

RESULTS OF THE THIRD WORLD MEETING ON TERRACED LANDSCAPES - CHOOSING THE FUTURE

From 6th to 15th October 2016 the [Third World Meeting on Terraced Landscapes](#) *Choosing the Future* took place in Venice and Padua (Italy), recording 250 participants from 20 countries of the world.

The meeting was an occasion to stress the long-term public benefits that terraced slopes can yield: the prevention of soil erosion, the mitigation of the effects of climate change, the control of flooding and management of water systems; the protection and enrichment of agrobiodiversity and ecosystems; the diversification of rural economies by adding value to different food, seeds and crops; the willingness to choose them as a viable option for people's life; the educational value of heritage and cultural landscapes, and of the human and natural stories which they embody; the beauty and appeal of these landscapes for leisure and tourism. This rich range of benefits or 'public goods' justifies a new governance and the injection of communal resources – at local, regional, national, continental or global scale – into the maintenance, and where necessary the redemption, of terraced lands

[The Manifesto "Choosing the future for terraced landscapes"](#) presents the main principles and strategies adopted by the participants.

In particular, the participants call upon international organizations, governments, local authorities, inhabitants, landowners, commercial interests, rural and urban communities, peasants, artisans and other 'hands-on' producers, educators, researchers and all relevant stakeholders to commit themselves to the protection and long-term maintenance of terraces. They should incorporate respect for terraced landscapes in all policies and programs, notably those supporting agriculture, rural development and quality of life, environmental protection, water and river catchment management, spatial and territorial planning and regional development.

The meeting also entrusted the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance - ITLA to take the lead in promoting multinational exchanges of ideas and experiences and to assist the strengthening of initiatives and networks in this field.

The First International Conference on Terraced Landscapes was held in the People's Republic of China in November 2010. The Second International



Conference on Terraced Landscapes was held in Cusco, in the Andes of Peru in May 2014. During this Conference 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.

[In the website](#) a great variety of materials is available for the actors interested in learning more about Terraced Landscapes, in order to adopt the strategies proposed by the meeting for their preservation and enhancement.

The participants also agreed to prepare together the 4th World Meeting on Terraced Landscapes that will take place in La Gomera, Canarias Island (Spain) during 2017.

To know more

[Terraced Landscapes outcomes](#)

[Terraced Landscape meeting in Facebook](#)

[Terraced Landscape Manifesto in Youtube](#)

[International Landscapes Alliance](#)

[Stone walling school of Japan in Facebook](#)

[EGU 2017 Conference on Agricultural terraces of the world](#)

