



Programme of the 4th Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar for the Mediterranean region



Larnaca, Cyprus
7 – 19 April 2024





Introduction

The biogeographical seminar for the Mediterranean Region will be held between Wednesday 17 – Friday 19th of April 2024. It is jointly hosted by DG Environment and the Cyprus Department of Environment.

The venue for the seminar is the Radisson Blu Hotel at Larnaca, which is 15 minutes from the airport.

The latest version of the programme, the background document as well as other useful documents for the seminar can be found online at the web site:

<https://biogeoprocess.net/mediterranean-region/>



Pictures Front page Marina Xenophontos: coastal habitat and *Quercus alnifolia*, *Sylvia melanothorax* and endemic Mediterranean forests with *Juniperus* spp.

Tuesday 16th April 2024

Time		Location
19:00-20:00	Registration of participants	Registration desk
18.30-19.15	Pre-seminar briefing meeting for chairs	Lobby / restaurant? Radisson Blu Hotel, Larnaca



Programme

Wednesday 17th April 2024 (morning)

Plenary session (Chair: Despo Zavrou)		
Time	Session, topics and speakers	Location
8.00-9.00	Registration of participants	Skala hall
9:00-9:30	Official welcome & introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elena Stylianopoulou, act. Director of Dep. Environment, Cyprus Humberto Delgado-Rosa – Director for Natural Capital (DG-ENV) (video recording) 	
9:30-11:00	Opening address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU policy context - Andrea Vettori (DG-ENV) The Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process and pledge process – Frank Vassen (DG-ENV) Presentation previous host, Regione Calabria (It) – Eugenio Dupre LIFE Programme and updates. Georgia Valaoras (ELMEN) 	
11:00-11:30	Coffee break	
11:30-13:00	Protected area targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where are we – inventory, overview, distance to target – Mette Lund (EEA) Benefits of pan-European prioritisation and initial results – Piero Visconti and Jeremy Dertien (NaturaConnect) Pledges and approaches in France - Constantin De Pontbriand Pledges and approaches in Italy – Eugenio Dupre/Susanna d’Antoni 	Skala hall
13:00:14:30	Lunch	

Plenary session (Chair: Despo Zavrou)		
Time	Topics	
14:30-15:30 15 mins each	Conservation status improvement targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where are we – inventory, overview, distance to target – Irene Bouwma, WENR / BGP Pledges and approaches – Cyprus, Eva Pitta Pledges and approaches – Spain, Rafael Hidalgo 	Conference hall
15:30-15:50	Coffee break	
15:50-17:30	Discussion in working groups	Skala Hall, Zenon I, Kition I, Zenon 2
17:30-19:00	Break	
19:00-21:00	Knowledge Market - Presentation of LIFE- and other projects. Opening by Marilena Papastavrou, Environment Officer, LIFE National Focal Point	Skala hall
19:30-21:00	Informal dinner during Knowledge Market	Skala hall



Thursday 18th April (morning)

EXCURSION		
9:00-14:40	Gathering of the participants and boarding the buses to Kavro Greco National Park (45'' trip) Lunch will be provided by the organizers	Departure buses from Radisson Blu Hotel

Thursday 18th April (afternoon)

Parallel session 1 & 2		
Time	Sessions, topics and speakers	Session, topics and speakers
	Theme 1 Pledges and strict protection ROOM: Skala Hall Chair: Yannis Kazoglou Facilitator: Carlos (Irene)	Theme 2. Site-specific conservation objectives and measures ROOM: Zenon 1 Chair: Frank Vassen Facilitator: Theo (Sandra)
14:40-15:00	Coffee break	
15:00-15:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for strict protection – Jutta Beher, NaturaConnect The roadless mountains initiative - Vasiliki (Kiki) Kati Experiences in Spain with strictly protected areas and national parks – Jorge Bonacho, OAPN (MITECO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The French approach towards setting site-specific conservation objectives - Olivier Argagnon A methodology to identify conservation objectives and measures at site specific level, Francesca Pani (Italy)
15:45-17:15	Break-out session	Break-out session
Plenary session (Chair: Maria Regodon, Jaime Galan)		
17:45-18:30	Mediterranean habitat working group - Shifting dunes (Maria Regodon, Jaime Galan)	
19:30	Dinner The dinner will be at restaurant “ <i>Stou Rousha</i> ” (https://www.stourousha.com/)	



Friday 19th April

Parallel thematic sessions 3 & 4		
Time	Sessions, topics and speakers	Session, topics and speakers
	Theme 3: Favourable Conservation Status/Favourable reference values ROOM: Skala Hall Chair: Ioannis Tsiripides Facilitator: Sandra (Rui, Theo)	Theme 4. Effective Management of Natura 2000 sites ROOM: Zenon 1 Chair: Irene Bouwma Facilitator: Irene (Lola)
9:00-9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Commission perspective- Greta Borg, DG-ENV Spanish approach to setting Favourable reference values - Antonio Camacho (Spain) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing management effectiveness - Iva Obretenova, DG-ENV The Croatian experiences – Daniel Springer, Croatia Europarcs efforts on protected area management effectiveness – Michael Hošek (Europarc federation)
9:30-10:45	Break-out session	Break-out session
10:45-11:15	Coffee break	

Plenary Session (Chair: Andrea Vettori)		
11:15- 11:35	Reporting Day 1: pledge discussion groups, Theo van der Sluis, Carlos Sunyer (Biogeographical Process)	Skala hall
11:35-11:55	Reporting by Thematic working groups (Chairs of the 4 thematic groups)	
11:55-12:15	Next steps for the pledge process & roadmap for the Mediterranean region – Frank Vassen (DG-ENV)	
12:15-12:40	Interaction and discussion participants	
12:40-12:50	Short evaluation, Mentimeter	
12:50-13:00	Vote of thanks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elena Stylianopoulou, Acting Director Department of the Environment, Cyprus The European Commission, Andrea Vettori 	
13:00	Closure of the seminar	