



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2019 / Issue 4

BRIEFS

Content:

BRIEFS	1
LIFE OF THE NETWORK	2
CONVERGES EVENTS	2
CONVERGES MEETINGS	2
CONVERGES STSM,	3
Training school, Workshops	
CONVERGES Publications	3
EXTERNAL ISSUES	4
Publications - calls	4
Open positions	5

The network is still growing

In the proposal (December 2016), the COST Action CONVERGES partners were 28 countries and 36 proposers. Today (September 2019), we are 32 countries, 100 participants in the Management Committee and 171 registered people to mailing list.

In June, a new country joined the network. Cyprus is now represented by Ioannis Vogiatzakis in the Management Committee, welcome!



The first Monday of October of every year is adopted as World Habitat Day to reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter.

“Solutions begin with small steps individuals can take to alter the way our cities function. We must reduce the amount of waste we produce, and at the same time, start seeing it as a valuable resource that can be re-used and recycled, including for energy.” – UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

River systems and riparian ecosystems play an active role in many habitats. Usually they are an oasis across many humanized landscapes, or secure port for maintenance and protecting the biodiversity. Do we recognize connected benefits and services?



Photo: Margit Island, Budapest, Hu

LIFE OF THE NETWORK

COST Action CONVERGES at the ISRS conference in Vienna (8-13 Sep 2019)

CONVERGES COST Action has been present in the 6th Edition of the Biennial Symposium of the International Society for River Science (ISRS) (<http://isrs2019.info/cms/index.php/home-235.html>) held in the Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, Austria.



On the 11 September, we chaired the Special Sessions: SP19 (Characterising riparian vegetation status and pressures) and SP20 (Riparian ecosystems management and restoration).

We disseminated, through oral communications, the progress of the CONVERGES

- A network approach of riparian vegetation assessment at the European Scale, presented by Marta González del Tánago;
- Global overview of ecosystem services in riparian vegetation, presented by Paraskevi Manolaki
- Analysing socio-ecological responses to riparian vegetation degradation across Europe through the CONVERGES COST Action Network, presented by Roland Jansson
- Status and needs on genetic resources conservation across European riparian ecosystems, presented by Patricia María Rodríguez González

It was a great opportunity for networking, and knowledge exchange within exciting multidisciplinary environment.

CONVERGES EVENTS

WORKSHOP Genetic conservation and riparian restoration, 4-5 Sep 2019



The workshop was provided at the Singidunum University in Belgrade, Serbia (<http://eng.singidunum.ac.rs>).

It was dedicated to riparian vegetation genetic conservation and restoration measures. The objective of the meeting is to work on the progress about synthesis in two kinds of responses to riparian vegetation degradation: genetic conservation and riparian restoration measures.

Contacts: Jelena Milovanović <jmilovanovic@singidunum.ac.rs> and Roland Jansson <roland.jansson@umu.se>

COST Action CONVERGES presentation on the COST day in Montenegro

In September 2019 in Montenegro was provided a COST info day, where briefly were presented aims and tasks of the group, planned work and outputs.

COMING EVENTS

MEETING “Riparian vegetation responses to global changes (regulation, climate, land uses, invasion)”, 29-30 Jan 2020, Madrid, at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería de Montes, Forestal y del Medio Natural. Contact : Marta González de Tanago, marta.gtanoaga@upm.es

MEETING “Management, legislation and social awareness of riparian vegetation”, March 2020, Tartu. Contact : Mart Külvik (Mart.Kylvik@emu.ee), Ragnhildur Sigurdardottir (raga@nett.is), Roland Jansson (roland.jansson@umu.se)

ANNUAL MEETING and MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, 12-13 Feb. 2020, Thessaloniki
Contact : Eleni Abraham (eabraham@for.auth.gr), Simon Dufour (simon.dufour@univ-rennes2.fr)

CONVERGES STSM, Training school, Workshops, Conference grants

TRAINING SCHOOL “Phytocoenological databases and numerical methods to analyse riparian vegetation data”, Oct. 2019, Sofia

This training school (TS) will provide an essential information about steps how to develop, manage and use a new or existing phytocoenological database for riparian and floodplain vegetation studies and management, notably using TURBOVEG software. Different stages of data preparation (i.e. import, export, standardization and selection of vegetation data) using for broad-scale analysis will be presented and experienced with real data. Moreover several numerical methods for analysis of vegetation data, including ordination and classification, will be demonstrated and tested (PC-ORD, Modified TWINSpan, EuroVegChecklist Expert System).

More you can find on the CONVERGES web: <https://converges.eu/events>

Contact : Dejan Mandzukovski (d_mandzukovski@yahoo.com), Kiril Vasilev (kiril5914@abv.bg) and Marta González de Tanago (marta.gtanago@upm.es)

CONFERENCE GRANTS for Early Career Investigators from Inclusiveness Target Countries (oral/poster presentations on the topic of the Action).

Contact: Daniel Bruno Collados (dbrunocollados@um.es)

CONVERGES Publications

POTENTIAL OF COPERNICUS RIPARIAN LAYERS TO ASSESS RIPARIAN ZONES INTEGRITY WITH LANDSCAPE METRICS

Jean-Pierre Ugille

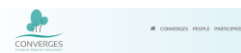
Date Version 1, September 2019



A REPORT ABOUT THE USE OF COPERNICUS RIPARIAN LAYERS TO ASSESS RIPARIAN ZONES INTEGRITY WITH LANDSCAPE METRICS.

A master thesis about the use of COPERNICUS riparian layers to assess riparian zones integrity with landscape metrics. Works done by J.P. Ugille and supported by the COST Action CONVERGES. Contribution of A. Michez, P. Lejeune (Liège Université Gembloux Agro Bio Tech), M.R. Perieira Fernandes, P. Rodriguez Gonzalez, A. Fonseca (Universidade de Lisboa Instituto Superior de Agronomia)

Can find on: <https://converges.eu/resources/potential-of-copernicus-riparian-layers-to-assess-riparian-zones-integrity-with-landscape-metrics/>



DEFINIR LES ZONES RIVERAINES ET LA VEGETATION RIVERAINE DES COURS D'EAU: PRINCIPES ET RECOMMANDATIONS

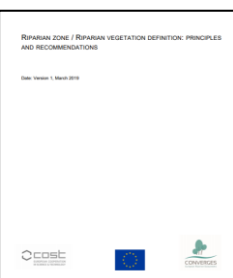
Co supporté avec le soutien des donateurs pour définir la définition et la délimitation de la zone riveraine et de la végétation riveraine des cours d'eau

En français Disponible !!

English version / version en anglais

THE REPORT ABOUT THE RIPARIAN ZONE/VEGETATION DEFINITION TRANSLATED IN FRENCH:

<https://converges.eu/resources/definition-des-zones-riveraines-et-de-la-vegetation-riveraine-principes-et-recommandations/>



REPORT: RIPARIAN ZONE / RIPARIAN VEGETATION DEFINITION: PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report is connected to clarification of the elements of the riparian zone and the riparian vegetation of fluvial systems. It is already available on the CONVERGES web:

<https://converges.eu/resources/riparian-zone-riparian-vegetation-definition-principles-and-recommendations/>

SPECIAL ISSUE PAPER Riparian vegetation restoration: Does social perception reflect ecological value?, [Arsénio P., P. M. Rodríguez-González, I. Bernez, F. S. Dias, M. N. Bugalho, S. Dufour](#)
First published: 20 August 2019

Can find on: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/rra.3514>



Science of the Total Environment
Volume 653, 25 February 2019, Pages 1158–1165



Review
Tracing the scientific trajectory of riparian vegetation studies: Main topics, approaches and needs in a globally changing world

Simon Dufour^{1,2,3,4}, Patricia María Rodríguez-González¹, Malene Leder¹

5 Show more

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scotenv.2018.10.383>

Get rights and content

S Dufour, PM Rodríguez-González and M. Laslier published a paper in **Science of the Total Environment** - "Tracing the scientific trajectory of riparian vegetation studies: Main topics, approaches and needs in a globally changing world".



PM Rodríguez-González et al., "A spatial stream-network approach assists in managing the remnant genetic diversity of riparian forests", (2019)

The conservation of genetic diversity in riparian forests is largely driven by the connectivity between populations along the hydrographic networks. The study, led by a research team from Forest Research Centre, Instituto Superior de Agronomia, has been published 1/05/2019, in the Journal Scientific Reports, Nature group. Link with direct access to the article: <https://rdcu.be/bzLwo>

COST Action Converges on ECRR Newsletter



COST Action CONVERGES was presented in the last ECRR Technical Newsletter. To the wider auditory of followers of the European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR) our COST Action CONVERGES issues were briefly presented.

More you can find on:
<http://www.ecrr.org/Publications/tabid/2624/Default.aspx>

EXTERNAL ISSUES

External Publications – calls



forests

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

FORESTS – Open Access Journal

Special Issue "Spatial and Temporal Patterns and Ecosystem Services of Riparian Forests". A special issue of *Forests* (ISSN 1999-4907), IF 1,956. This special issue belongs to the section "[Forest Ecology and Management](#)".

This Special Issue will gather selected papers on the dynamics and functioning of riparian forests as providers of ecosystem services, as well as contributions on their valuation, and on how to best monitor, manage and preserve riparian forests. Original research, theoretical and overview papers are welcome.

Deadline for manuscript submissions: **30 November 2019**



REMOTE SENSING – Open Access Journal

"Remote Sensing for EU Habitats Directive Application"

This Special Issue is devoted to the links between remote sensing and ecological research communities that are now strengthening with the integration of reference vegetation databases (European Vegetation Archive, VegFrance, etc.) in remote-sensing-based models (machine learning classification, fuzzy approach, optimal transport approach, time-series classifiers, etc.).

One or more of the topics will be observed:

- Mapping and monitoring of habitat conservation status;
- Integrating satellite data in ecosystem modeling;
- Multiscale analysis (plant species/vegetal associations/habitats/vegetation series);
- Development of vegetation typologies;
- Reproducibility of satellite-based classification models;
- Integrating vegetation reference data in satellite images classification (unbalanced classes, weak sampling, temporal shifts, etc.).

Deadline for manuscript submissions: **30 September 2019.**

More on: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing/special_issues/EU_Habitats

Open positions:



Open tenure-track position in Ecohydrology at University of Nevada Reno.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science at the University of Nevada Reno has an opening for a tenure-track faculty position in Drylands Ecohydrology.

UNR has a strong hydrology program that is split between multiple departments ([Natural Resources and Environmental Science](#), [Geological Sciences and Engineering](#), and [Civil & Environmental Engineering](#)), the [Desert Research Institute](#), and our inter-disciplinary [Graduate Program in Hydrologic Sciences](#).

The job application is available at: https://nshe.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/UNR-external/job/University-of-Nevada-Reno---Main-Campus/Assistant---Associate-Professor--Dryland-Ecohydrology_R0118108-1



**International
Science Council**

Call for expert IPBES

The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is seeking experts to assist with the scoping of a thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health= IPBES is seeking, in particular, experts, practitioners or policy experts knowledgeable on interlinkages between: biodiversity and agriculture/food, aquaculture, animal production and nutrition; biodiversity and human physical and mental health and infectious diseases; biodiversity and water quality; biodiversity and climate mitigation and adaptation; and experts knowledgeable on multiple interactions among these issues.

More on: <https://council.science/current/news/call-for-nominations-of-experts-for-ipbes>



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework
Programme of the European Union

COST CONVERGES
simon.dufour@univ-rennes2.fr
<http://converges.eu/>

If you have some information to disseminate – you can send it to:

WG 4 Dissemination and outreach of results and outcomes
Team leader: Mila Chilikova-Lubomirova (milasemail@yahoo.com)