

COMLAND Conference and Field Trip: Melbourne, Australia 19–24 November 2018

COMLAND members (*) are invited to a Conference / Workshop at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia on Monday 19 & Tuesday 20 November 2018. This will be followed by a 4 day Field Trip. The theme for the Conference and Field Trip is the consideration of how historic land uses have impacted the present-day landscape.

Participants are invited to present papers on this theme or any relevant aspect of land degradation and desertification. Presentations will be timed for 20 minutes including questions.

The Field Trip (21–24 November 2018) will travel in a one-way direction from Melbourne to Adelaide. Themes will include impacts of the gold rush in the mid-1800s, soil erosion due to wind and water, soil salinity, soil acidification, and social change. The various themes will be considered in a social, economic and environmental context.

The number of participants on the field trip will be governed by the size of the bus. Accordingly, numbers will be limited to “first come first serve” and there will be a strict deadline for payments.

Cost of attendance at the Conference and the Field Trip, together with field trip themes and itinerary will be advised in the next newsletter.

Please send a brief Expression of Interest message to the COMLAND Secretary (see link below) if you are interested in participating in (1) the Conference, or (2) the Conference and Field Trip. This will guide planning and preparation prior to formal registration processes. Details above are subject to change.

(*) COMLAND Membership is free of charge. Please contact the COMLAND Secretary to be included in the membership list: <http://www.comland.org/contact.html>

About COMLAND

The Commission on Land Degradation and Desertification (COMLAND) is one of various Commissions under the International Geographical Union (IGU). The parent organisation, the IGU, is devoted to the development of the discipline of Geography through initiating and coordinating geographical research and teaching in all countries of the world. COMLAND's role is to focus on and support research into Land Degradation and Desertification.

The Objectives of COMLAND are further described on its website (www.comland.org) along with more details on Meetings and Membership.

Most COMLAND members are engaged with tertiary institutions in teaching and/or research. Some members are industry professionals. COMLAND encourages young geographers (graduate and postgraduate) to actively participate in Commission activities.

COMLAND meetings are normally combined with a conference or workshop. The format of meetings involves the presentation of refereed papers followed by a multi-day field trip for consideration of local environmental issues in a themed research context. Where possible papers are collated for publication in a relevant journal.

An associated COMLAND Business Meeting provides opportunities for Commission related discussion and planning. Members attending activities are normally sponsored by their institutes or personally. Meetings are held at irregular intervals annually depending on organisational constraints.