Social programme

Welcome Tapas evening
7:30PM ▶ 29 September 2014  Hotel gardens
Anne-Hélène Prieur-Richard, Acting Executive Director of DIVERSITAS, Francisco L. Pagni de Sola, Chair of the DIVERSITAS National Committee of Spain, and Emilio G. Casamayor, Chair of the Future Earth National Committee of Spain, will welcome you with a finger-look dinner of traditional Spanish tapas.
Come for a drink and meet colleagues or make new ones at 7:30PM in the hotel’s gardens!

Flamenco show & Celebration dinner
8:30PM ▶ 30 September 2014  Hotel gardens
During the Celebration dinner, we will get a taste of Spanish culture with a flamenco show performed by the Sevillon Cultural Centre of flamenco, Casa de la Memoria (www.casadelamemoria.es/). Flamenco is Spanish folk music and dance from Andalusia inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of UNESCO in 2010.

Exursion at Dehesa de Abajo Nature Reserve
8:30AM-12PM ▶ 1 October 2014  Meeting point outside the hotel lobby
We will enjoy the outdoors with a half-day excursion at Dehesa de Abajo nature reserve (www.dehesadeabajo.es/). The reserve is located at a 30-minute drive from the hotel in the South of Seville and it is famous for bird watching. The American flamingo (Phoenicopterus ruber), the squacco heron (Ardeola ralloides), the glossy ibis (Plegadis falcinellus) and the white stork (Ciconia ciconia) are some of the numerous bird species present in this area.
This morning excursion is an opportunity to network or discuss inspired science in a relaxed, enjoyable and healthy environment. Come with light walking shoes and your camera. Binoculars are provided on site if you do not have your own.

We will meet outside the lobby at 8:30AM. Our buses will depart at 8:45AM sharp (don’t be late!). We will be back at the hotel at 10:30PM for lunch.

Logistics

Accommodation & conference venue
Selim Al-Arabski Palace Hotel****
Avda. de la Palma, esquina C/ Paraná, 41012 Seville, Spain
Tel: 954235600
www.hotelalandaus.com
▶ Check-in and check-out times are 12PM respectively. You can leave your belongings in a luggage room free of charge before and after these times. Please, speak with the receptionist.

MEALS
All your meals are provided for. Breakfast, lunch & dinner (except the Celebration dinner and the Welcome tapas evening) are served in Palacio Andalucia on the ground floor.
Breakfast is served between 7 and 10AM.

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch & dinner (except if otherwise specified):
Palacio Andalucia, ground floor
Welcome tapas evening (29-09-2014, 7:30PM) & Celebration dinner (30-09-2014, 8:30PM): Hotel gardens

ON YOUR RETURN HOME
Please do not forget to fill in your travel claim form and send it back to us with the original of your boarding passes before 31 October, 2014.

For emergency
Please contact Anne-Hélène at +33 6 64 71 60 77 or Karine at +33 6 69 98 20 92.

Where to go

Diversitas celebration
Seville • Spain
Programme

It is a great pleasure and a privilege for us to welcome everyone to this very special event of DIVERSITAS – to what will be our last meeting as a network. We hope that we can celebrate the past and prepare for the future, as well as taking this opportunity to thank staff, projects, members, partners, collaborators, and the overall DIVERSITAS community for their hard work and good spirit over the many years! Since our establishment in 1991, we have a history of activities and achievements that everyone should be proud of it. The very dense programme of this Celebration gives us plenty of opportunities to reflect on some of these, but also to look forward to new ways of working within Future Earth.
We are delighted to meet again many past and present members of the network, and to welcome you all most warmly to the meeting.

We wish you an excellent time at the DIVERSITAS Celebration

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30 September 2014
Challenges of freshwater biodiversity conservation in a context of global threats to human water security. David Dutson, Past Member of SC-freshwaterBIODIVERSITY, University of Hong Kong, China. David describes a successful joint venture between freshwaterBIODIVERSITY and GWP-Global Water System Project that led to the cover of Nature in 2010.

11h25 DIVERSITAS’ CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH Panel followed by discussions, Panelists: Fábio Forest, Co-Dir of SC-bioGENESIS, New Royal Botanic Gardens, UK. Jean-Francois Guignon, Member of SC-ecoHEALTH, IRD-Institut de recherche pour le développement, France. María Elena Lohmann, Past Member of SC-DIVERSITAS, Arizona State University, USA.

12h20 REFLECTIONS ON THE SYNOPSIS: REPORTS FROM THE AUDIENCE Volunteers share impressions.

13h30 LUNCH BREAK

13h30 LUNCH BREAK GOSPELS Open floor

SELF-ASSESSMENT

13h40 TESTIMONIALS: “WHAT DIFFERENCE DID DIVERSITAS MAKE...” — to your career as a junior scientist? — to your career as a senior scientist? — to your ability to work across disciplines? — to research in your country? — to your career as a senior scientist?” Michael Doenhoff, ex-officio Past Member of SC-bioGENESIS, Yale University, USA.

14h45 NAVEL GAZING: “WHAT DID WE DO WELL AND NOT SO WELL?” Panel followed by discussions, Panelists: Sandra Lavorel, Member of SC-ecoHEALTH, Laboratory of Alpine Ecology, France.

1540 REFLECTIONS ON SELF-ASSESSMENT: REPORTS FROM THE AUDIENCE Volunteers share impressions.

16h00 TEA BREAK

THE WAY FORWARD: FUTURE EARTH

16h15 FUTURE EARTH & BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH An overview: Elena Bennett, Future Earth.

17h20 Open floor

DIVERSITAS was founded in 1991 by UNESCO-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, SCOPe-Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment and IUBS-International Union of Biological Science, to address the complex scientific questions posed by the loss in biodiversity and to offer science-based solutions to this crisis. In 1996, ESCI-International Council for Science and DiMs-International Union of Microbiological Societies joined this consortia of sponsors; and in the early 2000s, the concept of ecosystem services came in the DIVERSITAS portfolio.

Three phases characterised the work of DIVERSITAS.

In 1991-2001, DIVERSITAS aimed at developing an international, non-governmental umbrella programme for research projects on the inventory, classification, origins, maintenance and loss of biodiversity; and its linkages with ecosystem functioning. A series of books synthesised the key findings of this first decade, such as Mooney et al. (1999) Functional Roles of Biodiversity: A Global Perspective, and Sala et al. (2000) Global biodiversity scenarios for the year 2100. DIVERSITAS managed a portfolio of the Global Biodiversity Assessment of UNEP-United Nations Environment Programme in 1995, co-designed the Darwin Declaration in 1998, supported the launch of the Global Taxonomy Initiative, established GISP-Global Invasive Species Programme, and in the establishment of GEO BON-Group of Earth Observation Biodiversity Observing Network. DIVERSITAS launched seven new projects — viz. agroBIODIVERSITY, bioGENESIS, bioGEOGRAPHY, bioGENOLOGY, ecoHEALTH, ecoSERVICES and freshwaterBIODIVERSITY — to emphasize the integration of natural and social sciences; and expanded its network of National Committees to implement its science-policy framework in national science agendas.

Since 2012, while furthering its engagements, DIVERSITAS has worked with its sister programme, IGBP and IHOP-International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, at their fusion into Future Earth, the new programme on research for global sustainability. The integration will also play an active leading role in the organisation of a consultative on DIVERSITAS-International Mechanism of Scientific Expertise on Biodiversity that led to the establishment of IPBES-International Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in 2012, and engaged in ESSP-Earth System Science Partnership and in the establishment of GEO BON-group of Earth Observation Biodiversity Observing Network. DIVERSITAS also proposed a new project — viz. agroBIODIVERSITY, bioGENESIS, bioGEOGRAPHY, bioGENOLOGY, ecoHEALTH, ecoSERVICES and freshwaterBIODIVERSITY — to emphasize the integration of natural and social sciences; and expanded its network of National Committees to implement its science-policy framework in national science agendas.

In 2012-2011, DIVERSITAS implemented a more integrated and transdisciplinary science plan to strengthen the social and policy relevance of its work. DIVERSITAS also engaged its engagement in policy fora, for instance by making stronger contributions to the CBD-Convention on Biological Diversity.

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