

1st Conference announcement

RegioResources 21-2013

A cross-disciplinary dialogue on future perspectives for a sustainable development of regional resources



18-20 September 2013

University of Catania (Italy) – Department of Architecture

RegioResources 21 started in 2011 to establish a **permanent cross-disciplinary dialogue** on sustainability features in planning, decision and policy making on multiple scale levels. The conference series intends (i) to **provide an overview** on the most recent questions and innovative solutions and (ii) to **facilitate the intellectual exchange and methodological transfer** between different disciplines involved in regional resource management, planning, decision making and policy support.

The 2013 conference will be organized jointly by Global Land Project and the European Land-use Institute as European Nodal Office of the GLP together with the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP), working group 9, Application of Ecosystem Services in Planning, Management and Restoration.

Aims and scope 2013 conference

The **ecosystem service concept** provides an **integrative framework** for land-use planning that supports assessment and communication of services provided by ecosystems and land systems.

In **planning processes**, i.e. land-use planning, regional planning, and urban planning, the concept of ecosystem services will particularly contribute to **facilitate the exchange between actors, consensus building** on future common goals and **interest conflict solving**.

Taking ecosystem services as reference will help to identify **trade-offs** of **planning decisions** at the micro and meso scale. Also, most ecosystem services depend on the interplay of land-uses in landscape context, their pattern and spatial constellation. The ecosystem services concept will therefore contribute to **enhance thinking at landscape scale** and support actors in **understanding** how **pattern, function and contribution to human well-being** are related at landscape scale.

However, **perception and application of the ecosystem service concept** in planning practice is so far rather limited. Though **planning systems** often make use of target systems that show many similarities to the **ecosystem services concept**, there are differences in **terminology, assessment methods** and **addressed scales** that **impede** a wider **application of the ecosystem services concept in practice**.

The conference **RegioResources 21-2013** addresses the **following questions**:

- How to improve the introduction of ecosystem services into planning?
- How to make use of the ecosystem services concept in planning practice at different scales (from urban to landscape)?
- How to bring these approaches together in an integrative land-use planning framework?
- How to foster ES concept for planning authorities and decision makers?

We especially address planning approaches in urban planning, water management, forest and agricultural planning from micro to meso scale as well as land-use planning, regional planning and landscape planning from meso to macro scale.

Prospected Publication

The presentations given at the conference are invited to participate in a common publication. A Special Issue to be published in the journals *Ecological Indicators* or *Landscape and Urban Planning* will be proposed. Authors interested to publish their work in the Special Issue are invited to communicate their interest by e-mail to the scientific committee.

Where and when?

The conference RegioResources 21 will be held on **18 – 20 September at University of Catania**, Italy. The conference venue is the Auditorium De Carlo, located in the historical centre of Catania inside the monumental site of the Benedettini Monastery. A list of accommodation facilities with pre-booked room contingents will be available in the conference webpage: <http://regioresources21.eli-web.com>

Conference topics / sessions - call for abstracts

The topics listed below are propositions for the sessions. The mission of the 2013 conference is to give space not only for presentations but also for open formats, small workshops, intensive discussion and for networking.

I thematic session – application of ES for land-use planning in different sectors and contexts

The session will cover applications of the ES concept in urban, agricultural, forest and water (management) planning and in different regional/socio-economic contexts (regional planning / spatial planning / land-use planning / landscape planning). Session will welcome also contributions presenting real planning cases that have been developed by including ES concept. Particular importance in the session will be reserved to the issue of cultural ES (aesthetic, recreation, education) in urban environments.

II thematic session – modeling and designing of ES for planning

The session will deal with conceptual and/or practical modeling on how ES are modeled for different planning contexts and scale, covering issues of indicators, mapping and communication tools.

III thematic session – how to enforce the perception of the importance of ES by public authorities and decision makers in land use planning processes

The session will deal to arguments, tools and participation techniques that may be able to encourage the involvement of planning decision makers in considering ES as a fundamental concept in developing sustainable planning strategies and policies on land-use.

Round table - bridging scales in planning

Integrative planning frameworks addressing multiple scales

Abstract submission

Please see: <http://regioresources21.eli-web.com> page for registration. Abstract (max 300 words) are due by June, 15th, 2013. Notifications of acceptance will be by July, 15th, 2013.

Conference Fees

ELI Members (registration by July, 30th) : **175 €**

ELI Members (registration after July, 30th) : **225 €**

Non ELI Members (registration by July, 30th) : **225 €**

Non ELI Members (registration after July, 30th) : **275 €**

1 day fee (registration by July, 30th) : **100 €**

1 day fee (registration after July, 30th): **125 €**

Social Dinner (19th, September): **30 €**

The fee **includes** evening aperitivo (Wednesday, 18th), coffee breaks, lunches, book of abstract.

Conference organization team

Daniele La Rosa, University of Catania, Marcin Spyra, Opole University of Technology, Carsten Lorz, University of Applied Sciences Weihenstephan-Triesdorf, Christian Albert, University Hannover, Christine Fürst, University Bonn

Scientific committee

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