



**ICOMOS - ISCEAH**  
International Scientific Committee  
on Earthen Architectural Heritage

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International Council on  
Monuments and Sites

## **ANNEXES**

### **ISCEAH International Scientific Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage 3-Year Plan 2021-2023**

#### **Appendix 4 - Theme 4: Landscapes**

The concept of landscape refers to a portion of the territory with its multiplicity of elements, but also to a particular way of perceiving and conceiving the world, culturally and socially defined. In this sense, rather than a static support for people's activities, landscape is an agent within a network of relationships between people, their productions and the natural world, which shapes practices, as well as being shaped by them, within a dynamic process of permanent creation and recreation. In any case, being a concept generated within occidental geographical traditions, it requires a permanent revision in order to recognize other ways of thinking about space and social relations. Regarding earthen cultural landscapes (ECL), it offers us the possibility of thinking about these architectures in their broader territorial contexts of production, considering their interactions with a multiplicity of social actors and cultural conceptions of nature. Moreover, it invites us to insert earthen heritage within the complexity of local social realities and their challenges.

Since 2008, ECL working group has been reviewing theoretical frameworks based on the contributions of different authors and organizations, towards the construction of a landscape definition that allows a better understanding of earthen heritage, within the diversity of realities around the world. Based on a questionnaire developed in different languages, the group has started working on an ECL atlas, which will show the challenges and opportunities presented by the different sites, and then recommend strategies for their integral conservation. Since then, a collaborative CRAterre initiative with ISCEAH has developed CARTOterra as a "participative atlas of earthen architectures", to address the crosscutting issues of the earthen architecture. These antecedents and actions are the necessary basis to deepen the work of conceptualization, understanding, intervention and dissemination for an integrally sustainable management of the ECLs, recognizing its dynamic character.

One of the main challenges for the development of the group's activities is to achieve an interaction between the conceptual and the empirical in terms of understanding and intervention in ECLs. Many times the definitions we use do not achieve an instrumental character that really changes the way in which we work for the protection of landscapes or the improvement of people's living conditions. In this sense, it is necessary to propose, together with the conceptualization, the way in which these definitions could have an impact on the reality of the sites. To this end, it is necessary to include local social actors and their organizations in the discussions, and the formation of an international network will be one of the objectives for the current 2021-2023 cycle.

#### **Objectives**



1. Update the conceptual framework for understanding the LCAs (Life Cycle Assessment), taking into account the specific needs of the sites.
2. Broaden the scope of the survey by incorporating parameters for analyzing socioeconomic realities.
3. Consolidate an international network of local social actors and organizations to discuss the challenges in the different sites.
4. Develop the Guidelines, considering the conceptual framework, the results of the surveys and local perspectives.
5. Generate a conference and a specialized publication based on the case studies.

### Expected results

For the cycle 2021-2023, It is expected to achieve the following collective goals:

- Updated conceptual framework incorporating new discussions from geography and anthropology to recognize other ontologies of the landscape, which should serve as a basis for the definition of intervention strategies.
- Expanded questionnaire with new parameters to recognize the complexity of the social realities in the ECLs and the common challenges that arise, in dialogue with the Sustainable Development Goals.
- International network of actors and local organizations linked to ECLs.
- Guidelines for the integral conservation of ECLs, contributing to the *Charter for Earthen Architecture*.
- International Conference on Earthen Cultural Landscape (virtual or face to face)
- Publication with in-depth analysis of different case studies, representative of the global reality (book or dossier in a journal).

### Workplan

The expected results will be addressed following this activity planning:

Year 1 | 2021

Main result: Conceptual framework & Updated Survey

Activity	Jan-March	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec
1.1 Collective discussion on the group's objectives and actions				
1.2 Exchange of theoretical publications				
1.3 Consensus on the main conceptual aspects to be affirmed about the landscape				





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2.5 Submission of final papers



2.6 Publication in **2024**