

Background and aim of the workshop

The World Heritage Committee approved the extension of the “Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians, Slovakia and Ukraine” to include the “Ancient Beech Forests of Germany” at its 35th session (Paris, June 2011). The World Heritage Committee recommended “the States Parties of Ukraine, Slovakia and Germany (...) to ensure a comprehensive approach to conserving the primeval and ancient beech forests of Europe and (...) exploration of the potential for the World Heritage Convention to further these efforts by cooperating with the support of IUCN and the world Heritage Centre, with other interested States Parties **towards a finite serial transnational nomination** in order to assure the protection of this unique forest ecosystem.” (WHC 2011, Decision 35 COM 8B.13.35th).

This workshop is the continuation of two international expert meetings (Oct 2010, Nov 2011) on beech forests as a joint natural heritage of Europe at the International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm. The goal of the upcoming expert workshop is: 1. to develop common approaches to select potential component parts for an extension nomination, 2. to define the component parts in the different biogeographical regions, 3. to develop a communication platform and strengthen the beech forest network.

The key selection criterion for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List is the **Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)**. All additional component parts must clearly add distinct features to the already inscribed serial property. In the further nomination process the focus will be on European biogeographical regions not yet involved, especially on refuge areas and sites presenting an altitudinal gradient that will permit beech forests to adapt to climate change. Potential additional component parts will have to meet criterion (ix) (see para 77 of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention), be of high integrity, and add additional values to the existing properties.

Gianluca Piovesan & Hans D. Knapp

Day of arrival Saturday, June 16th

Arrival to Rome Fiumicino Airport
Train from Fiumicino to Orte

15.00–19.00 Transfer by car (every hour) from Orte (rail station) to Soriano nel Cimino. The participants will be hosted in 2 hotels

20.00 Dinner in Soriano nel Cimino

21.30 Walk in the old town and castle of Soriano nel Cimino

Overnight stay in Soriano del Cimino

Day 1 Sunday, June 17th

09:00 Transfer by bus to Mt. Cimino (1053 m asl)

09:30 **Opening Session 1: Walk in the ancient beech forest of Mt. Cimino**

- Welcome by the mayor of Soriano nel Cimino
- Welcome by the Rector of the University of Tuscia (MARCO MANCINI) and the Director of the Department DAFNE (LEONARDO VARVARO)
- Welcome by a representative of the World Natural Heritage Site “Primeval Beech forests of the Carpathians and Ancient Beech Forests of Germany”
- Welcome by the representative of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation

Illustration of the nature trail in the ancient forest

Forest history and dynamics

(GIANLUCA PIOVESAN)

Flora and vegetation

(ANNA SCOPPOLA & GOFFREDO FILIBECK)

Communicating old-growth forests

(EMANUELE ZIACO)

Illustration of the archeological remnants

(ANDREA CARDARELLI, ISABELLA DAMIANI, NICOLA IALONGO, AGNESE VACCA)

12:30 Lunch in the restaurant close to the forest

14:00 Transfer by bus to Soriano nel Cimino

14:30 **Session 2: Presentation of the Vilm Workshop results and the objectives of the further process** (Council Hall of the Municipality)

- The Vilm Workshop results and the further process (HANS D. KNAPP)
- The nomination process at the government level (HEIKE BRITZ)
- Requirements of the World Heritage Convention (JULIA SAUERMAN & MARCUS WALDHERR)
- The ongoing experience of the World Natural Heritage Site “Primeval Beech forests of the Carpathians and Ancient Beech Forests of Germany”: Ukraine (FEDIR HAMOR), Slovakia (IVAN VOLOŠČUK), Germany (HANS D. KNAPP)
- Ecology and conservation of ancient beech forests in NE Germany (JESCHKE LEBRECHT)

16:30 Coffee Break

17:00 **The contribution of Italy to the European Beech Forest Network and nomination process** (FRANCO PEDROTTI, GIANLUCA PIOVESAN, BARTOLOMEO SCHIRONE, ANNA SCOPPOLA, ALFREDO DI FILIPPO, EMANUELE ZIACO)

- Biodiversity and conservation of Italian beech forests (FRANCO PEDROTTI)
- The network of primeval and ancient beech forests in Italy (ALFREDO DI FILIPPO)
- Proposals from Italy for the nomination process:
 - Monti Cimini & Sabatini (ALFREDO DI FILIPPO)
 - Abruzzo, Lazio & Molise National Park (CINZIA SULLI & CARMELO GENTILE)
 - Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region (MASSIMO STROPPA & LIVIO SILVERIO)
 - Foreste Casentinesi National Park (DAVIDE ALBERTI)
 - Pollino National Park

(ANNIBALE FORMICA & GIUSEPPE DE VIVO)

▪ Alpi Marittime Regional Park

(ALFREDO DI FILIPPO)

- Communicating forest conservation I
(MICAELA GRAVILA & MARIO MORCELLINI)

18:00 Transfer by bus to Viterbo

18:45 Visit to the medieval city of Viterbo

20:00 Dinner in Viterbo with typical food of Tuscia

Overnight stay in Soriano nel Cimino

Day 2 Monday, June 18th

9:00 **Session 3: Status reports and proposals from the countries** (Council Hall of the Municipality)

- France (DANIEL VALLAURI)
- Spain (OSCAR SCHWENDTNER)
- Austria (HANNES KIRCHMEIR)
- Switzerland (BRIGITTE COMMARMOT)

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 **Session 3 (continues)**

- Slovenia (ANDRAŽ ČARNI)
- Croatia (IVAN BUDINSKI)
- Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro
(IVAN BJELANOVIC)

12:30 Lunch in the hotel

14:00 **Session 4: Status reports and proposals from the countries** (Council Hall of the Municipality)

- Greece (NIKOLAOS GRIGORIADIS)
- Bulgaria (RUMYANA FICHEVA & GENCHO ILIEV)
- Romania (DONIA DANCIU & CHRISTIAN STOICULESCU)

16:00 Transfer by bus to Bagnai (near Viterbo). Visit to "Villa Lante" (first global example of formal garden, and one of the oldest Quercus ilex forests in Europe) lead by SOFIA VAROLI PIAZZA

18:00 Transfer by bus to Pescasseroli (Abruzzo, Lazio & Molise National Park).

21:00 Dinner in Pescasseroli.

Overnight stay in Pescasseroli

Day 3 Tuesday, June 19th

8:00 **Field excursion through ancient and primeval beech forests in the Abruzzo, Lazio & Molise National Park.**

15 minutes by bus from Pescasseroli, 6 hours walk (from 1400 to 1800 m asl) and discussion in the primeval forest of Valle Cervara.

Illustration of the primeval forest:

Introduction to the walk (EMANUELE ZIACO)

Forest history and dynamics (GIANLUCA PIOVESAN)

Flora and vegetation (FABIO CONTI & ANNA SCOPPOLA)

[There will be the opportunity to split the group after lunch break (with lunch packages in the field): one group could go into the forest, another could walk to the ridge near the forest line].

16:30 Coffee break in Villavallelonga

17:00 **Session 5** in Villavallelonga.

- Welcome of the Director of the Abruzzi, Lazio and Molise National Park
- Welcome of the Major of Villavallelonga
- Communicating forest conservation II (ANTONIO NICOLETTI)
- Discussion: steps to a serial transnational nomination

18:00 **Closing Session**

19:00 Closing dinner in Villavallelonga

22:00 Transfer by bus to Pescasseroli

Overnight stay in Pescasseroli

Day 4 Wednesday, June 20th

8:30 Transfer by bus to Rome Fiumicino Airport (arrival approx. 11:30 a.m.)



BEECH FORESTS – JOINT NATURAL HERITAGE OF EUROPE (3)

“Toward a finite serial transnational nomination of primeval and ancient Beech Forests of Europe to the UNESCO World Heritage List”



European workshop
Soriano nel Cimino and Villavallelonga (Italy)
June 16th – 20th, 2012

