

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

From 13 to 22 March 2019 the [IV World Congress of Terraced Landscapes Re-enchanting Terraces](#) has been held in La Gomera, Canary Islands (Spain).

The Congress, organized by the International Terraced Landscapes Alliance (ITLA) had the objective to show the significative value of the terraced landscapes 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.

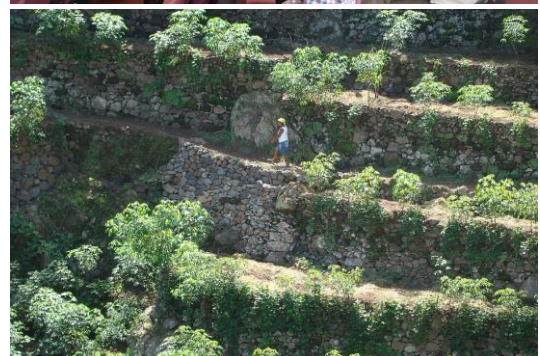
The Congress focuses on the specific problems of the Canary Islands, Madeira, Azores and Cape Verde to develop a global thinking on the perspectives of these territories in the future.

More than 150 experts from different countries and representing all the various institutions that have organized the event in Canary Islands participated to the Congress.

From 16 to 18 March, the congress participants, divided into 14 groups, moved to the eight islands of El Hierro, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, La Gomera, Lanzarote, La Palma, Tenerife and Madeira, to visit the productive and abandoned terraces, to discuss with owners and farmers, to exchange with the population and the local institutions about the perspectives of their development.

As a result of these visits, specialists in various disciplines related to the environment, land management, geography or architecture have travelled to La Gomera from the different islands to participate in the final event of the IV World Congress of Terraced Landscapes. On this occasion the representative of the local government of La Gomera, valuing the great contribution of the event, has stressed that in the island are being implemented 50 projects of rehabilitation of terraces that require sustainable development and economic strategies to ensure their conservation.

In the conclusions, the coordinators of the event [summarized the main aspects discussed in the thematic sessions and in the debates](#). Due to the great complexity of the topics and objectives of the Congress, the participants agreed to work for



a period of two months on the production of a shared conclusion document.

The *Declaration of La Gomera Re-enchanting terraces*, which represents the final product of this at distance work, will be published on the Congress website for international dissemination.

The event also included an exhibition of 90 panels with photos and texts on the landscapes of terraces around the world and another exhibition of photos of different territories of terraces in the Canary Islands in the past, which highlighted the changes since then to the present.

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 foregoing Congresses of Terraced Landscapes. The new World Congress in the Canary Islands has contributed 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.

In the conclusions, the President of ITLA announced that the four candidates for the next world congress of terraced landscapes, within a frame of two years, are the Philippines, Indonesia, Bhutan and Ethiopia.

To know more

[Conclusions in Terraced Landscapes 2019 website](#)

[Program of the Congress](#)

[News y fotos in Twitter](#)

[Article in planetacanario.com](#)

[Article in eldiario.es](#)

[Article in eldiario.es](#)

[Article in gomeranoticias.com](#)

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

[ITLA Manifesto](#)

