



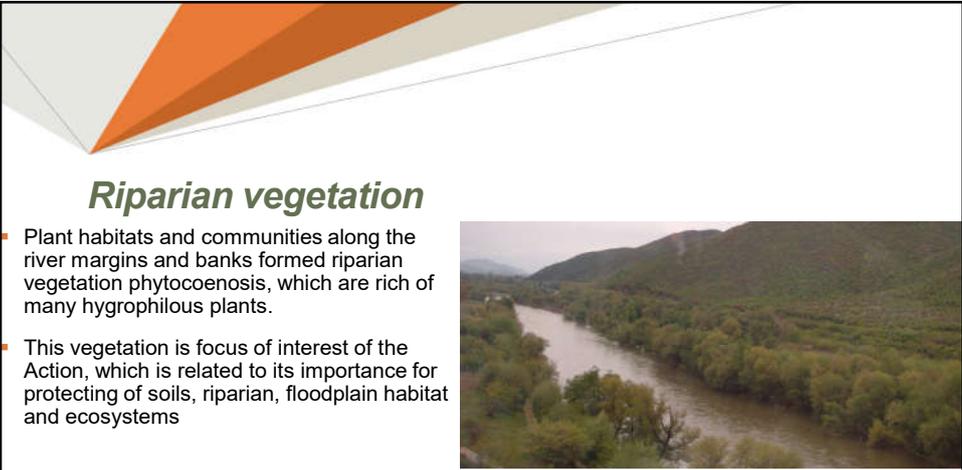
Growing ideas through networks

Unification of National (Cost members) Riparian Database across Europe

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COST CONVERGES (Action CA16208)
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Riparian vegetation

- Plant habitats and communities along the river margins and banks formed riparian vegetation phytocoenosis, which are rich of many hygrophilous plants.
- This vegetation is focus of interest of the Action, which is related to its importance for protecting of soils, riparian, floodplain habitat and ecosystems



- As well as to give as some answers in syntaxonomical point of view, stage of research and current situation on certain countries through Europe.

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- *-Phytosociological information (plots, tables) is very valuable tool, which can be used for aims of this Action;*
- *-In that direction, our opinion is that we can organize small group consist by scientists who work on phytosociological research within WG1 led by Marta to address this issues;*
- *-For that reason we think that is good option to organize unification of available National (Cost members) Riparian Database across Europe .*
- *-These activities will provide an overview of the existing vegetation data, and to allow to those researchers who are interested to retrieve suitable data to prepare specific research, and thus enhance the awareness and application of this valuable but underestimated source of biodiversity information.*



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- *Phytocoenological plots are stored in TURBOVEG programme*
- *Turboveg is used by the European Vegetation Survey and by independent scientist who work with vegetation*
- *European Vegetation Archive (EVA) is the biggest European phytocoenological database consisting more than 1.000 000 vegetation plots, including riparian forest vegetation*
- *Different methods of analysis can be used for diverse ecological investigation, which may give answers to some of crucial questions about this vegetation type*
- *The software contains multiple export functions to a range of analytical tools for vegetation data and can also be linked to an information management system that includes spatial data.*



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- -Main task or themes what they will be working on will be collected on literature source of vegetation on all riparian communities and associations.
- -Thats mean all available releves (records) from this kind of vegetation ordering by syntaxonomical schemes, writing a report for this COST action and finally writing several articles;
- -In fact databases provides a stable, long-term digital storage facility for vegetation data





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- The utilization of the databases to assess the status of Riparian vegetation is clearly a task for WG1;
- We know since the beginning that the frontiers between WG are not so strict those we can share our results to the other WGs if it needs;
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- Before COST ACTION CONVERGES - Kick-off meeting in Rennes I sent a Questionnaire to those participants who answered positively that willing to participate in such subgroup.
- Because subgroup is small, around 15 persons we got 10 positive answers up to now.
- It is open subgroup for everybody who is interested to join

