

CFP: The 9th International Symposium on Literature and Environment in East Asia

**Critical Agrarian Humanities:
Farming for Change across East Asia and the Transpacific**

June 12-13, 2026

Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica
Taipei, Taiwan

In an age marked by ecological crisis, extractive capitalism, and accelerating climate change, farming has reemerged as a critical site of inquiry into the entangled futures of the human and nonhuman world. The 9th ASLE-East Asia International Symposium seeks to rethink agrarianism as both a material practice and a conceptual framework through which we examine questions of labor, technology, planetary survival, and care.

Focusing on East Asia and the Transpacific world, we invite papers that examine how agrarian literature and culture articulate alternative ways of living with the land, resisting colonial and capitalist extraction, and building socio-ecologically just relations across species and borders. We are particularly interested in how literary and cultural narratives envision farming as a world-making practice of transformative change. By foregrounding East Asia and the Transpacific as a locus of inquiry, this symposium not only looks at agrarian imaginaries and histories in East Asia, the Transpacific, and beyond but encourages innovative comparative or interdisciplinary frameworks that approach farming as a translocal practice of cultural, ecological, and economic exchange. How might the study of East Asian and Transpacific farming traditions, aesthetics, and movements contribute to a Critical Agrarian Humanities that situates agriculture at the heart of a sustainable environmental future?

The 9th ASLE-East Asia International Symposium welcomes proposals that engage agrarian literature, art, history, ethnography, and philosophy. We also encourage transnational or transdisciplinary approaches that connect theory with practice, including collaborations between scholars, farmers, and artists, creative-critical projects, or reflections on community-based agricultural initiatives. Themes may include, but are not limited to:

- farmers, land, and community
- farming, history, and story-telling
- farming, science, and technology
- farming, spirituality, and the sacred
- farming, stewardship, and multispecies care

- farming and human and nonhuman health
- farming and environmental disaster
- farming, climate change, and the Anthropocene
- farming, colonialism, capitalism, and extractivism
- farming, exploitation, and extinction
- farming, racism, and racial equity
- farming, gender, and gender equality

Abstract Submission: Please submit an abstract of 250–300 words and a brief bio of 100 words before Feb. 10, 2026. Notification of Acceptance is Feb. 28, 2026. For submission and inquiries, please contact conference organizer and ASLE-Taiwan secretary Dr. Pei-Wen Kao via email at alsetaiwan2026@gmail.com.

Organizers:

ASLE-Taiwan

Farm for Change: Climate, Eco-poetics, Earth Justice (FFC)

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