NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019 / Issue 5

CONVERGES
European Riparian Ecosystems

BRIEFS

CONVERGES is going ahead gathering together COST members, accepted the MoU from 33 countries and outer participants from 6 more countries worldwide such as Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Kosovo, United States and Australia. During the first two years the Action achieved significant progress. The Network convey and share riparian knowledge among scientists, policy makers and stakeholders from different scientific disciplines, geographical regions and management contexts to understand how riparian vegetation is framed by different communities and thereby facilitate effective knowledge conversion. Since the beginning there are organized and completed 11 meetings, 1 training school, 21 STSMs, 7 ITC conference grants and 3 dissemination meetings. In help and for better visibility on the COST CONVERGES Action web site: https://converges.eu/ regularly are presented recent activities and outputs. The COST CA members and the wide auditory are also assisted by the CONVERGES Social medias: Twitter, FB, Research Gate, etc. in help of communication and recent achievements dissemination representing briefly the recent activities and deliverables of the group.

Wishing you happy, healthy and successful 2020!

LIFE OF THE NETWORK

TRAINING SCHOOL "Phytocoenological databases and numerical methods to analyse riparian vegetation data", 21 - 26 Oct. 2019, Sofia

This training school provided 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 was presented. Moreover several numerical methods for analysis of vegetation data, including ordination and classification was also demonstrated and tested (PC-ORD, Modified TWINSPAN, EuroVegChecklist Expert System). More you can find on the CONVERGES web: https://converges.eu/events

COMING EVENTS

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)

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.gtanago@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)

CONVERGES Publications

Special Issue "Riparian Vegetation and River Functioning" (ISSN 2073-4441) is now ONLINE. It belongs to the section "Hydrology" and is dedicated to:
- Modelling Climate Change's Impact on the Hydrology of Natura 2000 Wetland Habitats in the Vistula and Odra River Basins in Poland
- Changes in Vegetation and Geomorphological Condition 10 Years after Riparian Restoration
- Mapping Riparian Vegetation Functions Using 3D Bispectral LiDAR Data
- Model-Based Analysis of Macrophytes Role in the Flow Distribution in the Anastomosing River System

See: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/water/special_issues/River_Riparian_Vegetation

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/

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/

THE REPORT ABOUT THE RIPARIAN ZONE/VEGETATION DEFINITION TRANSLATED IN GREEK: https://converges.eu/resources/%cf%80%ce%b1%cf%81%cf%8c%cf%87%ce%b8%ce%b9%ce%b1-%ce%b6%cf%8e%ce%bd%ce%b7-%cf%80%ce%b1%cf%81%cf%8c%cf%87%ce%b8%ce%b9%ce%b1-%ce%b2%ce%bb%ce%ac%cf%83%cf%84%ce%b7%cf%83%ce%b7-%ce%bf%cf%81%ce%b9%cf%83/

THE REPORT ABOUT THE RIPARIAN ZONE/VEGETATION DEFINITION TRANSLATED IN HUNGARIAN: https://converges.eu/resources/arteri-riparian-zona-es-arteri-parti-novenyzet-definicioi-elvek-es-ajanlasok/

THE REPORT ABOUT THE RIPARIAN ZONE/VEGETATION DEFINITION TRANSLATED IN ALBANIAN: https://converges.eu/resources/zona-bregore-perkufizimi-i-vegjetacionit-riparian-parimet-dhe-rekomandimet/

THE REPORT ABOUT THE RIPARIAN ZONE/VEGETATION DEFINITION TRANSLATED IN TURKISH: https://converges.eu/resources/sulak-alan-sulak-alan-bitki-ortusu-tanimi-esaslar-ve-oneriler/

REPORT: USING REMOTE SENSING TO CHARACTERIZE RIPARIAN VEGETATION: A REVIEW OF AVAILABLE TOOLS AND PRESPECTIVES FOR MANAGERS
The objectives of this review is to provide an overview of the use of remote sensing in riparian vegetation studies and to discuss the transferability of remote sensing tools from scientists to managers. It is already available on the CONVERGES web: https://converges.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Review_remote_sensing_tools.pdf

Riparian vegetation restoration: Does social perception reflect ecological value?
Pedro Arsénio et al. published a paper in River Research and Applications: They notably discuss why clear identification of relevant stakeholder groups (those interested in or directly affected by restoration), effective communication, and stakeholder engagement are essential for assuring the success of river restoration projects. See at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/rra.3514

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

Riparian vegetation studies in Turkey, Pınar Gültekin and Dr. Yaşar Selman Gültekin.
In this report, you can find a list of works done in Turkey about riparian vegetation.
More: https://converges.eu/resources/riparian-vegetation-studies-in-turkey/
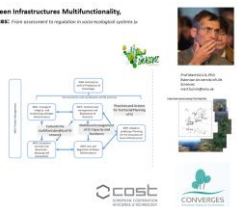
CONVERGES INITIATIVES

CONVERGES ID CARD

For us all, it would be useful to have a better idea of the projects in which the other participants of CONVERGES network have been or are involved in. This would foreseeably facilitate contacts and potential synergies within the action. The objective of the „Project ID card" is to enable COST Action members to exchange information on their experience and background of recent or ongoing research and development projects. The „Project ID card" is a communication tool which provides on one sheet/slide the most important facts about the project content and contacts for further details. It is expected each of the Action participant to exhibit one or several project ID cards. The cards will be available on the private part of the CONVERGES web site for the action members.

Please do send them to Mila Chilikova-Lubomirova: *milasemail@yahoo.com*

EXTERNAL ISSUES

External Publications – calls

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 2.116. 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. See: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/forests/special_issues/Riparian_Forests
Deadline for manuscript submissions: 20 February 2020

Dissemination web

The RIVEAL (RIparian forest Values and Ecosystem services in uncertain freshwater futures and Altered Landscapes) website is a dissemination tool. Rivers, riverine ecosystems and humans concur for space, water and energy. Riparian forests are multifunctional ecotones that generate a range of goods and services to human well-being and society, collectively called Ecosystem Services, ES. RIVEAL aims to quantify key-ES of riparian forests, and predict the gains/losses of ES under diverse climatic, land use and water management scenarios in the Portuguese fluvial landscapes.
Find it here: https://www.riveal.pt

INITIATIVES:

i-CONN Network: Marie Sklodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network (ITN) on "Interdisciplinary connectivity: Understanding and managing complex systems using Connectivity Science" is now recruiting 15 PhD students. Especially ESRs 8 might be esp. interesting for riparian scientists "Changing connectivity properties impacting resilience in riverine landscapes as socio-ecological systems (BOKU, Austria)". See also: http://iconn.network/

COST CONVERGES
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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-Lubomirovaq IMech-BAS: milasemail@yahoo.com