

9th PLANTA EUROPA CONFERENCE
“EUROPEAN PLANT
CONSERVATION BEYOND 2020”
- FIRST CIRCULAR -
11-15 May 2020
Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle,
Paris – FRANCE



The Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, the Conservatoires botaniques nationaux network, the Conservatoire botanique national du Bassin parisien and PLANTA EUROPA are delighted to announce that the 9th PLANTA EUROPA Conference will be hosted from May 11th to 15th 2020, at the Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris-FRANCE.

Since the famous “Our house is burning and we’re looking the other way” heard at the fourth Earth Summit in Johannesburg (2002), there was already overwhelming evidence of the 6th mass extinction of life on Earth, and impacts of global warming have since then become undeniable. Despite evidence that the situation is related to human activities, the headlong rush continues. Every effort must be geared to ensuring that we shift towards a civilization where human and nature coexist more respectfully.

Both the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and its regional response at the European level have been focusing on an integrative scheme to face the many threats weighing on wild plants and habitats. Recognized and supported by international bodies (the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Council of Europe, amongst others), these Agendas have enabled to deliver key contributions to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets.

2020 is a turning-point for most of the International Agendas, including their regional and national responses, a year of reporting on the successes and promoting new and ambitious goals for the conservation of wild plants and habitats.

The 2020 PLANTA EUROPA Conference aims at gathering botanists, researchers, practitioners, land managers, public authorities and students to share ideas and experiences on the conservation of wild plants and habitats across Europe.

The 9th PLANTA EUROPA Conference is also the opportunity to evaluate the progresses achieved towards the implementation of the European Plant Conservation Strategy, to draft the forthcoming action plan and to take part in the post-2020 thinking at a larger scale.

We look forward to welcoming you at the conference!

Thematic fields

The scientific program will be specified in the second circular but the Scientific Committee would like to address the following (but not comprehensive) list of issues relating to plant, fungi and habitat knowledge and conservation.

Increase and share knowledge (Aichi 19, SDG 14/15, GSPC/EPCS 1/2/3)

- **Knowing our natural heritage: What has been done and what remains to be done?**
 - o Are all branches of the tree of Life fairly studied?
 - o Towards a comprehensive list of known plants, fungi and habitats with an assessment of their conservation status from global to local levels.
- **Online European flora atlas projects, online vegetation databases towards monitoring.**
 - o How is Europe contributing to World Flora Online project?
 - o Are data widely available in electronic forms and included in accessible databases?
- **Improving the monitoring of species and habitat composition and their temporal change:**
 - o Developing new resources and tools (drone, barcoding, artificial intelligence...).
 - o Going from presence-absence to abundances, going from taxonomical subjects to evolutionary units.
 - o Using phylogenetic diversity in the selection of conservation areas.
- **Role of Herbaria and Fungaria.**
 - o Are Herbaria and Fungaria adequately resources and protected?
 - o A key-role to understand global changes.
 - o A source of material for extinct species.
 - o Providing a resource for understanding current and past distributions and diversity.



Plant and habitat conservation in a changing world and exploitation of genetic resources (Aichi 12/13, SDG 14/15, GSPC/EPCS 4/5/6/7/8/9/10/11/12/13/14)

- **Setting and implementing European priorities in plant conservation, species recovery and ecological restoration.**
- **Conservation in the field:**
 - o *Inter-situ* and *quasi-situ*: feedbacks from concrete trials.
 - o Case studies of successful conservation of plant species.
 - o Feedbacks from ecological engineering: towards guidelines to share time-tested experiences, including in the case of invasive alien species
- **Proposal of regional responses to complete the existing areas of interest** (Important Plant Areas, Emerald network, N2000...). Experimental and explicit approach, at European level, to the selection of priority areas for conservation.
- **Reshaping role and targets of seedbanking:**
 - o Implementation for the conservation at the habitat level.
 - o Favoring cost- and energy-efficient facilities.
 - o Genetic diversity assessment of seed-banked species.
- **Roles of Botanic Gardens and *ex situ* facilities in the conservation of wild species.**
- **Conservation to face climate change: new paradigms:**
 - o Assisted gene flows and assisted migration.
 - o Emphasizing the ecological functionalities of the ecosystem approach in conservation.
 - o Role and limits of the evolutionary rescue concept.
- **Changes in agricultural practices and their impact on wild plant species** (permaculture, role of arable weeds and segetal species, stakes of the upcoming CAP...).
- **Benefits and issues of landscape scale initiatives and rewilding projects** on plant conservation, especially populations of threatened species.
- **Greening the urban and peri-urban environment around the cities:** ecosystems services, green roofs, towards more biodiverse green areas and parks, farming systems...
- Evaluation of **effectiveness of current European instruments** in plant conservation (HD, RN2000...)
- **Assessing, renewing and promoting international Agendas:**
 - o European roles in supporting plant conservation worldwide.
 - o Nagoya protocol and implementation.
 - o Updating the European Plant Conservation Strategy for the period 2021 to 2030, within a vision for European plants up to 2050.
 - o Linking national, regional and global initiatives.

Education (Aichi 1/18, SDG 2/3/4/5, GSPC/EPCS 13/14); Improve capacities and enhance networking (Aichi 2/17/20, SDG 1/5/8/9/11/13/14/15/16/17, GSPC/EPCS 15/16)

- Promoting **citizen science**, involving **amateur botanists**, **mycologists** and **citizen scientists** already participating in non-plant science. **Open biomaps and databases.**
- **New opportunities** for plant conservation and ecological awareness in **urban Europe.**
- **Think globally, act locally:** defining role and developing tools for citizen involvement.
- **Plants and food security.**

- **Sharing, networking, reconciling ecology:** being stronger together than apart.
- **Defining more pragmatic goals for upcoming Agendas:** working to define global targets scalable at local levels.
- **Avoid-reduce-compensate:** place and role of the French mitigation doctrine in companies' business plans.
- **Counteracting plant blindness:** local and global plant knowledge in Science and environmental education; the evolution of the teaching of plants in teaching curricula: facts and limits.
- **Using social media** to reach new and bigger audiences for plants.

Program

The Conference will offer delegates the opportunity to present their work through a panel of keynotes, oral presentations, workshops and posters. In accordance with the title of the Conference **“European Plant Conservation beyond 2020”**, contributions should highlight how they contribute to implement the targets of the Global and European Plant Conservation Strategies.

- Call for papers

The Scientific Committee is waiting for abstracts until 29 February 2020 (max. 500 words). Slot-times of 15 minutes are planned, following by a 5 minutes discussion. For the submission of your abstract, please refer to the rules on the website (<https://9thplantaeuropa.sciencesconf.org/>).

- Workshops

We invite you to submit proposals for thematic sessions focusing on specific issues of the abovementioned thematic fields. The conclusions of the workshops will be presented in the following plenary. We planned to run ten of these parallel workshops during the course of the week. Please send your contributions to philippe.bardin@mnhn.fr or 9thplantaeuropa@sciencesconf.org.

- Poster sessions

Posters in a portrait format (not exceeding A0 size) are welcome. The poster sessions will be organized during lunch time at the same venue than the buffet, in a bucolic atmosphere.



Language

The official language of the Conference will be English.

Key dates

- **20 November 2019:** opening of the website and call for abstracts and posters.
- **20 November 2019 - 31 January 2020:** Early-Bird registration. (300 Euros)
- **01 February - 31 March 2020:** Regular price registration. (350 Euros)
- **End of abstract and poster submission:** 29 February 2020.
- **01 April - 01 May 2020:** Late-Bird registration. (400 Euros)

Organizing Committee

Chairs: Philippe BARDIN (Conservatoire botanique national du Bassin parisien, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle – FRANCE & PLANTA EUROPA), Maïté DELMAS (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Serge MULLER (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE).

Members: Frédéric ACHILLE (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Cyril BARNERIAS (French Biodiversity Agency, FRANCE), Sébastien FILOCHE (Conservatoire botanique national du Bassin parisien & Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Frédéric HENDOUX (Conservatoire botanique national du Bassin parisien & Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Vincent HULIN (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Arnault LALANNE (French Ministry for the Ecological and Solidary Transition, FRANCE), François LENGRAND (French Ministry for the Ecological and Solidary Transition, FRANCE), Jérôme MILLET (French Biodiversity Agency, FRANCE), Iva OBREtenova (Bern Convention Secretariat / Council of Europe), Nirmala SEON-MASSIN (European Topic Center, FRANCE) & all members of the PLANTA EUROPA Steering Committee.

Scientific Committee

Chair: Juan-Carlos MORENO-SAIZ (Autonomous University of Madrid).

Members: Lucas ANDRIANOS (Municipality of Platania, GREECE & PLANTA EUROPA Steering Committee), Philippe BARDIN (Conservatoire botanique national du Bassin parisien, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE & PLANTA EUROPA), Bruno COLAS (AgroParisTech, FRANCE), Sophie CONDE (European Topic Center, FRANCE), Françoise CORBINEAU (Sorbonne Université, FRANCE), Maïté DELMAS (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle and Jardins Botaniques de France et des Pays Francophones, FRANCE), Frédéric HENDOUX (Conservatoire botanique national du Bassin parisien, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle and Fédération des Conservatoires Botaniques Nationaux, FRANCE), Michael KRAUSE (PLANTLIFE, UK), Emilio LAGUNA (University of Valencia, SPAIN), Arnault LALANNE (French Ministry for the Ecological and Solidary Transition, FRANCE), Nathalie MACHON (CESCO, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Valéry MALECOT (TELABOTANICA, FRANCE), Eleni MALOUPA (Institut of Breeding and Plant Genetic Resources, GREECE), Serge MULLER (ISYEB, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Erika PENZESNE KONYA (Eszterházy Károly University of Applied Sciences, HUNGARY), Mykyta PEREGRYM (Eszterházy Károly University of Applied Sciences, HUNGARY), Claudia PERINI (University of Siena, ITALY), Emmanuelle PORCHER (CESCO, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Marc-André SELOSSE (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, FRANCE), Paul SMITH (BGCI, UK), Peter WYSE JACKSON (Missouri Botanical Garden, USA) & all members of the PLANTA EUROPA Steering Committee.

Parallel events

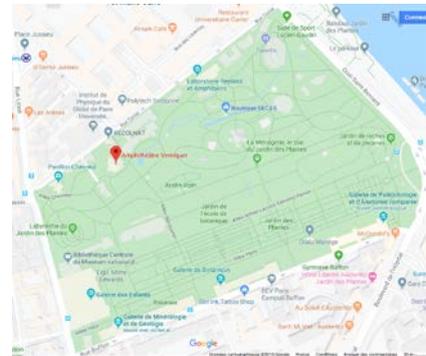
The Organizing Committee is working to offer delegates a thrilling panel of visits and field excursions on Wednesday 13 May. In addition, there are countless spots of interest in the city of Paris that will make your stay an unforgettable experience.

More information on Paris can be found here: <https://en.parisinfo.com/>

Date and venue

The Conference will be held at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris, from Monday 11 May 2020 pm to Friday 15 May 2020 am.

The address of the main venue is: *Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Grand Amphitheatre Verniquet, 57 rue Cuvier, 75005 Paris – France.*



Additional information



There are two international airports with many facilities to reach the downtown of Paris city (Roissy Charles de Gaulle Airport and Paris-Orly Airport).



There are also international railway stations for United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Spain (<https://www.oui.sncf/ext/editorial/guide-voyageur/carte-destinations.pdf>).



An international bus station provides cheap connections with neighboring countries.

A list of restaurants, hotels and other information are available on the Conference website: <https://9thplantaeuropa.sciencesconf.org/>