

Title of the symposium:

Biocultural Seascapes of the Anthropocene

Detail of organizer(s):

Responsible

| | |
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Co-organizer(s)

Co-organizer

| | |
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Symposium abstract

Anthropogenic seascapes are today clearly visible on coastlines, with different functions and uses in the interface between land and sea. Many seascapes of the world retain a dual character: they combine cultural and natural functions, and form unique biocultural seascapes. Recent studies have pointed out the importance of the coupled human-nature dynamics, where man has caused deep changes in marine systems, and where conversely seascape functions have affected human systems. The analysis of cultural-natural interactions in anthropogenic seascapes represents a challenge for the sustainability of our future marine and coastal landscapes.

In this context, the symposium aims to cover integrated environmental conservation and sustainable development of seascape, with ICZM, marine design, planning, policies and strategies. It addresses seascape ecology, littoral gradients and climate change related to cultural aspects of seascapes, including heritage and communities embedding socio-ecological and artistic functions. It aims also to cover seascape character assessment and historical seascape character assessment which consider tangible and intangible values. Finally, it deals with people of coasts and seas, with participatory marine and coastal design, planning and governance.

The symposium participants will provide an illustration of these issues, with a narrative on biocultural seascapes around the world for a better understanding of their evolution and possible solutions for their future.

How your symposia will improve landscape ecology science?

In seascape, human disturbance on land and sea is significant. The progressive increase of intensive fish farming, energy production, urbanization and tourism is rapidly transforming the natural seascapes by changing, on the one hand, the abiotic and biotic elements of marine and terrestrial environments, their ecosystems and waters. On the other hand, development has impacted the traditional knowledge and sea practices that were carried out by centuries and that allowed to maintain the desirable soil-water balance. Theoretical insights and results from last research on seascape will contribute to the understanding of the above issues and to advance landscape ecology science.

Broad thematic areas

Broad thematic areas 1st choice: Biocultural landscapes

Broad thematic areas 2st choice: Specific landscapes (i.e. Mediterranean landscapes, rice landscapes, ...)

Free Keywords

Seascape, Islandscape, Biocultural diversity, Anthropocene

Outcomes of symposium

Book (to be negotiated)

Notes

One of the commitments of the IALE Working Group on Biocultural Landscape is to run Symposia with its members at IALE Conferences, especially at the World Congress and the European Congress. This Symposium is proposed at the World Congress to fulfill this task.