

## Pre-announcement

# **Second World Conference on Nature and Cultures of Terraced Landscapes**

**The guardians of the terraced  
landscapes and its biodiversity,  
the cultural and natural diversity  
are treasures for the present and  
future of humankind**

**Cusco, Peru**

**19 to 22 May 2014**



## First Conference in Yunnan, China in November 2010

The prefectural government of the Red River prefecture convened and funded the first Conference on Terraced Landscapes in Mengzi with more than 200 participants. Prof. Shi Junchao led the organising team and the facilitators from Honghe University to run 5 parallel workshops and 1 Farmer Forum. The topics dealt with History and Culture of Terraces, Impact of Tourism on Terraces, Organic Production on Terraces, Management of World Heritage Sites, and Policies and regulations affecting Terraced Landscapes and Cultures.

The participants of the Conference gathered and formed the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance (ITLA), which is coordinated by Timmi Tillmann, affiliated with the Right Livelihood College at USM in Malaysia. Until now more than 100 professionals and activists are affiliated with ITLA from more than 20 countries. The website [www.alpter.net](http://www.alpter.net) from Italy is hosting until now the communications of ITLA under administration of Luca Lodatti.

## Second World Conference in Peru in May 2014

Since 2010 the hosts (John Earls from Catholic University, Lima and Hilda Araujo from CITPA) of the next Conference in Peru has united a team of 20 organizers and about 15 supporting institutions from Peru. With the cooperation by Maruja Salas and Timmi Tillmann from ITLA the team has agreed to organize the next World Conference in May 2014 in Cusco, in the Southern Andes of Peru. The aim is to provide a forum for researchers, activists and terrace farmers from terraced landscapes in the world to discuss and agree upon actions to protect, preserve and promote terraced landscapes in the world.

## Objectives of the Conference

- Present showcases of the wealth of knowledge, farmers wisdom and practices of terraced landscapes and cultures (especially from Peru)

- Identify and understand the state of the art of terraces in the world with a multidisciplinary, participatory and historic approach and acknowledge the validity and diversity of local knowledge, management skills and livelihoods of traditional terrace societies and of the biodiversity produced by the “guardians” of terraced landscapes
- Organize a Farmer Forum to hear the voices and exchange experiences from terrace-farmers and learn about the visions and perspectives of the rural communities from different countries, to show and advocate the importance of terraced landscapes and their cultures for the future of humanity.
- Analyze the political, social and economic barriers and propose alternative action to promote terraced landscapes and protect the rights to land, water, biodiversity, livelihood and culture of the terrace communities (and their members)
- Propose and start organizing plans of actions in defense of the terraced landscapes, biodiversity and small farmers agriculture
- Strengthen an intergenerational international movement to defend and promote terraced landscapes
- Define the future development of ITLA, promote specific country strategies and determine the hosts, country and dates for the Third World Conference (probably 2016 in Italy, and 2019 in Ifugao, Philippines)

## Participants

We invite to join the Second World Conference and reach a total group of 200 participants, with at least 50 international delegates, farmers and activists, researchers and decision makers, “guardians” of terraces and their biodiversity, technicians and facilitators of local development processes from regions with terraced landscapes, as well as officials of international organizations,

The more than 30 organizers and supporters of the World Conference include Universities, Research Centers, young academics, NGOs, national and local government agencies, networks and farmer communities from Peru.

## Preparatory process in each country or region

For Peru we have proposed and are organizing the following preparatory actions and steps:

- The Inventory of terraced landscapes in Peru.
- Update a comprehensive Bibliography about terraces and culture of in Peru.
- Regional workshops with farmers, activists and researchers in different parts of Peru.
- Case studies about terraced landscapes, communities and special regions
- Elaboration of participatory videos and documentaries about terraced landscapes, use (Nature and Culture).
- Field course in Chivay, Colca Valley, Arequipa in October of 2013 to analyses the topics of the World Conference in one of the most meaningful terraced landscapes in Peru.
- Short Fieldtrips near Lima, Ayacucho, Cusco, Puno
- National workshop in early 2014 to promote terraced landscapes to the Peruvian government and the public, with an exhibition of terrace products and photography’s and videos.

- The Italian section has proposed to organize the national Encounter in Italy from 3 to 4 of May 2013 with the possibility that participants from other European countries could attend.
- ITLA will elaborate a compilation of outstanding essays and reports from all over the world to be distributed as a virtual book on Terraced Landscapes.

All international sections are asked to develop similar preparatory activities in their countries in terraced landscapes areas, with the local guardians.

## Format of the World Conference

12 to 17 of May 2014

Field trips in parallel groups to 4 different regions in parallel groups (Lima, Central Andes – Ayacucho – Apurimac, South – Arequipa, Puno, and South East – Cusco). Initial workshop of 1 day in Lima to form teams and agree on the tasks for the field teams. Final workshop in Cusco on the 18th to elaborate a presentation about field trip to the Conference.

18 of May 2014

Cusco: A Public Fair of Arts, Food and Wisdom about terraced landscapes and cultures

19 - 22 of May 2014

Second World Conference combining Plenaries offering presentations by Farmers, Researchers and Activists as inputs to thematic workshops.

We propose 4 steps for the thematic workshops: 1. focus on the themes, 2. analyze issues, cases and experiences, 3. develop a vision of the future for terraced landscapes and finally 4. agree upon action plan and starting to implement it with shared responsibilities.

During the World Conference there are parallel events: Farmer Forum, Video and Film Festival, Exhibition of Terraced Landscapes Products, Networking of Participants for example Assembly of ITLA members.

## Themes of the Conference

1. History and Cultures of terraced landscapes
2. Water, Territory and Climate Change
3. Construction and Maintenance of Terraces
4. Traditional indigenous knowledge about, agro-biodiversity of agricultural terraces
5. Food Sovereignty (Local seeds and Organic Farming)
6. The social organization of mountain people as guardians of terraces and domesticators of plants and animals in diverse agro-ecological zones
7. Governance of terraced landscapes and human development. Policies - State - Laws and Customary Laws
8. GIS methodology and the inventory of Terraced Landscapes; terraced landscape analysis and planning with GIS instruments.
9. World Heritage and Landscapes - Attraction and Impact of Tourism

## Registration Fee

Should not surpass 300 \$ per person and includes conference fee, receptions, coffee breaks and lunch buffet, local transport. We calculate the field trips ahead of the Conference on a real cost basis for travel, food and lodging, material as well as for facilitators and local guides. Cusco provides many options with all types of food and lodging in different price categories as participants will have to cover their travel cost, partially food and lodging. Possibilities for tourism in Cusco after the Conference.

## Organising team

Hilda Araujo, John Earls, Mourik Bueno de Mezquita, Ana Sabogal, Oscar Toro, Carlos Amat y Leon, Miguel Saravia, Carlos Loret de Mola, Maruja Salas, Timmi Tillmann

## Supporting group

Carmen Felipe Morales, MArio Tapia, Alipio Canahua, Lucho Masson, Anne Kendall, Douglas

Walsh, Carlos Loret de Mola, Efraín Malpartida, Braulio La Torre, Lenkiza Angulo, Dora Velásquez, Juan Torres, Ricardo Claverías, Magdalena Machaca, Maja Tillmann, Carlos Amat y León, Carlos Steinmetz, Richard Haep, Marco Sotomayor,

## International Advisory Committee (in process)

Shi Junchao, Yang Fuquan (PR China), Donatella Murtas, Mauro Varotto (Italy), Lucka Azman (Slovenia), Sabina Asins (Spain), Heather Peters, David Feingold (Unesco SE-Asia), Teddy Baguilat (Philippines), William Rivera (USA)

## Next steps and secretariat

In March 2013 we have established the secretariat with 3 contact points: in Cusco at the Center Bartolomé de las Casas as main local organizer, in Lima for the coordination of the organisations based in Lima with CONDESAN and the Catholic University, and also Lima as entry point to Peru for the field trips, and in Arequipa-Chivay at Desco-Sur as local field office.

The funding of the preparatory process and the World Conference will have several sources:

- contributions of the local organizers and participants in the preparatory process;
- registration fees;
- participants fund their travel, food and lodging in Cusco,
- the participants who join the field trips fund the travel costs in Peru (transport, guide, Food, lodging)
- contributions from local and regional governments
- International Cooperation and donations

Contact in Cusco

Andres Estrada - Secretariat - Email: [andres.estrada@apu.cbc.org.pe](mailto:andres.estrada@apu.cbc.org.pe)



## Practical Information

The Conference will be organized in Cusco, where the participants can book rooms at hotels with different categories and prices. Entry point to Peru is still Lima, and the participants can fly to Cusco with different airlines (TACA, LAN, Peruvian Airlines, Star Peru, LCP).

The participants who want to join the field trips (to different areas in parallel trips) will gather on the 12th of May 2014 in Lima, join a one day preparatory workshop and then go to the field (by bus or by plane depending on the field site), where they will stay in small pensions or in farmer houses at low cost.

During the Conference we will have also an excursion to terraced landscapes near Cusco.

The participants who want to visit Machu Picchu can do this after the Conference. Our travel agency belonging to the Center Bartolome de las Casas in Cusco will provide detailed information to registered participants. Registration will open in October 2013.