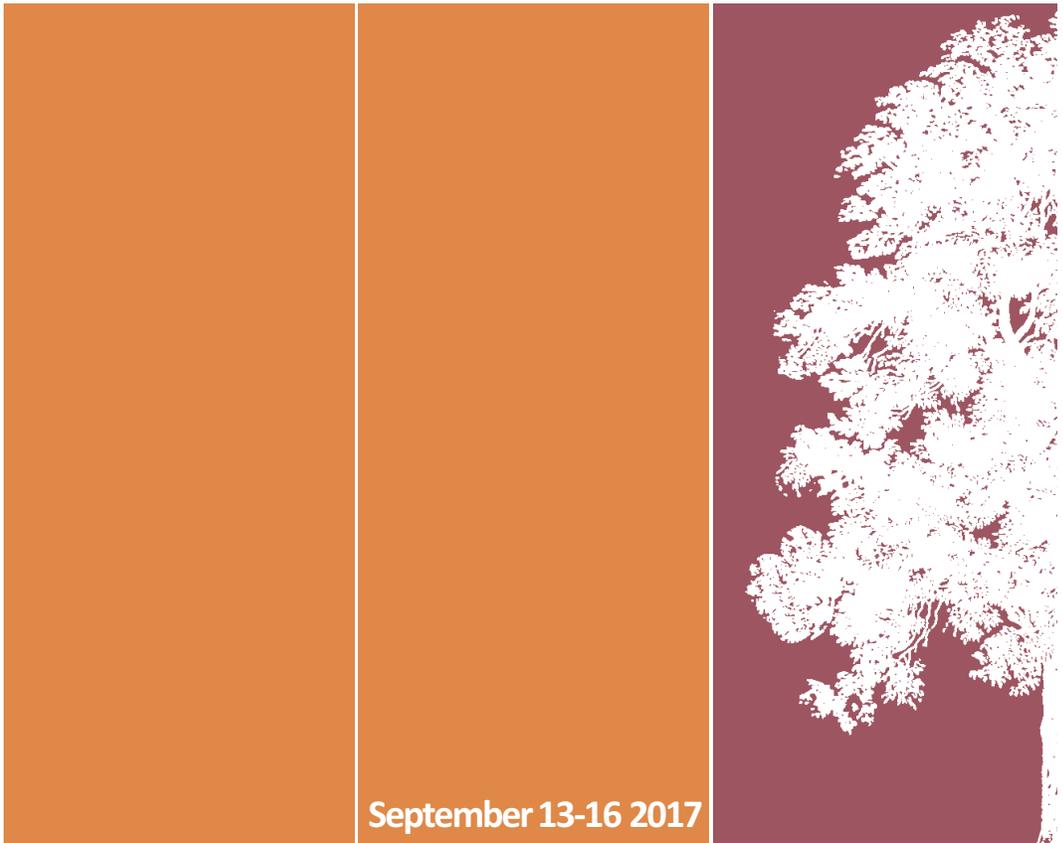


Abstracts



September 13-16 2017

26th Congress of the European Vegetation Survey, Bilbao



Universidad
del País Vasco

Euskal Herriko
Unibertsitatea



European
Vegetation
Survey

26th Congress of the European Vegetation Survey

Scientific topic

**Diversity patterns across communities
in the frame of global change:
conservation challenges**

Bilbao, 13-16 September 2017

The Plenary Sessions and Registration will be held
in the «Bizkaia Aretoa» of the University of the Basque Country

Bizkaia Aretoa

University of the Basque Country
Avenida Abandoibarra, 3
48009 Bilbao

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Universidad del País Vasco Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea

CIP. Biblioteca Universitaria

Congress of European Vegetation Survey (26th 2017. Bilbao)

Diversity patterns across communities in the frame of global change : conservation challenges / 26th Congress of the European Vegetation Survey, Bilbao, 13-16 September 2017. – Bilbao : Universidad del País Vasco / Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea, Argitalpen Zerbitzua = Servicio Editorial, D.L. 2017. – 128 p.

D.L. 1283-2017. — ISBN: 978-84-9082-701-7

1. Plantas – Europa – Congresos

581.9(4)(063)

© Servicio Editorial de la Universidad del País Vasco
Euskal Herriko Unibertsitateko Argitalpen Zerbitzua

ISBN: 978-84-9082-701-7

Depósito legal: B1-1.283-2017

ABSTRACTS

The SUN LIFE+ Project: a strategy for monitoring species and habitats of the 92/43/EEC Directive in Umbria Region (central Italy)

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The SUN LIFE 2013 NAT /IT/000371 project aims at the implementation of a strategy for the management of the Natura 2000 network in Umbria, as a model for an organic management of the network even at national and international level. Umbria is one of the few Italian Regions that completed the conversion of the Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) in Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) that complement the Special Protection Areas (SPAs). In Umbria the network is composed by 102 sites (96 SACs and 6 SPAs), distributed in the Mediterranean and in the Continental Biogeographic Regions, covering a surface of 130,094 hectares, i.e. 15.37% of the Regional territory. In the Natura 2000 sites, 41 habitat types of Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) Annex I (including 11 priority habitat types), and about 100 species of Annexes II, IV and V (8 of which are vascular plant species) are recorded. The detailed knowledge on species and habitats distributions (maps 1:10,000), together with their trends and conservation status in Umbria, played an essential role in the definition of the management strategy in this Region. In addition, a database of phytosociological relevés carried out in the different habitat types, georeferentiated and archived in the National Database VegItaly, constituted a fundamental pre-condition for the correct development of a management and monitoring strategy for species and habitats.

The SUN LIFE project will end in 2017. The activities scheduled under action D1, which has the goal to formulate and start the implementation of the monitoring program of the Natura 2000 network, tend to the elaboration of monitoring and management protocols, aimed at giving the administrations a feedback for the necessary conservation actions related to the effective conservation requirements of each species and habitat. During the SUN LIFE activities, some indicators for the evaluation of the conservation status of species and habitats were provided. The indicators were classified in two categories: quantitative (H1 – habitat surface; H2 – habitat fragmentation; S1 – species distribution; S2 – population size) and qualitative (S3 – occurrence of alien species; H3 – coherence of floristic composition with the habitat type; H4 - structure/physiognomy of the habitat; H5 – successional unit of the series). This indicators have represented the starting point for the experimentation of a still ongoing monitoring protocol, preliminary tested on some species and habitats, selected considering the i) rapidity of the dynamical processes, ii) conservation status and anthropic pressure, iii) restricted/fragmented distribution.

A “Diagnostic Manual for Natura 2000 Habitats and Species in Umbria” was compiled, including all the knowledge on habitats and species, collected during the monitoring programs carried out in the last 13 years (bibliographic and unpublished cartographic and phytosociological data). Last but not least, the funding opportunities available both at national and regional level for the conservation and management of biodiversity inside the Natura 2000 network were identified, in this way assuring the long-term efficiency of the network.