

Call for Participation in the GLP special event:

“Land Systems and the Pandemic: Learning from Global Shocks”

The COVID-19 Pandemic has spread nearly throughout the globe, disrupting over the course of two years human life and livelihoods, communities, economies, and countries in myriad ways. As land system scientists, we can take this “experiment of opportunity” to improve understanding of the land systems we study by asking questions such as: How have the shocks in multiple dimensions (*e.g.*, to the economic, environmental, socio-ecological systems, as well as to human health and demographics) arising from the Pandemic affected and will likely affect our land system of interest? How can we detect and evaluate the impacts of the Pandemic shocks on land systems? What frameworks do we need to evaluate these impacts? What is the variety of direct, indirect, and spill-over/follow-on effects of Pandemic controls on land systems?

As a community effort to engage these and related questions, we invite your active participation in a special online event co-hosted by three GLP Working Groups (see below) on **11 November 2021 at 1600-1900 (UTC+1/CET) / 1000-1300 (UTC-5/EST) / 1200-1500 (UTC-3/ART)/ 0700-1000 (UTC-8/PST).**

The event will be a combination of brief talks and focused discussion. We seek to gather a kaleidoscope of perspectives, insights, and actual experiences in specific land systems. Thus, as part of your active participation in the event, we are asking you to contribute a “micro-poster” that answers these two questions:

- Q1. How has the pandemic already affected or is likely to affect the land system you are studying?
- Q2. What frameworks, tools, and approaches could you deploy to better detect and evaluate ongoing and future changes that could be attributed to the Pandemic?

Please take a look at these online resources to dive into the topic:

- **COVID-19, reverse migration, and the impact on land systems** (<https://glp.earth/news-events/blog/covid-19-reverse-migration-and-impact-land-systems>);
- **Land systems’ insights from the pandemic and lock down** (<https://glp.earth/news-events/blog/land-systems%E2%80%99-insights-pandemic-and-lock-down>); and
- **LCLUC COVID-19 Webinar Series 2020-21** (<https://lcluc.umd.edu/content/lcluc-covid-19-webinar-series-2020>).

The structure of the micro-poster is simple, just three A4 slides in a pdf as follows:

Slide 1 identifies, locates, and illustrates the land system of interest (also include your name, institutional affiliation, and email). Maps and photos encouraged!

Slide 2 answers Q1 with supporting maps, figures, tables, photos as appropriate.

Slide 3 answers Q2 with supporting maps, figures, tables, photos as appropriate.

We seek to engage a diversity of geographical regions and fields of study, as well as career stages of the participants. The organizing committee will review the micro-posters and they will be on display prior to and during the event. The committee will invite a small number of participants to speak

briefly on their findings and perspectives. In addition, the organizing committee will highlight an additional number of micro-posters that illustrate particular aspects of the problem. There will be a moderated chat and an interactive “board” for participants to contribute to the discussion in real-time. The event will be recorded for later viewing.

What are the expected outcomes of this special event? First, we plan to synthesize the findings of our collaboration into an editorial or perspective piece in a high-impact scientific journal. Second, we want to use the event to leverage a research effort and publication(s) to address the following questions and more:

- How do the Pandemic shock effects vary across land systems, regions, and livelihoods?
- What are the likely enduring effects of the Pandemic on particular land systems?
- Which land systems are more resilient/more resistant to the Pandemic shocks and why?

We are looking forward to your active participation in the special event and during the follow-on activities! Please feel free to contact any or all of us with questions or concerns!

To participate, please send your micro-poster to GLP.COVID19@gmail.com by 20 October 2021.

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