



Ecosystem Services in European Floodplains

Padua, May 17th-19th 2017

DiSSGeA
Via Del Vescovado 30 – 35141 Padua (ITALY)

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA) was conducted between 2001 and 2005 on the initiative of the United Nation General Assembly. The MEA was intended to assess the consequences of ecosystem change for human well-being and to define the scientific basis for actions aimed to improve the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and their contribution to the economic and social progress. Ecosystem services is an integral part of the MEA. Ecosystem services are the multiple benefits provided by ecosystems to humankind and can be divided into supporting services, necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services (such as soil formation and nutrients cycling), provisioning services (e.g. food, water, timber or fuel), regulating services (such as flood control, erosion control) and cultural services that provide recreational, aesthetic, and spiritual benefits.

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment synthesized information from the scientific literature and relevant peer-reviewed datasets and models to evaluate the evolution of ecosystem services in a diachronic sequence. The geo-historical approach, applied to the study of the ecosystem services is also the spirit of the international conference proposed by the DiSSGeA, University of Padua.

This international conference will provide a venue for all researchers interested in interdisciplinary research on ecosystem services in European floodplains from ancient time to the contemporary age. Ecosystem service topics in this conference will include, but not limited to, the following themes in the geographical context of floodplains:

- Food management
- Evolution of the productive systems
- Energy
- Health
- Evolution of territorial management systems
- Regulation of hydrology
- Impact on human activities in the environment
- Waste material and pollution management
- Cultural services
- Sustainable tourism

The conference will last three days and will be hosted at the Department of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World (DiSSGeA). The conference will include a fieldtrip in the Southern Venetian Plain.

January 15th 2017

Proposals for participation should be submitted in the form of a paper (maximum 2000 characters) in English or French no later than January 15th 2017.

The proposals should be sent to: [**ecosystemservices2017@gmail.com**](mailto:ecosystemservices2017@gmail.com)

February 15th 2017

Proposals will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee, taking into account their relevance to the conference themes, the originality of the thesis and their interdisciplinary approach. Oral presentations will be in English or French, and shall not exceed twenty minutes. The Scientific Committee is committed to providing a response of acceptance or refusal by February 15th 2017.

May 5th 2017

Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings. Thus, final paper must be submitted to the Scientific Committee before May 5th 2017. The Scientific Committee will edit each paper and provide recommended changes to the authors. The texts should be delivered to the organizers in an almost definitive version (minimal changes will be possible). The editing rules will be provided soon.



Registration fee

The registration fee for the conference, that includes coffee breaks, lunches, field trip, gadgets, is

- 100 euro for regular participants
- 50 euro for students

Scholarships are provided for young scholars who have not achieved the phd from more than three years.

