

# Biodiversity Hotspots in the Mediterranean Area:

species, communities and landscape level

45<sup>o</sup> International Congress of SISV & FIP

## INVITATION TO ATTEND

Dear Colleagues,  
you are kindly invited to the International Congress "Biodiversity Hotspots in the Mediterranean Area: species, communities and landscape level", which will be held in Cagliari, Italy, from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> and from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

The congress will cover the following subjects in three different sessions:

- FLORA AND EVOLUTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA
- PHYTOSOCIOLOGY AS PLANT SYNECOLOGY
- TOWARDS AN ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF MEDITERRANEAN LANDSCAPES

The first day will also be devoted to 2 parallel side events:

- Plants species and communities in the Mediterranean mining areas: biodiversity, landscape evolution and their use in phytoremediation;
- Important plant areas in Italy and in the Mediterranean context.

The second day will be dedicated to the following side events:

- Origins of endemic plants to the Corso-Sardinian microplate: an integrative phylogenetic approach;
- Conservation studies on threatened plants in the Mediterranean area.

In the first two days 2 hours will be dedicated to the poster session.

The congress will include social events and the visit of the Botanical Gardens and Museum of the University of Cagliari.

Two post-congress excursions (*IGIS Iter Geobotanicum Insulae Sardiniae*) to Sulcis-Iglesiente biogeographic sector and to Gennargentu and Supramonte areas, with a limited number of participants, will be organized on 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June.

## CONGRESS VENUES AND LOCATION

### CONGRESS VENUES

The congress and the poster sessions will take place in the Aula Magna of the Faculty of Economics and in the Department of Botanical Sciences. Both venues are situated in Viale Sant'Ignazio da Laconi. Audiovisual facilities will be available in the congress halls, such as overhead projectors, slide projectors, video projectors and computers. The lunches, the Social Assembly of SISV and the Executive Council of FIP will take place in the Botanical Gardens.

### CAGLIARI, THE HOST CITY

Sardinia is the second-largest island in Italy and in the Mediterranean sea, after Sicily. Cagliari, the capital city of Sardinia, is located in the south of the island. Often referred to as "the city of the sun", Cagliari has some interesting medieval architecture and archaeological wonders left behind by different cultures.

Under the name of Karalis, it was founded by the Phoenicians around the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC as a port and a trading colony. Since then, many different civilizations have dominated and influenced its culture.

Besides its crystal-clear sea and the "Poetto", one of the most beautiful and longest beaches in the Mediterranean, Cagliari offers an unspoiled natural environment which is unique in Europe, consisting of lagoons, bird sanctuaries, and wildlife reserves.

#### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Centro Conservazione Biodiversità (CCB)  
Department of Botanical Sciences  
University of Cagliari (Italy)  
Tel. +39 070 6753508  
Fax +39 070 6753509  
info@ccb-sardegna.it  
www.ccb-sardegna.it

#### ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

Consulcongress S.r.l.  
Via San Benedetto, 88  
09129 Cagliari (Italy)  
Tel. +39 070 499242  
Fax +39 070 485402  
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The old city centre, called "Castello" ("Castle") lies on the top of a hill and boasts a stunning view on the Gulf of Cagliari. It hosts many craftsmen workshops in its charming narrow lanes.

Most of the Castello's city walls are intact, and feature the two 13th century white limestone towers, St. Pancras Tower and the Elephant Tower. The Archaeological Museum has an extensive collection of Sardinian artifacts from the Nuragic era to the Bizantine, ornaments from the Punic Phoenician Age, and impressive Roman glass works and mosaics. The Citadel of Museums also hosts the Pinacoteca Nazionale, an art gallery which displays medieval and Baroque religious paintings. The Duomo (Santa Maria's Cathedral) was constructed by the Pisans during the second half of the 13th century. This Gothic-Romanesque cathedral was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Cecilia and contains artworks by Pisan masters. The pulpits on either side of the main door were carved by Guglielmo in 1162, and the four wrestling lions at the base of the altarpiece were sculpted by Pisano.

## CLIMATE

The bioclimate of Cagliari is Mediterranean pluviaseasonal oceanic (upper thermomediterranean thermotype and upper dry ombrotype). In summer the average temperature is 23-24 °C (74 F), but it can reach over 35 °C (95 F) during the hottest hours of the day. High relative humidity is one of the most notable characteristics of the local weather. Fortunately, the stifling summer heat is countered by an almost constant breeze, that can sometimes turn into a strong wind.

## PROGRAMME AND CONGRESS THEMES

The 45<sup>th</sup> International Congress of SISV & FIP has a 7-day programme including the 3-day main Congress from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, and two post-congress excursions (IGIS 1, from June 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, and IGIS 1-2 from June 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>):

1) the congress will take place from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, and will include 3 main sessions (with invitational conferences and free communications), 4 side events, 2 poster sessions and a visit of the Botanical Gardens and Museum.

2) the IGIS (*Iter Geobotanicum Insulae Sardiniae*) will take place from June 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, including 2 itinerary options: a shorter itinerary of 2 days in the Sulcis-Iglesiente area, and a longer one of 4 days extending the first one to Gennargentu and Supramonte areas.

### 1. CONGRESS (JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> – 24<sup>TH</sup>)

JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> (10am – 8pm) – Presentation of Congress programme, tutorial lesson, 6 invitational conferences + 10 oral communications, 2 side events and poster session.

JUNE 23<sup>RD</sup> (9am – 7pm) – 6 invitational conferences + 10 oral communications, 2 side events, poster session, Social Assembly of SISV and Executive Council of FIP. Social dinner (9pm).

JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> (9am - 6pm) – 6 invitational conferences + 10 free communication, final Round Table, presentation of IGIS and visit of the Botanical Gardens and Museum.

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## 2. IGIS (JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup> OR 25<sup>TH</sup> – 29<sup>TH</sup>)

JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> TO 26<sup>TH</sup> - Itinerary 1: IGIS 1 includes two days of guided excursions to the Sulcis-Iglesiente area, the first day to the future Regional Park of Sulcis and the Natural Reserve of Monte Arcosu, and the second day to the Sardinian Geominerary Park area. The participation fee includes the guided visits, 2 packed lunches and ground transportation; as the tour coaches will return to the starting point at the end of each visit and day tour, attendees are suggested to extend their room reservation in Cagliari till the end of IGIS 1.

JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> TO 29<sup>TH</sup> - Itinerary 2: IGIS 1+2 is an extended program of IGIS 1, including itinerary 1 plus two days of excursions to Gennargentu and Supramonte areas. The participation fee includes all transfers by bus to the tour locations, packed lunches, 3-star hotel accommodation with half board arrangement from June 27<sup>th</sup> to June 29<sup>th</sup> (2 nights).

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

### TUTORIAL LESSON: L. Mossa

### INVITATIONAL CONFERENCES AND COMMUNICATIONS

The conferences will be invited by the chairmen, the free communications will be selected by the Scientific Committee based on the originality and scientific value.

## MAIN SESSIONS

### FLORA AND EVOLUTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

**Coordinator: Frédéric Médail**

#### Abstract

Mediterranean floras represent highly complex assemblages of species of different biogeographical origins. This originality can be explained by complex interaction between historical biogeography patterns and unique ecological processes. The huge plant diversity and levels of endemism located in hotspots are in great part related to the contrasted historical biogeography of the Mediterranean region. Recent insights of paleoecology and phylogeography indicate the importance of past events (notably Messinian salinity crisis and glacial episodes) in shaping this massive and unique Mediterranean plant biodiversity. Researches combining genetics and biogeography underline also that evolutionary patterns are much more complex in the Mediterranean region than in temperate Europe.

The objectives of this session are to confront the evolutionary history of different Mediterranean taxa in order to evaluate the respective influence of diverse sources of complexity, from an ecological and biogeographical point of view. A related topic consists to examine why biodiversity hotspots constitute significant areas for the local persistence of plants and a reservoir of unique genetic diversity and if hotspots act also as key areas of evolutionary novelty for Mediterranean plant species.

**Key words:** Mediterranean floras, biogeography, evolution, paleoecology and phylogeography.

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## PHYTOSOCIOLOGY AS PLANT SYNECOLOGY

**Coordinator: Edoardo Biondi**

### Abstract

There is no doubt that phytosociology in the first century of its history played the role of the real Plant Sinecology: starting from the association's level to that of plant landscape unit. In all these, phytosociology expresses a great ability to integrate through the bioindication, different ecological levels, that are consequent among them. The session wants to face the issue of ecological evidence of taxa and syntaxa, series and geo-series expressed according to concepts of quantitative ecology with examples regarding the biodiversity hotspots in the Mediterranean. The phytocoenoses that are represented in phytosociology terms have to be more enriched in their real significance and identified through the weighting of the ecological factors that determine the diffusion limits and therefore the representativeness as bioindicator.

At the beginning of the new millennium, in completely different cultural and socio-economic conditions from those in which the phytosociology was born, it is necessary to move from the description of phytocoenoses to their ecological weighted characterization as to our science it is asked to work in terms of applications in different areas of sustainable management of land and its resources. We have seen that for the first time with the application of the various phases of the Habitats Directive when to phytosociology has been asked not only to recognize ecosystems that allow to identify habitats and then SCI areas, but also to participate in the development of Management plans, together with various experts who traditionally handle natural and semi-natural environments. In this context it is necessary to give applicable answers, by characterizing the identified processes, especially in quantitative terms. After having acquired many knowledge, absolutely essential to let our discipline advance as these form the foundations of it, for example the syntaxonomical and succession types, the real application of our science goes through its quantitative representation. So for example, the vegetation dynamics, already extremely important in the recognition process for managing the sites, become a considerably higher value in the project phase including the time factor, becoming therefore an absolutely predictive model.

The session will express, with different examples, the necessity to interpret in quantity terms the phenomena that we have in the past expressed mainly in terms of quality.

**Key words:** phytosociology, plant sinecology, quantitative ecology, syntaxonomy.

## TOWARDS AN ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF MEDITERRANEAN LANDSCAPES

**Coordinator: Carlo Blasi**

### Abstract

The Mediterranean Basin is an important reservoir of biodiversity at all levels: genetic, species and ecosystem. The great diversity of ecosystems and the long history of man-environment interactions are key factors for the occurrence of a high variety of typical landscapes that have been scientifically investigated in the last decades with natural (vegetation, ecological) and cultural approaches. Different landscape classifications have been proposed, aimed at defining land units with equal ecological potentials (ecoregions, environmental units) or with similar variety and pattern of human-nature relations (landscape units).

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In this session, attention will focus mainly on the ecological characterization of landscapes and on conservation assessment, at different spatial scales. The aim is to gather and debate research knowledge on ecological land classification, vegetation dynamics, landscape change and conservation of natural systems in different Mediterranean environments. The scientific collaboration between vegetation scientists and landscape ecologists on the topics of landscape classification and sustainable management would greatly contribute to the development of an international List of Mediterranean landscapes with high ecological value and/or vulnerability.

**Key words:** Mediterranean landscapes, ecological land classification, vegetation analysis, conservation assessment, landscape dynamics.

## SIDE EVENTS

### PLANTS SPECIES AND COMMUNITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MINING AREAS: BIODIVERSITY, LANDSCAPE EVOLUTION AND THEIR USE IN PHYTOREMEDIATION

**Coordinator:** Mauro Casti

#### Abstract

All over the world, the areas with high concentrations of polluting substances in soils are characterized, by a typical flora often rich in endemics. These species are very tolerant to toxic elements and many of them can be considered accumulator or hyperaccumulator. In the Mediterranean basin, characterized by a rich biodiversity of plant species and communities, several vegetal formations occur on the metal rich substrata which are mainly derived from mining activities. In terms of substrata properties such as chemical composition, granulometry and water retention, different phytocoenosis can develop, distinguished in order to biological features and ecological requirements. These communities are similar to the ones occurring on natural substrata but they are characterized by specific floristic elements. Many of tolerant species can be an important resource when the restoration of contaminated sites is planned because they can be effective in revegetation and in phytoremediation techniques, mainly in phytostabilization and phytoextraction. Moreover, vegetational studies in polluted areas help to understand changes in landscape.

This session start analyzing the study case of SW-Sardinia, where the geobotanical studies provided basic knowledge to design environmental reclamation project and phytoextraction applications. Other regions of the Mediterranean basin are subsequently discussed and compared with the Sardinian case.

**Key words:** mining areas, phytoremediation, phytoextraction, Mediterranean vegetation.

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## IMPORTANT PLANT AREAS IN ITALY AND IN THE MEDITERRANEAN CONTEXT

**Coordinator:** Michela Marignani

### Abstract

Fostered by the Convention on Biological Diversity (Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, 2002) and by the New European Strategy for Plant Conservation (2008), the Important Plant Areas program promotes the identification at local and national level of the most important areas for plant diversity according to criteria including endemism, species richness, and/or uniqueness of habitat, including relict ecosystems. Important Plant Areas (IPAs) are natural or semi-natural sites exhibiting exceptional botanical richness and/or supporting an outstanding assemblage of rare, threatened and/or endemic plant species and/or vegetation of high botanical value (Plantlife International). IPA sites are selected scientifically using the most up-to-date data available, supported by expert scientific judgement; unlike many site assessment processes, IPA selection criteria encompass all of the plant and fungal kingdoms (vascular plants, bryophytes, water fresh algae, lichens and fungi). Programs that focus on site-based conservation of plants such as the Important Plant Area (IPA) are a means of generating sound data to ensure that the best sites for plant diversity in different ecological regions are included in effective national and regional protected area networks. IPA data will be targeted at ongoing initiatives such as Natura 2000, High Nature Value Farmland, the Emerald network and the Pan-European Ecological Network of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy.

In this session, we present the results of the Italian programme for the identification of IPAS, focusing on the connection between IPAs and landscape scale as a proposal towards an effective conservation planning at national scale.

**Key words:** plant conservation, site selection, national scale.

## ORIGINS OF PLANTS ENDEMIC TO THE CORSO-SARDINIAN MICROPLATE: AN INTEGRATIVE PHYLOGENETIC APPROACH

**Coordinator:** Elena Conti

### Abstract

The Mediterranean basin is one of 25 hotspots of biodiversity in the world, with 25,000 native plant species that include about 13,000 endemics and many plants of demonstrated or potential medicinal use. A rigorous reconstruction of past temporal and spatial dimensions is necessary to elucidate the paleoecological and paleoclimatic conditions under which such impressive diversity evolved, thus adding useful knowledge to current conservation efforts. Corsica and Sardinia, the two largest islands of the W Mediterranean, have been identified as two of the areas with the highest species richness in the Mediterranean, hence they play a key role for understanding Mediterranean biodiversity. The complex, but well-known geologic history of the Corso-Sardinian (C-S) microplate, marked by its Late Oligocene link to NE Spain and S France and Miocene land bridges with W Italy, provides the necessary framework to reconstruct the history of floristic assembly on these two islands. In this session we will review a number of recent case studies where an integrative phylogenetic approach, involving molecular dating, ancestral areas reconstruction, and ecological niche modelling, has been used to elucidate the biogeographic origins of plants endemic to Corsica and Sardinia.

**Key words:** biodiversity, molecular dating, event-based biogeography, paleogeology, paleoclimate reconstruction, endemism.

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## CONSERVATION STUDIES ON THREATENED PLANTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

**Coordinator:** Giuseppe Fenu

### Abstract

Biological diversity faces many threats throughout the world and, as a consequence, the loss of wild plant diversity is constantly increasing. The Mediterranean basin has been recognised as one of the priority regions for conservation in Europe and it has been identified as one of the 25 most important biodiversity hotspots of the planet. Conservation strategies represent a crucial issue in the Mediterranean biome because this area, which represents only 2% of the world's surface, houses 20% of the world's total floristic richness.

The objectives of this session is to highlight the importance of *in situ* and *ex situ* approaches on the preservation of threatened, rare and endemic plants in the Mediterranean area, where anthropic activities play a pivotal role. This session will be focused on *in situ* researches like phenologic, demographic and population studies as well as *ex situ* analysis like seed preservation and germination ecology studies.

**Key words:** seedbanking, threatened plants, population analysis, germination ecophysiology, Mediterranean species.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION - GUIDELINES

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Deadline for abstract submission: March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Abstracts received after this date and/or not complying with the presentation guidelines will not be accepted. All abstracts must be written in English.

**Visit the conference website at [www.biodiversityhotspots.it](http://www.biodiversityhotspots.it) to submit your abstract electronically.** Abstracts will be examined by the Scientific Committee. You will receive a notification of acceptance by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please note that the final assignment of oral or poster presentation will be at the discretion of the Scientific Committee.

Authors applying for an oral or poster presentation must be registered as congress delegates. In case of multiple authors, the speaker presenting the paper or poster at the congress must be registered.

Authors are kindly requested to provide an authorization for the publication and distribution of their abstracts which will be available to all registered delegates.

### PRESENTATION TYPES

The allotted time for each invitational conference is 20 minutes, whereas 10 minutes are allotted for each oral communication; a discussion will be held at the end of each session. The closing round table focussing on the general topics will take place on the last day of congress.

You can choose to use either the congress desktop computer or bring your own laptop. If you use Macintosh, please be sure to bring the appropriate adapter. Presenters are expected to have their presentation pre-loaded electronically either on their own laptop computer or on the PC already installed in the conference room. Bring USB, CD and other memory devices as back-ups.

It is absolutely impossible for everyone to set up their computer individually for each presentation. We ask session chairs and presenters to coordinate and use one laptop for each session, and have all presentations uploaded to the same computer before session starts.

Each poster will be assigned a 70cm x 100cm in vertical board space in the conference venue. Figures, photos, graphs and charts can be inserted in the poster. Questions and discussion with poster presenters will be held on site.

Each author is responsible for assembly and removal of her/his own presentation.

**The best 3 posters presented by junior researchers will be awarded.**

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## REGISTRATION

Early subscribers will benefit from a reduced cost, while late subscriber will be charged an extra cost (see below for deadlines and fees).

On-site subscription during the meeting will be possible with additional surcharge. Ordinary SISV or FIP members and students (including scholarship holders, grant / contract holders, postgraduate students and temporary research fellows) will be entitled to a discount on early, regular, late and on-site subscription fees.

### REGISTRATION FEES

Fees are in euros (VAT included)

	Before January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2009	From February 1 <sup>st</sup> to April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	From May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2009 and on-site
Members*	100 €	200 €	400 €
Non members	150 €	300 €	600€
Students** – Accompanying persons	50 €	100 €	200 €

\* Members of any of partner Societies and Associations are requested to provide an affiliation card or letter proving their member status.

\*\* Students must provide a copy of their student card or a certification of their University Department Head proving their student status (on official University headed paper).

### REGISTRATION FEES INCLUDE:

Congress briefcase, congress gadget, coffee breaks and lunches.

Your congress briefcase will contain a volume of abstracts, a guide of the Botanical Gardens of Cagliari, the book of Woods of Sardinia and other scientific publications about meeting themes and Sardinia.

The facultative social dinner is not included in the registration fee; the cost will be € 40.

### HOW TO REGISTER

Please download the registration form from the congress website to register.

Registration form must be completed and returned by email or fax to the Organizing Secretariat together with full payment of registration fees.

No registration will be confirmed until payment is received. Payment must be received within the given deadlines in order to take advantage of reduced fees.

### PAYMENT

Payment is accepted by

☒ bank transfer made payable to:

Consulcongress srl - BANCA INTESA SpA, Via Bonaria, 34 Cagliari

Account Number : 387111/28

IBAN: IT 15 U0306904810000038711128 BIC: BCI TIT 33016

You are requested to meet all bank charges relating to the transfer.

Outstanding charges will be collected on site.

☐ credit card

Mastercard or Visa

An invoice will be issued following receipt of your registration. Please provide your full billing address on the Registration Form.

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## CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation received prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 will be refunded 70% less handling fee and bank service charge.

Cancellation received prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 will be refunded 50% less handling fee and bank service charge.

No refund will be made after this date.

All cancellation must be done in writing to apply for refunds.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### HOW TO GET THERE

Cagliari airport handles domestic and international flights and is served by both low cost and full-service airline companies. It currently operates direct non-stop flights to and from Barcelona, Brussels, Cologne, Düsseldorf, Edinburgh, Geneva, Karlsruhe Baden, London, Madrid, Manchester, Marseille, Munich, Oslo, Paris, Seville and Stuttgart. International connecting flights from other airports operate via Rome, Milan and Florence.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

Cagliari airport is served by the local public taxi service. A taxi ride from Cagliari airport to the town centre takes approximately 10-15 minutes depending on traffic conditions, and costs approximately 20 Euros to 25 Euros one way. Night or extra luggage charges apply.

Public bus transportation is also available from Cagliari airport to the Piazza Matteotti, located in the port area at the town entrance. Both the train station and the bus station, providing urban and interurban bus services, are located in Piazza Matteotti.

Please find below the bus lines and stops serving the Congress Venues:

#### Botanical Gardens:

Lines 1 and 10: Corso Vittorio Emanuele bus stop

Line 5: Viale Merello bus stop

Line 8: Viale Buon Cammino bus stop

#### Faculty of Economics and Commerce and Department of Botanical Sciences:

Line 8: Viale Buoncammino bus stop

Line 5: Viale Merello bus stop

Please visit the public transport website at [www.ctmcagliari.it](http://www.ctmcagliari.it) for timetables and information.

## CONTACTS

For information regarding the Congress Agenda and scientific program please contact the Scientific Committee at:

[info@ccb-sardegna.it](mailto:info@ccb-sardegna.it)

Tel. +39 070 6753508

Fax +39 070 6753509

For any information regarding travel and stay arrangements, logistic and administration issues and general information, please contact the Organising Secretariat at:

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#### **ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT**

Consulcongress S.r.l.

Via San Benedetto, 88

09129 Cagliari (Italy)

Tel. +39 070 499242

Fax +39 070 485402

[info@biodiversityhotspots.it](mailto:info@biodiversityhotspots.it)

[www.consulcongress.it](http://www.consulcongress.it)

# Biodiversity Hotspots in the Mediterranean Area:

species, communities and landscape level

45<sup>o</sup> International Congress of SISV & FIP

## ACCOMMODATION

Attendees are invited to make their own reservation. Please find below a list of possible accommodation, including hotels, B&Bs and guesthouses in Cagliari:

### HOTELS

Regina Margherita****,	<a href="http://www.hotelreginamargherita.com">www.hotelreginamargherita.com</a>
Hotel Sardegna****,	<a href="http://www.sardegnahotelcagliari.it">www.sardegnahotelcagliari.it</a>
Holiday Inn****,	<a href="http://www.hicagliari.com">www.hicagliari.com</a>
Hotel Mediterraneo****,	<a href="http://www.hotelmediterraneo.net">www.hotelmediterraneo.net</a>
Hotel Panorama****,	<a href="http://www.hotelpanorama.it">www.hotelpanorama.it</a>
Hotel Caesar's****,	<a href="http://www.caesarshotel.it">www.caesarshotel.it</a>
T Hotel****,	<a href="http://www.thotel.it">www.thotel.it</a>
Hotel Italia***,	<a href="http://www.hotelitaliacagliari.com">www.hotelitaliacagliari.com</a>
Hotel 4 Mori***,	<a href="http://www.hotel4mori.it">www.hotel4mori.it</a>
Hotel Miramare**,	<a href="http://www.hotelmiramarecagliari.it">www.hotelmiramarecagliari.it</a>

### RESIDENCE HOTELS

Ulivi e Palme***,	<a href="http://www.uliviepalme.it">www.uliviepalme.it</a>
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### BED & BREAKFAST AND GUESTHOUSES

Ary,	<a href="http://www.casaary.it">www.casaary.it</a>
Ca' del Sol,	<a href="http://www.cadelsol.net">www.cadelsol.net</a>
Charm Sardinia,	<a href="http://www.charmsardinia.it">www.charmsardinia.it</a>
Il Giardino Segreto,	<a href="http://www.il-giardino-segreto.it">www.il-giardino-segreto.it</a>
Il Girasole,	<a href="http://www.ilgirasole.sardegna.it">www.ilgirasole.sardegna.it</a>
La Plaia,	<a href="http://www.bblaplaia.it">www.bblaplaia.it</a>
Le suite sul Corso,	<a href="http://www.locandadelcorso.it/">www.locandadelcorso.it/</a>
L'Arco,	<a href="http://www.arco-cagliari.it/">www.arco-cagliari.it/</a>
Old Caralis,	<a href="http://www.oldcaralis.it">www.oldcaralis.it</a>
Maison A,	<a href="http://www.lamaison-cagliari.it">www.lamaison-cagliari.it</a>
Sa Domu Cheta,	<a href="http://www.sadomucheta.it">www.sadomucheta.it</a>
Sardinia Domus,	<a href="http://www.sardiniadomus.it">www.sardiniadomus.it</a>

### MEALS

All attendees registered as Congress delegates will have free admittance to all coffee breaks and lunches included in the Congress programme.

The Social Dinner will take place on June 23<sup>th</sup> in a restaurant located in Cagliari.


The dinner is not included in the registration fee.

#### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Centro Conservazione Biodiversità (CCB)  
Department of Botanical Sciences  
University of Cagliari (Italy)  
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## COMMUNICATION CHANNELS AND MEDIA FORMATS

The Organizing Committee will communicate with correspondents via email 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 fax.

## WEB SITE

Please visit the Congress website <http://www.biodiversityhotspots.it>. The registration form is available for download. It must be completed and sent to the Organizing Secretariat either via mail or fax. Abstracts submission of posters/communication is available on the congress website.

## PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings of all oral presentations (invitational conferences and oral communications) will be published in a special issue of *Fitosociologia*, according to the journal's editorial guidelines.

The papers for publication must be sent to the President of the Organizing Committee by email before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

## DEADLINES

- **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009** - Payment of early (reduced) subscription fees;
- **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009** - Submission of subscription form and of abstracts of communication/poster;
- **April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009** - Notification of acceptance of abstracts;
- **April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009** - Payment of regular subscription fees;
- **From May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009** - Payment of late (increased) subscription fees;
- **December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009** - Submission of full texts of papers for proceedings.

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## COMMITTEES

### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. Gianluigi Bacchetta (President of the Organizing Committee, University of Cagliari), Prof. Edoardo Biondi (FIP Secretary, University of Ancona), Prof. Carlo Blasi (SISV President, 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 (FIP President, Hemeritus of University of Madrid).

### ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dr. Bianca Alvau, Mr. Paolo Atzeri, Mr. Marco Atzori, Prof. Gianluigi Bacchetta, Prof. Mauro Ballero, Mr. Franco Carruciu, Dr. Mauro Casti, Mr. Davide Cocco, Mr. Luca Cocco, Dr. Donatella Cogoni, Mr. Angelo Congiu, Dr. Cristina Delunas, Ms. Angela Dettori, Dr. Daniela Fanti, Dr. Giuseppe Fenu, Dr. Giuseppe Fois, Dr. Maria Caterina Fogu, Dr. Gianluca Iiriti, Mr. Roberto Malfatti, Dr. Efisio Mattana, Mr. Ulisse Maoddi, Mr. Piero Marras, Dr. Margherita Maureddu, Dr. Francesco Maxia, Dr. Francesca Meloni, Prof. Luigi Mossa, Dr. Paolo Mulè, Mr. Giulio Murru, Dr. Martino Orrù, Mr. Roberto Pisu, Mr. Marco Pitzalis, Dr. Lina Podda, Mr. Leopoldo Poddesu, Dr. Cristiano Pontecorvo, Mr. Ignazio Puddu, Ms. Luisa Pusceddu, Ms. Serenella Rais, Mr. Roberto Sarigu, Mr. Alessandro Spiga, Mr. Antonello Valente, Mr. Giuliano Vaquer, Ms. Paola Vargiu.

## PARTNERS

### PROMOTING ASSOCIATIONS

SISV, Società Italiana di Scienza della Vegetazione

FIP, Fédération Internationale de Phytosociologie

All National Societies related to FIP

### CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS AND PATRONAGES

OPTIMA, Organization for the Phyto-Taxonomic Investigation of the Mediterranean Area

GENMEDA, Germplasm Network of Mediterranean Area

SBI, Società Botanica Italiana

RIBES, Rete Italiana Banche del germoplasma per la conservazione Ex Situ della flora spontanea

SEBCP, Sociedad Española de Biología de la Conservación de Plantas

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## **SPONSORING PARTNERS**

European Commission (Life+ & Interreg program)  
Autonomous Region of Sardinia  
Sardinian Forest Authority  
Province of Cagliari  
Province of Medio Campidano  
Municipality of Cagliari  
University of Cagliari  
National Park of Arcipelago di La Maddalena  
Regional Natural Park of Molentargius-Saline  
Marine Protected Area of Capo Carbonara  
WWF Natural Reserve of Monte Arcosu  
Swiss National Science Foundation  
MSB of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew  
Centro Interuniversitario di Ricerca Biodiversità, Fitosociologia ed Ecologia del paesaggio  
Tiscali Spa  
IGEA SpA - Interventi Geo Ambientali  
Società Cooperativa Ittica Nora  
Saral Srl

## **ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTIC ORGANIZATION**

### **ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT**

Consulcongress srl  
Via San Benedetto, 88  
09129 Cagliari (Italy)  
Tel. +39 070 499242 (please dial 2 after the vocal message)  
Fax +39 070 485402  
E-mail: [info@biodiversityhotspots.it](mailto:info@biodiversityhotspots.it)

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