

Biodiversity Hotspots in the Mediterranean Area:

species, communities and landscape level

45^o International Congress of SISV & FIP

Cagliari, 1st September 2008

FIRST CIRCULAR

Dear Colleagues,

you are invited to the International Congress "Biodiversity hotspots in the Mediterranean area: species, communities and landscape level", which will be held in Cagliari (Italy), in June 2009 from 22th to 24th and from 25th to 28th.

The congress will cover the following subjects in three different main sessions: Flora and Evolution, Vegetation, Landscape.

The second day will be devoted to the three contemporary side events:

- Plant species and communities in the Mediterranean mining areas: biodiversity, landscape evolution and their use in phytoremediation;
- Origins of endemic plants in the Corso-Sardinian microplate: an integrative phylogenetic approach;
- Conservation studies on threatened plants in the Mediterranean area.

In the same day three hours will be dedicated to the poster session.

The congress will include social events and the visit to the Botanical Gardens, two post-congress excursions (IGIS *Iter Geobotanicum Insulae Sardiniae*) to the Sulcis-Iglesiente sector and to the Gennargentu and Supramonte areas will be organized on 25-28 June.

The detailed program will be included in the second circular.

Location: Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia's region, founded by Phoenicians, is located in the southern part of the island. Often considered as the "City of the Sun", Cagliari has some interesting medieval architecture and archaeological wonders left behind by different cultures. Phoenicians founded the ancient port of Cagliari (known as Karales), and many different civilizations have dominated and influenced its culture. Besides its crystal-clear sea and one of the most beautiful and longest beaches in the Mediterranean, Cagliari offers an unspoiled natural environment consisting of lagoons, bird sanctuaries, and wildlife reserves which are unique in Europe.

Cagliari's "old city" (Castello) has an appealing Mediterranean character. In the Castello district, the Romans and, later, Pisans, built defenses. You can linger over various archaeological sites along the route, or visit the Cittadella dei Musei (the former royal arsenal) which hosts several museums, including the Museo Archeologico Nazionale. This museum has an extensive collection of Sardinian artifacts from the Nuraghic era to the Byzantine, ornaments from the Punic Phoenician Age, and impressive Roman glass works and mosaics. In the Cittadella dei Musei there is also the Pinacoteca Nazionale, an art gallery which displays medieval and Baroque religious paintings. You can visit the Cathedral (Cattedrale di Santa Maria) which was built by the Pisans during the second half of the 13th century. This gothic-romanesque cathedral was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Cecilia. It contains Pisan masters's works. The pulpits on either side of the main door were carved in 1162 by Guglielmo from Innsbruck. The four wrestling lions at the base of the altarpiece were carved by Pisano.

Organizing Committee

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Accommodation: a range of accommodation will be available: bed and breakfast, pensions, hotels (all categories). A list of accommodations, including prices and addresses, will be provided in the second circular. The Organizing Committee and Organizing Secretariat will not provide any booking service.

Meeting venues: the congress will take place in the Aula Magna at the Faculty of Economics and in the Department of Botanical Sciences, both situated in Viale Sant'Ignazio da Laconi. The halls will be equipped with audiovisual facilities (overhead projectors, slide projectors, video projectors and computers). The poster session, the dinners, Executive Council and the International Board, which are located in the same place, will take place in the Botanical Gardens.

Communication channels and media formats: the Organizing Committee will communicate with correspondents via email, regular mail and fax; messages of general interest will also be posted in the "news" section on the web site. All correspondents are encouraged to use email as preferred communication channel.

Correspondents with limited or no access to email systems will receive all messages via regular mail or fax, according to their preference as it was stated in the pre-subscription form (see below).

The abstracts of communications or posters must be provided in .doc (MS Word) or .pdf (Acrobat) format; files may be uploaded through the web site services which will be available as soon as the second circular is issued.

Web site: the web site address is <http://www.biodiversityhotspots.it>. As the second circular is issued, it will be possible to register on-line at the web site or, alternatively, by submitting a paper form via mail or fax (see address and fax number at the bottom of the page). A service of file upload for submitting the abstracts of posters/communication will also be available as soon as the second circular is issued.

Proceedings: the proceedings will be published in a special issue of *Fitosociologia*, according to the journal's editorial guidelines. The manuscripts must be sent to the President of the Organizing Committee by email before the 31st of December 2009.

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Second circular: the second circular will be sent before the 30th November 2008 to all respondents to this circular (please use enclosed pre-subscription form); it will include the Meeting preliminary schedule, as well as detailed instructions on subscription, fees, available accommodation, submission of abstracts of oral/poster presentations, media and format of oral presentation, poster size and design.

Fees: subscription fees will be specified in the second circular; it is anticipated that early subscribers will benefit from a reduced cost, while late subscriber will be charged an extra cost (see below for deadlines). On-site subscription during the Meeting will be possible with additional surcharge. Ordinary SISV or FIP members and students will be entitled to a discount on early, regular, late and on-site subscription fees.

Deadlines

30th November 2008 - Submission of pre-subscription form (enclosed to this circular; it can also be downloaded from the web site <http://www.biodiversityhotspots.it>);

31st December 2008 - Payment of early (reduced) subscription fees;

30th March 2009 - Submission of subscription form and of abstracts of communication/poster; payment of regular subscription fees;

From 1 April 2009 - Payment of late (increased) subscription fees;

31st December 2009 - Submission of full texts of lectures and posters for proceedings.

Scientific Committee:

Prof. Gianluigi Bacchetta (University of Cagliari), Prof. Edoardo Biondi (Secretary FIP, University of Ancona), Prof. Carlo Blasi (President SISV, University of Roma La Sapienza), Prof. Elena Conti (University of Zurich), Prof.ssa Rossella Filigheddu (University of Sassari), Prof. Frédéric Medail (University Paul Cézanne Aix-Marseille III), Prof. Luigi Mossa (University of Cagliari), Prof. Salvador Rivas-Martínez (President FIP, Hemeritus of University of Madrid).

Organizing Committee: Dr. Bianca Alvau, Mr. Paolo Atzeri, Prof. Gianluigi Bacchetta, Dr. Mauro Casti, Dr. Donatella Cogoni, Dr. Giuseppe Fenu, Dr. Maria Caterina Fogu, Dr. Gianluca Iriti, Mr. Francesco Mascia, Dr. Efisio Mattana, Dr. Francesca Meloni, Prof. Luigi Mossa, Dr. Paolo Mulè, Dr. Martino Orrù, Dr. Silvia Pinna, Mr. Roberto Pisu, Dr. Lina Podda, Dr. Cristiano Pontecorvo, Mr. Roberto Sarigu, Ms. Paola Vargiu.

The special email address info@biodiversityhotspots.it has been set up for further information.

Organizing Secretariat: logistic and administrative tasks will be cared by Consulcongress (info@consulcongress.it).

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Pre-subscription form

I am interested in attending the 45° International Congress of SISV & FIP. Please send the second circular to the following address:

Surname

Name

Title

SISV or FIP member yes no

Student yes no

Institution

Please tick your preferred communication channel

- Postal address
- Fax
- Email

SEND WITHIN 30 NOVEMBER 2008

You may download this form (www.biodiversityhotspots.it) and email it to info@consulcongress.it or fax it at +39 070/485402.

Or mail it to :

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