



ALTER-Net's research activities

Many of ALTER-Net's partners conduct transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary and disciplinary research to understand how and why ecosystems are changing. This research covers physical, chemical and biological components of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, as well as considering human social systems in relation to the environment. Research addresses issues both in Europe and globally.

Many groups of ALTER-Net partners have collaborated on a diverse range of projects, particularly funded by the European Union's Framework Programmes. ALTER-Net has assisted in bringing these consortia together. As a member of ALTER-Net, organisations and their research staff can develop new contacts and new opportunities for research, funding and development.

ALTER-Net also encourages small-scale joint research and collaboration on scientific outputs, for example:

- Multi-Site Experiments, featuring standard field methods applied at sites across Europe
- A High Impact Action, enabling a team of scientists to collaborate on a research paper submitted to a high impact journal. The first High Impact Action is a critical analysis of the transformative potential of nature-focussed citizen science
- An environmental history demonstrator project, enabling four small studies of environmental change using historical and contemporary data sources.



Supporting LTSER

ALTER-Net's commitment to interdisciplinary research is demonstrated by its promotion of Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research (LTSER). This is an extension of Long-Term Ecosystem Research, which is typically site-based and ecological in nature. It is represented in Europe by the LTER-Europe network of sites. LTSER introduces the 'socio' component, which consider the human dimensions of environmental change and sustainability research.

LTSER requires an understanding of interactions between people and the natural environment at multiple scales. This understanding helps to identify broader approaches to global environmental change.

Find out more: www.alter-net.info > About us > What we do > Research Activities

ALTER-Net: Europe's ecosystem research network
www.alter-net.info

