



International Conference

***SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF
MOUNTAIN AREAS***

- Experiences, challenges and perspectives -

Žabljak, September 14-16, 2016

MONTENEGRO

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Background and objectives

The conference is organized in the framework of project “Valorizing the Montenegrin Katuns through sustainable development of agriculture and tourism - KATUN”¹. The main idea of KATUN project, being implemented by the interdisciplinary research team, is to create a knowledge base for the multipurpose use of the Montenegrin mountain resources, by combining the traditional agriculture with boosting tourism activities and protecting the cultural heritage (www.katun.me).

Katuns as nuclei of traditional agriculture in mountain areas face many challenges. This uniqueness of Montenegro has to be preserved and revitalized via new opportunities in tourism and other complementary activities (handcraft, trade, culture, services).

The Conference objective is to provide an overview of different experiences and good practices in development of mountain areas, to improve understanding of the challenges in dynamic social and economic environment and to bring together key players in development of Montenegrin mountains.

As an important milestone of the project, the Conference is expected to contribute in achieving the main project aims: knowledge and innovations’ transfer to the agriculture and agro-tourism; generate entrepreneurship in the mountainous multifunctional agriculture; and achieve sustainable cultural heritage protection.

The organizers are:

- Biotechnical faculty, University of Montenegro
- Faculty for Tourism and Hotel Management , University of Montenegro
- Historical Institute of Montenegro, University of Montenegro

In association with:

- The international KATUN project partners:
 - Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia;
 - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Dept. of Forest Mycology and Pathology;
 - Istituto per le tecnologie applicate ai beni culturali, Italy; and
 - University of Basilicata, Italy,
- The commercial project partners (HM Durmitor, doo, Zabljak and The Old House, doo Podgorica),
- The Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts – CANU

¹ The project is financed by the Ministry of Science of Montenegro, within the scope of “Higher Education and Research for Innovation and Competitiveness in Montenegro – HERIC” project.

Target audience

This conference is intended for researchers and the professionals involved in different aspects of development of rural areas (producers, food chain representatives, public stakeholders and agencies, policy makers, consulting sector, NGOs,...), as well as those dealing with cultural-historical heritage there.

The main thematic areas

The conference will be focused on the social, cultural and business environment in development of mountain areas, specifically on:

- Social innovations and entrepreneurship in rural development
- Sustainable agricultural production in mountainous areas, especially on katuns
Promotion and protection of the traditional products
- Ecological system services in mountainous areas, environment and biodiversity protection
- Sustainable eco-rural tourism
- Cultural-historical heritage: story, material, the perspectives

Panel discussion on ideas and recommendations for further development of the katuns will be organized at the end of the program.

Keynote speakers and the Conference publications

The keynote speakers will be selected and invited to present their reviews (at the start of each of the conference sessions).

Papers will be presented orally and in a poster session.

Abstracts will be published in the book of abstracts prior to conference, and authors are invited to send full papers for publication in thematic paper collection, published by eminent scientific publisher. All the papers will be peer reviewed before publishing.

Important dates

Abstracts submission: until May 31st 2016

Full paper submission: until August 15th 2016

Registration: until September 1st 2016

Conference languages

The official conference languages are English and Montenegrin.

Registration fee

The Conference fee includes: attendance of the full conference programme, the conference materials, refreshments and lunches, official dinner, one day field trip and transfer from Podgorica to Žabljak for participants arriving before the Conference opening.

The Conference fee paid until May 31st 2016 is 100 euro, for later payments is 120 Euro. The fee for students and early stage researchers is 60 Euros.

Conference venue

The Conference will be held at Žabljak - in hotels:

“Gorske oči” www.hotelgorskeoci.me and

“Žabljak” <http://www.hmdurmitor.com/en/hotel>

More information about Žabljak: <http://www.visit-montenegro.com/main-cities/zabljak/> or <http://www.zabljak.montenegro.travel/en/zabljak>

Other information

The other relevant information, including the Conference program, information about accommodation and travel and instructions for writing abstracts and full papers will be given on the conference website soon. Please follow instruction for submitting abstracts, full papers and registration.

For all further information please visit website: www.katun/conference.me

Contact: Dr Milić Čurović, katunmne@gmail.com; +382(0)67 594 532

*It is our pleasure to invite you to take part
in the Conference!
Welcome!*