

13/11/15

**INICIATIVA LATINOAMERICANA DEL PAISAJE  
LATIN AMERICAN LANDSCAPE INITIATIVE**

**II LALI FORUM GUAYAQUIL - ECUADOR**

Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja, 30 October 2013

**Background**

*The International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) has been working since 2006 on the development of a Global Landscape Convention (GLC). In 2010, during the 47th World Congress held in Suzhou, China, the IFLA approved a proposal to increase appreciation and support for landscape conservation at the global level. IFLA then created a working group for an International Landscape Convention (ILC) and Kathryn Moore, UK, is named chair of the Task Force. Martha Cecilia Fajardo, Colombia, IFLA former President, a member of the ILC Task Force and the LALI coordinator.*

*The UNESCO Director-General was asked to confirm the feasibility of a new standard, an ILC that would include a series of tools, recommendations and charters produced, amongst others, by UNESCO and ICOMOS-IFLA. During a meeting of specialists (October 2010), several countries supported such a charter, but in the end the proposal was not approved for reasons that were political also concerns about additional costs for UNESCO, given budget restrictions, and a possible overlap with existing tools such as ELC and Historic Urban Landscapes (HUL). In March 2011, in a meeting between the IFLA and UNESCO, the request was recognized and the development of an ILC was recommended. The strategy adopted by IFLA was to start the work in the regions, that is, from the grassroots.*

*Since 2010, the Americas Region worked on National Landscape Charters through the Civil Society and Institutions. Latin America Charters have been developed by Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.*

*The interdisciplinary partnership known as “The Latin American Landscape Initiative” (hereinafter referred to as “LALI”) was born. Members network share a common commitment to uphold the vision of the LALI expressed in the Declaration. In this framework, the Members commit themselves to develop and to put in practice the proposals subject to the present initiative.*

*The signatories in shared agreement recognize that landscape is:*

- An exceptional, fragile and transitory resource.*
- The crucible of the intangible of Latin American communities.*
- A cultural, social and environmental asset that represents integration and communication with the past of our towns and defines its evolution.*
- A reference value and control of transformation by its association with the ancestral, collective memory and the cultural, natural and symbolic meaning that it contains.*
- A right that all the human beings should be able to enjoy, the enjoyment of which generates commitments and responsibilities.*

*The LALI was signed and ratified at the IFLA Regional Conference in Medellin Colombia in October 2012. A follow up committee has been developing the action plan for the implementation of the Initiative.*

*The Initiative serves as a mechanism for networking, communication and information-sharing among the Latin American Partnership, which is to be comprised of participating civil societies, international organizations, local communities, private sector entities, educational research institutes and NGOs, all of whom have stakes and interests in advancing human-nature considerations that the landscape is a common good and the right to the landscape is a human necessity*

**LALI** endorses, support and instrument the proposal of a Global Landscape Initiative aimed to promote in all regions of the world appropriate landscape safeguarding legislation and regulations, to strengthen international collaboration, exchanges and capacity building efforts, and to promote the adoption of an International Landscape Convention. This new normative tool will targeted at focusing public policies on the relationship between people and their landscape, at bringing together art and science, nature and culture, heritage and development in order to protect and improve the sustainability and value of the everyday landscape across the world.

## II LALI FORUM Summary

### Participants List

#### LALI Work Group

- Martha FAJARDO as LALI Chair.
- Virginia Lucrecia LABORANTI, Ana Luisa ARTESI in representation of ARGENTINA CAAP Centro Argentino de Arquitectos Paisajistas.
- María Teresa ESPINOZA, SAPEMA Sociedad de Arquitectos Paisajistas, Ecología y Medio Ambiente de Bolivia.
- Saide KAHTOUNI ABAP Associação Brasileira de Arqitectos Paisagistas.
- Osvaldo MORENO in representation of CHILE ICHAP Instituto Chileno de Arquitectos Paisajistas
- Gloria APONTE GARCIA, Diana WIESNER, Martha FAJARDO, in representation of COLOMBIA SAP Sociedad Colombiana de Arquitectos Paisajistas.
- Carlos JANKILEVICH in representation of COSTA RICA ASOPAICO Asociación Costarricense de Paisajismo; and IFLA AMERICAS Vice-President.
- Adriana Muñoz, Cecilia VILLACIS in representation of SAPE Sociedad de Arquitectos Paisajistas del Ecuador.
- Desiree MARTINEZ U, in representation of MEXICO SAPM Sociedad de Arquitectos Paisajistas de México.
- Rosanna SOMANANGA in representation of URUGUAY AUDADP Asociación Uruguaya de Arquitectura de Paisaje.
- Diana HENRIQUEZ in representation of VENEZUELA SVAP Sociedad Venezolana de Arquitectos Paisajistas.

#### LALI Clusters

- 1) LALI NETWORK: Carlos Jankilevich
- 2) LALI LEGAL: Diana Carolina Zuluaga
- 3) LALI EDUCATION: Gloria Aponte
- 4) LALI BEST PRACTICES: Osvaldo Moreno
- 5) LALI CIVIL SOCIETY: Diana Wiesner, Marianella Genatios
- 6) LALI PUBLICATIONS: Lucas Peries

COMMUNICATIONS: Claudia Misteli

#### Supports and agreements

- Desiree MARTINEZ President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects
- Pere SALA I MARTI in representation of The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia and the OPC-LALI Agreement

#### Civil Society members

- Juan Carlos FERNÁNDEZ ALCÁNTARA in representation of the Observatorio IL\_PAISAJE Mx Latinoamericano México
- Norma PIAZZA from Uruguay, LALI Education Cluster Member

#### Observers

- Beneditto ABBUD from Brazil
- Lily POMA from Bolivia
- Carolina RAMIREZ, Cecilia VILLACIS, Cecilia RODRIGUEZ, Pablo GARCIA from Ecuador
- Veronica NAVARRETE and Marcela CIFUENTES from Chile
- Ivan ANGEL, Cesar RAMIREZ, Angela RODRIGUEZ from Colombia

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- Eion MAGUIRE from the United Kingdom

**Each talk the II LALI Forum Guayaquil (Ecuador), presented by the different cluster members and LALI grouping work, can be found and downloaded in the LALI BLOG: [www.lali-iniciativa.com](http://www.lali-iniciativa.com)**

The second Forum of the Latin American Landscape Initiative (LALI) held in Guayaquil, gathered all the LALI members, Landscape Charters directors, Clusters Coordinators, delegates from America, Catalonia and the United Kingdom.

Martha Fajardo, LALI Chair, presented the agenda and thanked the support of IFLA Americas led by its Vice President Carlos Jankilevich, the executive council, the academia, civil society, delegates and specially the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja in Guayaquil, place where the Forum took place.

Ratifies the Initiative vision:

- LALI is an inclusive, pluralistic, non-hierarchical initiative "emerged from" the IFLA, but open to the participation of representative groups in a local, regional and globally level.
- LALI is not a qualifier body, is not a guild.
- LALI is a synergy that's works within civil society, academia, guilds, institutions, with different ideas and voices, advocating the expansion of the concept of landscape in a metaphor for the inclusive multiplicity and pluralism in design, biology and planning.
- The entire LALI Network is composed by twelve (12) Latin American Landscape Charters. Seven (7) clusters: Legal, Universities, Publications, Best Practices, Civil Society, Landscape Networks and Communications. The agreement with The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia, the illustrious advisors (Francesco Bandarin, Diana Balmori, Patricia Johanson, Mario Schjetnan), the work in synergy with the civil society through Fundación Cerros Bogota, Fundación Humboldt, Observatorio IL\_Paisaje México, Paisajes LAB Ecuador, Corporación Patrimonio y Paisaje de Chile, among others.

She also emphasized how the 21<sup>st</sup> century has witnessed a remarkable resurgence of the interest in disciplines of landscape and spatial design, such as landscape architecture, urban planning, geography, etc. Inspired by the proposal towards an International Landscape Convention (ILC) the Latin American Landscape Initiative (LALI), and the principles of the "Good living", different ideas and considerations revealed from the academia, civil society and the praxis that suggest that the concept of landscape should be widen.

Taking into account that the forum was held in Ecuador, the LALI principles endorses the "Good living" philosophy. "Good Living" is part of an expansive search for alternative ways of living in the thick of Humanity's fight for emancipation and life. The Constitution of Ecuador and Bolivia are the most well-known in their reflection of these ideas; the first presents the idea of "Good Living" or Sumak Kawsay (in Quechua), and the second, "Living Well" or Suma Qamaña (in Aymara). "Good living" in harmony with our communities, ourselves, and most importantly, our living, breathing environment.

Here the work of landscape architects is vital in creating places – environments - in which we can live sustainable, productive and above all rich human lives.

After renewed criticism on the issue of development, Latin America finds itself going through an interesting process of rediscovery with its roots; new concepts have flourished, especially ideas that come from the indigenous people, which have then merged with concepts from other parts of the planet.

Through the central theme; **The Landscape as a Catalyst**, the forum aim to advance in the commitments to UNESCO "Hangzhou Declaration" declared May 2013, in the definition of actions to integrate culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development. We are placing the landscape as the territorial dimension of culture. Within this concept the local landscape (every-day landscapes) is an engine for development and a means to increase peace and reconciliation, the level of self-esteem, identity and quality of life of the territory.

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This forum was part of the parallel events of the IFLA / SAPE Americas Regional Conference 2013, through the theme "Local Landscape Development and Sustainable Cities"

The IFLA President Desiree Martinez, welcome the participants and present an international overview of the International Landscape Convention and the regional initiatives. She ends her presentation with the statement "To transform the landscape into a cultural, environmental and social policy, promoting awareness and thinking about the landscape in all communities, while supporting the work and respect for the landscape professionals"

In words of Carlos Jankilevich, IFLA Vice-president, précises the LALI Vision: "We are the Americas: a continent, a historical and cultural wholeness, a vibrant and changing social and economic reality. We are the territory in which the Latin American Landscape Initiative arose and it's developing day by day. He proposed a motto Latin America: unity within diversity. In a vast territory with diverse morphologies, climates, ethnicity and development patterns, there's also a strong and lasting unifying ties, such as a common historical past or the bonds through which we built together our present societies moving together towards a promising future. In this context landscape is the tangible expression of these constants of such unity within diversity.

It became clear, after the presentation of the Landscape Charters and Clusters that education is the main key in which citizens, landscape actors, and custodians of landscape rights, can fully access and enjoy its benefits and values.

The **CLUSTER LALI UNIVERSITY** chair by Gloria Aponte presents the advances in the many activities which are leading:

- EDAP Diploma teachers: promote the development of landscape architecture in countries of Latin America through the upgrade knowledge in teachers and educators (university level). Today, there are 17 teachers participating in the region (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Uruguay, Venezuela), and 5 other international teachers.
- REDPAL Red de Educadores (Educators Network): REDPAL bring together a set of wills to generate knowledge in landscape, allowing collaborative work to develop educational plans of actions in Latin American Landscapes.
- VALIDACIÓN BIOS by UPB University: Validation of candidates in a Uruguayan Mg., from the BIOS institute, by the UPB University in Medellin (Colombia).
- EXTENSIÓN UPB in LOJA: In celebration of its five years of work, the MDP of the UPB University (Colombia), proposed a bimodal program to the UPTL from Loja (Guayaquil), in order to reach the west central area of South America.
- OBSERVATORIO ORP: a working group from the Master of Landscape Design, the IEMR and Law School.

Here the importance of **LALI CIVIL SOCIETY** lead by Diana Wiesner and Marianella Genatios; whose mission is to create an enabling environment for civil society organizations, documentation, community organizations, strengthening the infrastructure sector, and the promotion of collaboration, both among organizations between civil society and political organizations to promote the public good in Latin America and beyond.

- The transfer of knowledge and awareness of landscape through participation in its management, planning and protection.
- The exchange of experiences focused on real projects, in this matter Diana Wiesner 6 year worked case in the Foundation Cerros de Bogota, with the presentation of pilot projects in landscape management.
- The development of strategies, which allow influencing the politics in Latin American.
- Strategies that focus in landscape, as a highlight in the Latin American political agenda

In the framework of the Latin American Landscape Initiative **LALI LEGAL** chaired by Diana Carolina Zuluaga confirms the importance of legal protection of the landscape in accordance with the laws of the countries supporting the LALI. The cluster is a group of professionals in the area of law that, from the legal field, supports

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and promotes the recognition, measurement, protection, management and sustainable landscape in Latin America, with the main goal:

- Advice from a legal point of view, members of the LALI in order to achieve a proper development of activities to compliance common goals and objectives.
- Base on, from a legal perspective, the importance of the recognition of landscape as an asset worth of legal protection, based on the laws that make part of the LALI countries.
- Promote the adoption of legal instruments and public policies to ensure the protection of the landscape interests in a local, national and global scope.

**LALI BEST PRACTICES** is set up as an observatory. Coordinated by Osvaldo Moreno this cluster is a space to explore, compile and disclose those plans, programs and landscape projects developed in Latin America, which are considered representative examples of the professional work destined to promote the recognition, valuation, protection, management and sustainable landscape planning, in tune with the fundamental ethical principles in which the LALI is support.

The documentation and disclose of Best Practices helps generate scientific, technical, politic reflection guide to show the orientations of the various public actors, private, communitarian in landscape matters.

With the collaboration of leaders and representatives from national associations, though the LALI web and BLOG, we gather and disclose these examples in Landscape, as well as though other initiatives of dissemination in different countries of the region.

**LALI NETWORK** Ratifies by its chair Carlos Jankilevich the creation of a regional information network, with indicators and Latin American landscape mapping. Its objective is to integrate the concept and landscape goal, in practices aimed to protect, manage, management and land planning.

**LALI COMMUNICATION** It is a permanent constant of evolution and transformation, in its action plan is to legitimize and empower a cultural, human, environmental and historical heritage which is the vast and diverse Latin American landscape.

Communications as main thread in an initiative of local action but with a global impact, which need to act through various modes of communication that technology and new media offer. A communication permeating, which doesn't know about borders, that urges and meets all global civil society to act and stay informed with first hand information and top quality contents.

As presented by the chair Claudia Misteli; the cluster is born and takes shape through the BLOG through social media, electronic bulletin, database creation and strengthened itself through its principal actors and contributors, the clusters, the Landscape Charters as well as external entities that cooperate in terms of consulting, international organizations and civil society interested groups.

These various ways of communication provide new opportunities, which give a global sense to build networks. It highlights the importance of evolving the web page, the LALI BLOG, to a powerful and professional website, which aims to become a reference in Landscape in Latin America. This will be the next big step (first quarter of 2014).

Regarding **LANDSCAPE CHARTERS**, Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay and Mexico, presented their progress, activities, and enormous challenges.

Landscape Charters as instruments of agreement between civil societies, led among the landscape architects, land agents that are intended to promote actions in management strategies and landscape valuation. Some landscape charters such as Bolivia, Chile and Venezuela have advanced with their respective governments in legal issues, others like Argentina, Mexico, Colombia in socializing and seeking followers, others like Brazil a vast territory, and networking in its many bio -regions

The landscape charters were implemented with the signature of a document that sets out commitments and strategies in favor of landscape. Landscape Charters which started since 2010, count with the companion of The Latin American Landscape Initiative (LALI), and with the advice of The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia.

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A report from Raquel Penalosa was received: The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) is working on its own plan, which is the “Canadian Landscape Charter Initiative CLCI”.

On the **AGREEMENT** signed with The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia, they advise the Latin American Landscape Initiative (LALI) in the design and definition of the functions of the future virtual Latin American Landscape Observatory, an important task which is aim to be develop in 2014. The meeting also served to specify the joint actions in the framework of the agreement signed recently with the support of the local landscape observatories in Chiapas (Mexico), Medellin (Colombia) and Santiago (Chile).

In addition, the experience of The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia will serve as example for the progress and positive development of the national Landscape Charters in Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil and Colombia. In relation to legal issues, other countries could be inspired in the Catalonian law to create their own laws. This is the actual case of Venezuela, Chile and Colombia, which certainly are making big steps.

Finally, it was discuss how The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia and The Latin American Landscape Initiative could work together in order to develop a pilot project in terms of landscape management.

### **THE LOJA MANIFESTO and LALI ACCESSION**

IFLA Vice president Carlos Jankilevich presents to the Forum participants the Loja Manifesto already supported by the IFLA Regional Conference in Guayaquil, point out that Landscape Architecture is a profession recognized worldwide, and demand full compliance with the respective legislation in each country, and to acknowledge the uniqueness and independence of Landscape Architecture

The landscape is a heritage and a right for all, is a principle recognized by most, and it should be a topic for everyday discussion in our region. Therefore generates responsibilities and urgent changes. The LALI seeks to promote the recognition, protection, planning and the sustainable management of the landscape.

The LALI highlights to citizens, government, academia, institutions the importance that the profession of Landscape Architecture has as a guarantor of the quality and protection for all environments; urban, rural and natural in which human activity takes place, in addition its holistic vision in protecting the landscape. For the foregoing reasons LALI adheres signing this manifesto.

At the end of the Forum, a proposal of the Director of Nature of Cities, Dr. David Maddox was presented to the 51th World Congress IFLA/ CAAP 2014 for a symposium open to different disciplines in ecology, sociology, design and habitat. Virginia Laboranti and Ana Luisa Artesi will study this proposal that the LALI fully supports  
At 18:45 the II LALI Forum ended. All participants were invited to the next III LALI FORUM to be held in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in October 2014 followed by the Symposium “The Nature of Cities: Design Implications of Urban Spaces as Multi – dimensional”.

*By Martha Fajardo Rapporteur  
LALI Chair*

*With amendments by Carlos Jankilevich, Gloria Aponte, Saide Kahtouni, Maria Teresa Espinosa, Ana Luisa Artesi, Virginia Laboranti, Claudia Misteli.*

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At the end of the day a message was received from Mr. Francesco Bandarin UNESCO’s Assistant Director-General for Culture in which he greets and supports the initiative.

**Message by Mr Francesco Bandarin, UNESCO’s Assistant Director-General for Culture on the occasion of the INICIATIVA LATINOAMERICANA DEL PAISAJE  
2nd FORO INTERNACIONAL LALI GUAYAQUIL**

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*El Paisaje como Catalizador*  
CENTRO REGIONAL GUAYAQUIL, 30 October 2013

*It is a great pleasure for me to send my warm greetings to the participants of this international forum, which will certainly provide new opportunities for the Latin- American landscape initiative. I would like to express my special appreciation to the representative of IFLA International Ms Moore and the former president of IFLA, Ms Fajardo. The agenda addresses a truly interdisciplinary subject: landscapes*

*We may have different approaches to landscapes – each culture and community may have a different understanding of the concept, but there can be no doubt that landscapes are a part of our daily lives UNESCO has extensive experience dealing with landscapes: Since the 1962 Recommendation on the Beauty and Character of Landscapes and Sites, the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which recognized cultural landscapes in 1992 and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, which recognizes traditional practices essential for maintaining landscapes. You can also benefit from the lessons learnt through the elaboration and implementation of the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscapes, which I strongly encourage you to take into account.*

*I also refer you to the recently published special issue of the World Heritage Review (No. 69) devoted to agricultural landscapes. It is available on-line in English, French and Spanish at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/69/>.*

*As most of you are aware IFLA's resolution for a Global Landscape Convention was submitted to UNESCO's Executive Board in spring 2011, but was not adopted. Instead we were encouraged to work within existing frameworks. I think that the Latin American Landscape Initiative represents a plan for action that can serve as a model in other regions of the world. We will continue to promote similar initiatives to foster international recognition of landscapes.*

*Today we all recognize that threats to landscapes are increasing around the world: environmental degradation, unbridled urbanization, regional conflicts, natural disaster to mention only a few. Sustainable solutions must be found at the national, regional and international level and UNESCO stands prepared to assist in addressing these challenges. We are convinced that the solutions lie in integrating human-centred approach to development.*

*For this reason, UNESCO is leading international efforts to place culture at the heart of development strategies and policies. Culture can be an effective vehicle for environmental sustainability by integrating traditional knowledge systems and encouraging community involvement. The future of our planet depends on such an integrated approach.*

*I wish you successful deliberations*



Francesco Bandarin  
Office of the Assistant Director-General for Culture UNESCO Culture Sector