1. Record Nr. UNINA9911054589103321

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Titolo	Landscape Bionomics and Planetary Health : A Human Health and Integrated Landscape Ecology Perspective / / by Vittorio Ingegnoli
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer Nature Switzerland : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2026
ISBN	3-032-08908-5
Edizione	[1st ed. 2026.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (582 pages)
Collana	Landscape Series, , 1875-1210 ; ; 21
Disciplina	630
Soggetti	Agriculture Ecology Bioclimatology Landscape ecology Public health Medical sciences Climate Change Ecology Landscape Ecology Public Health Health Sciences
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	-- Dedications, Forewords, Acknowledgements, Contents. -- Part I, Landscape Bionomics: Premise and Contents. -- 1.ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY AND THE SYSTEMIC PARADIGM. -- 2.COMPLEX SYSTEMS AND THE BIRTH OF BIONOMICS. -- 3.STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONS, TRANSFORMATIONS OF A LANDSCAPE. -- 4.RENEWAL OF VEGETATION SCIENCE: THEORY. -- 5.RENEWAL OF VEGETATION SCIENCE: APPLICATIONS. -- 6.OUTLINE OF BIONOMICAL EVALUATION OF FAUNA. -- 7.DIAGNOSIS OF THE HEALTH OF A LANDSCAPE. -- Part II, Alteration of Human Landscapes and Planetary Health. -- 8. ALTERATIONS OF AGRO-FOREST AND URBANIZED LANDSCAPES. -- 9. ALTERED LANDSCAPES/HUMAN HEALTH: SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH. -- 10.LANDSCAPE ALTERATIONS/HUMAN HEALTH PROCESSES. -- 11. WIDENING ANAMNESIS AND PREVENTION. -- Part III, Applications and

Conclusion. -- 12.UPGRADING ECOLOGY-ECONOMY AND PLANNING RELATIONSHIPS. -- 13.URBAN PARKS AND HEALTH PROTECTION. -- 14.RENATURALIZE TO PRESERVE HEALTH: CASE STUDIES ON THE PO RIVER. -- 15.ENVIRONMENTAL BIOETHICS AND EDUCATION.

Sommario/riassunto

Traditional General Ecology is often limiting, with concepts like "ecosystem" remaining ambiguous (O'Neil et al., 1986). Critics argue that ecology is merely a tool for environmental management—addressed by administrators, engineers, and other professionals—rather than a branch of biology focused on meso and micro-scale phenomena. However, life’s complexity cannot be confined to micro-scales alone. Alterations at macro-scales can impact human health just as significantly. The rise of epigenetics highlights the crucial interplay between large and small scales, revealing their unexpected complementarity. Health and disease are influenced by the entire organization of life. Thus, biology must encompass macro-scales, exploring their structures, processes, and their role in health. This is the field of Bionomy, which emphasizes the intricate link between environmental changes and health, extending beyond pollution and pandemics. To truly enhance health, it’s imperative to understand the processes that connect the environment and health. Evaluating the bionomic state of landscapes and the biological structures that support human life is essential. This book delves into these processes, offering insights into the complex systems that govern our well-being.