

## *Call for Abstracts*

# ***Conference - Coppice Forests in Europe: a traditional natural resource with great potential***

*Hosted by COST Action FP1301 EuroCoppice & FCBA*

*Limoges, France, 19 - 21 June, 2017*



Dear Colleagues,

Extensive areas of broadleaf forest across Europe are of coppice origin or are still managed as coppice today. Depending on their geophysical conditions and cultural heritage, these coppice forests show a large diversity of species, silvicultural treatment and utilization. In history, coppicing was the earliest attempt at managing limited forest resources sustainably and was often developed for a specific local context. Coppice forests are resilient towards natural risks and provide a wide array of wood and non-wood forest products; their unique habitat also contributes to species biodiversity and to a variety of landscapes. Nevertheless, in the past decades coppicing has become less accepted, mainly due to high costs of traditional coppice operations and changing markets.

These days, with the rising importance of renewable energies and awareness of the positive effects of coppice forests for climate and nature protection, the interest in coppice is increasing. Beyond such environmental benefits, both traditional and new forms of coppice management can play an important role for labour and income in rural communities. In recognition of this “renaissance”, COST Action FP1301 EuroCoppice was initiated in 2013; the aim was to address key issues, such as the possible contribution of a renewed coppice forestry to the growth and competitiveness of the regional and European forest-wood-energy sector, as well as the barriers limiting and measures necessary to make this vision a reality. Over 140 researchers from 35 countries have since collaborated on a variety of topics, from statistics, ecology and silviculture, to products, protection functions and governance.

The EuroCoppice Final Conference will be held from June 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 in Limoges (Central France), a region in which coppice forests are still quite dominant in regional forestry, industry and landscape. Since coppice forest operations and utilisation play such a crucial role in the future of coppice, the morning session of this conference is dedicated to related subjects. In the afternoon, the overall results of FP1301 EuroCoppice will be presented, followed by a panel discussion on the past, present and future of coppice with European stakeholders.

With this Call we invite all interested scientists and practitioners (from within or outside the COST Action) to submit an Abstract for the morning sessions of the conference, outlining a proposed oral presentation or poster – further details can be found in the following pages.

We are looking forward to your participation in Limoges,

*- The Conference Team -*

## Programme

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### **Mon. 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2017      Action-internal Meetings**

10:00 – 12:00	Steering Group Meeting ( <i>SG Members only</i> )
13:00 – 16:30	Working Group Meetings
17:00 – 18:00	Management Committee Meeting ( <i>if necessary</i> )
Evening	<i>Ice Breaker (Open to all Conference Participants)</i>

### **Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2017      Excursion**

All Day	Field trip organised by the FCBA - French Institute of Technology for Forest Based and Furniture Sectors
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*Coppice forests and industry in the Limousin region*

Limousin is well-known for its coppice-based industry, particularly dealing with chestnut coppices. The field trip will allow the participants to discover all these aspects from forest management (private ownership, social aspects, silviculture) to industrial wood uses (flooring, fences...), including logging operations.

### **Wed. 21<sup>st</sup> of June, 2017      Conference**

8:00 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 12:30	Presentations on coppice products and utilisation
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:50	Presentation of Action FP1301 EuroCoppice results
14:50 – 15:20	Coffee Break
15:20 – 15:40	Presentation of Action FP1301 EuroCoppice results continued
15:40 – 17:40	Panel discussion with European Stakeholders & Closing Remarks

*Up-to-date information on the Conference and on COST Action FP1301  
EuroCoppice can be found on the Action website:*

[www.eurocoppice.uni-freiburg.de/conferences/limoges](http://www.eurocoppice.uni-freiburg.de/conferences/limoges)

## Conference Themes (Morning Session)

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*The following are titles & example topics for the presentation and posters related to coppice products and utilisation (June 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 – 12:30).*

*The examples always refer to coppice forests in relation to the given topic.*

**1. Coppice products:** actual and potential offer of wood products from coppice forests; product quality issues (e.g. timber vs. ring shake or other defects etc.); innovative wood products; engineered timber products from coppice; coppice products and local business; coppice as a source of energy wood; firewood markets; coppice forests as a source of chips for the growing bioenergy sector;

**2. Coppice harvesting technology and techniques:** performance studies (productivity and cost) of machines and systems deployed in coppice forests; specific harvesting technology issues related to coppice harvesting (e.g. handling multi-tree clumps); mechanization of coppice operations; whole tree chipping in coppice stands; new equipment for coppice operations (both low-tech and high-tech); effect of coppice stand characteristics and silviculture on harvesting performance and cost; logging companies/contractors involved with coppice harvesting; safety and ergonomics in coppice operations;

**3. Environmental aspects of coppice operations:** site and tree impacts; regeneration after cutting (especially mechanical); soil disturbance and compaction in coppice operations; low-impact techniques; whole-tree harvesting in coppice forests and plant nutrition issues.

## Submission of Abstracts

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Abstracts for an oral presentation or poster can be submitted by any interested person(s).

They should include the following:

- title,
- author(s),
- affiliation(s),
- text no longer than 250 words
- 4 - 7 keywords &
- preference as to oral presentation or poster

Abstracts should be sent to Natascia Magagnotti: [magagnotti@ivalsa.cnr.it](mailto:magagnotti@ivalsa.cnr.it)

## Participation & Fees

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### → *General information for interested individuals*

Interested policy makers, researchers and practitioners are very welcome to attend the Excursion and/or EuroCoppice Final Conference, as well as to submit an abstract according to the guidelines in this document. Further information regarding fees, travel and registration will be available closer to the date of registration.

### → *For COST Action FP1301 EuroCoppice Members*

In accordance with the Action's Work and Budget Plan, a limited number of Action Members will be reimbursed for their participation. Following COST rules, the final decision regarding participant reimbursement will be taken by the Management Committee, if possible by December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Action members with accepted abstracts to the Conference will have priority for reimbursement. There will be a fee for Action Members attending the Conference, further details will be available closer to the date of registration.

## Key Dates

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<b>July, 2016:</b>	Call for Abstracts published
<b>Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016:</b>	Deadline for Abstract submission
<b>Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016:</b>	Notification of abstract acceptance (oral presentation or poster)
<b>Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016:</b>	List of Action-internal participants approved (MC)
<b>Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017:</b>	Registration begins
<b>Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017:</b>	Hotel pre-booking ends
<b>Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017:</b>	Announcement of the Scientific Programme

### *Meetings & Conference:*

<b>June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017:</b>	COST internal meetings
<b>June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017:</b>	Conference Excursion
<b>June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017:</b>	Conference Presentations and Panel Discussion