

LE:NOTRE Institute

Virtual Roundtable: **LANDSCAPE, GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE EUROPEAN UNION**

online seminar '**Green Infrastructure – Exploring the Scope of an Integrative Concept**'
organized by Nürtingen-Geislingen University (DE) in cooperation with the LE:NOTRE Institute

Introductory presentation

PROGRESSING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE **Tradition and Innovation for Sustainable Europe**

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SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Background

- Human society depends on the **benefits provided by nature** such as food, materials, clean water, clean air, climate regulation, flood prevention, pollination and recreation
- However, many of these benefits, frequently referred to as **ecosystem services**, are used as if their supply is almost unlimited and treated as free commodities
- **true value** is not fully appreciated

Threats

- Major threats to biodiversity in the EU are climate change, land fragmentation, land use changes, overexploitation of natural resources, the spread of invasive alien species, and pollution
- Despite action taken to combat biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, these continue pose serious challenges for the EU

Living in an urban world

<http://cdn.theatlantic.com/static/mt/assets/science/Istanbul.jpg>



Living in an urban world



<http://www.lafarge.com/sites/mediacenter/files/urban-sprawl-primarily-a-cultural-phenomenon.jpg>

Increasing environmental pollution load

Photo credits: Juergen Schwarz/Getty Images

Gravenbroich (D)



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Increasing environmental pollution load



algae bloom in the Baltic Sea

Source: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2010/02/100305-baltic-sea-algae-dead-zones-water>

Increasingly severe consequences of climate change

Copenhagen flooding, 2011



<http://assets.inhabitat.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2013/08/Copenhagen-Climate-Adaptation-Plan-1.jpg>

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Decreasing stocks of natural resources

Danube delta (RO)



Photo credits: Daniel Petrescu

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WHERE DOES EUROPE COME FROM?

Tradition_water management



Cornelis van Eesteren, Amsterdam General Expansion Plan: Watergraafsmeer constituent

Tradition_skilled agriculture

Source: <https://arrangementsabroad.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/douro-valley.jpg>

Douro valley (P)



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Tradition_Climate management



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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TRADITION AND INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

Innovation

8,000 m² Basel Main Exhibition Hall Green Roof

- http://www.greenroofdesign.co.uk/media/GreenRoofDesign_003_m.jpg



Multifunctionality



Source:<http://europa.eu>

Triple Bottom Line Approach

Source: <http://europa.eu>



GI

Landscape Architecture and the European Union