): Vacant
- Cemagref (F): Daniel Terrasson
- JRC (int): Maria Luisa Paracchini
- INC (B): Geert de Blust

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

### Website and Forum page

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

### General Assembly

Next meeting of the General Assembly will take place in Amsterdam, 26 January 2007. See 4. Network News.

### 3. Projects

#### SENSOR stories about the 'Land of islands' in Estonia

By Marta Pérez-Soba, Alterra WUR



*The Bishop's castle and typical house in the capital Kuressaare © Marta Pérez-Soba*

The second Project meeting of the EU FP6 Integrated project SENSOR<sup>1</sup> was held in the island of Saaremaa last September. The location for the meeting was chosen because Saaremaa is part of the coastal Sensitive Areas case studies in SENSOR.

Saaremaa means 'the land of islands' because it is formed by a group of a big and several small islands, altogether shaping the biggest island in Estonia. The region has been always quite dynamic from the biophysical and historical point of view. Biophysically, the land rises 2-3 mm yearly, has three-four earthquakes per year, and is rich in plant species (includes 80% of all the species found in Estonia) because its maritime climate and variety of soils. The presence in the island of the very unique *alvars* ecosystems has worldwide significance. The *alvars* are semi-open grasslands with sparse junipers on thin calcareous soil above the limestone plateau. They depict a good example of sustainable land use system for SENSOR: more than 2000 years of continuous land use based on well-balanced cooperation between the inhabitants of the island and nature. Historically, Saaremaa has been populated by several cultures, with human activities back to 4500 years ago described by archeologists. The early Saaremaa people were known as pirates and Vikings of the Baltic sea. Teutonic German crusaders conquered the island in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, followed then by invasions by the Danish, Swedish and finally the soviet occupation (1940-1991).

The field trip around the island and welcome words of the Mayor of Kuressaare town and the Governor of Saare County highlighted the main sustainable issues of the island. Firstly, -4% rate of unemployment, i.e. they have a lack of working population because the young people move to the big cities in Estonia in search of new opportunities. Secondly, the access to the island is still not easy enough for part of the population. The two main ways of transport are by ferry or by airplane which take, respectively, about 4 hours or 45 min from Tallinn to the capital Kuressaare. They are currently discussing the possibility to build a bridge to link the island to the continent. Finally, the growing tourism, with its pros and contras.

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<sup>1</sup> Sustainability Impact Assessment: Tools for Environmental, Social and Economic Effects of Multifunctional Land Use in European Regions

This issue involves discussions about the new opened Saaremaa Harbour in summer 2006, which is expected to develop tourism by bringing cruises from Europe and other parts of the world. The opening follows years of dispute between infrastructure development and nature conservation interests because the harbour is located in a NATURA 2000 pre-selection area and classified IBA area as important for migrating, nesting and wintering birds. An Environmental Impact Assessment, involving court cases between the 'green movement' and the minister, evaluated several locations for the harbour.



*Laidevahe Nature Reserve with mosaic wetland system; peasant house in Kovuga village in Muhu Island © Marta Pérez-Soba*

Focusing briefly on the SENSOR project, two years have nearly past and achievements are now becoming clearly visible. Especial for this kind of projects are the integrated methodological developments including the multidisciplinary assessment of People, Profit, Planet issues. Recently the 'topping up' of the SENSOR project was approved; the consortium now includes some Targeted Third Countries: Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and China. We will meet the new partners in the next Cluster meeting in Vienna in April 2007.

### **ATLAS project meeting in Wageningen**

*By Marion Bogers*

In May 2006 the ATLAS project organised a workshop with stakeholders to discuss the project's first results, namely the inventory of courses in Sustainable Land Use Planning and the user needs interviews. Present were representatives from all partners and externally from the Dutch EIA commission, from the ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality, a representative from ECLAS and the



SENSOR project. The open atmosphere of this small meeting resulted in high quality discussions. External participants were impressed with the progress made in such short time and encouraged the partners to continue while ensuring cooperation between networks and related research projects like SENSOR. In the coming months the ATLAS team will finalise the analysis of the outcome of the first two work packages, resulting in a SWOT analysis of the course availability and user need in Sustainable Land Use Planning and the development of a Road map which will be designed to help the user identify training needs and identify suitable courses.

On 25 January 2007 a final meeting of ATLAS will take place in Amsterdam, see 4.

## 4. Network News

### General Assembly Friday 26 January 2007

Combined with the ATLAS final meeting on Thursday 25 January in Amsterdam (see below), on the next day the LANDSCAPE EUROPE General Assembly will be held. Members and other interested parties are kindly invited to this meeting, which will focus on EU Research (information: [landscape.europe@wur.nl](mailto:landscape.europe@wur.nl)).

#### *provisional programme*

- 9:00 – 9:30 Opening by the chair; annual report
- 9:30 – 10:00 Introduction EU's FP7 RTD (Vincent Favrel, EC DG Research *to be confirmed*)
- 10:00 – 11:00 Key note paper on Landscape Research for Europe
- 11:00 – 12:00 Invited reactions on the FP7 challenges and the Key note paper
- 12:00 – 13:00 Plenary discussion
- 13:00 – 14:00 lunch
- 14:00 – 15:00 Short presentations of LANDSCAPE EUROPE key projects of EU relevance
- 15:00 – 16:00 Outline and discussion of a LANDSCAPE EUROPE action plan 2007 - 2010
- 16:00 – 17:00 Financial report 2006 and budget 2007; composition executive board; any other matter
- 17:00 Closure

### Invitation ATLAS final meeting



*"ATLAS brings together the expertise of the leading European research, education and training institutions in the area of land use and sustainability, combining innovative research efforts and practical experiences, enabling an educational breakthrough required to meet the EC's ambitions."*  
(project proposal ATLAS, 26 October 2004)

#### **CAPACITY BUILDING IN LAND USE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

A one-day Conference for providers and users of education and training in Land Use and Sustainability, Thursday 25 January 2007, Amsterdam, Beurs van Berlage

#### *Preliminary programme*

- 9:00 – 9:30 Registration
- 9:30 – 10:00 Opening by Dr Hannes Palang (ATLAS-coordinator); Mr Vincent Favrel (EC DG Research, Natural Resources Management unit); NL Government official
- 10:00 – 12:00 Six invited, provocative State-of-the-art presentations of 15 minutes each by key experts in Land Use & Sustainability and in Capacity Building
- 12:00 – 12:30 Interactive survey of potentials for the future
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 14:00 Summary of findings: ATLAS coordinator Hannes Palang
- 14:00 – 14:30 Launching and interactive presentation of the ATLAS website
- 14:30 – 15:30 Reactions by education providers (universities, professional training institutions) and end users (students, professionals, policy makers)
- 16:00 – 17:00 Key note paper: The challenge of knowledge exchange in Land Use and Sustainability (Raymond Saner, CSEND, Geneva)
- 17:00 Conclusion and drinks

contact: [Marion.Bogers@wur.nl](mailto:Marion.Bogers@wur.nl)

## **A new LANDSCAPE EUROPE publication in 2007: the European Cultural Landscape Functions and Values for Sustainable Development**

*By Bas Pedroli*

The LANDSCAPE EUROPE Network is momentarily working on a new publication to be launched at the IALE conference in 2007. Its aim is to produce an appealing high-quality LANDSCAPE EUROPE product, for a general (semi-)academic public interested in the fate of the European cultural landscape.

Message to be conveyed are:

- the highly diverse and characteristic European cultural landscapes are fading away
- the European cultural landscape is still an asset and is well documented by Landscape Europe
- a joint effort can enhance the survival of some of them; good examples in research and practical management exist

Rationale

- Cultural landscapes can be considered as centres for multifunctionality and sustainability at the regional scale;
- Some of the most striking and characteristic examples of European cultural landscapes are disappearing or losing essential functions;
- In order to develop Europe's cultural landscape into the future, European policy makers and stakeholders need to have access to structured information at different scales;
- Existing (traditional) knowledge and new research tools can provide the basis for developing cultural landscapes towards models for future land use.

The editorial commission consists of Bas Pedroli, Geert de Blust, Maria Luisa Paracchini, Dirk Wascher and Anne van Doorn ([anne.doorn@wur.nl](mailto:anne.doorn@wur.nl)).

## **European rural future: landscape as an interface, 2006 conference**

*By Anu Printsman*



The 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Permanent European Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape (PECSRL, [www.pecsrl.org](http://www.pecsrl.org)) took place in Germany from 4<sup>th</sup> till 9<sup>th</sup> of September this year. What 49 years ago started in Nancy as an assembly for historical geographers has now evolved into a really interdisciplinary forum for landscape studies. As the outgoing Secretary General Theo Spek stressed a well-balanced equilibrium is achieved within 3Gs: geography (381 participants in network, around 150 visited the Berlin conference, 36 counties involved), gender and generation, although none of the participants has seen all sessions. The atmosphere of the conference was warm as ever, scientific and research community is very supportive and feedback is not only received in widened discussion panels.

The title of the conference was European rural future: landscape as an interface. The overall theme was reflected both in session headings as well as in individual papers. Each conference day with a plenary and three parallel sessions focused on one of the following interfaces: interface between past and future, human and nature, urban and rural, cultures and spaces, and Marx and Brussels. All these interfaces were also addressed in the first keynote lecture by Mats Widgren and later became the discussion topics for the whole conference duration and beyond. There were two main points in prof. Widgren's speech. The first concern is how to approach time: as a continuum or with periods – why one approach is more useful for achieving certain goals – preservation vs. conservation and question of what is traditionality. The second concern is how to approach space/place: landscapes are not produced locally, they are influenced globally, for example by European Landscape Convention, but in the other hand all European initiatives end up in national policies. Both concerns inevitably end up in questions of (universal) values and case study based research. Where to head on with landscape studies?



The organisation of the conference is also always two-location based. This time it started from Free University of Berlin (which was responsible for the whole organisation of the conference, especially the team from the Department of Geographical Sciences) and continued after a day field trip in BBW Conference Centre Hubertusstock in Brandenburg where the former Eastern German elite had its hunting grounds away from city hassle. The field trips took participants into four different areas

and themes: (1) land use changes, nature conservation and regional development in a marginal rural area in Brandenburg, (2) Berlin and Potsdam, (3) Oder Valley, and (4) Lausitz: past, present and future of an industrial landscape. Post-conference excursion took us to Lublin area in south-east Poland and will be remembered by the participants as the best ever organised excursion of all times.

As the network of PECSRL is constantly growing changes in administrative organisation were also needed. Since Berlin-Brandenburg conference the PECSRL will be lead for four years by board of five members: president Hannes Palang (Estonia), vice-president Marie Stenseke (Sweden), members Rosario Oliveira (Portugal) and Karl Martin Born (Germany), and finally a shared position for publication officer: Tobias Plieninger and Franz Höchtl (Germany). The next PECSRL conference will take place in Portugal in September 2008.

### **The Second Hungarian Conference in Landscape Ecology** *By Peter Csorba and Éva Konkoly-Gyuró*

The Second Hungarian Conference in Landscape Ecology was held the 7-9 April 2006 in East Hungary organised by the Department of Landscape Protection and Environmental Geography of the University Debrecen. Beyond the overall survey of the recent Hungarian landscape ecological research activities, the headline of the conference have been the landscape ecological problems of water management, water-restoration in the Great Hungarian Plain. Accordingly the introductory presentations of the plenary session gave an



*Mrs. Éva Konkoly-Gyuró*

overview about the main issues of landscape ecological scientific activities, about the ongoing programs and projects highlighting also the new targets related to the Hungarian signature of the European Landscape Conventions. The 160 participants could meet 78 presentations in 8 sections, and additionally 37 posters have been presented.

The title (and chairs) of the sections:

- Ecological water management, wetland revitalisation, sustainability of flood areas (Zs. Flachner – M. Szabó)
- Agroecology and agro-environment (Gy. Várallyay)
- Landscape protection, unique landscape values, landscape ecological assessment (I. Láng)
- Land use changes and maintain of traditional land use systems (A. Barczi)
- Ecology of settlements (É. Konkoly-Gyuró)
- Landscape survey and informatics (Á. Kertész)
- Impact of tourism on landscape (A. Aubert – P. Csorba)
- Land development and landscape protection (P. Csima)



Next Hungarian Conference on Landscape Ecology will be organised in 2008, in Budapest, Corvinus University by the Department of Landscape Protection and Landscape Rehabilitation.

Abstracts (in Hungarian), photos: <http://geo.science.unideb.hu/taj/okument/absztrakt.pdf>

## News from @ Z\_GIS University of Salzburg

By Dr. Stefan Lang

**Dr. Stefan Lang** took over responsibility as a research coordinator for Z\_GIS starting in May 2006. Thomas Blaschke now holds an endowed chair in Geoinformatics at the University of Salzburg and is directing the Research Studio iSPACE ([www.ispace.researchstudio.at](http://www.ispace.researchstudio.at)) of the Austrian Research Centres, the largest non-university research institution in Austria. For the fall semester 2006 he also serves as a Fulbright professor at California State University Long Beach. Annelene Kammer will leave Z\_GIS after September 2006. She is moving to Graz. Many of you know her from the ATLAS project. We wish her all the best! We have to work on a solution regarding the ATLAS project.

In June 2006 **Hermann Klug** submitted his article based PhD thesis to the University of Salzburg with the title "The Leitbild concept: A holistic transdisciplinary approach for landscape planning". This study clarifies and describes the history, paradigm, logic, requirements, and terminology of the German speaking Leitbild concept and suggests a feasible transdisciplinary assessment procedure taking into account stakeholders demands and requirements. These requirements focus on the exploration of spatially relevant landscape resources elaborated as scenarios using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) techniques. For further information please contact Hermann Klug ([hermann.klug@sbg.ac.at](mailto:hermann.klug@sbg.ac.at)).

## 5. Announcements

### **New Journal of Land Use Science**

By Ailsa Youngson

Journal of Land Use Science is a new journal for 2006 edited by Richard Aspinall of Arizona State University, USA. 'Land use science' here is broadly defined as the study of the nature of land use and land cover, their changes over space and time, and the processes that produce these patterns and changes. The journal seeks to adopt an integrated approach that couples natural and human systems and fosters interdisciplinary collaboration between social, economic, behavioural, environmental, ecological, biological and atmospheric scientists.



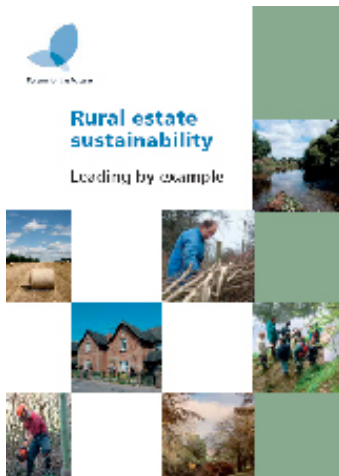
Submissions are invited from areas including:

- the dynamics of change
- the integration and feedbacks between land use, climate, socio-economic, and ecological systems
- the resilience, vulnerability, and sustainability of land use systems
- the linkages of natural and human systems
- relationships between land use and land cover
- spatial and temporal scale issues
- accuracy issues
- evolving public and private land management questions and decisions
- new data and information and improved scientific bases for decision-making related to land use
- interpretation and communication of scientific knowledge for adaptive management of land use systems
- human responses to land use change
- explicit management of uncertainties and definition of the limits to applicability of land use change projections and other analyses, particularly as translated into decision support and participatory approaches

For more information about the journal, please visit the website at where you can read full guidelines for submission, request a free sample copy or sign up to receive the table of contents in advance of the printed copy.

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/1747423X.asp>,

### **New publication of the Forum for the Future. Rural estate sustainability: leading by example.**



Britain's rural estates are experiencing a renaissance of innovation and entrepreneurship, which is helping to regenerate rural communities, says this report from Forum for the Future.

For generations Britain's rural estates have managed our countryside, generated employment, supported the production of food and provided affordable housing. But today such estates face a plethora of new challenges including climate change, a shortage of rural skills and declining farm incomes, which is forcing them to change their ways and develop new business models.

The report, 'Leading by example: rural estate sustainability' examines the diverse ways in which estates are overcoming this range of obstacles by incorporating sustainable development into their business plans.

## 6. Recent Publications

- Antrop M. (2006). *Sustainable landscapes: contradiction, fiction or utopia?* Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 187-197.
- Bastian O., R. Krönert & Z. Lipský (2006). *Landscape Diagnosis on Different Space and Time Scales – A Challenge for Landscape Planning*. Landscape Ecology 21 (3): 359–374.
- Blaschke, Th. (2006). *The role of the spatial dimension within the framework of sustainable landscapes and natural capital*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 198-226
- Buijs A.E., B. Pedroli & Y. Luginbühl (2006). *From Hiking Through Farmland to Farming in a Leisure Landscape: Changing Social Perceptions of the European Landscape*. Landscape Ecology 21 (3): 375–389.
- De Groot, R. (2006). *Function-analysis and valuation as a tool to assess land use conflicts in planning for sustainable, multi-functional landscapes*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 175-186.
- Groom G., C. A. Mücher, M. Ihse & T. Wrбка (2006). *Remote Sensing in Landscape Ecology: Experiences and Perspectives in a European Context*. Landscape Ecology 21 (3): 391–408.
- Haines-Young R., C. Watkins, C. Wale & A. Murdock (2006). *Modelling natural capital: The case of landscape restoration on the South Downs, England*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 244-264.
- Jongman R.H.G., R.G.H. Bunce, M.J. Metzger, C.A. Mücher, D.C. Howard & V.L. Mateus (2006). *Objectives and Applications of a Statistical Environmental Stratification of Europe*. Landscape Ecology 21 (3): 409–419.
- Käyhkö N. & H. Skånes (2006). *Change trajectories and key biotopes—Assessing landscape dynamics and sustainability*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 300-321.
- Kizos T., and Koulouri M. (2006) *Agricultural landscape dynamics in the Mediterranean: Lesvos (Greece) case study using evidence from the last three centuries*, Environmental Science and Policy, Vol. 9(4), pp. 330-342 .
- Klug, H. (2006): *The Leitbild concept: A holistic transdisciplinary approach for landscape planning*. PhD Thesis submitted to the University of Salzburg, June 2006
- Opdam P., E. Steingröver & S. Van Rooij (2006). *Ecological networks: A spatial concept for multi-actor planning of sustainable landscapes*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 322-332
- 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.
- Pedroli B. (2005): *The nature of lowland rivers: a search for river identity*. In: J. Wiens & M. Moss (Eds.): *Issues and perspectives in Landscape Ecology*, pp. 259-273. Cambridge University Press.
- Pedroli B., T. Pinto-Correia & P. Cornish (2006). *Landscape – What’s in it? Trends in European Landscape Science and Priority Themes for Concerted Research*. Landscape Ecology 21 (3): 421–430.
- Pinto-Correia T., R. Gustavsson & J. Pirnat (2006). *Bridging the Gap between Centrally Defined Policies and Local Decisions – Towards more Sensitive and Creative Rural Landscape Management*. Landscape Ecology 21 (3): 333–346.
- Potschin M.B. & R.H. Haines-Young (2006). *Landscapes and sustainability*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 155-161.
- Potschin M. & R. Haines-Young (2006). *“Rio+10”, sustainability science and Landscape Ecology*. Landscape and Urban Planning 75 (3-4): 162-174.
- Van Elsen, Th., A. Günther & B. Pedroli (2006): *The contribution of care farms to landscapes of the future. A challenge of multifunctional agriculture*. In: Hassink & Van Dijk (eds.); *Farming for Health* Proceedings of the Frontis Workshop on Farming for Health Wageningen, The Netherlands, 16 -19 March 2005. Frontis Series Vol. 13. Springer (in press). see [www.wageningen-ur.nl/frontis/](http://www.wageningen-ur.nl/frontis/)

## 7. Outlook

### **Therapeutic Landscapes or the promotion of the diversity for human well-being**

Date: 26/27 October 2006

Place: Genova

Organisers: University of Genova, faculty of architecture

Further information: [http://www.arch.unige.it/eve/convegna/prog\\_paesagterap.pdf](http://www.arch.unige.it/eve/convegna/prog_paesagterap.pdf)

### **EFLA's 2006 Seminar**

Date: 10 November 2006

Place: Brussels, Belgium

Organisers: European Foundation for Landscape Architecture

Further information: <http://www.efla.org/>

### **Young Scientists' Global Change Conference**

Date: 7 - 8 November 2006

Place: Beijing, China

Organisers: Earth Systems Science Partnership (ESSP).

Further information: <http://www.essp.org/ESSP2006/index.html>

### **7th euroMediterranean Meeting of the European Network for Environment and Landscapes - VOLUBILIS. Theme 2006: "Sound landscapes".**

Date: 22-25 November 2006

Place: Théâtre des Halles, Avignon, France

Organisers: VOLUBILIS

Further information: <http://www.volubilis.org/>

### **Landscape classification, theory and practice**

Date: 15th – 17th of June 2007

Place: Warsaw, Poland

Organisers: The Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies of the Warsaw University and the Polish Association of Landscape Ecology (PAEK)

Further information: Jerzy Lechnio, [landscape.wgsr@uw.edu.pl](mailto:landscape.wgsr@uw.edu.pl); [jrlechni@uw.edu.pl](mailto:jrlechni@uw.edu.pl)

### **IALE World Congress, 25 years Landscape Ecology: Scientific Principles in Practice**

Date: 8-12 July 2007

Place: Wageningen, the Netherlands

Organisers: Alterra

Further information: <http://www.landscape-ecology.org/>

### **XXIInd Congress of the European Society for Rural Sociology: "Mobilities, Vulnerabilities and Sustainabilities: New questions and challenges for rural Europe"**

Date: 20-24 August 2007

Place: Wageningen, the Netherlands

Organisers: Working group on Landscape Change and Rural Development in Europe: Policies, Mobilities and Sustainabilities

Further information: <http://www.irsa-world.org/meetings/index.html>

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