

Forest Landscapes and Global Change

New Frontiers in Management, Conservation and Restoration







IUFRO Landscape Ecology Working Group International Conference

Bragança · Portugal September 21 to 27, 2010

Topics of the conference:

- 1- Patterns and processes in changing landscapes
- 2- Scaling in landscape analysis
- 3- Disturbances in changing landscapes
- 4- Biodiversity conservation and planning in changing landscapes
- 5- Monitoring landscape change
- 6- Tools of landscape assessment and management
- 7- Management and sustainability of changing landscapes

8- Urban Forestry in changing regions

Ongoing changes driven by environmental, technological, political, economic and social factors produce additional challenges for forest landscape ecologists and managers by creating new and multiple contexts for their activities.

Climate change, urban sprawl, agriculture abandonment, intensification of forestry and agriculture, changes in energy generation and use, expanding infrastructure networks, increased habitat destruction and degradation and other processes of change occur at faster rates. These processes affect structure, disturbance regimes, productivity, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity in forest ecosystems and landscapes at increasing rates.

Rapidly changing landscapes therefore expand the frontiers of the current and future activity of scientists and managers. This IUFRO Landscape Ecology international conference aims to bring together scientists, planners, and managers in order to share science and experiences on approaches, methods and tools to assess change, to forecast change in structures and processes, and to optimize goods and services provided at multiscale-multifunctional levels under a context of change.

Organizers

- IUFRO Unit 8.01.02 Landscape Ecology
- CIMO Centro de Investigação de Montanha, Portugal
- IPB Instituto Politécnico de Bragança, Portugal

Supporters

- Câmara Municipal de Bragança (Municipality of Bragança)
- Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências Florestais (Portuguese Society of Forest Sciences)
- Associação Portuguesa de Ecologia da Paisagem (Portuguese IALE Chapter)
- IALE-IUFRO WG on Forest Landscape Ecology

Organizing committee

- João Carlos Azevedo (Chair), CIMO & Instituto Politécnico de Braganca
- José Castro, Instituto Politécnico de Bragança
- Manuel Sabença Feliciano, CIMO & Instituto Politécnico de Bragança
- Maria Alice Pinto, CIMO & Instituto Politécnico de Bragança

Scientific committee

- Ajith H. Perera (Chair), Ontario Forest Research Institute, Canada
- · Jiquan Chen, University of Toledo, USA
- · Bojie Fu, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
- · Raffaele Lafortezza, University of Bari, Italy
- Guillermo Martínez Pastur, Centro Austral de Investigaciones Científicas, Argentina
- Jean Paul Metzer, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil
- Santiago Saura, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain

Structure of the conference

The conference will include plenary sessions and thematic oral and poster sessions (see topics above). It will also include symposiums on more specific themes to be proposed by leading scientists in particular fields. Field trips and a post conference tour are also part of the conference.

Dates and deadlines

Symposium proposals submission: Sep. 27, 2009

Abstract submission: Dec. 20, 2009

Notification of acceptance: Jan. 22, 2010

Extended abstract submission: Apr. 25, 2010

Conference: Sep. 21-23, 2010

Post conference field trips: Sep. 24-27, 2010

Travel Grant

A limited number of scholarships will be available to cover travel and lodging expenses for this conference. Priority will be given to graduate students and landscape ecologists from developing countries. The applications are due on February 28, 2010.

Contacts

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Venue

The conference will be held in Bragança, Portugal. This is a small city of 21000 inhabitants, officially established in 1187. It is located in Northeastern Portugal in a natural and historically rich environment. Elevation is 670 m and the climate is temperate continental (12.2°C average annual temperature; 743mm average annual precipitation).

By highway, Bragança is 215 km east of Porto and 520 km north of Lisbon. It is also close to Spanish cities such as Salamanca (165 km), Valladolid (200 km), and Madrid (350 km). Domestic transportation includes flights from/to Lisbon twice a day and several bus lines from Lisbon, Porto and other major cities.

Bragança offers more than 1200 beds in hotels and other lodging. Food, mostly regional and national, is famous by its taste, simplicity and the quality of its ingredients, and can be found in the many restaurants in and out of town. Bragança also offers many opportunities for recreation in nature, arts, history, and sports.

The region is rich in landscape and forest systems of interest for the conference providing unique opportunities for field trips, namely *Quercus pyrenaica* woodlands, Cork oak (*Q. suber*) woodlands, sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) forest and agro-forestry systems, and Holm oak (*Q. rotundifolia*) - pasturelands in serpentine soils. Candidates for other field trips in the region include the Douro River Valley (Port wine country and UNESCO World Heritage Site), the "Parque Natural de Montesinho", and the "Parque Natural do Douro Internacional".