

Summary of the progress

Working Group 1: Mushrooms and truffles

Zagreb, 18th - 21st of February 2015

The WG1 focused its session on presenting regional in-depth case studies in different COST action countries. The presentations allowed the participants to share interesting research works and practical experiences concerning mushrooms & truffles. Potential joint research initiatives and cooperation were also discussed among the WG1 representatives and, as a result of the meeting, interesting collaborations and outcomes were envisaged for the future.

Next steps

The next activities of the WG1 will include a preparation of a small form that will be distributed among the WG1 participants aiming at studying the linguistic richness of fungi in order to investigate whether local names share common conceptualizations in all COST countries since biological, cultural and linguistic diversity are often linked. This approach was not reflected in the general survey and we think that it deserves attention. The WG1 will also devote efforts to compiling mushroom data series based on permanent plots from European countries involved in the COST action. Such data are scarce and very scattered. In this regard, the WG1 agreed to start the process of developing a common pan-European database by combining the existing data from different countries in order to build the largest dataset worldwide on forest fungi and mushrooms.