

IFLA NEWS

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Photographs courtesy of the National Inventory of Architectural heritage, Department of Culture, heritage and the Gaeltacht, Republic of Ireland. <https://www.chg.gov.ie/heritage/built-heritage/national-inventory-of-architectural-heritage/>

An overview from Working Group Chair, Tony Williams, NR+PL Group Mission

The mission of Natural Resources & Protected Landscapes Group is to develop tools, such as methodologies and indicators, for landscape professionals to approach design and planning when working either with natural resources and/or protected landscapes in order to aid decision making processes.

We are now preparing to reactivate this working group and today we have emailed every IFLA delegate with documents on the current status of projects.

The dedicated area of the public website [here](#) explains in more detail our current projects and activities.

Definitions

By way of definition we may use the following terms

Natural Resources. The definition used by the OECD^[1] may be used
Natural resources are natural assets (raw materials) occurring in nature that can be used for economic production or consumption.

Of course as landscape architects we may see these as the natural resources necessary for a healthy environment and not necessarily an exploitable resources. Thus we may define NR by adding an additional aspect

Natural resources are natural assets (raw materials) occurring in nature that can be used for economic production or consumption.....*and which must be managed responsibly to ensure the health and well being of our planet, our ecosystems and our populations.*

Protected Landscapes. The definition used by IUCN^[2] may be used
Areas where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value and where safeguarding the integrity of this interaction is vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature conservation and other values.

The vision of Natural Resources (NR) & Protected Landscapes (PL) Group is

- to provide access to research and studies and thus provide information related to natural resources or to protected landscapes
- to develop minimum tools for Landscape Professionals to assist the decision making processes as part of planning, design, construction and management of our natural resources and protected landscapes
- to generate methodologies and indicators that can be easily implemented and can be augmented in the future

NR+PL Projects

The following links are to current NR+PL projects and related programmes by other agencies and associations. The topic and interest in one we share with many professions and with....humanity in general.... and all living creatures....

<http://iflaonline.org/projects/indigenous-ecosystem-corridors-and-nodes/>

<http://iflaonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/IEC+N-UIA-IFLA-Project-17-09-16.pdf>

<http://iflaonline.org/professional-practice-and-policy/working-groups-and-task-forces/ifla-uia/>

<https://citiesprogramme.org/focus-area/urban-resilience/>

www.ser.org

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/index_en.htm

I encourage IFLA members that would like to either be part of the NR&PL Group , or indeed anyone who is interested, to sign up by sending me an email message at Nr-pl@iflaonline.org. And of course we would also love to hear from allied professions or just simply to hear from ... the human race....

Many thanks in advance for your support!

Chair

Tony Williams

Members of IFLA are welcome to apply and we would like you to be both effective and collaborative. So we would love to hear from you.....

[1] <http://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=1740>

[2] <http://www.biodiversitya-z.org/content/iucn-category-v-protected-landscape-seascape>



2 May 2018

This IFLA News comes from President of IFLA Europe
Tony Williams

From our members: IFLA Middle East and Iranian Society of Landscape Professionals (ISLAP) present MELAC - Middle East Landscape Architecture Conference, Tehran, 7-8 May 2018. Theme: Landscape in Transition. **More information** [here](#).

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