

Dr. rer. nat. Werner Rolf



Synopsis

After several years of practical experience in horti- and agriculture, ecosystem restoration, and wilderness preservation in Germany and abroad, I studied Landcare/Land Stewardship at the University of Applied Sciences (HfWU), specializing in environmental development and landscape conservation. My diploma thesis investigated GIS-based methods for modelling ecosystem potentials. My PhD thesis at Potsdam University addressed urban and peri-urban agroecosystems as part of green infrastructure to promote transformation pathways towards sustainable development.

My work is grounded in landscape ecology, understanding landscapes as socio-ecological systems. My research interests focus on multifunctional, integrative landscape approaches, land-use modelling, scenario development, collaborative and participatory spatial planning, and analysis and modelling of complex spatial and functional interrelations using GIS. I have international experience in applied research in rural and urban landscapes at different scales across Europe.

Since 2012, I have been a lecturer and research associate in Strategic Landscape Planning and Management at Technical University of Munich (TUM), supplementing my academic endeavours with visits to universities in Warsaw, Turin, Lisbon, and Ghent. Besides, I have also been a lecturer in the international study programme IMLA and a guest lecturer at the University of Lisbon. As of 2019, I've assumed the role of co-editor-in-chief for Landscape Online, a community-owned, non-profit, peer-reviewed, open-access e-journal, while also contributing as a reviewer for numerous international scholarly journals and initiatives such as TEEB-DE and IPBES.

I am an active member of several organizations and working groups, through which I have fostered a robust international network within landscape ecology and environmental planning. Demonstrating my commitment to leadership of the International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE), I have served on the executive committees of both IALE-Europe since 2017 and IALE Germany since 2016, where I've contributed to strategic decision-making and organizational development.

In addition to my professional affiliations, I have been a member of the Board of Directors of urgewald e.V. since 2008 — an internationally renowned German-based environmental and human rights NGO. In these roles, I have been able to develop my leadership skills in promoting effective initiatives in the field of sustainability.

Personal Website <http://www.landwaerts.de>

TUM Website <https://www.lss.ls.tum.de/lapl/werner-rolf>

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/werner-rolf>

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WoS Researcher-ID <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/AAS-2669-2020>

Studies

- 2017-2020 **Doctoral thesis at University of Potsdam**, Institute for Environmental Science and Geography, Geoecology, Landscape Management: „**Peri-urban farmland included in green infrastructure strategies promotes transformation pathways towards sustainable urban development**“
(Grade: magna cum laude)
Supervision: Prof. Dr. Hubert Wiggering; Prof. Dr. Stephan Pauleit,
Examiner: Prof. Dr. Hubert Wiggering; Prof. Dr. Jørgen Primdahl;
Prof. Dr. Christine Fürst, Mentor: Prof. em. Dr. Dr. hc. Wolfgang Haber
- 2000 **Diploma Thesis at University of Applied Science Nürtingen**, in cooperation with Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, Australia: “**Analysis of ecosystem potentials using Geographic Information Systems exemplified by the Kocher-Jagst plain and its surroundings**“ (Grade: 1.5, Awarded)
- 03/1999-06/1999 **Student visit at University of Guelph**, Ontario, Canada; ECCEI student exchange programme with Computing Research Laboratory for the Environment – CRLE (Prof. Dr. David Swayne)
- 10/1994-02/2000 **Studies of Landcare/Land Stewardship at University of Applied Science Nürtingen**, specialisation on environmental development and landscape-scale conservation, Degree: Dipl. Ing. (FH) Landespflege (Grade: 1.8)

Professional experience

- Since 09/2012 **Research and Teaching Associate at Technical University of Munich**, Chair for Strategic Landscape Planning and Management (Prof. Dr. Stephan Pauleit) with guest visits (Erasmus+ Mobility STT): Portugal, Technical University of Lisbon, CiTUA (02/2018, 11/2023), Belgium, University of Ghent (03/2019), Poland, University of Warsaw (02/2020), and Italy, University of Turin (07/2022)
- Since 03/2000 **Consulting and providing services in forward-thinking integrated landscape approaches** – Proprietor of Landwaerts, Augsburg (www.landwaerts.de)
- 09/2009-07/2023 **Lecturer at International Master of Landscape Architecture (IMLA)** Joint degree program of Nürtingen-Geislingen University of Applied Science (HfWU) and Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Science (HSWT)
- 11/2021-02/2022 **Guest Lecturer at University of Lisbon/Técnico Lisboa** Module „Green Infrastructure Planning“, Master Course on Land Use Planning (Planeamento Biofísico e Ordenamento do Território)
- 11/2001-03/2011 **Lecturer Environmental Informatics for Environmental Planning - U3** Advanced training program at Academy of Further Education Nürtingen (WAF/HfWU)
- 10/2000-12/2012 **Research Associate at Institute for Applied Research (IAF)** at University for Applied Science Nürtingen-Geislingen
- 02/2000-02/2001 **Course Coordinator International Master for Landscape Architecture (IMLA)**, maternity leave representations
- 03/1997-08/1997 Study-related practical experience in **landscape planning** – office partnership Büro für Ökologische Studien (BfÖS)/Ökologische Planungen (OPUS), Bayreuth
- 09/1996-02/1997 Study-related practical experience in **landscape informatics** – Gesellschaft für Landschaftsinformationssysteme GLIS / geoGLIS, Holzdorf, Eckernförde
- 03/1996-08/1996 Study-related practical experience in **nature conservation and ecosystem restoration** – (AGNL), Wagenfeld

Skills

- Teaching**
- Theory-based & practice-oriented teaching
 - Problem-based learning approaches
 - Blended learning, combining classroom teaching and digital teaching (e.g. flipped classroom)
- Research**
- Inter- and transdisciplinary research approaches
 - knowledge co-creation by research collaboration with stakeholders
 - Research approaches in model regions and living labs
- Languages**
- **English (C2), French (A1), Turkish (A2)** according to self-assessment
 - **Spanish** (certified A2, including introduction in business language)
- GIS**
- ArcGIS incl. Spatial Analyst, 3D-Analyst and Python scripting
 - QGIS and GrassGIS

Previous practical experience in ecosystem management and conservation

- 1993-1994 Volunteer at **Wilderness Committee**, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 1992-1993 Employee in the field **nature conservation and ecosystem restoration** (AG für Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege – AGNL), Wagenfeld
- 1991-1992 Civilian service in **wetland ecosystem restoration** – BUND Project Diepholzer Moorniederung, Wagenfeld

Previous practical experience in horticulture and agriculture

- 2013-2022 **Urban Gardening**: Active member of working group "Urban Gardens" of the City of Augsburg and in the intercultural garden association "GrowUp!" e.V.
- 1994 Employee at **landscape conservation sheepfarm** Schäferei Teerling, Diepholzer Moorniederung, Wagenfeld
- 1990-1991 **Vocational school for agriculture**, Herten
- 1987-1990 **Apprenticeship as professional gardener**, Gladbeck

Social Engagement

- Since 2008 **Member of Board of Directors** of "Urgewald e.V." – a German based environmental and human rights NGO, with head office in Sassenberg and further offices in Berlin, Cologne, and Washington, D.C. with around 60 permanent employees
- 1994-2005 **Active Member** in Working Group "Arbeitskreis Nördliche Urwälder (AKU)" - open information and action network of individuals and organizations working for the preservation of the ancient forests of the northern hemisphere with a focus on actions to preserve the temperate rainforests on Canada's West Coast, as well as cooperation with representatives of the indigenous people

Scientific Activities

- Contributions and Outputs**
- **In total > 100 scientific contributions, out of these 48 publications (23 peer-reviewed), 52 conference presentations and 18 conference organisations** (March 2024)
 - **Reviewer for scientific journals**, like Landscape and Urban Planning, Land Use Policy, Ecological Indicators, Landscape Ecology, Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, Sustainability, Science of the total Environment, Ecosystems and People, Urban Ecosystems – currently >40 verified reviews, full list at: www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/AAS-2669-2020
 - **Expert Reviewer at TEEB DE – Naturkapital Deutschland (2014-2016):** „Ökosystemleistungen in ländlichen Räumen. Grundlage für menschliches Wohlergehen und nachhaltige wirtschaftliche Entwicklung“
 - **Expert Reviewer at IPBES (2014-2018):**
 - Report: „Regional Assessments Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Europe and Central Asia“
 - Report: „The methodological assessment report on scenarios models of biodiversity and ecosystem services“
- Awards**
- **Outstanding Reviewer Award 2017-** Ecological Indicators (Elsevier)
 - **IALE Award 2017** - International Association for Landscape Ecology
 - **GIS Award in Environmental Planning 2000** (Hochschule Anhalt), Awarded diploma thesis „Analysis of ecosystem potentials using Geographic Information Systems exemplified by the Kocher-Jagst plain and its surroundings“
- Network/ Active Memberships**
- **International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE)**
 - **Ecosystem Service Partnership Network (ESP)**
 - **Infra Eco Network Europe (IENE)**
 - Working Group (WG) **Landschaftsforschung** (Landscape Research Network, der Landscape Research Group – LRG)
 - IALE World WG **Landscape Planning**
 - IALE-Europe WG **Education in Landscape Ecology** – Sharing Knowledge and Experience
 - IALE-Europe WG **Europe's Stakeholders** – Shaping Future Policy and Science
 - IALE Germany WG **Comparative Landscape Photography** - Methods, Case Studies, and Insights in Landscape Ecology
- Professional Leadership**
- **Executive Committee** European Association for Landscape Ecology IALE-Europe (since 2017)
 - **Executive Committee** International Association for Landscape Ecology, Region Deutschland – IALE-D (since 2016)
 - **Co-Editor-in-Chief** international open access, peer-reviewed e-journal www.Landscape-Online.org – (since 2019; managing editor: 2012-2019)
 - **Co-opted Board Member** LE:NOTRE Institute – Landscape Forum 2017