



LANDSCAPE FOUNDATION

RESEARCH STRATEGY

2019 INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR ACTION

A KNOWLEDGE HUB AND RESEARCH STRATEGY FOR LANDSCAPE

THE NZ LANDSCAPE RESEARCH STRATEGY :: PROCESS

CONTEXT ITEM

- *Commissioned by the United Nations Secretary-General in 2000, and completed in 2005, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, based on the findings of 34 "sub-global" assessments carried out in a diverse set of ecosystems in sites around the world, provides a state-of-art appraisal of the condition and trends in the world's ecosystems and the services they provide.*
- *The MA presents compelling evidence that underlines the urgency and necessity of restoring, conserving, and sustainably managing our ecosystems. Most important, the assessment shows that, with appropriate actions, it is possible to reverse the degradation of many ecosystems over the next 50 years.*
- *By providing invaluable information to policy makers, the MA seeks to help ensure that the required changes in the current policy and practice undertaken will be evidence based and informed by the best available scientific analysis.*

Source: Ecosystems and Human Well-being: A Manual for Assessment Practitioners

CONTEXT ITEM

- Design with Nature: Issues of our Time: Nature, Climate Change, Water, Pollution, Cities
- A declaration of concern... 50yrs on
- *On June 10-11, 2016, over 700 landscape architects with a shared concern for the future were assembled by the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Inspired by LAF's 1966 [Declaration of Concern](#), we crafted a new vision for landscape architecture for the 21st century*
- Age of the ANTHROPOCENE... age of landscape architecture
- *...We pledge our service. We seek commitment and action from those who share our concern*

Source: New Landscape Declaration, Landscape Architecture Foundation

CONTEXT ITEM

- ATLAS for the END of the WORLD, Richard Weller et al.
- *The findings of this research are threefold: first, a majority of the ecoregions in the hotspots fall well short of United Nations' 2020 targets for protected lands; second, almost all the cities in the hotspots are projected to continue to sprawl in an unregulated manner into the world's most valuable habitats; and finally, only a small number of the 196 nations who are party to the CBD (and the 142 nations who have sovereign jurisdiction over the hotspots) have any semblance of appropriately scaled, land use planning which would help reconcile international conservation values with local economic imperatives.*
- *By focusing attention on the hotspots in the lead-up to the UN's 2020 deadline for achieving the Aichi targets, this atlas is intended as a geopolitical tool to help prioritize conservation land-use planning. It is also a call to landscape architects, urban designers, and planners to become more involved in helping reconcile ecology and economics in these territories.*

Source: http://atlas-for-the-end-of-the-world.com/index_o.html

“Without being grandiose, we are in a perilous historical situation and we can’t just blunder on”
“We need to design the way ecological and cultural systems work together” Richard Weller.

WHAT IS THIS?

The Landscape Foundation aims to draw attention to this call to action and landscape change.

We also aim to explore options for managing our landscape using the best techniques and knowledge.

In 2018 the Trustees of the Landscape Foundation explored concepts for developing a 'Knowledge Hub' and 'Research Strategy' as a way to drive change...

The following steps are underway:

- Concept development for a 'Knowledge hub' and 'Research strategy' [completed 2018]
- Engagement and definition of critical thinking, topics and research areas – April 2019 Workshop, with NZILA, UDF, Ngā Aho et al
- Outreach and establishment of govt, non-govt, and community networks around 'Knowledge hub' and 'Research strategy', empowering collaborators and discourse - ongoing
- Establishment of 'frame of reference', priorities, research areas, business plan and funding – Mid - Late 2019
- Activities and publishing – NZILA Conference 2019, and ongoing

This is the beginning of establishing a 'Knowledge hub' and 'Research strategy' for landscape in NZ

WHY NOW?

- Previous activities by /L included publishing articles and content on landscape topics... we are now seeking a new direction as this activity is now a feature of the 'NZILA communications portfolio' and 'BAU NZILA activities'. We want to drive change at a national scale.
- Current trends we are seeking to respond to include: Global context and climate, mapping systems and big data, evidence of outcomes achieved through landscape (planning, design and management), valuing ecosystems and landscapes, valuing landscape thinking, policy drivers, livability and human health, frameworks and processes with responses to environment, social, cultural and economic issues through a landscape lens, recording the development of professional practice and approaches locally and globally, urbanism, agriculture etc etc
- We want to step back and avoid double up, and step forward to fill a gap. We want to utilise a 'research and a knowledge hub' as a tool for action and outreach
- We have been reflecting on the role of /L in 'bridging the gap' between the community, landscape profession(s), other design disciplines and local and global landscape issues
- We have spent the last 12 months re-defining how we fit. The key direction has emerged... this includes: knowledge/ education, research, collaboration, advocacy and outreach – to create ACTION
- We are seeking feedback now on - /L as a 'knowledge hub' and for the ' NZ Landscape Research Strategy', what are the issues of our time worth exploring?
- Through this we will define, priorities and champion Landscape Research...we will also provide a critical voice for where the sector is at and where it needs to be based on this 'call to action'

OPPORTUNITIES

- Deliver a NZ response to the call to action : ...and a system for individuals, groups, communities to be part of wider 'Landscape' led thinking
- Create the first Landscape Research Strategy
- Create a Network : communities, professionals and academics around the landscape, and landscape issues
- Create a Hub : a platform to database and map, test assumptions, reflect of values, qualify benefits and costs, respond to rapid change, research and monitoring
- Drive Outreach : provide a platform to raise awareness around 'the landscape' and 'landscape issues'
- Tactical interventions : Engage local and international experts around key topics as part of ongoing dialogue



WHAT NEXT?

- Review with NZILA Pres/ Exec (COMPLETED September 2018)
- Shape industry workshop (April 2019)
- Feedback loop (Mid – Late 2019)
- Finalise a DRAFT Landscape Strategy, scope costs and funding (Mid- Late 2019)
- Develop plan for implementation e.g. NZ Call to action, business plan, CBD opportunities, branch interest and activities, networks and partnerships, local & international speakers and events.
- Publish the 'call to action' for NZ, launch the research hub and publish the Landscape Strategy (including funding applications etc) (Mid- Late 2019/ early 2020)
- Scope further local & international speakers using the 'Hub', 'Strategy' and 'Outreach' as a lens to do this strategically and tactically
- Application to real world outcomes with communities, policy and work

THE WORKSHOP/ APRIL 2019

The workshop is an engagement stage, we need the sector to feedback... so we can understand the current paradigm that we are in and how to support or shift this to enact a NZ response to the 'call to action'

- Introduction to a 'Knowledge hub' and 'Research strategy' for landscape in NZ
- Keynote speaker: Main presentation
- Group sessions – pre- selected which high level topic (e.g. Bio/Culture/Resources &Infra/Climate)
- Session leads present on topic: Sub presentations
- Workshop sessions: topics and key areas of interest, but how does this relate to the systems at play and 'call to action'
- Reporting back: groups circulate through each topic (and holistic view) and add to the framework being developed
- Workshop summary and synthesizing of topics, and issues to inform the 'research strategy'
- Feedback, media and communications

PRIORITIES/THEMES

- Although these themes cover a lot of territory, it is obvious that they do not represent all the types of work the professions of ecology, urban design, planning and landscape architecture do. It is a starting point for the conversation and an ordering device for the workshop
- A landscape-led approach is holistic: setting priorities will reveal bias and provide insight
- Tactically the analysis of the topics selected by attendees (and what people prioritise) can be evaluated against the 'call to action' and urgent issues (both local and global)
- The selection of topics and workshop format is one way to start our engagement on this work... it is just the beginning.
- The ethos of stewardship/ kaitiakitanga is a touchstone for engaging with these large complex issues

THANK YOU

- About us:

<https://www.landscape.org.nz/landscapefoundation/>

