

SAVE THE DATE!

Conference on 'The Economic Value of Biodiversity'

3rd-4th June 2014

The New Palace Hotel, Sicily, Italy

SCOPE

Following the success of our first "Solar Salt & Biodiversity" Conference in 2012 (Seville, Spain), the European Salt Producers' Association (EuSalt) will organise a follow-up event on the 3rd and 4th June 2014 in Sicily. Drawing on the discussions and conclusions from 2012, this second edition will aim to address issues related to biodiversity and economic activity. We have established how solar salt works and biodiversity preservation are inter-dependent and important for one another. Drawing from this, we now aim to identify the main challenges and opportunities facing solar salt works when it comes to putting an economic value/price on biodiversity.

In parallel, but close connection with the conference, an exhibition will be organised that will show both biodiversity on site and projects aiming at raising awareness about their activities and its relation with biodiversity. Both the conference and the exhibition will take place on Wednesday 4th June 2014. They will be preceded by a visit of the Trapani Salt Works on 3rd June 2014.



Conference Theme

Policy-makers and the public commonly agree with the importance of maintaining and restoring biodiversity so as to prevent human negative impact on the environment. The conference will highly focus on sharing practical experience and expertise in the subject matter. Producers from all around the world will be invited to present their contribution to the aforementioned, and discuss projects that have attempted to increase the economic and cultural relevance of solar salt works while further



preserving the biodiversity that thrives on them. Those projects may include eco-tourism, museums and cultural activities, to only name a few. Likewise, experience sharing about the various ways to raise public awareness and increase the publicity around solar salt works will be the added value of such a conference.

It is also commonly agreed that solar salt works are essential for preserving biodiversity and ecosystems that are specific to coastal areas and (inland) wetlands. In return, biodiversity that thrives on solar salt works is an undeniable asset to salt production. While this interdependence is acknowledge and praised, the economic factor is sometimes missing.

Our objective for the conference will be to answer the following questions:

- How do solar salt works respond to those challenges?
- How do they reflect the economic value of biodiversity? How do they evaluate this economic value?
- How do they reconcile minimum economic needs and biodiversity “obligations”?

Because this issue is common and relevant to solar salt works worldwide, EuSalt is seeking to extend our expert representation and broaden the audience for this conference. We are looking for individuals and organisations interested in providing their expertise.

Conference Secretariat

EuSalt aisbl

Avenue de l'Yser 4 - B-1040, Brussels

Belgium

E-mail: info@eusalt.com

Phone: +32 2 737 10 90

Fax: +32 2 737 10 99

Website: www.eusalt.com