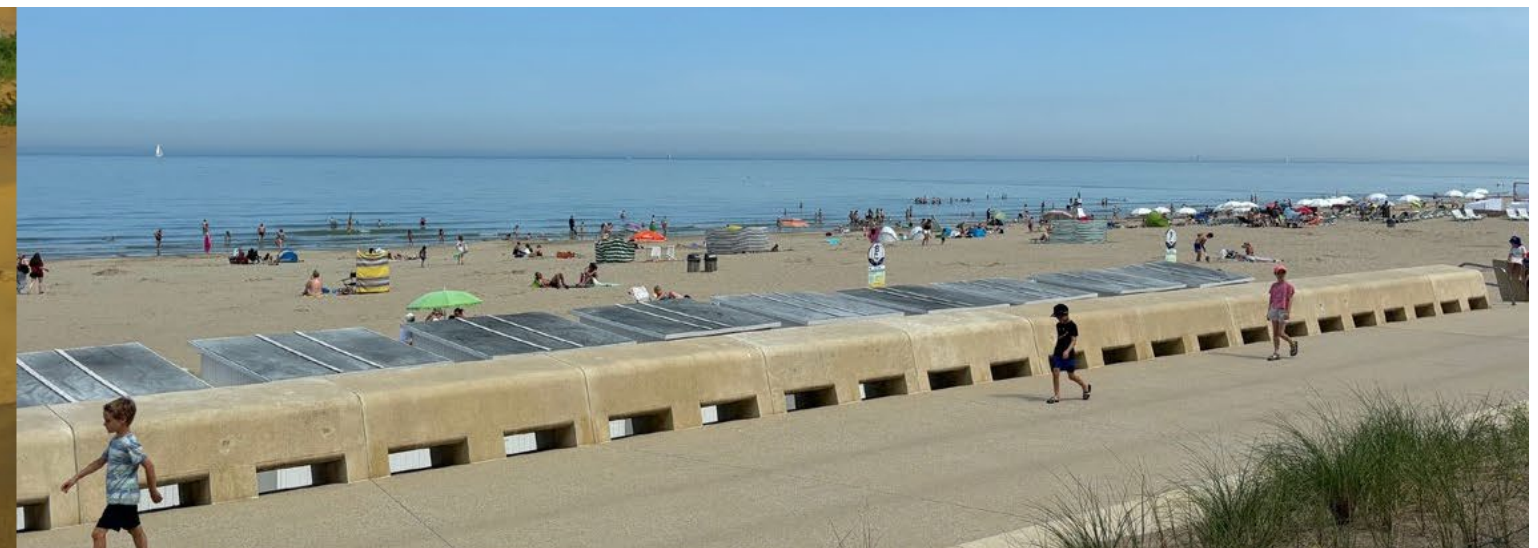


The Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences (RAOS), the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) are organizing a three-day conference and workshops



ECOSYSTEMS IN A CHANGING WORLD



More information:

E-mail: events_raos@kaowarsom.be

Website: https://www.kaowarsom.be/en/ecosystems_changing_world

8-10 Sept 2025

Palace of the Academies &
Institute of Natural Sciences
(Brussels, Belgium)

Dear colleague,

We would like to inform you about the meeting organized by the *Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences*, the *Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences* and the *Chinese Academy of Sciences* which will take place from 8 to 10 September in Brussels on the theme ***Ecosystems in a changing world***.

The *Chinese Academy of Sciences* (CAS) is the largest research institution in China, with more than 100 institutes across the country and more than 100,000 employees.

The *Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences* (RAOS) has a partnership with the CAS and both held a successful joint meeting last year. This time, the RAOS and the *Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences* are jointly organizing the 2025 conference.

After the formal introduction in the afternoon on 8 September, there will be a number of lectures – followed by a reception –, but most of them will run on 9 September and further on 10 September in the morning. The bulk of the programme has already been finalized, but several speakers still need to be added, particularly CAS representatives.

In addition to soundly structured lectures – followed by a Q&A – it is also an opportunity to meet scientists from overseas and forge new links.

Participation is free – including lunch on September 9th and the coffee/tea breaks – but prior registration is required. You can register via the webpage <https://www.kaowarsom.be/en/form/registration-ecosystems> or through email to events_raos@kaowarsom.be. You can also use the same email address to request that - as soon as available - a more detailed programme will be sent to you.

ECOSYSTEMS IN A CHANGING WORLD

already confirmed speakers

Monday 8 September 2025

Venue: Prigogine conference room, Palace of the Academies, Rue Ducale/ Hertogstraat 1, 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

- different welcome addresses
 - Philippe De Maeyer, Permanent Secretary RAOS
 - H.E. Shengchao FEI, Ambassador of the P.R. China to Belgium
 - Arnaud Vajda, Chairman of the Board of Directors BELSPO
 - Weidong LIU, Director General of the Bureau of International Cooperation CAS
 - Yuanming ZHANG, Director of Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography CAS
- Christophe Yvetot (UNIDO): *Industrial ecosystems and their relations with the natural ecosystems*
- Sophie Mirgaux (Belgium's Special Envoy for the Ocean at Belgian Government): *title TBD*
- Bojie FU (Research Center for Eco - environmental Sciences, CAS): *Ecological Restoration for Sustainable Development in China*
- Pierre Regnier (ULB, Belgium): *Earth's greenhouse gas budgets and the climate system*
- Bart Dessein (RAOS & UGent & Egmont, Belgium): *Ecosystems, biodiversity, and climate displacement: the human factor*
- Patrick Van Damme (RAOS & UGent, Belgium & CZU, Czech Republic): *Climate change and dry-land ecosystems*

Tuesday 9 September 2025

Venue: Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Rue Vautier/Vautierstraat 29, 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

and

Wednesday 10 September 2025

Venue: Prigogine conference room, Palace of the Academies, Rue Ducale/ Hertogstraat 1, 1000 Brussels (Belgium)

(there may be shifts between lectures on 9 and 10 September)

- Yanfen WANG (University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences - UCAS): *Grassland changes and adaptive management on the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau*
- Virginie Tilot (RAOS, Belgium & ASOMS, France): *Anthropogenic disturbances and climate change in the eastern tropical Pacific*
- Patrick Sorgeloos (RAOS & UGent, Belgium): *Intensive aquaculture at a turning point: from monoculture to integrated systems, or ecological aquaculture.*
- Wout Van Echelpoel (UGent, Belgium): *Anthropogenic impacts on high-altitude aquatic ecosystems*
- Steven Janssens (Plantentuin Meise & KULeuven, Belgium): *The role of crop wild relatives in generating climate resilience in tropical agriculture*
- Kai XUE (UCAS): *Microbial roles in regulating ecosystem feedback to climate change*
- Stéphanie Ponsar & Geneviève Lacroix (RBINS, Belgium): *The modelling system COHERENS to assess anthropogenic impact on marine ecosystem and to test mitigation scenarios*
- Pierre Dorny (RAOS & ITM, Belgium): *Emerging human fascioliasis in Southeast Asia, the role of climate change*
- Anton Van de Putte (RBINS, Belgium): *Biodiversity in Antarctica*
- San Yin Leemans (RBINS & UGent, Belgium): *Does climate change affect carabid beetles in Belgian forests?*
- Nicolas Antoine-Moussiaux (ULg, Belgium): *One Health approach*
- Olivier Hardy (ULB, Belgium): *Trees phylogeography*
- Nadine Bahizire Akoko (UCLouvain, Belgium): *Canopy structure and biomass dynamics in tropical forest ecosystems*
- Rafiq Hamdi (RMI & UGent, Belgium): *Climate change in Central Asia*
- Haiyang SHI (XIEG, CAS): *Weather-station-scale estimates of carbon and water fluxes focus on surface heterogeneity and climate extremes*
- Bastin Jean-François (ULiège): *Global Alternatives in natural vegetation cover*
- Jiaqiang LEI (Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography XIEG, CAS): *Successful Cases for Mitigating Desertification and Land Degradation in the Belt and Road Initiative Region*
- Philippe De Maeyer (UGent): *Collaboration opportunities between Belgian academic world and CAS*
- Hans Verbeeck (UGent): *Modeling the carbon and water cycle of Congo Basin forests*
- Stef Lhermitte (KULeuven): *title TBC*
- Yuanming ZHANG(XIEG, CAS): *Biodiversity and its Sustainable Utilization in the Arid Regions of Central Asia*

- Jinglong LI (Xinjiang Normal University): *Identification of Dominant Atmospheric Pollutants and Their Sensitivity to Soil Moisture in Urban Agglomerations of Northwest China*
- Maud Raman (INBO): *Title TBC*

and also different contributions by colleagues of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Belgian research institutions (*TBC*)

Version: 25 july 2025