

12th EEF Congress 2011

The European Ecological Federation (EEF, www.europeanecology.org) cordially invites you to attend the 12th EEF Congress, that will take place in Ávila, Spain, from 25 till 29 September in 2011.

It is hosted and organized by the Spanish Terrestrial Ecology Society (AEET, www.aeet.org) in collaboration with the Portuguese Ecological Society (SPECO, <http://speco.fc.ul.pt>).

Venue: Ávila is 113 km. from Madrid, and easily reached by train, bus and car.

The city was founded in the 11th century. As in many medieval Spanish cities, Jews, Mudejars and Christians lived together; all of them left a distinctive cultural and architectural heritage. Ávila is the 'City of Saints and Stones', the birthplace of St. Teresa and the burial place of the Grand Inquisitor Torquemada. The town has kept its medieval austerity and sober beauty, represented by a unique Gothic cathedral and the spectacular fortifications of the city walls. Ávila was designated a World Heritage City in 1985 by UNESCO "*Old Town of Ávila with its Extra-Muros Churches.*"

Ávila is located close to one of the most spectacular and well conserved Mediterranean mountain landscapes, the Sierra de Gredos, which is currently protected by the Regional Park under its name.

Congress Center: Lienzo Norte, is a recent building, worked as an underground piece emerging from the stoned surrounding, its rough stoned facades melt with the outskirts, and the visual communication between outside and inside provided by the glazed surfaces helps to install a strong dialogue with the wonderful horizon provided by Ávila's walls.

Have the virtual tour in:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0Jf3rb3yQA>

The motto of the Congress is "*Responding to Rapid Environmental Change,*" which highlights the work of the scientific ecological community to unravel the global change crisis and lead its mitigation.



Local Organizing Committee:

- Fernando Valladares, IRN-CSIC, Madrid
- Adrián Escudero, URJC, Madrid
- Arantazu L. Luzuriaga, URJC, Madrid
- Sonia García-Rabasa, IRN-CSIC, Madrid
- Luis Giménez-Benavides, URJC, Madrid
- Rubén Milla, URJC, Madrid
- Leyre Jiménez-Eguizábal, AEET Secretary, Madrid.

Call for proposals: In addition to the formal announcement of this Congress, we also want to **invite all colleagues and ecological societies to participate in the preparation of this Congress**. It is now time to send suggestions for symposia, speakers and associated activities (field excursions, workshops, exhibitions...).

Submit a proposal: Please send an email to info@aeet.org with the title of the proposal and a short description. Deadline for proposals: November 2010.

More information about the Congress will soon be available at the website www.eefcongress2011.eu. For questions and suggestions please send an email to info@aeet.org.

Please, mark this event in your calendar. We are looking forward to meeting you.

