AEET, Sfe² & EEF Joint Meeting 2027

20 - 24 September 2027, Zaragoza (Spain)

Together in ecology: bridging nature and society for resilient futures



Ibon de Plan. © Cristina Ramos

aeet
ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE ECOLOGIA TERRESTRE

sfé²
French Society for Ecology & Evolution

eef
European Ecological Federation

Together in ecology: bridging nature and society for resilient futures

The motto: “Together in ecology: bridging nature and society for resilient futures”

In an era marked by profound environmental and societal challenges, ecology must unite scientists beyond boundaries and disciplines, fostering a collaborative space where scientific knowledge, bold action, and societal engagement converge. “Together in ecology: bridging nature and society for resilient futures” embodies our collective commitment to transcending barriers—whether between nations, scientific disciplines, and society at large—as we address the pressing uncertainties of our time.

By integrating diverse perspectives and embracing both the complexity and the interconnectedness of constantly evolving ecological systems, we aim to find pathways towards resilience, sustainability and bold actions. Only through genuine collaboration and the co-production of knowledge can we promote evidence-based solutions, confront misinformation, and shape a future in which both nature and society thrive. This conference provides a high-level forum for discussing these issues, but it also aims to promote transdisciplinary approaches that address issues of importance to society, for which ecology is an essential component. We therefore welcome other disciplines and the general public to join this event and learn about the value of nature for the survival and well-being of humanity.



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Promoters of the Conference

Spanish society of Terrestrial Ecology (AEET)

The AEET is a national, non-profit scientific society, created on 1989. It currently have more than 1,000 members, including researchers, educators, students, technicians and ecology professionals from institutions across the country. Its purpose is to promote ecological research, by fostering the exchange of knowledge among researchers, supporting the training of new generations of ecologists, and communicating and disseminating ecological science. This includes clarifying concepts, encouraging citizen participation in research activities, promoting the responsible application of ecological knowledge in matters of public interest, and giving due credit and visibility to the most significant contributions in our field. Therefore, AEET does not aim to limit itself to purely academic activity, but rather considers it a priority to play a connecting role between science and society. AEET is the publisher of the open-access peer-reviewed journal Ecosistemas.

French Society for Ecology and Evolution (SFE²)

Sfe² is a non-profit association created on 1901. Its mission is to promote the visibility of ecological and evolutionary sciences in France by encouraging the development, integration, and sharing of knowledge in all its forms. It represents the entire community of French ecologists and evolutionary scientists and undertakes joint actions with other societies and associations to foster genuine dialogue between different forms of knowledge, involving scientists, managers, and users. Sfe² plays an active role in the life of ecological and evolutionary sciences by awarding prizes to both established and early-career researchers, supporting projects through grants, sponsoring or organizing conferences, facilitating the creation of thematic research groups, and taking positions on certain societal issues or matters related to the organization of science.

European Ecological Federation (EEF)

The European Ecological Federation enables cooperation between eighteen ecological societies in twenty countries to promote the science of ecology in Europe and across the world. It does this through: providing a forum for effective communication throughout the community of ecological scientists in Europe on matters of common interest; disseminating ecological knowledge through meetings, publications and other means; acting in an advisory, consultative and representative capacity in relation to European institutions; promoting collaborative activity on those matters where there is a pan-European context and cooperating with other international organisations. The EEF is the promoter of the Ernst Haeckel Prize, designed to honour a senior ecologist for an outstanding contribution to European ecological science. The EEF is also the publisher of the open-access peer-reviewed journal Web Ecology.

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Partners

We would like to thank all our partners for supporting this project formulated with the aim to provide a platform for the exchange of the latest knowledge on ecology and to inspire debates and collaborations that will drive positive change in the field of ecology, promoting courageous actions, and strengthen socio-ecological resilience.

» Scientific Partners

Universidad Zaragoza 1542

Instituto Pirenaico de Ecología

CSIC

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Zaragoza, the venue

The congress will be held at the Conference Center of Zaragoza (Palacio de Congresos de Zaragoza) located on the banks of the Ebro River, in Plaza Lucas Miret Rodriguez, 1, 50018 Zaragoza.

Zaragoza has been selected as **European Green Capital** for 2028. The award recognizes the city's environmental transformation and will enable it to serve as a European showcase for best practices and accelerate its sustainability policies throughout 2028.

The city of Zaragoza has a rich and ancient history dating back to Roman times, when it was founded as Caesaraugusta in honour of Emperor Augustus. Over the centuries, it has been a crossroads of cultures: Roman, Visigoth, Islamic and Christian. During Muslim rule, it was an important Taifa kingdom, and after the Christian conquest in the 12th century, it became a key city in the Kingdom of Aragon. It played a crucial role in the War of Independence against Napoleon, notably during the heroic Sieges of Zaragoza.

Today, Zaragoza is a modern city constantly evolving, and there are stark contrasts and surprises on every corner, from its ancient history to the more modern, avant-garde parts of the city. Historical monuments and buildings, like the Basilica del Pilar, La Seo or the Aljafería Palace sit alongside contemporary buildings such as the Pabellón Puente, the Water Tower, the Palacio de Congresos (venue of our meeting), the IAACC or the CaixaForum.

Zaragoza is a key link in the peninsular rail network, and this means of transport allows you to reach Zaragoza from practically anywhere on the Iberian Peninsula.





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The scale of the conference

Approximately 1,200 delegates are expected to attend, including researchers, teachers, natural heritage technicians and managers, and ecology students from all corners of Europe and many other places where our researchers have influence. Nearly 900 scientific papers will be presented, including oral presentations and posters.

The conference will feature a panel of key scientific sessions covering many of the topics that are currently relevant in the field of ecology. Six plenary lectures will be given by speakers of recognised prestige and international impact. The thematic sessions will complement the scientific programme of our meeting, providing a forum for the exploration of specific, timely, innovative and important issues in the field of ecology, and highlighting the integration of disciplines. Poster sessions will play a prominent role, allowing for informal but in-depth conversations and providing a valuable platform for sharing works, fostering collaboration, and connecting with a wider audience in a dynamic and enjoyable setting. Technical field trips will be featured providing opportunities to showcase knowledge and applied technologies on ecological systems in real-world settings. Other complementary training activities for researchers will be scheduled: seminars and workshops on basic science, methodologies, creativity and communication skills, open science, applying for competitive calls, etc. A variety of activities aimed at early career researchers will also be offered. Furthermore, in order to promote interaction and collaboration among individuals and research groups participating in the conference, the organizers have designed some events to encourage networking and socialising among conference attendees.






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Tentative Schedule

MONDAY, September 20, 2027	
09:00-13:00	**Workshops**
15:30-16:30	OPENING CEREMONY
16:00-16:50	Plenary Talk
16:50-17:00	BREAK
17:00-19:00	Parallel Scientific Sessions
19:00-21:00	WELCOME COCKTAIL

TUESDAY, September 21, 2027	
9:00-9:50	Plenary Talk
09:50-10:30	COFFE BREAK
10:30-12:30	Parallel Scientific Sessions
12:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-16:30	Parallel Scientific Sessions
16:30-17:10	BREAK
17:10-18:00	Plenary Talk
18:00-19:30	Poster Sessions

WEDNESDAY, September 22, 2027	
9:00-9:50	Plenary Talk
09:50-10:30	COFFE BREAK
10:30-12:30	Parallel Scientific Sessions
12:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-16:30	Parallel Scientific Sessions
16:30-17:10	BREAK
17:10-18:00	Plenary Talk
18:00-19:30	Poster Sessions

THURSDAY, September 23, 2027	
9:00-9:50	Plenary Talk
09:50-10:30	COFFE BREAK
10:30-12:30	Parallel Scientific Sessions
12:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-16:30	Parallel Scientific Sessions
16:30-18:00	Poster Sessions
18:00-18:30	BREAK
18:30-19:30	CLOSURE CEREMONY

FRIDAY, September 24, 2027	
9:00-18:00	TECHNICAL FIELD TRIPS

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Code of Conduct

Ecologist are a group of researchers who are particularly aware of the value of diversity. Therefore, we know that only by fostering diversity within our collective can we generate an environment that is sufficiently enriching and inclusive for groundbreaking ideas and innovative projects to emerge that will advance our knowledge of terrestrial ecology and provide answers to the current ecological crisis.

We are highly involved in the democratisation of knowledge and in the promotion of diversity within the academic world, because the knowledge society needs a diverse and tolerant academic space, in accordance with the social reality. Our motivation is to help ecologists develop professionally in the field and position they desire, whether it be teaching, research, or management, and to enable them to carry out any aspect of their work regardless of their gender identity, sexual orientation, functional diversity, origin, religion, etc., without being subject to discrimination or abuse.



Sustainability

In our field, adopting sustainable practices is not just a responsibility—it's a commitment to aligning our events with the values we promote. This means reducing the environmental footprint at every stage by: prioritizing the use of digital materials over consumables; selecting local, seasonal, and predominantly plant-based menus to significantly cut carbon emissions and closely monitoring attendee numbers to prevent food waste and enable the donation of any surplus. It also involves eliminating single-use plastics bottles through water refill stations, choosing recycled, biodegradable or reusable materials across all operations, and minimizing the consumption of accesory products. Finally, we promote low-impact mobility by encouraging public transportation, walking, cycling, and providing shuttle services. To close the loop, we calculate the event's carbon footprint and support certified carbon reduction projects to ensure a measurable and lasting positive impact.

Family conciliation

Aware of the importance of reconciling family life with scientific activity and of the difficulties that women scientists with young children in particular have in attending conferences, the organizers will made every effort to ensure that the conference includes effective family conciliation measures and that it is an event where families are welcome.

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Sponsorsip Opportunities

We believe that, along with its intrinsic scientific interest, the AEET, Sfe² & EEF Joint Meeting has a great social relevance, as nature conservation, preservation of ecosystem services and mitigation of global climate change are essential to procure social welfare at a global level and involve the participation of all social actors. Furthermore, this congress aims to inspire discussions and collaborations that will drive positive change in the field of ecology, promoting a more inclusive and sustainable future for scientific research.

Environmental accountability and outreach efforts to educate the wider community about relevant scientific findings should be a priority for institutions and are of vital importance for an informed public discussion on these issues.

All institutions and corporations concerned with social and environmental responsibility are welcome to collaborate with the organisation of the AEET, Sfe2 & EEF Joint Meeting, through different modalities described here. However, we are open to evaluate other collaboration options depending on their communication objectives and economic possibilities.



Communication Plan

The Conference Organization has developed a comprehensive communication plan designed to ensure wide dissemination of the event among the scientific community, collaborating institutions, and professionals in the sector. The aim is to guarantee clear, accessible, and continuous communication before, during, and after the Meeting.

Communication Plan Objectives

- Increase the visibility of the Conference at national and international levels.
- Encourage participation from the European scientific community.
- Ensure access to updated and reliable information.
- Strengthen the institutional identity of the Conference.
- Disseminate the scientific results generated during the event.
- Ensure sustainability measures and compliance with a code of ethical conduct during the event.

Target Audiences

- European scientific community: researchers, university faculty, early-career researchers and students.
- European Ecological Societies.
- Collaborating institutions and sponsors.
- General and specialized media outlets.
- General public interested in ecological topics and environmental matters.

Communication Timeline

- Before the Conference: Website launch, initial mailings, press releases.
- During the Conference: Website updates, recording and dissemination of content, signage, participant documents.
- After the Conference: Publication of the book of proceedings, YouTube videos, distribution of acknowledgements and final summary.

Communication Plan Pillars

Digital and Web Presence

- Development and continuous updating of the Conference's official website.
- Publication of news, documents, calls for participation, and programme updates.
- A centralized space containing all essential information about the event.

Direct Communication with the Scientific Community

- Distribution of mailings and informational circulars to mailing lists of Research Centres, Universities, and European Ecological Societies, with periodic updates during key stages of the Conference.

Relations with the Media

- Issuance of national and international press releases.
- Engagement with journalists specializing in science and the environment.
- Facilitated access to information and Conference spokespersons.
- Collaboration with communication units of Universities and Public Research Organizations (PROs).

Dissemination of Conference Content

- Publication of the electronic book of conference proceedings.
- Dissemination of the opening ceremony and plenary lectures on YouTube, ensuring open and permanent access.

Materials for Attendees

- Distribution of a printed programme containing essential event information.
- Installation of informative signage throughout all key areas of the venue.
- Distribution of corporate brochures from our sponsors.

Evaluation and Monitoring

- Media Coverage Reports.
- Level of Participant Engagement and Satisfaction.
- Assessment of the Environmental Impact of the Event.

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Contacts

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Thank you