

IV WORLD CONGRESS OF TERRACED LANDSCAPES ORGANIZED BY ITLA MAC IN CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN

The [IV World Congress of Terraced Landscapes](#) *Re-enchanting Terraces* will be held from 13 to 22 March 2019 in La Gomera, Canary Islands (Spain).

The event website highlights that...terraces are human constructions made to face strong orographic and environmental limitations (topographic, climatic) and guarantee the opportunity to obtain land susceptible of being worked and cultivated. From this interaction between society and nature, a culture emerged of the use of resources (stone, water, soil, seeds): a culture and wisdom of a territory and its population. The challenge in these terraced territories is to find new ways to inhabit them and cultivate them that imply a good use of resources.

Since its foundation in 2010, the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance (ITLA) has been committed to recover the memory of the terraces and reinvent them as active resources that can be used to meet new social demands for food, agriculture, leisure, education, social interaction and finally quality of life with friendly, beautiful and safe landscapes against natural risks.

The Congress focuses on the specific problems of the Canary Islands, Madeira, Azores and Cape Verde to develop a global thinking on the perspectives of these territories in the future. Four [thematic lines form the core topics of the Congress](#) covering various aspects of terraced landscapes as well as conceptual and instrumental statements that outline its strategic objectives:

- Living: places of wellbeing and value in Terraced Territories;
- Wisdom: recovery of the memory of Terraces, actions, infrastructure and projects;
- Labor: construction and protection of Terraces;
- Learning: generation of knowledge and innovation in Terraced Territories.

The event is organised by the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance of the Canary Islands - Macaronesia ITLA MAC in collaboration with the Government of the Canary Islands, through the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the public company Canarias Cultura en Red (CCR), the Canary Islands Landscape Observatory, the Local Government of La Gomera,



the Universities of La Laguna and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. The Governments of Madeira, Azores and Cape Verde also participate in the organizing committee of the Congress.

The Congress is an international meeting involving local actors, heirs of peasant cultures (agricultural land owners, farmers, agricultural technicians, development technicians, agro-industrial entrepreneurs) with professionals, scientists and specialists from multiple disciplines (architects, geographers, agronomists, economists, anthropologists) and interested citizens from different countries of the world.

The First International Congress on Terraced Landscapes was held in the People's Republic of China in November 2010. The Second International Congress on Terraced Landscapes was held in Cusco, in the Andes of Peru in May 2014. During this Congress the participants formed and signed the birth of the independent movement named the *International Terraced Landscapes Alliance ITLA*. More than 200 professionals and activists are affiliated with ITLA from 20 countries. The [Third World Congress on Terraced Landscapes Choosing the Future](#) was held in Venice and Padua (Italy) in October 2016, recording 250 participants from 20 countries of the world.

The International Alliance of Landscapes of Canary Islands-Macaronesia (ITLA MAC), created in December 2015 in La Gomera, widens the impact of the results achieved in the previous Congresses of Terraced Landscapes. Through the new World Congress, the ITLA MAC contributes to the challenge of these territories faced to find new viable ways of inhabiting and cultivating them through a good use of resources and new economic strategies that add value to local products and apply integrated and circular systems in their economies of small scale.

To know more and participate

[IV World Congress of Terraced Landscapes *Re-enchanting Terraces* website](#)

[Final Outcomes 3rd Mundial Congress of Terraced Landscapes](#)

[ITLA Manifesto](#)

[Photos and Videos in websta.org](#)

[Habitando en paisajes de Bancales in UNISCAPE website](#)

