 ALTER-Net

ALTER-Net is a partnership of 22 research organisations in Europe, developed in the EC’s Sixth Framework Programme. ALTER-Net’s mission is to improve the sustainable use, management and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems through the integration of European interdisciplinary research capacity and knowledge. It will do this by working in partnership with its main European stakeholders in scientific, policy and public sectors, and by a training programme featuring an annual Summer School.

The Summer School Objectives

The ALTER-Net Summer School shall contribute to durable integration and spread of excellence within and beyond the network, with a view to promote interdisciplinary approaches. The 2010 Summer School will focus on:
- Biodiversity and ecosystems in Europe;
- Ecosystem processes, function, services and benefits;
- Resilience of social and natural systems;
- Valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- Linking biodiversity research with policy and the public.

Experts will give lectures on the themes mentioned above. Guided by tutors in the afternoons, working groups will discuss implications of findings for an actual European ecosystem and its services and compile these results.

Summer School Conveners

ALTER-Net Summer School Secretariat:
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For more information on ALTER-Net see:
http://www.alter-net.info/
Participants

The ALTER-Net 2010 summer school is open to young graduate and post-graduate scientists from the network partners and elsewhere, including two participants from developing countries. Adequate English skills are required. All participants are asked to present a poster on their own research. The summer school is limited to 32 participants, who will be selected with the goal of achieving an optimal mix among regions, disciplines and gender.

Application

Participants must cover part of the costs for the school through a registration fee of € 800,-. This includes all local costs including lectures, meals, refreshments, the field trip and accommodation in double rooms with shared bathrooms. A small number of support grants to waive part or all of the fee are available for students from developing countries and countries with economies in transition (details for the application available on request). Travel costs must be covered by the participants as well.

Deadline for applications: 15 April 2010
Successful applicants will be notified by 1 May 2010.

Online information, the preliminary programme and application forms are available at:
http://www.pik-potsdam.de/alter-net/

There you can also see programmes from previous years and the alumni list which provides an impression of the tradition of our summer school.

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Last year´s lecturers:

Eric Arets, ALterra, Wageningen, Netherlands
Augustin Berghöfer, UFZ, Leipzig Germany
Wolfgang Cramer, PIK, Potsdam, Germany
Roy Haines-Young, U Nottingham, UK
Rik Leemans, U Wageningen, Netherlands
Hal Mooney, U Stanford, California, USA
Dagmar Schröter, IIASA, Laxenburg, Austria
Martin Sharman, EC, Brussels, Belgium
Simron Jit Singh, IFF, Vienna, Austria
Terry Parr, CEH, Lancaster, UK
Tony Patt, IIASA, Laxenburg, Austria
Marion Potschin, U Nottingham, UK
Diana Reckien, PIK, Potsdam, Germany
Mark Sutton, CEH, Edinburgh, UK
Adam Vanbergen, CEH, Edinburgh, UK
Sybille van den Hove, Terra, Barcelona, Spain
Jiska van Dijk, NINA, Trondheim, Norway
Detlef van Vuuren, PBL, Bilthoven, Netherlands
Allan Watt, CEH, Edinburgh, UK
Martin Wildenberg, IFF, Vienna, Austria
Brooke Wilkerson, U Bergen, Norway
Juliette Young, CEH, Bergen, Norway

Overall, about 20 lecturers are expected to join the school again in 2010.