

Title of the symposium:

Urbanisation. Concepts, methods and spatially explicit indicators

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Responsible

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Symposium abstract

The global process of urbanisation is increasing anthropogenic pressures in all kinds of landscapes across the globe. The traces of urbanisation are spreading from highly urbanised megaregions to the last of the wild. Landscapes processes and patterns are undergoing profound changes under the systematic pressure of urbanisation. Urbanisation is dramatically affecting not only ecological process and patterns, but also the function of society at large, in urban cores and far beyond. New highly complex spatial configurations of urbanisation are challenging standard urban-rural assessments, making innovative concepts, methods and indicators of urbanisation highly needed in landscape and urban ecology and related disciplines.

This session will explore concepts, methods, assessments and indicators to understand, measure and analyse urbanisation and to measure its impacts on socio-ecological systems. Especially looking at new patterns and processes induced by urbanisation, such as direct and indirect anthropogenic impacts and pressures and land teleconnections, including health outcome effects from challenges related to urbanisation and how urban nature may mitigate potential negative effects, such as increasing soil sealing, Urban Heat Island, loss of green space, among others. We welcome contributions looking at urbanisation as a continuous spatiotemporal process, focusing on (but not restricted to):

- Theoretical approaches to understand, analyse and measure urbanisation;
- The impacts and pressures of urbanisation (urban land uses, anthropogenic (built) infrastructures, etc.) on landscapes;
- Spatially explicit assessments of urbanisation and its impacts;
- Urbanisation as a spatiotemporal (continuous) process
- Socio-ecological indicators
- The impacts of urbanisation on socio-ecological systems

How your symposia will improve landscape ecology science?

Urbanisation as a category of analysis and as a process, from the conceptual as well as operational point of view, is far more complex and multidimensional than usually consider. To Landscape and Urban Ecology is highly relevant to conceptually explore the complexity and multidimensionality of urbanisation to understand its impacts better, but also to explore new methods and indicators. A broad approach towards urbanisation would draw interest for the IALE community. At the same time, we will explore a broad set of impacts of urbanisation on socio-ecological systems, fostering cross-disciplinary fertilisation between different disciplines concerned with the study and analysis of urbanisation.

Broad thematic areas

Broad thematic areas 1st choice: Urban regions (urban landscapes, urbanization processes, urban metabolism, rural urban systems)

Broad thematic areas 2st choice: Theory of landscape ecology

Free Keywords

Urbanisation/urban/ indicators