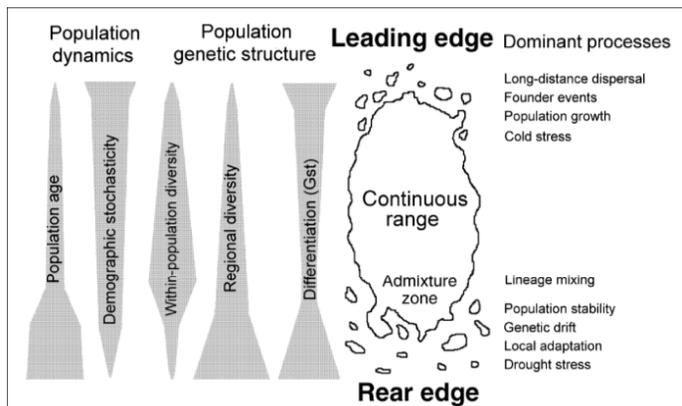




COST



Strengthening conservation: a key issue for adaptation of marginal/peripheral populations of forest trees to climate change in Europe (MaP-FGR)

COST Action no. FP1202

Start date: 08/11/2012

End date: 07/11/2016

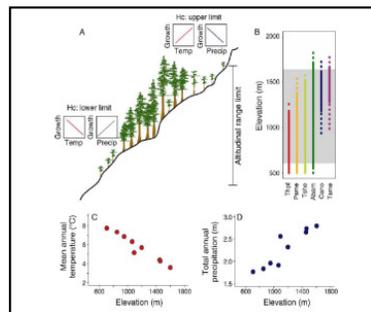
Year: 4

Fulvio Ducci

Chair

Council for Research and Experimentation on Agriculture, Research Centre for Forestry, CRA SEL

Italy





Scientific context and objectives (1/2)

Background / Problem statement:

- Marginal/peripheral (MaP) forest populations In southern, northern and altitude ranges are at the edges of species ranges and can contain original genetic diversity due to unsuitable conditions for survival.
- Studying adaptive processes in MaP populations is crucial and of mutual interest for European and non-European countries for understanding the future of forest ecosystems in view of the global change effects.
- **Brief reminder of MoU objectives:**
 1. Compiling information on climate change impacts on MaP populations;
 2. making information available for preparing national and pan-European forest plans and strategies for adaptation and mitigation;
 3. developing criteria for monitoring and conserving FGR;
 4. sharing results with forest managers.



Scientific context and objectives (2/2)

Research directions:

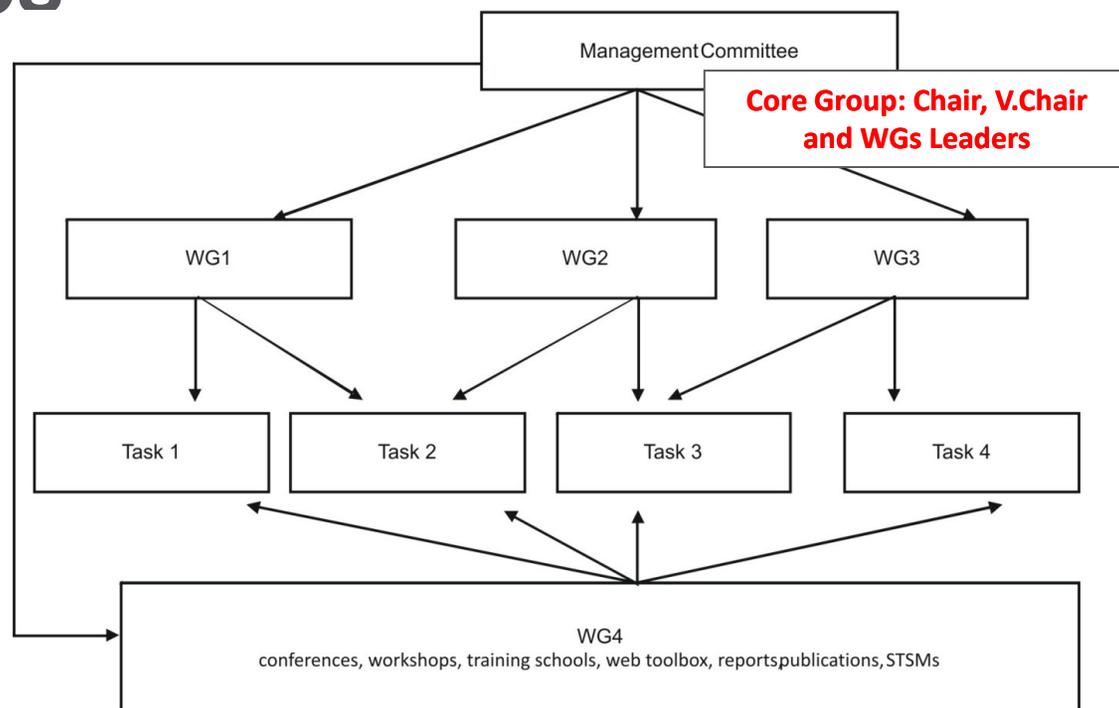
- **Task 1** – Scientific and technical information on ecological conditions including climate change impacts on MaP populations at the limits of species ranges.
- **Task 2** - Genetic information including adaptive traits of MaP populations at the limits of species ranges.
- **Task 3** - Analysis and synthesis of available ecological and genetic information and knowledge gaps highlighted in Task 1 and Task 2 and recommendations for forest managers and for policy makers.
- **Task 4**. Coordination and organization of all networking, databases management, training and communication activities: web-site, organization of conferences, training schools, short term scientific missions.

The improvement of knowledge on MaP FGR will allow new models and tools to be developed in order to optimize forest management taking into account forest genetic resources issues.

The results of this COST Action will be an added value for the implementation of European activities on forest reproductive material, genetic resource conservation and use, forest management and afforestation guidelines, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, within the Pan-European Process of Forest Protection (Forest Europe).

Working groups

- **Working Group 1** (Coord. Julian Gonzalo, INIA, Spain)
Title: **Gathering of already available data and compilation of ecological, genetic and global change information, and particularly climate effects, on FGR and distribution of MaP populations** (e.g. climatic scenarios and models, forest decline maps, lists of endangered materials).
- **Working Group 2** (Coord. Giovanni Giuseppe Vendramin, CNR IGV, Italy)
Title: **Evaluation and analysis of WG1 information** (e.g. genetic diversity maps per species/populations, methodology for evaluation of FGR diversity, compilation of databases of relevant institutions, genetic material, trials and networks, gaps of information). Standardization of methods. Meta-analysis of the data to identify common and divergent trends of FGR response to global change.
- **Working Group 3** (Coord. Bruno Fady, INRA, France)
Title: **Mainstreaming genetic diversity into sustainable forest management in the context of global change, considering both conservation and use of FGR.**



Working Group 4 (Coord. Christophe Besacier, FAO

Rome, France)

Title: **Coordination and organization of all networking, databases management, training and communication activities: conferences, workshops, training schools, web toolbox, open access databases, reports, publications, STSMs.**

Future Plan and Challenges 1/2

- **Abstract of approved items after the 8th Nov. 2008 Kick off Meeting and the Plenary Meeting (MC + WGs) in Rome the 22nd – 25th Jan. 2013**
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- - The agenda was approved by the MC.
- - Minutes of the first Management were approved after the amendments done;
- - Communications must be improved and participants people should answer to requests on due time.
- - The **WG1 Leader** has been replaced by Dr Julian Gonzalo who accepted the charge.
- - News from the COST Office were noted and information will be spread by WG4;
- - **Working Groups general plans** developed and presented during the Plenary Meeting were approved.
- - WG Leaders will produce a text plan to be inserted in the Minutes of the meeting in Rome.
- - The MC noted the Chair will attend at the Progress Conference meeting in Madrid;
- - The **next Plenary Meeting** will be held in Sopron (Hungary): 2 + 1 days during week 11th – 14th of September 2013. Local Organizer Contact will be: Prof. Csaba Máttyás (cm@emk.nyme.hu) . If Authorised by the MC, the Chair can contact formally the Dean of the University in Sopron. It has been suggested that a brainstorming session or writing meeting is organised during this time for the Working Groups.
- - **Pending Countries:** their application can be approved according to the statement above mentioned.
- - **The Work Budget Plan** is approved, with mandate to adapt the STSM Mission budget to the real needs of applications presented and approved.
- - The **first Training School Cycle** of the Cost Action will be held in Chania – Crete (GR), near CIHEAM (ref. Dr. Placido Plaza) in collaboration with Prof. Philippos Aravanopoulos (AUTH – GR), ----- 2013. The Core Group will proceed with selection of applicants in order to encourage ESR and meet the Gender Balance. Geographic criteria will be also followed. Title proposed: **“TS on genetic and ecological properties of marginal populations. And their importance for conservation and use under climate change.”**
- - **STSM will be called two times per year** according to the above proposed statements, prominence will be given to items on gender balance and to ESR. The Core Group will select Applications also according to geographic criteria.
- - The Chair and WG4 leader will take care of **web site establishment** following Cost Roles and indications of MC and of the Core Group, updating will be carried out by CRA SEL Arezzo and the Slovenian Institute for Forestry. The first monitoring of its efficiency will be during the first years and it will be approved definitively in Sopron.

Future Plan and Challenges 1/2

- The logo of the Cost Action FP1202 has been approved:



**Thank You
very much!**