

SPECIAL SESSION:

Ecology and energy flow in tropical temporary ecosystems

Organizers:

Dra. Luciana Gomes Barbosa

Federal University of Paraíba (Paraíba, Brazil), Laboratory of Limnology

Chair of the International Network on Limnology of Drylands (INLD)

Email: lgomesbarbosa@gmail.com

Dra. Clarice Casa Nova

Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Department of Ecology

Email:casanova.cla@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Global climate change is expected to intensify droughts, a critical filter to the biodiversity and food web structure in temporary systems around the world. The prolonged droughts may promote a general decrease in ecosystem resilience and changes in energy flow and trophic interactions. Due to limited knowledge of the ecosystem functions regulating energy flow and matter cycling, research still falls short in bridging the gap to assure proper management and conservation strategies of these temporary lakes, wetlands, small wetlands, rock pools, man-made reservoirs and streams. Since these temporary ecosystems are a source of several environmental services to human societies, the knowledge about their ecology is critical to draw effective conservation strategies. Organized by the International Network on Limnology of Drylands (INLD) and the Limnology Laboratory of Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, this special session will bring together specialists in the ecology of temporary ecosystems of tropical areas and of the world to present and discuss the results of experimental and field observations in the face of the huge challenge which is to understand the effects of different probable impacts (such as climate change and land use) in these ecosystems.

Key Words: Climate change, land use change, temporary ecosystems, conservation, energy flow and trophic interactions