

The International

Long Term

Ecological Research Network



<http://www.ILTERnet.edu>

Local Research – Global Context

- ♦ Long-term, broad-scope research is important for revealing trends that cannot be detected with traditional short-term, small-scale research.
- ♦ Global scientific interest in developing networks of long-term ecological research programs is expanding rapidly, acknowledging the need for long-term, broad scale research for assessing and resolving complex environmental issues.
- ♦ Through ILTER investigators around the globe exchange expertise, develop and share knowledge and information resources and research methods, integrating their research, and placing it in a global context.

the ILTER Network is

- ♦ **Local Research**– Interdisciplinary groups of scientists with solid institutional support agree on core questions to investigate, building baseline data and information systems.

Fire science -- South Africa



- ♦ **Regional Synthesis**– Ecological phenomena and research methods are compared across sites. Currently regional networks in Asia, Eastern Europe,

and North America and South America exchange data and scientific expertise.

- ♦ **Global Networking**– Frequent workshops facilitate data and methods sharing. A centralized web site provides access to Network information.

A Network of Networks

The ILTER Network builds strength among scientific communities locally, regionally and globally, to —

- ♦ Investigate common ecological questions and compare knowledge bases across disciplines
- ♦ Place existing ecological data into regional—and global— context to address policy making and sustainable development issues
- ♦ Develop scientist-to-scientist, site-to-site, and network-to-network interactions through common questions, training, using common standards and measurements for network infrastructure

- ♦ Transmit this knowledge to stake holders and policy makers, and engage them in the research process



Sharing data management techniques

- ♦ Foster international student exchanges
- ♦ Design experiments and data sets that support international environmental concerns such as the United Nations Conventions on Biological Diversity and Combating Desertification, and the Framework Convention on Climate Change
- ♦ Collaborate with other programs such

as the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, the Global Terrestrial Observing System, and UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme

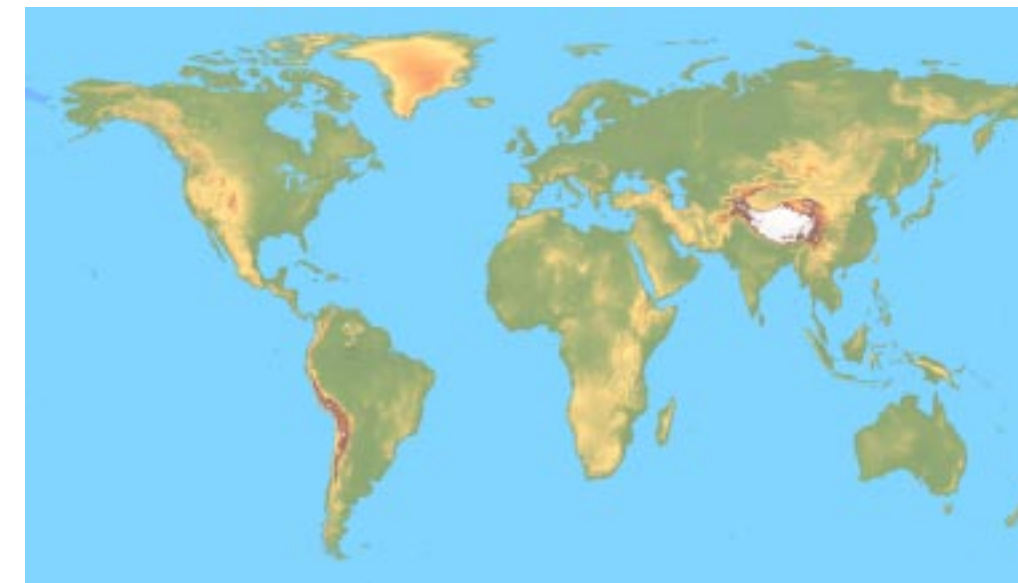
Agroecological ecology -- Hungary



Active Networks

ILTER Networks are currently active in these countries—

- | | | |
|------------------|------------|------------------|
| ♦ Australia | ♦ France | ♦ Slovakia |
| ♦ Brazil | ♦ Hungary | ♦ South Africa |
| ♦ Canada | ♦ Israel | ♦ Switzerland |
| ♦ China | ♦ Korea | ♦ Ukraine |
| ♦ China - Taipei | ♦ Mexico | ♦ United Kingdom |
| ♦ Costa Rica | ♦ Mongolia | ♦ United States |
| ♦ Colombia | ♦ Namibia | ♦ Uruguay |
| ♦ Czech Republic | ♦ Poland | ♦ Venezuela |
| | | ♦ Zambia |



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