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Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)

## Press release

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### 10th World Conference of Ecosystem Services Partnership at Leibniz University Hannover

More than 700 participants from around the world are expected to attend.

Clean water, fresh air, insects pollinating crops so that fruit and vegetables can grow – nature provides many things that are indispensable for our lives. The term “ecosystem services” refers to essential goods and non-material benefits that humans gain from nature. This topic is the focal point of an international specialist conference that will take place between Monday 21 October and Friday 25 October 2019. For the first time, the event will be held at Leibniz University Hannover (LUH). The 10th World Conference of Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) will be guided by the motto “10 years advancing ecosystem services science, policy and practice for a sustainable future”. On Monday at 10.30 a.m., the conference will – among other things – commence with an opening speech by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Peter Wriggers (LUH Vice President for Research), in the main university building “Welfenschloss”, Welfengarten 1, Hannover. The venue for the following days will be Hannover Congress Centre, Theodor-Heuss-Platz 1-3. Representatives of the media are cordially invited to attend.

A detailed conference programme is available online:

<https://www.esconference.org/esp10>

With more than 700 participants from 62 countries, ESP10 is the largest conference on the subject worldwide. Speakers include Dr. Klaus Töpfer (former Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme UNEP and former Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), Prof. Dr.

Robert Costanza (one of the “forefathers” of the ecosystem services approach; Australian State University), Dr. Christiane Paulus (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety), Anne Larigauderie (Executive IPBES Secretary), and Hans Bruyninckx (Executive Director of the European Environment Agency). The speakers will share their perspectives on the multifaceted application potential of the ecosystem services concept in the fields of science, politics, and society. The last day of the conference will focus on developing sustainable strategies for the future. For this, a member of the “Fridays for Future” movement has been invited to join a panel discussion.

ESP world conferences are held every two years. In addition, regional conferences take place on a regular basis. In collaboration with Ecosystem Services Partnership, this year’s conference is organised by the Institute of Physical Geography and Landscape Ecology (led by Prof. Dr. Benjamin Burkhard), the Institute of Environmental Planning (both at LUH), Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) e. V., Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IÖR) in Dresden, Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) in Leipzig, as well as the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) in Halle-Jena-Leipzig.

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**About the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) in Muencheberg, one of the institutes of the Leibniz Association:**

Mission of ZALF is to deliver solutions for an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable agriculture – together with society.

As a contribution to overcoming global challenges such as climate change, food security, biodiversity conservation and resource scarcity, we develop and design crop systems, integrated in their landscape contexts, that combine food security with sustainability. Therefore we process complex landscape data with a unique set of experimental methods, new technologies and models as well as socio-economic approaches.

ZALF research is an integrated systems research: starting from processes in soils, plants and water to causal relationships on the field and landscape level as well as looking at global impacts and complex interactions between landscapes, society and economy. [www.zalf.de](http://www.zalf.de)