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## XV OPTIMA Meeting 6-11 June 2016, Montpellier

IUCN Med SIDE EVENT - Wednesday, 8 June 2016

Round trip from Red List data to  
*in situ* conservation of Important  
Plant Areas

De la Liste rouge à la conservation  
*in situ* des Zones Importantes pour  
les Plantes : *un voyage aller-retour*

### Description

Precise data on the distribution and status of plants are frequently insufficient, out of date or absent, particularly in the south and eastern part of the Mediterranean region. Without baseline data on the patterns of plant diversity and the conservation status of species, it is difficult to monitor its condition or to effectively target limited conservation resources with any certainty. The IUCN Red List of threatened plant species of the Mediterranean region is a compendium of the best scientific information available to determine the risk of plant species becoming extinct which also provides key data on threats, ecological requirements and conservation actions needed for each assessed taxon. Moreover, the presence of threatened plant species has been one of the main criteria used for Important Plant Area (IPA) selection in the Mediterranean.

Through the project "Conserving wild plants and habitats for people in the South and East Mediterranean (IPA Med)" plant species field survey has been conducted in 16 IPA in order to improve our knowledge on their conservation status and distribution. The resulting information is key to identify conservation actions to develop at IPA level and will help to determine the risk of becoming extinct of several Mediterranean plant species and to update the data on species that have already been assessed.

In line with this, the current Red List of Mediterranean plants aims to assess 1500 plant species present in the Mediterranean region in collaboration with volunteer botanists. This represents a big step for this biodiversity hotspot but a huge work is still waiting the plant conservation community in the Mediterranean.

*Organized by IUCN Med with the collaboration of the IUCN/SSC Mediterranean Plant Specialist Group*

### When we want to present the side event?

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016, from 18:00-19:15hs

### How many participants?

Open to all interested people. Around 20-25 participants expected

### Specific equipment required

Screen and projector

Poster mounting material

### Organizers

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