



www.iale-europe.eu

Activity and financial report

October 2022 – September 2025

2 September 2025

Members of the Executive Committee

[Veerle Van Eetvelde](#) | President | Belgium, University of Ghent
[Simona R. Grădinaru](#) | Secretary General | Switzerland, Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL
[José Muñoz-Rojas](#) | Treasurer | Portugal, Universidade de Évora
[Federica Larcher](#) | Membership Administration | Italy, University of Torino
[Werner Rolf](#) | Communication Manager | Germany, OWL University of Applied Sciences and Arts
[Morten Graversgaard](#) | Denmark, Aarhus University
[Çiğdem Coşkun Hepcan](#) | Turkey, Ege University
[Beatriz Pierri Daunt](#) | Early-career representative | Spain, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

IALE Council representative

[Isabel Loupa-Ramos](#) | Portugal, Technical University of Lisbon, CiTUA

PART 1 – ACTIVITY REPORT

1 Introduction

This activity report reflects the period since the last elections that took place in September 2022. It provides an overview of all activities as proposed in the action plan (<https://iale-europe.eu/executive-committee-2022-2025>), as well as other activities that have been performed during the past mandate.

According to the statutes and internal regulations, the standard mandate of the Executive Committee is four years, elected during the General Assembly at the European Congress. Since the previous congress, initially planned for 2021 (Warsaw, Poland) was postponed to 2022, the elections were also postponed and conducted online. In order to ensure the continuity of the daily follow-up of the organisation towards the congress in 2022, the past EC remained in place until the elections in September 2022, and the General Assembly agreed that the term for the EC to be elected in 2022 would be reduced to three years until 2025. So, the current Executive Committee has a shorter mandate to align with the dates of the European Congress 2025. The mandate started on 15 October 2022 and is ending during the General Assembly held during the European Congress on 2 September 2025. As such, **the activity report includes the period of 2022-2025.**

All activities are also listed on the website of IALE-Europe, which functions as the archive of past and future events and different published news items.

2 Action Plan

Following the general aim of IALE-Europe, the association aims to support and build the community of landscape ecologists in Europe, particularly to develop activities to complement World, European and national conferences, and to increase the sense of belonging. The Action Plan put forward by the EC contained 9 objectives.

The activities conducted over the 2022-2025 term are detailed below, following the action plan that was proposed during the elections in September 2022 (<https://iale-europe.eu/iale-europe-elections-2022-2025-lists>).

Objectives	Conducted activities
1. Bringing the members together	The EC invested in research, educational and networking activities to create new energy and synergies in physical and online events, furthering the development of a Europe-wide transdisciplinary landscape community. The activities listed below are a proof of the EC's work in this direction.
2. Communication with the members	<p>Website: the website www.iale-europe.eu collects all the information of the association and is regularly updated with news and activities and is seen as the virtual hub to the different national chapters. During the last year, the technical aspects are prepared to move the website to another platform, the re-design is not yet finished and will be taken over by the next EC.</p> <p>Mailing list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently about 350 registered individuals - All European Chapters, additional national contact partners and affiliated organisations in other countries without formal IALE chapter: all communication has been sent to the contact persons, with a request to further distribute them within their national IALE community and other landscape ecology networks. <p>IALE-Europe Newsletters: twice a year a Newsletter was published and sent to all the members and published on the website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spring 2023: https://mailchi.mp/9ed824ce34d2/iale-europe-newsletter-spring-2023 - Autumn 2023: https://mailchi.mp/897c0c6cb6f5/iale-europe-newsletter-autumn-2023 - Summer 2024: https://mailchi.mp/40485a42a34b/iale-europe-newsletter-summer-2024 - Winter 2025: https://mailchi.mp/56dbdf81563e/iale-europe-newsletter-winter-2025 - Summer 2025: https://mailchi.mp/c750696d85f3/iale-europe-newsletter-summer-2025

	<p>In addition, Newsflashes were sent in between the Newsletters with the aim of announcing events, launching calls and communication other important information. In total 14 newsflashes were sent out.</p> <p>Twitter/X social media account: following a decrease in engagement of followers and the reputation of this social media platform, the activity on the IALE-Europe account was interrupted. Instead, the personal accounts of the EC members on LinkedIn and Facebook platforms were used to communicate information to the members.</p>
3. Supporting the national chapters	<p>Currently there are eleven officially established national IALE chapters within Europe (see overview on the website of IALE International). Four of them have a collective membership (Germany, Italy, Portugal, United Kingdom). The EC is in regular contact with these national chapters via their contact persons, particularly during the preparation and distribution of the newsletters (see above), to include information about their activities and to further support communication. The EC also tries to support and keep contact with the other national chapters in different ways and supports the creation of new national chapters in Europe.</p> <p>Individual contacts with the national chapter: every national chapter has one contact person of the EC who made regular contact with the national chapters.</p> <p>Meeting with national chapters in Nairobi on 11 July 2023: during the IALE World Congress. In total, 40 representatives and members from 20 different European countries as well as the past and new IALE International President exchanged news and experiences, reflected on the work of the different European countries, and discussed the expectations of the different chapters and members across Europe and the task of IALE-Europe in supporting activities in the different countries. The meeting resulted in new ideas of collaboration between European chapters, for example, for the organisation of the next European Congress in 2025.</p> <p>Meeting with APEP, the Portuguese chapter, in November 2023: the EC of IALE-Europe had its annual live meeting on 2 and 3 November 2023 in Lisbon. The EC took the opportunity to meet Selma Pena, the president, and Ana Müller, the vice-chair of APEP - Associação Portuguesa de Ecologia da Paisagem to discuss common activities and support for the chapter.</p> <p>Support for establishment of IALE-France: on 27 November 2023, the French landscape ecology community founded a new national IALE chapter. The EC of IALE-Europe supported this by giving input and feedback on the administrative issues such as the design of the statutes.</p> <p>Participation in meetings of national chapters of members of the EC as representatives of IALE-Europe.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IV Iberian meeting of landscape ecology (organised by APEP and IALE Spain, 19-21 June 2024, Bragança, Portugal), guest presentation of Special Issue on Iberian Landscape Ecologies (Landscape Ecology) by José Muñoz-Rojas. - National Congress of the Italian Chapter – SIEP (26-28 June 2024, Bolzano, Italy), keynote and discussions with members by Simona Gradinaru. - IALE-D Annual Conference (29-30 October 2024, Bernburg, Germany), presentation of IALE-Europe activities by Werner Rolf. - Annual meeting of Landscape Ecology in France (Rencontres d'Ecologie des Paysages) (9-11 April 2025, Strasbourg, France), presentation of IALE-Europe activities and keynote by Werner Rolf.
4. Relation with IALE International	<p>The EC maintained good relations with the Executive Committee of IALE International, and engaged in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular communication with the president, treasurer and the other EC members of IALE. - Actively supporting the initiative to obtain a discount for the IALE members from Landscape Ecology Journal. - Contributing to the IALE bulletin December 2024(4), September 2024(3), March 2024(2), December 2023 (3/4), December 2022(4), October 2022(3) and additional Newsflashes - Participation in the meeting of the Council of IALE during the IALE World Congress 2023.
5. Supporting the early-career landscape ecologists	<p>A call for an early-career representative in the IALE-Europe Executive Committee was launched in spring 2023. The EC received several applications and selected Beatriz Pierri Daunt (at the time a postdoctoral researcher), as the representative and as co-opted member of the EC.</p> <p>New European Working Group for Early Career researchers in landscape ecology was launched. The WG aims to connect and empower early career landscape ecologists in Europe and beyond, such as students, PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers.</p> <p>Relaunching the Early Career Researchers Webinar Series. The Webinar series was continued as an informal forum to present and discuss their work with colleagues. The following webinars took place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research talk: Casting a Line to the Land: Narratologies of Embodied Rituals and Connectivity to Place, 13 December 2023, Presentation by: Zoe Latham. - Research talk: Biodiversity associated with trees in urban areas: from the study to implications for management, 10 January 2024. Presentation by: Claudia Canedoli. - Research talk: Balancing Landscape Values and Tourism Choices: Integrating Participatory Mapping and IPBES Values Analysis, 15 February 2024. Guest: Liliana Solé Figueras

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to prepare for an academic job interview, 13 March 2024: Speakers: Jasper van Vliet, Veerle van Eetvelde. - Parental Care at the early career stage. Let's talk about it!, 16 April 2024. Speakers: Agnese Marino, Lusweti Inviolater, Helen Cole, María García-Martín, Oskar Wood Hansen, Oskar Hagen, Vasco Diogo, Zoe Latham. - AI and Technology Applications in Landscape Ecology, 11 December 2024. Speakers: Carlos Santiago, Mihai Sorin Stupariu, Dario Domingo Ruiz.
6. Leading IALE 2025 European Congress	<p>IALE-Europe has been actively involved in the organisation of the IALE 2025 European Congress. The congress is jointly organised by Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (ILE SAS), Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University Bratislava, the Czech Society for Landscape Ecology (IALE-CZ), IALE-Europe Mendel University in Brno (MENDELU) (https://iale2025.sav.sk/about/organizers/) in September 2025.</p> <p>The EC of IALE-Europe met the local organising team during their live meeting at the beginning of April 2024 in Bratislava, Slovakia, which included an exchange of the topic of the congress, schedule of preparations, task, a visit the congress venue and meeting PhD students in landscape ecology from the SAS and ComU and discuss their further involvement in early career landscape ecology activities.</p> <p>The EC was further involved in congress organisation, specifically in proposing keynote speakers, defining the congress themes, inviting proposals and revising symposia.</p>
7. Supporting and developing working groups	<p>Currently there are four working groups of IALE-Europe (see: https://iale-europe.eu/working-groups) that are considered as working themes to organise different activities around European stakeholders, landscape ecology education, landscape ecology practice and early career researchers. IALE-Europe supported the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1. WG Europe's Stakeholders – Shaping Future Policy and Science</u> At the end of the current term of the EC, the president of IALE-Europe was contacted by a representative of ECLAS to engage in an initiative on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe. This initiative is a collaboration between all the landscape-related networks in Europe (ECLAS, EFLA, IALA, Landscape Research Group, Uniscape) and will be continued in the autumn 2025. The main aim is to compile a statement, supported by the Council of Europe, that will be send to the European Union about the importance of the ELC. Moreover, this collaboration is considered as a start to set up a “network of networks” among landscape related associations. <u>2. WG Education in Landscape Ecology – Sharing Knowledge and Experience</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One session was organised during the IALE World Congress 2023 in Nairobi, entitled <i>Transboundary Education of Landscape at</i>

	<p><i>Different Levels.</i> After six presentations, a round table discussion with more than 30 participants revealed the need to further exchange novel ideas on teaching landscape ecology and the aspiration to develop more synergies in teaching approaches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online meetings to discuss <i>Transcontinental education cooperations</i> were organised in June and September 2024. Seven participants from Europe and Latin America agreed on several short-term goals to promote ad-hoc and informal collaborations, temporary partnerships, and casual cooperation to sustain a network dedicated to landscape ecology education. This initiative is bringing together the interests of the European Chapter, IALE International and other national chapter worldwide. - As part of the <i>Transcontinental education cooperation</i> an International Survey on Landscape Ecology Teaching was initiated and supported. Interim results will be presented at the upcoming IALE Congress in Bratislava and a peer-reviewed publication of the findings is planned to disseminate the outcomes and further advance teaching practices in the field. - A peer-reviewed publication of the findings is planned to disseminate the outcomes and further advance teaching practices in the field. - One session was organised during the European Congress 2025 in Bratislava, entitled <i>Education and Teaching Perspectives in a Rapidly Changing World</i>. <p>IALE-Europe keeps supporting the living special issue in Landscape Online on the topic <i>Education in landscape ecology – Sharing knowledge and experience</i> and encourages the participants of the symposia mentioned above to contribute to the SI. See: https://www.landscape-online.org/index.php/lo/education_in_LE</p> <p>Further on, the organisation of the PhD course is considered as an activity of this WG.</p> <p>3. <u>WG Group Landscape Ecology and Practice – Bridging Science and Society</u></p> <p>This working group aims to strengthen the understanding of how landscape ecology contributes to landscape planning and design and to place this topic higher on the agenda of landscape ecologists, scientists and practitioners. The working group would have liked to progress further on this theme, e.g. by looking into concrete practice examples and the way landscape ecology principles have been tackled but unfortunately time and resource constraints have made this difficult. The short period of three years did not allow to make further action nor activities in this WG.</p> <p>4. <u>WG for Early Career researchers in landscape ecology</u></p>
--	---

	The group held regular meetings and relaunched the Webinar series. Group activities are listed on the IALE-Europe website https://iale-europe.eu/working-group-early-career-researchers .
8. Organising PhD courses	A PhD course on the theme Landscape Perspectives in a Rapidly Changing World is organised during 1-10 September 2025. The course is associated to the European Landscape Ecology Congress in Bratislava and is taken place in Lednice (Czechia). 12 PhD students registered for the course (https://iale-europe.eu/phd2025).
9. Fostering and establishing relationships with other landscape-related networks and projects in Europe	<p>In addition to the national IALE chapters that are member of IALE-Europe, the EC aimed to stay connected with the other national chapters and countries. Particularly during the preparation of each newsletter, the communication manager reached out to a national contact person to include relevant activities in the newsletter, and essentially also to request further distribution of the newsletter within their national landscape ecology communities.</p> <p>In addition, the EC had informal contacts with other landscape related networks in Europe (see also activities of the working groups) and Veerle Van Eetvelde was invited to participate in the meeting of the Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe (see above), which re-activated the idea that IALE-Europe should become an official observer of the Landscape Convention again.</p> <p>IALE-Europe was invited to participate as partner in in a COST Action proposal of DIGINEG, coordinated by Christian Albert. The proposal was not approved.</p>

3 Other activities

3.1 **Updating the status of the IALE-Europe bank account**

To facilitate the daily management of the IALE bank account by the new executive committee (EC), two actions were taken. The bank account is located in the Portuguese bank of BPI, as the association is officially recognised in Portugal (see statutes and internal regulations):

1. To obtain full access to the bank account, the EC was required to physically submit official documents to the bank, as per new Portuguese regulations, during the life meeting in November 2023. This enabled permission to the official account holders (treasurer, president, secretary and membership administrator).
2. Transfer the bank account to another branch of the same bank, namely from Lisbon to Évora (Praça do Giraldo) in 2023, which made it easier for the treasurer (José Muñoz-Rojas) to manage the account.

The account is accessible by four members of the EC, and permissions from at least two members of the account holder board are required for any movements or changes to take place.

3.2 Enabling future payments by using Stripe

To streamline the payment of membership fees, the EC decided to open an account on the Stripe platform. This initiative will facilitate payments and transfers across the association. In the long term, once the Stripe account is fully operational, this can replace the PayPal account. The account will be set in place in time for use by the new EC.

3.3 Setting up the new IALE-Europe website

The current website was set up and designed in 2015 (by Jonathan Porter and his colleagues of Countryscape) and so is 10 years old. Moreover, it is hosted in a system (Drupal) that is no longer updated. In order to have full access and redesign the website and to have it hosted independently from any member of the EC (including with automatic updates), the EC decided to migrate the website to another platform. This will allow a more sustainable continuity for the daily maintenance of the website. After an assessment of the possible alternatives and consulting IT colleagues, the hosting will be changed to Managed WordPress Business (from Combell), and a first brainstorm for a new website has been finalised. All access rights will be passed on to the new EC.

4 Meetings

The Executive Committee has functioned with its elected and co-opted members during the 3 years of the mandate.

The EC has **regular online meetings** (when possible, every month) to ensure continuous communication within the EC and discuss and decide the issues at stake. They took place in the Teams channel set up for the EC, which also included the EC's documents. This was done to centralise and pass them on to the next EC.

Besides, the Executive Committee held two **physical meetings**:

- November 2023 in Lisbon, to facilitate the transfer of the bank account to the new treasurer.
- April 2024 in Bratislava, in preparation for the European Landscape Ecology Congress 2025.

Regular communication is done via Signal, where the members of the EC act on short notice.

In addition, several members of the EC have gathered at other scientific meetings.

PART 2 – FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Introduction

This financial report reflects the period since the last elections (at the latest European Congress in Poland/online in 2022) until the day of the GA. It is prepared by the treasurer of IALE-Europe, José Muñoz-Rojas, who has sent the report as well as all the documents related to the financial transfer to the financial auditor of IALE-Europe (Stig Svenningsen, Denmark).

2. Summary of the financial report

A comprehensive list of movements has been compiled, summarised in the following yearly, covering the period from September 2022 to August 2025.

Finances overview	September 2022 – August 2025
Income	€ 24.423,49
Fees from individual members	€ 11.710,70
Fees from collective members	€ 1.765,00
IALE refund for early bird fees	€ 408,00
Funding IALE International	€ 2.000,00
Fees from the participants of the PhD courses	€ 3.300,00
Transfer from IALE-DK	€ 5.239,79
Expenses	€ 12.256,86
IALE membership fees	€ 2.240,00
Young Researchers Webinar Series, other workshops and meetings	€ 2.665,53
Zoom account and website	€ 607,43
Costs related to the bank (Bank and PayPal fees + lawyer)	€ 643,90
PhD course	€ 5.800,00
Funding for IALE-DK	€ 300,00
Balance	€ 12.167,63

In addition to the current overview of the budget, the following incomes and expenses are still expected in the following months of 2025:

INCOME excpeted (from 1.09.2025 onwards)	
Fees from individual members (PayPal)	???
Fees from collective member - National chapter Italy (2025, 60 members)	€ 300,00
Fees from collective member - National chapter Germany (2024-2025)	€ 1.000,00
Transfer from IALE International	???
IALE 2025 PhD Course registrations students (#1)	€ 300,00

TOTAL income to be expected	€ 1.500,00
EXPENCES excpeted (from 1.09.2025 onwards)	
PhD presentation award IALE2025	€ 200,00
Free membership PhD award (2026 and 2027)	€ 30,00
Costs of the PhD course (train Bratislava-Lednice; food)	???
	€ 230,00

Some explanations:

- At the start of the term, IALE-Europe had a budget of 15.328,35€ (on the bank account and the PayPal account).
- At the end of 2022, the Danish IALE chapter decided to dissolve as an official chapter and continue as an informal network. The available resources of IALE-DK were transferred to the account of IALE-Europe and are used to fund activities of Danish IALE-members according to a Memorandum of Understanding.
- Total assets available on the bank account (1 September 2025): 22.603,14 €

3. Statutes of the memberships

Collective members: official national chapters of IALE that also join IALE-Europe. These chapters pay a fee according to the membership arrangements (see below).

- Germany (IALE-D)
- Italy (SIEP-IALE)
- Portugal (APEP)
- UK (Landscape Ecology UK)

Individual members:

Year	Members
2017	76
2018	58
2019	68
2020	61
2021	59
2022	60
2023	72
2024	61
2025 *	54

* Until 1 September 2025, more registration and payments are expected

The current EC recognise that some action needs to be taken to attract members, especially from countries without a national chapter. It also encourages new and additional chapters to join the collective membership in order to support the European association. In addition to that, the payment procedure should be clarified,

and recurring payments will be encouraged, or reminders will be sent out to the members in order to collect the membership fees.

From the membership arrangements and fee structure:

For an individual membership:

- 15€ for students (10€ for IALE International, 5€ for IALE-Europe)
- 30€ for regular (20€ for IALE International +10€ for IALE-Europe)

The collective membership fee depends on the number of members of the national chapter:

- >150 members = 500€; >100 member = 373€; >51 members = 250€; £ 50 members = 5€ per member

No distinction is made between regular and student memberships, because students get the reduction from the national chapters

https://iale-europe.eu/sites/default/files/pictures/EC_12.02.10_doc3_membership%20arrangements_update%2017.10.09.pdf

PART 3 – TRANSITION TO THE NEXT EC

In order to support a smooth transition to the next EC, the report includes an overview of actions that will need to be followed up on in the first year:

1. Re-activate the call for membership to increase membership engagement in the community of IALE at all levels.
2. Grant access and control of the bank account (the current José Muñoz-Rojas, who will continue to act as adjunct treasurer, in this way securing that no unnecessary interruptions in access and use of the account take place).
3. Account of Zoom and Mailchimp will be transferred to the new EC.
4. Design of the new website (Veerle Van Eetvelde and Werner Rolf have access to the new platform and will assist the new EC in the next step)
5. Implementing the Stripe account in the membership registrations on the new website (José Muñoz-Rojas is the main contact person)
6. Re-evaluating the organisation and registration of the bank account (BPI) and PayPal account (José Muñoz-Rojas is the main contact person for the bank account, Veerle Van Eetvelde for the PayPal account).