



<http://www.iavs2009.org>

## **52nd IAVS Symposium**

*Vegetation processes and human impacts  
in a changing world*

**30<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June 2009**  
**Island of Crete, Greece**

Organization:

*University of Ioannina, Department of Environmental & Natural Resources Management*  
&  
*International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS)*

## 52nd IAVS Symposium in Greece (Crete)

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### **Symposium Secretariat / Administrators**

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## 52nd IAVS Symposium in Greece (Crete)



### **52<sup>nd</sup> Symposium of the International Association for Vegetation Science May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Chania, Crete, Greece**

#### ***Symposium Location***

The symposium will be held in the Minoa Palace Hotel (<http://www.minoapalace.gr/>) in the city of Chania on the island of Crete. This port, capital of the Prefecture of Chania in the west of the island, is the second largest city in Crete and is of great importance both historically and architecturally, blending modern, Venetian, Turkish and traditional influences. The Minoa Palace Hotel in Platanias, 10km west of the city centre, is situated 150 m from a long sandy beach on the Aegean Sea. A bus station is located next to the hotel and the International Airport is only 24km away.

#### ***Travel to Chania***

The city of Chania is easily accessible by air from Athens International Airport (45 minute flight). Chania International Airport is located c. 25 minutes from the city centre. Olympic airways and Aegean Airlines have daily domestic flight connections to and from Chania. Please check with your travel agent for exact flight times. There is also a daily ferry service (Anek Lines: [www.ank.gr](http://www.ank.gr)) from the port of Piraeus to Chania (approx. 9 hours duration).

#### ***Important Dates***

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| October 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2008:  | Second Circular release                                   |
|                                   | Call for Papers (abstracts)                               |
| November 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2008: | Abstract submission commences (online submission)         |
|                                   | Registration commences (online submission)                |
|                                   | Accommodation and excursion booking open                  |
| February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2009: | Deadline for receipt of abstracts                         |
|                                   | Deadline for <i>early</i> registration                    |
|                                   | Registration deadline for those presenting papers/posters |
| March 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2009:    | Notification of acceptance of abstracts                   |
|                                   | Release of invitation letters for participants            |

## 52nd IAVS Symposium in Greece (Crete)

### *Accommodation*

All accommodation bookings and enquiries will be handled by the Symposium's Travel Office – **Athens Travel Service** (<http://www.athens-travel.gr>).

Participants should book accommodation by contacting **Mrs Gogo Andriopoulou** and **Mrs Fofi Mazaraki** by telephone: +30-210-7257662-3, fax: +30-210-7292991, or e-mail: [ga@athens-travel.gr](mailto:ga@athens-travel.gr) quoting "52<sup>nd</sup> IAVS Symposium in Crete".

At present Athens Travel has reserved a total of 100 rooms (this number may increase to 150 according to demand) in the Minoa Palace Hotel for Symposium participants. The price for both single and double rooms is 60€ per night (this price includes breakfast).

To avoid disappointment, bookings should be made as soon as possible. Other hotels will also be available for the duration of the Symposium and details will be announced in due course.

### *Passports & Visas*

A valid passport or identity card is required for all travel from EU countries. The Visa entry requirements for Greece vary according to your country of origin. Please contact your local Embassy or Consulate of Greece for further information.

### *Personal Invitations*

If you require an official letter of invitation to attend the Symposium, please contact the Secretariat. This letter does not represent any commitment on part of the organizers to provide financial support.

### *General Information*

The official time in Greece is GMT +2hrs.

The electricity supply is 220V 50Hz AC.

Insurance: The Symposium organizers cannot assume responsibility for injuries or losses occurring to persons or personal belongings during the Symposium. Therefore, participants are advised to take out travel and health insurance.

### *Symposium Centre*

The Minoa Palace Hotel is fully audio-visually equipped. Presentations will be given in two main rooms, while smaller seminar rooms will be available for working-group meetings, etc. A reception and exhibition area will also be available.

### *Currency & Exchange*

The National currency is the Euro. Banks in Chania open from 08:00 to 14:00pm Monday to Thursday, and 08:00 to 13:30pm on Friday. Exchange bureaus can be found in the International Airports of Athens and Chania and the city of Chania itself.

## 52nd IAVS Symposium in Greece (Crete)

### *Symposium Participants*

Symposium participants, on payment of registration fees, are entitled to attend the opening ceremony, any receptions, and all sessions of the Symposium. They will receive the registration pack with the full programme and other documents, the Book of Abstracts, and free coffee and some light lunches for the duration of the Symposium. They may also present one oral contribution and up to two posters, and attend the mid-Symposium excursion. On payment of fees, participants may take part in the pre- and post-Symposium excursions.

### *Accompanying Persons*

Accompanying persons are entitled to attend the opening ceremony, any receptions and, if they wish, the Symposium sessions and mid-Symposium excursion. They may, on payment of fees, also attend the pre- and post-Symposium excursions, and any programme for accompanying persons.

### *Funding*

Unfortunately, funding is not available yet to assist those wishing to attend the Symposium. Participants will have to find sources of funding from their own countries and institutions.

### *Registration Fees*

|                                      | <b>Payment received by<br/>28<sup>th</sup> February 2009</b> | <b>Payment received after<br/>1<sup>st</sup> March 2009</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>IAVS members:</b>                 |  |   |
| Participants                         | 300 Euros  | 350 Euros   |
| Students                             | 150 Euros  | 200 Euros   |
| <b>Non-IAVS members:</b>             |  |   |
| Participants                         | 350 Euros  | 400 Euros   |
| Students and<br>accompanying persons | 200 Euros  | 250 Euros   |

Full registration can be made by participants via the Symposium's website:  
<http://www.iavs2009.org>

This service will be available from 10<sup>th</sup> November 2008 onwards.

### *Language*

The official language of the Symposium is English.

## *Scientific Programme*

### **Main theme of the symposium**

*“Vegetation processes and human impacts in a changing world”*

### **Major topics**

- *Multiple scales*: Detecting, describing and forecasting multi-scale vegetation and environmental changes
- *Land-use changes*: Impacts of land use change on vegetation at the species, community and landscape levels
- *Climate change*: The impact of climate change on vegetation
- *Conservation and restoration ecology*: from the species to the community, to the biome levels
- *Monitoring tools*: Vegetation surveys, ecoinformatics, new methods for monitoring change
- *Vegetation ecology*: New developments in vegetation ecology
- *Mediterranean vegetation*: Diversity and convergence, patterns and processes
- *Ecosystem approaches* to biodiversity conservation and management

## *Call for Abstracts*

We invite you to submit an abstract for a presentation on a subject related to one of the above topics. Papers may be presented orally or as posters. Each Symposium participant may be allocated time for only one oral presentation. Abstract submission is possible only for registered participants.

Following the format of the previous IAVS Symposium, abstracts will be submitted online at the site <http://www.iavs2009.org>. This service will be available from 10<sup>th</sup> November 2008 until 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Abstracts will be limited to a total of 2500 characters in length.

## *Symposium Schedule*

25 – 29<sup>th</sup> May (Monday-Friday): Pre-Symposium excursion

30 May (Saturday): Registration, Council meeting, opening ceremony and reception

31 May, 1 June (Sunday & Monday): Plenary and parallel sessions

2 June (Tuesday): Mid-Symposium excursions

3 June (Wednesday): Plenary and parallel sessions, General Assembly, Symposium dinner

4 June (Thursday): Parallel sessions, closing plenary session

5 June (Friday): Departure of participants and start of the post-symposium excursion

5 – 9<sup>th</sup> June (Friday-Tuesday): Post-symposium excursion

## *Other Activities*

To arrange working-group meetings and informal evening sessions, please contact the Organizing Committee.

## *Symposium Excursions*

### *PRE-SYMPOSIUM EXCURSIONS (25-30 MAY 2009)*

#### **I. Eastern Crete (25–30 May 2009):**

##### *Departure from Chania; Return to Chania*

Mediterranean landscapes and vegetation will be the focus of the excursion, but cultural aspects of Eastern Crete will also be included (3 nights in Agios Nikolaos, 2 nights in Sitia). The route will include: a) sites with palm forest (*Phoenix theophrasti*); b) a crossing of a characteristic gorge (Gorge of the Dead) for observations of endemic flora and chasmophytic vegetation; c) Mirabelou and the islets Spinaloga and Chrysi for studying small-island communities; d) the Minoan palace in Kato Zakros; e) a winery and the monastery of Toplou; and f) the Lassithi or Katharou mountain plateau (depending on the weather conditions).

*Excursion fee (transportation, accommodation and meals): 350 Euros.*

#### **II. Santorini (Thera) island and sea-born volcanic islands (26–29 May 2009):**

##### *Departure from Athens; Return to Chania*

The Santorini island group is the old island of Strongyli, which after a vast volcanic eruption sank in her centre, creating a huge sea-water filled caldera. It is the southernmost of the Cycladic Islands in the centre of the Aegean Sea, 128 nautical miles east of Piraeus. Fira is the capital of the main island. Athinios is its port.

Due to its volcanic nature, Santorini is known for its yellow peas (fava) and the small tasty tomatoes that produce tomato paste. Santorini has also tradition in the cultivation of vines since the Bronze Age. The different wines of Santorini owe their special qualities to the unique geology of the island. There are many wineries on the island, of which Sigalas, near Oia, is distinguished for the high quality of its products. In a specially designed tasting room visitors will be given a tour and can taste the superb wines.

**26 May:** Athens-Santorini; tour in ancient Thera, remnants of the calcareous mountain of the old Strongyli; town of Fira for shopping and walking in the caldera paths, dinner.

**27 May: Nea Kameni volcanic island (10:00–15:30); Palea Kameni volcanic island (16:00–18:00). Topics:** primary vegetation development on the marine emergent volcanic islands of different age and vegetation history). Free evening.

**28 May: Akrotiri and south Santorini (09:00-17:00). Topics:** Prehistoric settlements in Akrotiri and phrygana vegetation on tephra substrates in the southern part of Santorini; **Oia (18:30-22:00)** sunset and dinner.

The traditional settlement of Oia is located on the NW side of the island. It is a monument of archaeological heritage. During the 19th century Oia was the village of ship owners and seamen. What remained of the wealth and the rigorous life are the 'sea captain's houses' which were inhabited by sea captains and ship owners. They are mostly caves, facing the caldera, the volcano and the other islands. Oia is one of the most picturesque villages of Santorini and the gorgeous colours of sunset offer a unique landscape.

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**29 May:** Perissa, phrygana on calcareous substrates; visit to a winery of the island; travel from Santorini to Athens; night journey with ship from Piraeus to Chania.

*Excursion fee (transportation, accommodations and meals): 380 Euros.*

### **MID-SYMPOSIUM EXCURSIONS (2 JUNE 2009)**

Four options with different landscapes and vegetation types, combined with Cretan cultural and ethnobotanical aspects are offered to the participants of the symposium:

1. **Chania-Rethymno-Amari area (village Thronos).** Topics: Ethnobotany, Byzantine church, edible plants, land use in a changing landscape, olive press, dairy factory (milk, cheese).
2. **Chania-Elaphonisos.** Topics: Plant micro-reserves and their use for conservation management of a protected plant taxon (*Androcymbium rechingeri*), *Juniperus macrocarpa* sand dune stands. 1<sup>st</sup> stop: Topolia (semi-cave near Koutsmatados for chasmophytes); 2<sup>nd</sup> stop: Elaphonisos (phrygana, sand dunes, *J. macrocarpa* stands).
3. **Omalos plateau.** Topics: Montane vegetation with *Cupressus sempervirens*, Mediterranean temporary ponds. The route will include Linoseli (view of the Samaria gorge) and Gingilos (approaching the ridge before Gingilos).
4. **Imbros gorge.** Crossing the gorge from Imbros village to Komitades village (end of the gorge). Topic: Rock vegetation with a high diversity of endemic, chasmophytic plants.

*The mid-symposium excursion is included in the registration fees.*

### **POST-SYMPOSIUM EXCURSION (5–9 JUNE 2009)**

**Around the Peloponnese (southern Greece):** Landscape and vegetation diversity, starting from the eastern Peloponnisis and via the southern Peloponnisis and ending in the western Peloponnisis. More specifically, the route will include the following:

- 5<sup>th</sup> **June: Athens-Argos-Nafplion** (stay overnight), visits in the archaeological monument of Mikinai and in other important historical sites (Palamidi) in combination with Mediterranean low-altitude vegetation communities (prefecture of Argolis).
- 6<sup>th</sup> **June: Nafplion-Astros-Leonidion (coastal areas of Arcadia)-Tyros** (stay overnight), visit the Elonas gorge with important and rare endemics and representative chasmophytic vegetation types.
- 7<sup>th</sup> **June: Tyros-Monemvasia, Maleas-Mani and Areopolis** (characteristic Mediterranean vegetation at low and medium altitudes of southern Greece)- overnight stay at Gytheion.
- 8<sup>th</sup> **June: Sparti-Mystras- Mountain range of Taygetos and Trypis gorge** (characteristic Mediterranean vegetation at moderate and high altitudes of southern Greece).
- 9<sup>th</sup> **June: Kalamata-Diros caves-Olympia** archaeological site-Patras-Athens.

*Excursion fee (transportation, accommodations and meals): 450 Euros.*

## 52nd IAVS Symposium in Greece (Crete)

### *Excursion Booking and Payment*

Excursions can be booked and paid for via the Symposium website after 10<sup>th</sup> November 2008. The Symposium organizers reserve the right to cancel one or more of the excursions due to low demand / small number of participants.

### *Sponsors*

Athens Travel Service  
University of Ioannina  
*and others to be arranged*