



# NEWSLETTER

June 2021 / Issue 10

## NEWS

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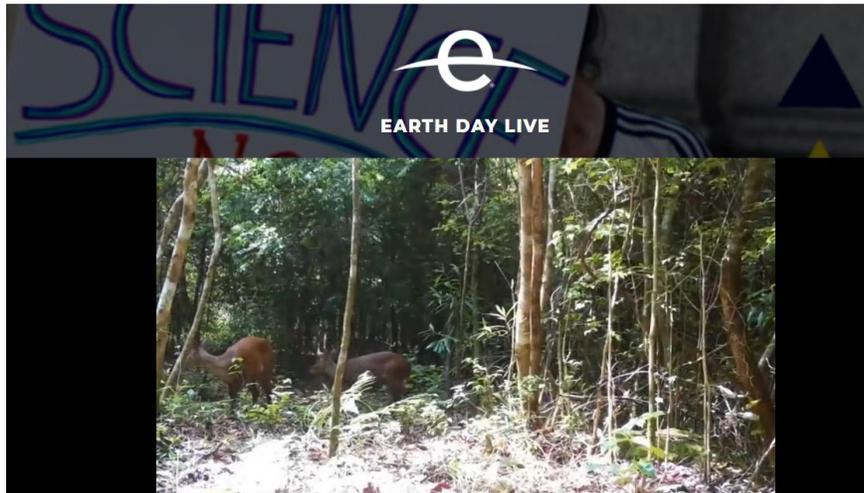
The motto of this Earth Day, 22 April 2021, was RESTORE OUR EARTH. The second live digital event, organized by earthday.org. It was focused on natural processes, emerging green technologies, and innovative thinking that can restore the world's ecosystems.

More topics included:

- Climate and environmental literacy;
- Climate restoration technologies;
- Reforestation efforts;
- Regenerative agriculture;
- Equity and environmental justice;
- Citizen science;
- Cleanups and more.

World climate leaders, grassroots activists, nonprofit innovators, thought leaders, industry leaders, artists, musicians, influencers, and the leaders of tomorrow gathered to push us towards a better world. More on: <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

**EARTH DAY 2021**  
THREE DAYS OF CLIMATE ACTION  
ALL GATHERED RIGHT HERE



## **LIFE OF THE NETWORK**

### **CONVERGES Past Events**



The COST Converges organized a special session in the EUROPEAN RIVER SYMPOSIUM, 26-27 May 2021. It was focused on how to enhance riparian and floodplain vegetation management by research, practice and policy. In the session speakers presented evidence and reasons why and how riparian vegetation should be better integrated in water management frameworks to achieve ecological and socio-

economic objectives. Main speakers were Dr. Gorazd Urbanic, Dr. Simon Dufour, Dr. Emilio Potti, and Dr. Urska Vilhar. Presentations were followed by open discussions.

### **CONVERGES Coming Events**



FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RIPARIAN ECOSYSTEMS – BRATISLAVA (SLOVAKIA)

The COST Action CONVERGES is pleased to announce that the first international conference on Riparian Ecosystems Science and Management will be held during spring 2022 **in Bratislava (Slovakia)**.

KEY DATES:

- September 2021: Call for abstracts
- December 2021: Abstract submission deadline
- January 2022: Programme and registration open

For contacts: [ripa-1@sciencesconf.org](mailto:ripa-1@sciencesconf.org)



Workshop “SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION OF RIPARIAN VEGETATION BY INTEGRATING BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC PRESSURES”.

COST Action members organized this workshop at the 12<sup>th</sup> SERE21 Conference to be held online 7-10 September 2021 (<https://www.sere2021.org>).

The workshop will be focused discussing how abiotic and biotic factors impact the socio-ecological restoration of riparian vegetation, and the current challenges to improve restoration effectiveness. The workshop is organized by COST Converges members Patricia Maria Rodriguez Gonzalez, Ines Marques, having Simon Dufour, Roland Jansson, Eduardo Gonzalez, and Jonas Oliva as keynote speakers.

### **CONVERGES Publications**



Paper “ASSESSING THE CONNECTIVITY OF RIPARIAN FORESTS ACROSS A GRADIENT OF HUMAN DISTURBANCE”.

This study aims to test the potential of the freely available Copernicus “Riparian Zones” dataset to characterize the connectivity of riparian forests when subject to a gradient of human disturbance characterized by landuse/land-cover and hydromorphological pressures. The study was conducted in the context of the STSM of J.P. Ugille. More on: <https://converges.eu/resources/assessing-the->

connectivity-of-riparian-forests-across-a-gradient-of-human-disturbance/

Paper: A NEW REVIEW “Improving river hydromorphological assessment through better integration of riparian vegetation” is already available. The material reviews and synthesizes the relevance of riparian vegetation for river hydromorphology. There is examined how the riparian vegetation is considered in the WFD and how it is included in national hydromorphological protocols currently in use. It is argued that the hydromorphological context of the WFD should be revisited and offered guidance to integrate riparian vegetation in the river hydromorphological monitoring and assessment. More on: <https://converges.eu/resources/improving-river-hydromorphological-assessment-through-better-integration-of-riparian-vegetation-scientific-evidence-and-guidelines/>

New publication from COST CONVERGES STSM!



Boothroyd, R.J., Nones, M. and Guerro, M. (2021). Deriving planform morphology and vegetation coverage from remote sensing to support river management applications. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*. 9: 657354

Seasonal variation in vegetation coverage is potentially important for local flood risk, and remotely sensed information can provide river scientists with new insights to support the management of highly anthropized watercourses.

More on: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fenvs.2021.657354/full>

## EXTERNAL ISSUES

### Coming events



**Special Session “River vegetation, the challenges of management and conservation and their values and ecosystem services”**

A Special Session entitled “River vegetation, the challenges of management and conservation and their values and ecosystem services” will take place at the 63<sup>rd</sup> International Association of Vegetation Science Symposium, from the 20<sup>th</sup> till the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2021. This year the meeting will be held entirely online. For more info: Francisca Aguiar ([fraguiar@isa.ulisboa.pt](mailto:fraguiar@isa.ulisboa.pt)) and Rui Pedro

Rivaes



**1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Botany and Mycology, Bulgaria**

In the period 25-26 October 2021 in Sofia will held an event focusing mainly on studies into taxonomy, phylogeny, distribution, conservation, and sustainable use of plants and fungi in Eastern and Southeastern Europe, the Caucasian Region, and Western Asia, but research from other parts of the world is also welcome, especially when related to taxonomic groups occurring in the focus region. The conference is organized by the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research at

the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Due to the coronavirus pandemic the first conference will be held remotely . For more info: Dr. Kiril Vasilev (kiril5914@abv.bg) and **ICBotMyco@gmail.com**

## Publication calls



*water*

### **Special Issue "Ecological Monitoring and Assessment of Freshwater Ecosystems: New Trends and Future Challenges"**

We welcome innovative submissions to this Special Issue, which provides a platform to highlight new research findings and significant advances concerning all aspects of bio-assessment and aquatic ecosystems processes. This Special Issue will gather selected papers on the dynamics and functioning of freshwater ecosystems, as well as contributions on monitoring and assessment of ecological quality, biotic metrics/indices, environmental DNA, diversity and functional trait patterns, taxonomic composition, species declines and invasions.

Special Issue Editors: Prof. Dr. Eva Papastergiadou, Dr. Kostas Stefanidis

Submission deadline is 31 December 2021.



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**COST CONVERGES**  
[simon.dufour@univ-rennes2.fr](mailto: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, IMech-BAS: [milasemail@yahoo.com](mailto:milasemail@yahoo.com)