



## **Call for Session proposals**

**Global Land Project OPEN SCIENCE MEETING 2016, Beijing, China**

**24-27 October 2016**

***Land system science: understanding realities and developing solutions***

**Host: Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences**

**Co-organizers: Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the GLP Scientific Steering Committee and the GLP International Project Office (based at the Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern, Switzerland)**

**Venue: China National Convention Center**  
No.7 Tianchen East Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100105, PR China

### **Background**

Since the last 20 years, land system science has developed from studies of Land Use and Land Cover changes, dealing mainly with monitoring and modelling ecological impacts of changes in land cover, to a more integrative field of research focusing on land changes as cause, consequence and solution to global environmental change<sup>1</sup>.

The land system science community is organized within the Global Land Project (GLP), a core project of the Future Earth research programme commissioned by the International Council for Science (ICSU). GLP is an interdisciplinary community of science and practice fostering the study of land systems and the co-design of solutions for global sustainability. It represents the largest international research network in this field.

The Third Open Science Meeting of the Global Land Project (GLP 3rd OSM 2016) will be held from 24-27th October 2016 at China National Convention Center, Beijing. GLP had its first Open Science

---

<sup>1</sup> Verburg PH, Erb KH, Mertz O, Espindola G. 2013. Editorial Overview: Land System Science: between global challenges and local realities. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* 5(5): 433-437.

Meeting in 2010 at Arizona State University, Tempe, USA, and its second OSM in 2014 at Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, with more than 600 participants from 50 countries.

The upcoming third OSM 2016 will be organized by the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences under the coordination of Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) and International Project Office (IPO) of GLP. The aim of GLP 3rd OSM 2016 is to bring together large parts of the international research community working on land system issues, showcase the width and scope of ongoing research, help build a community in this highly interdisciplinary field, inspire new research, and facilitate review, theory building and application of science in practice.

We now invite session proposals that represent relevant and innovative research in land system science, within the four following main conference topics:

### **Managing trade-offs and synergies for sustainable land systems**

In light of sustainable development goals – as mentioned by the 2030 agenda - land system change leads to many impacts on the biophysical and social system, often leading to trade-offs and conflicts between different ecosystem services and beneficiaries. In this conference theme we aim at presenting and discussing novel methods to measure and identify trade-offs in the land system and identify those land systems that contribute to sustainability objectives.

### **Land systems and the water, food, energy nexus**

Land is, similar to water, a scarce resource that faces more and more competition for construction, food and energy production. The nexus between different objectives for managing land resources calls for novel solutions that integrate water, food, land and energy perspectives. This conference theme aims at bringing together these different perspectives using land systems as a common platform for nexus solutions.

### **Land systems in an urbanizing and telecoupled world**

Urbanization and globalization are amongst the most dominant drivers of land system change. Both processes lead to different land systems that are no longer driven by local dynamics but also have large footprints on nearby or distant land systems through commodity chains and changing demands for ecosystem services. In sessions related to this conference theme both the role of urbanization and telecoupling as drivers of land system change as well as methods to include these processes in land system assessments are discussed.

### **Novel land governance systems to manage natural resources**

The multi-scale and multi-sectoral challenges faced for managing land resources in sustainable ways require in depth insights in current land governance systems, land use policy and international land acquisition. At the same time, novel ways of governing land resources may need to be proposed to meet the increasing demands and conflicts related to land resources. This conference theme will bring together those that have studied land governance at different scales and from different perspective to identify pathways to new and sustainable land governance systems.

## Session formats

The conference will use various session formats to allow the synthesis of current knowledge in land system science based on presentations of cutting-edge research, the identification of new challenges and the discussion of the implementation of these options in practice and policy. The conference will feature plenary keynotes, oral presentation sessions, round-table discussion with speed talks, short training sessions and poster sessions.

Sessions are 1 hour and 30 minutes each. To allow for a variation of session formats participants are invited to submit session proposals under one of the following formats listed below. Based on the selected session proposals a call for abstracts will be launched, with specific attention to young researchers.

### 1. Research presentation session

- Five presentations on related topics of each 12 minutes + 3 minutes for Q&A
- Session proposers identify and confirm up to 3 presenters in the proposal; session organizers ensure that, when abstract submission is open, these presenters will submit their abstract. Abstracts are subject to review by the scientific committee of the conference, even when invited by session organizers.
- The 2 remaining slots will be allocated by the scientific committee based on submitted abstracts favouring early career research contributions in order to ensure mixed sessions.
- 10 minutes of the session is reserved for a general introduction, synthesis or overall discussion led by the session chair.

### 2. Round-table discussion session

- Session starts with three to maximally five speed talks-speed talks of maximum five minutes and three slides each. The speed talks are followed by a round-table discussion
- Session proposers identify the presenters and roundtable participants as well as the discussion items in the session proposal

### 3. Short training session

- Session proposers provide a short training on a specific topic, e.g. a specific land change model, validation approach, remote sensing interpretation etc.
- Short training sessions can consist of 1.5 or 3 hour time slots.

### 4. Open format

- Ideas for innovative and original session formats are welcome. Rationale, format and expected number of participants need to be indicated and very clearly specified
- World cafe style sessions or short workshops that work towards a clearly outlined product may be proposed

## Session selection criteria

The sessions will be selected under a peer-review scheme, using the following criteria:

- 1) Scientific quality
- 2) Relevance for GLP community
- 3) Societal relevance
- 4) Matching of session proposal with the conference themes and expected interest of participants for attending the sessions (session proposals that target a specific region or project are not eligible)
- 5) Overall quality of the proposed session including chair, proposed speakers, and innovative format

During each of the seven parallel sessions a maximum of about 14 sessions will run in parallel, allowing an average of 60-70 participants per session.

**IMPORTANT:** To allow as many participants as possible to take active part in the conference **only one oral presentation per participant is allowed** (as presenting author). Participants are however allowed to provide an oral presentation while at the same time being part of a panel discussion or submitting a training session.

## **Deadline for Session submission: December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Please submit your session proposal using the OSM2016 Conference Registration System and read carefully the submission instructions provided there:

<http://www.glp-osm2016.com/#!/call-for-sessions/wvi1t>

For contact information, please visit the conference website <http://www.glp-osm2016.org>

In case you could not access the Conference Website, please use this alternative link to access the conference submission system: <https://www.conference-service.com/GLPOSM16/welcome.cgi>

In last resort please contact us at: [info-glp2016@caas.cn](mailto:info-glp2016@caas.cn)