



A Long-Term Biodiversity, Ecosystem and Awareness Research Network



ALTER-Net is a European network of 26 institutes from 18 countries, developing and supporting a sustainable and integrated biodiversity research capacity in Europe, with a focus on terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems

Biodiversity plays a vital role in maintaining healthy, sustainable ecosystems, which in turn provide many goods and services - like clean air and water - essential for our survival. Despite international efforts, biodiversity loss is a major concern.

Our ability to respond to the threats facing biodiversity is hampered because the science base is dispersed and disconnected. The objective of ALTER-Net is to create a more integrated European biodiversity science base.

Subscribe to our e-newsletter on biodiversity-related events, job vacancies and funding opportunities!

www.alter-net.info

ALTER-Net is...

- developing approaches to **assess and forecast** changes in biodiversity and its effects on ecosystems and their services
- assessing the **socio-economic implications** and **public attitudes** to biodiversity loss
- finding more effective ways to **communicate biodiversity issues** to a wider range of audiences including politicians and decision makers

To do this, ALTER-Net...

- organises **scientific-policy interface meetings** about biodiversity, ecosystem services and society issues
- organises an annual **Summer School** on biodiversity and ecosystem services to train the next generation of biodiversity scientists
- organises **research meetings** on emerging (**interdisciplinary**) scientific fields
- operates the **Nature and Biodiversity News and Views** public outreach website (<http://newsandviews.ceh.ac.uk>)
- established and continues to support the **LTER-Europe network** of long-term ecosystem research sites and promotes research using this infrastructure (www.lter-europe.net)
- supports the European **Lifewatch** initiative to increase access to biodiversity data, models and analytical tools (www.lifewatch.eu)



Recent activities have included...

- **organising events** on biodiversity and ecosystem services and Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research (LTSER)
- working towards a common design for **National TEEB** (The Economy of Ecology and Biodiversity) projects, including facilitating the exchange of methods
- **science-policy dialogue** with the European Commission and contributing to the **IPBES** (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services)
- conducting **European-level multisite experiments** on (i) disturbance from trampling and (ii) decomposition and climate change
- **collaborative proposals** for EU research funding

ALTER-Net has 26 partners in 18 countries

Austria:	IFF-KLU, UBA
Belgium:	INBO
Czech Republic:	HBI-CAS
Denmark:	NERI
Estonia:	IAES-EMU
Finland:	SYKE
France:	CNRS, CEMAGREF
Germany:	PIK, UFZ, IGB
Hungary:	IEB-HAS
Italy	CONECOFOR
The Netherlands:	PBL, ECNC, Alterra, VU-IVM
Norway:	NINA
Poland:	ERCE
Romania:	UNIBUC
Slovakia:	ILE-SAS
Spain:	CSIC
Sweden:	SLU
United Kingdom:	NERC-CEH, Maucaulay

