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# **ISEM 2013 Ecological Modelling for Ecosystem Sustainability in the context of Global Change**

- contenu - Agenda des évènements -

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We live in a changed and changing world. Never before on Earth has the importance of sustainable development resonated with so many people. Without immediate and effective action, our planet will face unyielding pressure on the environment. The action needs to be guided by a scientific understanding of ecosystem function. Research, especially in Ecological Modelling, is crucial to support the sustainable development paradigm, in which economy, society and environment are integrated and positively reinforcing each other.

The International Society for Ecological Modelling (ISEM) is an important and active research community contributing to this arena. Some progress towards gaining a better understanding of the processes of global change has been achieved, but much more is needed. This conference will provide a forum to present current research using models to investigate our actions to mitigate and adapt to change as well as how to preserve and protect ecosystems and their services.