

COMMISSION REPORT 2012-2013

C04.24 Commission on Land Use and Land Cover Change

1. Membership

Members of the Steering Committee, 2012-2013

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Members: 257 (53 countries/regions), as of 10th December 2013

Australia	3	Austria	4	Bangladesh	2	Belgium	1
Brazil	1	Brunei	1	Canada	7	Chile	1
China	25	Colombia	1	Czech Republic	14	Denmark	1
Ecuador	1	France	3	Finland	3	Germany	6
Ghana	2	Hong Kong	2	India	23	Indonesia	3
Iran	2	Ireland	2	Italy	4	Jamaica	1
Japan	43	Korea	6	Laos	1	Mexico	2
Malaysia	2	Mongolia	3	Nepal	1	Netherlands	2
New Zealand	3	Nigeria	3	Pakistan	2	Palestine	1
Philippines	1	Poland	2	Portugal	12	Romania	1
Russia	7	Singapore	1	Slovenia	2	Slovak Republic	2
South Africa	5	Spain	3	Sri Lanka	3	Sweden	2
Switzerland	2	Taiwan	2	Ukraine	2	U.K.	10
U.S.A.	17	Bulgaria	1				

Unfortunately, these numbers can be slightly incorrect. Some members of commission are not already active, some of them have changed e-mail addresses and all contacts, so it's not possible to contact them anymore... Our suggestion is to rebuild this members list by new registration of interested members during next IGC and after congress via web form.

2. MEETINGS

2012:

IGU LUCC commission activities were divided into several parts during **International Geographical Congress in Cologne 2012**: a scientific program (1) and congress business meeting (2).

Four scientific LUCC sessions was attended by 80 researchers (and not only from IGU LUCC commission members) and over 30 papers were presented and discussed during these meetings.

There were also realized two business meetings in Cologne. Notes from discussion in second one gives information about future work of the LUCC commission (recorded by Chair Ivan Bicik):

2nd business meeting of IGU LUCC Steering Committee (SC), August 29, Cologne

Participants: Balteanu, Bičik, Gabrovec, Feranec, Milanova, + 3 guests

1. After discussion there was decided to renew prof. Geist's appeal for active membership in steering committee (task for current chair).
2. Four present members of **IGU LUCC steering committee** will continue in next period 2012-2016, as well as absent members G.S.Chauhan, H. Geist and Qiu hao Huang; new member will be prof. J.

Feranec (Slovakian Academy of Science, Geographical Institute in Bratislava). There was also agreed that one new member will be named by Russian delegation and one from North/Latin America (will be delegated later). Vice-president prof. Himiyama will be asked for nomination of one member from his SLUAS project.

3. If prof. Geist won't be willing to become a chair (will be solved till September 30th 2012), commission will be led by prof. Bicik).

4. According to recommendation of SC members and to agreement of speakers all papers from Cologne will be published at IGU LUCC website. Larger popularization of LUCC research results will be guaranteed by this publishing.

5. Commission will continue in tradition of LUCC Atlases publishing. Volume VII (focused on LUCC of Czechia and Slovakia) will be published in October 2012 by Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science. Who is interested, please contact prof. Bicik (bicik@natur.cuni.cz). Another volumes will be published in 2013; Volume VIII (focused on Asia states) will be edited by prof. Himiyama (Japan), Volume IX (focused on Europe) will be published again in Czechia (editor prof. Bicik). Volume X would be published in 2014. More information about atlases and possibilities of cooperation and/or publishing will be put out at commission's website (www.luccprague.cz)

6. Chair also asked all present members for regular sending of IGU/LUCC relevant information; all notices etc. will be published at commission's website and regular annual newsletters

7. During discussion there was recommended, that except regular participation at Regional Congresses (Kjoto – Japan 2013, Krakow – Poland 2014, Moscow – Russia 2015) **special IGU/LUCC seminars should be organized once a year**. In 2013 special seminar will be organize by occasion of summer school (NASA + ESA) in Prague (June 2013, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science). Another seminar will be in Bucurest (Romania) in 2014, it will be organized by Geographical institute of the Roman Academy of Science.

8. Finally, chair thanked all meeting participants for correct and friendly talks and cooperation in last four years. He also asked for more intense cooperation in next period 2012 – 2016.

2013:

IGU LUCC regional Prague meeting (June 20 to 22) – was organized by IGU LUCC commission in cooperation with Charles University in Prague (Faculty of Science). About 25 researchers from european countries (Czechia, Slovakia, Romania, Poland, Spain, Russia and Hungary) visited this event. During this meeting there were also presented papers by two leaders of newly formed network SCERIN – Petya Campbell and Garik Gutman (NASA). The idea of connect IGU LUCC meeting with SCERIN activities (below) was very fruitful and evolved in team of authors who are preparing book which will be published in Springer publishing house in 2014.

IGU/LUCC meeting in Prague: June 2013: Excursion to central and northern Bohemia. „New wilderness“



Abandoned agricultural land in slopes of Central Bohemian range.

IGU/LUCC in Prague: June 2013: Excursion to central and northern Bohemia. Region Most – fully re-cultivated landscape



Landscape re-cultivated after finishing exploitation brown coal from open pits in northern Bohemia. Both pictures are taken from excursion in 4th LUCC international seminar in Prague 2013.

Lines below reveal close connection of SCERIN topics with land use/land cover changes and therefore it promises very fruitful cooperation in next years.

SCERIN (South-Central European Regional International Network) is an informal network of scientists and other professionals based in the region or with scientific interests in the region of South Eastern and Central Europe. It is also one of the regional networks of the GOFD-GOLD panel (Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics).

SCERIN organized in June 17-21 in Prague workshop entitled "Monitoring Land Cover Changes & Forest Condition" and as the adjoining events some parts of SCERIN program were connected with IGU LUCC seminar.



Dear guests from SCERIN network on IGU/LUCC meeting in Prague, June 2013 – Prof. Jana Albrechtová, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague (main manager of Prague SCERIN meeting) and dr. Garik Gutman (NASA).

The International Geographical Union (IGU) realized **Regional Conference in Kyoto**, Japan, August, 4-9, 2013. The IGU Commission on Land Use and Cover Changes realized five sessions on which were presented about 25 papers, altogether attended by more over than 50 researchers, mostly from Japan and Eastern Asia, but also from Europe.

Kyoto IGU LUCC meetings themes:

1. Classification of classes and categories in land use/land cover (LUCC);
2. Regional LUCC studies from different countries;
3. Interaction of regional/local development and LUCC;
4. Globalization and LUCC;
5. Historical changes in LUCC in regional, state and global levels.

If we summarize interest in land use/land cover topics during the very last IGU congresses (Tel Aviv, Santiago de Chile, Cologne, Kyoto), we can state that during each event about 4-5 IGU LUCC sessions were organized (with 4-5 speakers on each of them). On the average it is about 20-35 presenting researchers on each meeting, number of listeners varies between 10-40 at each meeting. From this point of view it is possible to say that land use/land cover field of study represents one of the most popular IGU activities. Moreover it is necessary to point out that similar topics also were presented on meetings of other IGU commissions, of course from the different angle on studied LUCC problematic (geoinformatics, local and regional development, rural and sustainable development etc.).

2014 – forthcoming meetings:

- 1) In 23rd-26th June 2014 **6th LUCC seminar** will be in **Bucharest, Romania** (2 days oral presentations and poster section, 2 days excursion into region with very specific land use/land cover changes. Seminar is organized by one of steering committee member prof. Dan Balteanu (director of Geographic institute, Romanian Academy of Science)
- 2) **Regional IGU Congress in Krakow, Poland.** This event is organized by polish organizing committee in cooperation with Ivan Bičík, head of IGU/LUCC Commission. We asked minimally 4 special meetings oriented on the LUCC topics and one term for business meeting.

3. Networking

Collaboration with other IGU Commissions and Task Forces

Not realized.

Collaboration with other international and inter- and multi-disciplinary groups

The 4th Prague LUCC meeting (June 2013) combined sessions with special network LUCC for Middle and East European Countries (some 50 participants), some speakers participated as in SCERIN as in IGU/LUCC meeting. Network SCERIN was founded by ESA and NASA, and that event was the second after Sofia 2012. In this event there was realized lesson for participants about activity of IGU/LUCC and also about investigation realized in Czechia in LUCC after 2010.

On this occasion there was organized the exhibition of scientific posters from five Czech and Slovak research institutes with 14 posters focused on LUCC topics. These posters were also used for two-months exhibition in Faculty of Science and next in November 2013 during ESRI GIS annual Conference in Prague, where more than 600 participants had opportunity to study these posters.

Cooperative efforts with ISSC and with ICSU programs

Not realized.

4. Publications

Newsletters, books etc.

- Newsletter No. 14 (2012)
- Newsletter No. 15 (2013)

- BIČÍK et al. (2012). Vývoj využití ploch v Česku. Land use development in Czechia. *Edice geographica*, Czech Geographic Society, Prague, 250 p., 120 maps and cartograms.
(during these months new innovative english version is being prepared; going to be published in autumn 2014 in Springer Publishing House upon name „Land-cover and land-use change in Eastern Europe 1990-2010: Impacts of the breakup of the Soviet Union .“)
- HIMIYAMA, Y., BIČÍK, I. eds. (2012): Land Use / Cover Changes in Selected Regions in the World, Volume VI. IGU-LUCC Research Reports, IGU-LUCC, Charles University in Prague.
- BIČÍK, I., HIMIYAMA, Y., FERANEC, J., ŠTYCH, P. eds. (2012): Land Use / Cover Changes in Selected Regions in the World. Volume VII. IGU/LUCC, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague and Hokkaido University of Education, Asahikawa, p. 80 (published in November 20th, 2012)

There was published in print 250 pieces of Atlas Vol. VII, thematically focused on Czechia: about 50 pieces were sent by mail, another 100 pieces were distributed on the occasions of different seminars and conferences (Kyoto 2013, Prague 2012, ESEH in Berlin 2013 etc.), about 30 pieces were distributed for universities and institutions in Czechia.

Also there are planned next Volumes of Atlas „Land Use / Cover Changes in Selected Regions in the world: Volume VIII is prepared by vicepresident Yukio Himiyama in Japan, Volume IX is in progress in Prague at Faculty of Science in cooperation with Center of Excellency in Historical Geography.

Period's publications

The Commission has been extremely active, and successful, in publication. The above list only shows those that have been published by direct involvement of the Commission. The number of publications by each member far exceeds it.

Commission's website:

www.luccprague.cz

5. Archival Contributions

IGU LUCC commission report 2008-12

Newsletter 14

Newsletter 15