COST Action FP1202: Strengthening conservation: a key issue for adaptation of marginal/ peripheral populations of forest trees to climate change in Europe (MaP-FGR)

TRAINING SCHOOL

Genetic diversity of marginal tree populations: from genomics to phenotypic variation

13 June 2016 – 16 June 2016,

Host: Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia

Venue: Hotel Ceptor-Andrevlje, Banoštor, Vojvodina, Serbia 21320

Deadline for applications is May 15, 2016

Map FGR COST Action

MaP FGR COST Action aims to bring together experts in forest genetic resources (FGR) to collect knowledge on FGR in Marginal and Peripheral (MaP) populations throughout Europe. The effects of climate change are likely to be stronger and more rapid in MaP populations than elsewhere. MaP forest populations are at the edges of species ranges where conditions are less suitable for survival. Studying adaptive processes in these populations is crucial and of mutual interest for European and neighboring countries for understanding the evolution of species and developing gene pool (FGR) conservation and management strategies and networks to cope with global changes. These populations are not only threatened by modern climate changes but also by other disturbances arising from human pressures and they may prove invaluable for adapting the European forestry sector. For more information on the COST Action FP1202 MaP-FGR see the dedicated website on http://map-fgr.entecra.it/.

TRAINING SCHOOL

The training school is designed to cover a broad range of topics related to assessment of genetic diversity and conservation of forest genetic resources of marginal tree populations. The school will be focused on tree populations in Southern Europe (*e.g.* Balkan Peninsula), with special emphasis on broadleaved, relict and endemic species.

The training school will consist of a combination of lectures, practical exercises on analyses of phenotypic data obtained from common garden experiments and field visits.

The training school targets PhD students and other young scientists involved in on-going studies of genetics of forest tree species. MSc students can also benefit from the course if they already have some background knowledge in population genetics or quantitative genetics, and are working with genetic analysis of populations in their MSc thesis. Applications from postdoctoral researchers are welcome, as well.

Training schools are not intended to provide general training or education. Those attending this Training School will be typically MSc students and PhD students from across Europe and neighboring partner countries interested by the key topics developed in this COST Action FP 1202 MaP-FGR.

COST supports the participation of both trainers (including external experts) and trainees selected for the TS on the basis of the relevance of their requests**.**

Application and approval

To apply, send by email:

- ✓ *curriculum vitae*
- ✓ full address
- ✓ motivation letter (which includes current position and research interests)

to **Valentina Garavaglia** (valentina.garavaglia@fao.org) and **Nicolas Picard** (nicolas.picard@fao.org).
Email subject line: "**2016 Training School Cost FP1202 MaP-FGR, Serbia**".

Selected trainees

Selected trainees will receive information about registration and logistic information.

Financial support to trainees

The financial support is an individual grant for each trainee. It should normally cover ***part*** of the travel and subsistence. For more information, please refer to the Vademecum of Cost Actions. **The exact amount will be decided based on the number of participants**.

Trainees eligible for reimbursement:

1. Trainees from COST countries;
2. Trainees from approved NNC institutions;
3. Trainees from approved European RTD Organisations.

Trainees not eligible for reimbursement:

1. Trainees from approved IPC institutions;
2. Trainees from approved International Organisations and European Commission;
3. Any other trainees not specifically mentioned as being eligible.

Location and accommodation

The Venue is the hotel Ceptor-Andrevlje (Potes Andrevlje, Banoštor, Vojvodina, Serbia 21320). More details on the logistic will be provided after the selection of participants.

Deadlines

All applications must be submitted by email to Valentina Garavaglia (valentina.garavaglia@fao.org) and Nicolas Picard (nicolas.picard@fao.org), by **May 15, 2016**. Applicants will be informed about the application result by **May 22, 2016** and will be required to confirm their participation by **May 25, 2016**.

Whilst every effort is made to avoid changes to our programme, Cost Action FP1202 MaP FGR reserves the right to cancel the training school in case of low enrollment or other reasons. In this case, the communication about the cancellation will be provided via e-mail and on the dedicated webpage.

Time	Monday /June 13, 2016/	Tuesday /June 14, 2016/	Wednesday /June 15, 2016/	Thursday /June 16, 2016/
09:00-10:30	Why are marginal tree populations from the Balkans threatened by the global warming? (Dr. Jelena Aleksić)	Root symbionts of MaP-FGR species as a key factor for survival of seedlings in a changing environment (Prof. Dr. Hojka Kraigher)	**FIELD TRIP** • Conservation of Pedunculate oak forest genetic resources in light of climatic changes • Climate change impact on Pedunculate oak forests and modelling • Adaptive forest management in Pedunculate oak natural stands • Visiting of the Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment	Quantitative data management in forest studies (Dr. Branislav Kovačević)
10:30-11:00	**Break**	**Break**		**Break**
11:00-12:00	Conservation of MaP-FGR species through measures for production and use of forest reproductive material – a case study from Slovenia (Prof. Dr. Hojka Kraigher)	Evolutionary ecologic interpretation of genetic field trials – conclusions for adaptive strategy of forest trees (Prof. Dr. Csaba Mátyás)		Quantitative data management in forest studies (Dr. Branislav Kovačević)
12:00-12:30	**Break**	**Break**		**Break**
12:30-13:30	Forest genetic resources of marginal populations: A case study of *Prunus avium* in Greece (Dr. Evangelia Avramidou)	Modelling difficulties of extreme events and expected shifts of productivity and of distribution of forest trees – a specific issue of distribution margins (Prof. Dr. Csaba Mátyás)		Phenotypic variation of *Fagus sylvatica* provenances in Serbian common garden experiments (Dr. Srđan Stojnić)
13:30-14:30	**Lunch**	**Lunch**		**Lunch**
14:30-16:00	Proper sampling methodology – basic step toward successful genomic and transcriptomic analysis of forest tree species (Dr. Branislav Trudić)	New insights into genetic patterns among and within populations of a relict and endemic conifer, *Picea omorika* (Dr. Jelena Aleksić)		Assessment of FGR: "From theory to practice" (Dr. Evangelia Avramidou)
16:00-16:30	**Break**	**Break**		**Break**
16:30-17:30	Presentation of the trainees (app. 5-10' each)	*Quercus robur* from Srem region, Serbia - old selection story become new climate change reality (Dr. Branislav Trudić)		Open discussion, evaluation and closing

Confirmed trainers:

- Prof. Dr. Hojka Kraigher, Slovenian Forestry Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Prof. Dr. Csaba Mátyás, Institute of Environmental and Earth Sciences, University of West Hungary, Sopron, Hungary
- Dr. Evangelia Avramidou, Faculty of Forestry and Natural Environment, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece
- Dr. Jelena Aleksić, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Dr. Branislav Trudić, Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Dr. Branislav Kovačević, Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia
- Dr. Srđan Stojnić, Institute of Lowland Forestry and Environment, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia