



## **INTEGRATED EUROPEAN LONG-TERM ECOSYSTEM, CRITICAL ZONE AND SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE PLUS**

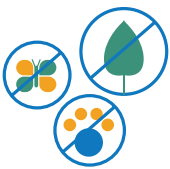
The eLTER Advanced Community Project (eLTER PLUS) tests the performance and further develops the services of the emerging eLTER Research Infrastructure (eLTER RI), together with RI users from several research communities.

### **CASE STUDIES**

#### **ADDRESSING IMPORTANT RESEARCH CHALLENGES**

In its exemplary case studies, eLTER PLUS studies ecosystem and socio-ecological responses to globally critical environmental challenges, which are endangering ecosystem integrity and ecosystem services. This involves creating new tools for cross-disciplinary collaboration, improving access to selected sites and platforms in terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems, and facilitating the use of their long-term observational data.

Embedded in a holistic approach, each of the case studies focuses on one research challenge:



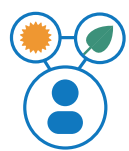
**Biodiversity  
loss**



**Biogeochemical  
controls of  
ecosystem functions**



**Climate-  
water-food  
nexus**



**Socio-  
ecological  
systems**

**[WWW.LTER-EUROPE.NET/PROJECTS/PLUS](http://WWW.LTER-EUROPE.NET/PROJECTS/PLUS)**



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# STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY

eLTER PLUS will further open and expand the developing RI by engaging current and new users from academia, civil society and industry. The project will challenge, assess and strengthen the operations of the eLTER RI through engaging the best expertise and sites available for integrated ecosystem research. eLTER PLUS will:

- scout for innovative observation and analytical methods to be implemented across the RI and to support its sustainable operations
- offer an excellent training program for site operators, researchers and students to enhance their capacities in ecosystem research
- further integrate the operations of advanced *in-situ*, inter- and transdisciplinary research, inter alia by prioritizing Standard Observation variables
- develop pilots for IT services and tools according to user priorities systematically collected across the four research challenges
- create “information clusters” by integrating data from eLTER sites with other data and information retrieved from a wide range of sources



Within eLTER PLUS, up to 100 selected sites from LTER-Europe will provide access to data and knowledge to researchers and environmental managers:

- 35 sites will offer transnational access to users through visits, training and remote access provided by site personnel.
- More than 50 sites will offer virtual access to long-term data.

## PROJECT COORDINATION AND CONTACT

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## CONSORTIUM

**33** partners from across **23** countries

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## DURATION

**1** Feb 2020 – **31** Jan 2025

