

Dr. Cecilia Ortiz, Faculty of Engineering, who co-ordinates FLAVO-GREEN in Latin America.

15 LIFE ON LAND

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15

Life on Land

Landscape architecture, biotechnology and biology courses at ORT foster knowledge of native ecosystems and biodiversity, and respond to threats such as the red palm weevil.

13

courses mapped to SDG 15

1

app mapping the spread of the red palm weevil

2

international landscape publications featuring ORT faculty work

TEACHING & LEARNING

Ecosystems in the curriculum

Biology (ecology, ecosystems, human impact and conservation), Environmental Aspects in Engineering (natural capital), Landscape Workshop 3 (ecological dynamics and plant selection) and Contemporary Art (art, ecology and the climate crisis).

Native landscapes

Landscaping students and graduates created Reflejo nativo, first prize at Mini Patio en el Shopping 2025, and the native-plant garden Campo Sucio. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/paisajismo-y-plantas-nativas-en-museos-en-l...

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Biodiversity and traditional knowledge

FLAVO-GREEN combines synthetic biology with the conservation of Amazonian biodiversity and the traditional knowledge of indigenous communities. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/proyecto-internacional-para-producir-flavon...

Red palm weevil

Systems Engineering student Emilia Lasaga built in one week an interactive map that combines citizen reports and AI-generated summaries to track the red palm weevil across Uruguay's departments, while the School of Architecture warned about the environmental emergency affecting palms in Montevideo and Canelones. fi.ort.edu.uy/novedades/una-app-que-mapea-el-avance-del-picudo-rojo

COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

Landscape architecture in international publications

Mariposas Salvajes by Paula Rial was included in a publication of IFLA Americas; Amalia Robredo's garden La Secreta was featured in Phaidon's The Contemporary Garden. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/mariposas-salvajes-proyecto-de-la-arq-psj-p...

Latin American landscape seminar

ORT hosted a seminar with landscape architects from Mexico, Chile and Uruguay. fa.ort.edu.uy/novedades/seminario-de-paisajismo-latinoamericano-mir...

13 course offerings linked to SDG 15 in 2025

- Biología (Engineering)
- Taller 3 (Architecture)
- Arte contemporáneo (7114) (Design)
- Biorremediación (Engineering)
- Medio Ambiente, Desarrollo y Negociación Internacional (Management)
- Media Lab (Communication)
- Tendencias del diseño contemporáneo (4096) (Design)
- Aspectos Ambientales en Ingeniería (Engineering)
- Comercio y Desarrollo Agrícola (Management)

Native landscapes and biological solutions



Lecture “Pensar desde el paisaje” at the School of Architecture, 2025.

Landscape architecture at ORT promotes native plants and ecological design. In the 2025 edition of Mini Patio en el Shopping, organized with Montevideo Shopping for its 40th anniversary, Landscaping students Lucía Gamboa, María Sultanova and Christian De Furia won first prize with Reflejo nativo, and all five proposals were built in the shopping centre’s corridors. Faculty work reached international publications: Paula Rial’s Mariposas Salvajes in a publication of IFLA Americas and Amalia Robredo’s garden La Secreta in Phaidon’s The Contemporary Garden.

When the red palm weevil began killing palms in Montevideo and Canelones, Systems Engineering student Emilia Lasaga built in one week an interactive map that combines citizen reports and AI-generated summaries to follow the pest by department, and the School of Architecture warned about the threat to Uruguay’s landscapes.

Biotechnology offers alternatives to chemical pesticides: ORT researchers co-authored studies in Pest Management Science and Journal of Fungi on the fungus Beauveria bassiana as a biological control agent against insect pests. Through FLAVO-GREEN, led by Spain’s National Biotechnology Centre, ORT co-ordinates in Latin America a project combining synthetic biology with the conservation of Amazonian biodiversity and the traditional knowledge of indigenous communities.

SELECTED 2025 PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS BY ORT FACULTY

1. Oberti, H., Sessa, L., Van Roosmalen, E., De Bekkes, C., Seidl, M. F., Sanchez Vallet, A., & Abreo, E. (2025). From omics to enhanced fungal virulence: Overexpression of a putative secreted protein improves Beauveria bassiana biocontrol potential against the insect pest Piezodorus guildinii. Pest Management Science.
2. Lima Ferreira, P., Etchevers, I., Cuña Rodriguez, C., Velázquez, P., González, L., Leão Fernandes, E. H., Lopes Leães Pinho, G., & García Rodríguez, F. (2025). Links between international market trends, agricultural intensification and extreme sedimentation rates in a transboundary South American coastal lagoon. Science of the Total Environment, 975, 11 p.
3. Preisegger, L., Flecha, J. C., Ghilini, F., Espin Sánchez, D., Prieto, E., Oberti, H., Abreo, E., Huarte Bonnet, C., Pedrini, N., & Mannino, M. C. (2025). Visualizing oral infection dynamics of beauveria bassiana in the gut of tribolium castaneum. Journal of Fungi, 11(2), 19 p.