

BRIEFS

Content:

BRIEFS	1
LIFE OF THE NETWORK	2
CONVERGES Coming events	2
CONVERGES Publications	2
CONVERGES Videos	3
CONVERGES Initiatives	4
EXTERNAL ISSUES	4
Coming events	4
Publication calls	5
Initiatives	5
Job positions	5

Danube Day 2020

On 29th of June each year, the 14 countries of the Danube River Basin jointly celebrate one of Europe's greatest river systems, along with its people and the wildlife that rely on it. This year the motto is: "Discover Danube". Due to the various restrictions on public gatherings throughout the Danube River Basin still in place as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Danube Day celebrations have shifted online. One of them can get you 'active for the Danube' at home with the Danube Adventure Game: <https://www.danubeadventure.org/#/>



Due to the critical situation with the coronavirus pandemic some of all events worldwide are provided remotely. In this regard many changes in all planned events of COST CONVERGES also occur.



Photo: Blato River, BG

CONVERGES Coming Events



FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RIPARIAN ECOSYSTEMS – MAY 2021 – BRATISLAVA (SLOVAKIA)

The COST Action CONVERGES is pleased to announce that the first international conference on Riparian Ecosystems Science and Management will be held from **18th to 20th May 2021 in Bratislava (Slovakia)**.

KEY DATES:

- August 2020 : Call for papers
- 25th October 2020: Abstract submission deadline
- December 2020: Programme and registration open

For contacts: ripa-1@sciencesconf.org

CONVERGES Publications



GUIDANCE TO ASSESS RIPARIAN VEGETATION (STATUS AND PRESSURES)

Given the vast amount of literature on the essential influence of riparian vegetation on observed river adjustments and trajectories, and the relative lack of consideration of riparian vegetation in the most frequently used hydromorphological protocols that consider riparian zones, we have two main objectives :

- to review the hydromorphological context of the WFD to promote its revision and updating
- to promote a multi-scale procedure to characterize and assess the status of riparian corridors.

More you can find on: https://converges.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Riparian_vegetation_assessment_V1.pdf



GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVIDED BY RIPARIAN VEGETATION

[Tenna Riis](#), [Mary Kelly-Quinn](#), [Francisca C Aguiar](#), [Paraskevi Manolaki](#), [Daniel Bruno](#), [María D Bejarano](#), [Nicola Clerici](#), [María](#)

[Rosário Fernandes](#), [José C Franco](#), [Neil Pettit](#), [Ana P Portela](#), [Olga Tammeorg](#), [Priit Tammeorg](#), [Patricia M Rodríguez-González](#), [Simon Dufour](#)

Riparian vegetation (RV) has been investigated from different perspectives, so knowledge on its structure and function is widely distributed. An important step forward is to convert existing knowledge into an overview easily accessible—for example, for use in decision-making and management. Aim is to provide an overview of ecosystem services provided by RV by adopting a structured approach to identify the ecosystem services, describe their characteristics, and rank the importance of each service.

For more: <https://academic.oup.com/bioscience/article/70/6/501/5824857?searchresult=1>



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

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>



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/>



It is translated in Albanian, Czech, Finnish, French, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Serbian, Slovakian, Turkish languages.

See on: <https://converges.eu/resources-archive/>



REPORT: USING REMOTE SENSING TO CHARACTERIZE RIPARIAN VEGETATION: A REVIEW OF AVAILABLE TOOLS AND PERSPECTIVES 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

CONVERGES VIDEOS

To promote the CONVERGES activities several videos was produced.



COST ACTION CONVERGES PRESENTATION

Why a COST Action about riparian vegetation ? What are the goals of the COST Action CONVERGES ? How it works ? Answers on this questions and more can see on:

<https://converges.eu/resources/cost-action-converges-presentation/>



BEING INVOLVED IN THE COST ACTION CONVERGES, A TESTIMONY FROM JEAN PHILIPPE UGILLE (BELGIUM): In March 2019 J. P. Ugille did a STSM at the Instituto Superior de Agronomia (Portugal) about "Potential of Copernicus data to assess European riparian zones integrity with landscape metrics" See:

<https://converges.eu/resources/being-involved-in-the-cost-converges-action-a-testimony-from-jean-philippe-ugille-belgium/>



BEING INVOLVED IN THE COST ACTION CONVERGES, A TESTIMONY FROM MARIA SIBIKOVA (SLOVAKIA). In February 2019, Maria did a Short Term Scientific Mission at the at the Czech University of Life Sciences (Czech Republic) to work on the standardization and preliminary analysis of updated riparian forests data from south-east Europe. See: <https://converges.eu/resources/being-involved-in-the-cost-action-converges-a-testimony-from-maria-sibikova-slovakia/>



BEING INVOLVED IN THE COST ACTION CONVERGES, A TESTIMONY FROM RENATA KJUSHTEREVSKA (NORTH MACEDONIA). In January 2019, Renata did a Short Term Scientific Mission at the Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Slovenia) dedicated to methods used for data elaboration in vegetation science. See: [https://converges.eu/resources/being-involved-in-the-cost-action-converges-a-testimony-from-renata-kjushterevska-north-](https://converges.eu/resources/being-involved-in-the-cost-action-converges-a-testimony-from-renata-kjushterevska-north-macedonia/)

[macedonia/](https://converges.eu/resources/being-involved-in-the-cost-action-converges-a-testimony-from-renata-kjushterevska-north-macedonia/)

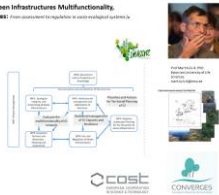
CONVERGES INITIATIVES

CONVERGES ID CARD

IMAGINE: Integrative Management of Green Infrastructures Multifunctionality.
Ecosystem Integrity and Ecosystem Services: www.imagine-project.eu/

Main objectives of the project

Key research topics of IMAGINE



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

Coming Events



The 12th European Conference on Ecological Restoration SERE2020, will be held this year in Alicante, Spain, between August 31 and September 4 2020 (<https://sere2020.org/>). The event will discuss challenges facing ecological restoration in post-2020 Europe, and particularly, how can ecological restoration promote the recovery of damaged, degraded and destroyed socio-ecological systems in these critical times.

There will be two special events on riparian vegetation:

- Symposium: "Restoring continuity and barriers removal in rivers: complexity of managing Ecological Restoration projects" (open to voluntary abstracts submission, until 17 April 2020, but check website for potential updates"
- Worskhop: "Socio-ecological restoration of riparian vegetation by integrating biotic and abiotic pressures"

Publication calls



Call: Special Issue "Sustainable Management of Semi-Aquatic Ecosystems", an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development, MDPI. IF 2,592

Semi-aquatic ecosystems are unique as they are ecotones that have characteristics of both the adjacent aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem. As ecotones or transition zones, these ecosystems have ecological and biophysical gradients. These areas face constant pressure due to many anthropogenic factors and, especially, agriculture and urbanization. Many of the ecosystems have been cleared for agricultural activities while most of the most population lives in or along riparian areas, wetlands and deltas. Their restoration and conservation is a priority worldwide since they are essential for human well-being.

Deadline for manuscript submission: 15 March 2021. For more info:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/SMSAE

INITIATIVES:

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>



i-CONN Network: Marie Skłodowska-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/>

JOB POSITIONS:

PhD grant – 36 months, from 1st October 2020



Doctoral School: EUR H2O'Lyon – Doctoral School of Integrated River Basin Sciences

- Impacts of dynamic, climate-driven water availability on tree water use and stress; Contrôle climatique de la disponibilité en eau et du stress hydrique des arbres ripicoles

Deadline: before 30 July 2020

How to apply (send CV and a letter of motivation): herve.piegay@ens-lyon.fr

A research technologist is required to lead the development of decision support tools and engagement with stakeholders on the **SMARTER_BufferZ project**.



Temporary Externally Funded Non Grant-in-Aid contract post, the indicative duration of which is 16 months, subject to contract. More on: <https://topjobs->

teagasc.thehirelab.com/LiveJobs/JobApply/74368?source=1&externalAgency=-1



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-Lubomirovaq IMech-BAS: milasemail@yahoo.com