For a European Nature Restoration Law
We are closely following the negotiations for the approval of the European Nature Restoration Law, and we at EFIB would like to join the efforts of other organisations to ensure that this important law and its ambitious objectives go ahead. Our task will be to contribute our knowledge and professionalism to the restoration of ecosystems and their biodiversity and to prevent further damage.
We want to renew the desire, in these uncertain times, to improve the understanding of man with Nature and man with HIS nature. For peace, always, and for Nature too.
General Assembly - Verein für Ingenieurbiologie & Excursion
25/26 May 2023 at HEPIA / Geneva

This year's VIB General Assembly and Annual Excursion will be dedicated to the revitalisation of rivers and lakeshores. We are pleased to invite you to the meeting at the HEPIA in Geneva. After the General Assembly, expert presentations will give an exciting overview of the "Aire" project. Afterwards, we will visit the shores of Lake Geneva 'Eaux-vives' and end the day with an aperitif-dinner by the lake.

On the second day, we will visit different sections of the river Aire during our excursion.

More information DEUTSCH

Mitgliederversammlung Verein für Ingenieurbiologie & Exkursion
25./26. Mai 2023 in Genf (HEPIA)


Am zweiten Tag besuchen wir auf unserer Exkursion verschiedene Abschnitte des Flusses Aire.
Erasmus+ The use of green infrastructure in Mediterranean climates

Last 17th and 18th April, within the Erasmus + exchange project between our partner Boku and Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology took place a in collaboration with Gianluigi Pirrera from AIPIN, a technical visit to Sicily. The mobility included the visit on the field on environmental engineering on projects involving the introduction of green infrastructure in Sicily. The training include visits to various sites in the Ragusa landscapes and a short seminar on the benefits of such projects. A total of sixteen students from both Austria and Malta were able to benefit from this collaboration and visited several realized projects like: vertical green works, green roofs, dry stone walls industrial phytoremediation, and typical Soil and Water Bioengineering works.

Participants at ERASMUS + from Malta and Austria hosted by AIPIN in Sicily
EFIB and its Spanish and French associations AEIP and Agebio participated in the training day and results seminar on 11 and 12 April 2023 in Laruns (64) in the French Pyrenees of the European PHUSICOS project https://phusicos.eu, an EU Horizon project designed to work on Nature-based solutions for managing natural and climatic risks in the Pyrenees.

During the 11th April Efib organised a course about Soil and Water Bioengineering in Mountain Areas.

Didier Vergés (CTPP) gave an introduction to the Phusicos project, while Jean Michel Mehl of IPHB analysed the context of the Oseau Valley, the venue of the meeting. Following Klaus Peklo (Agebio), Albert Sorolla (AEIP) and Paola Sangalli (EFIB) were invited to present the existing designs and achievements in the Pyrenees in Spain and France. In the afternoon, Eduardo Fernández (Eiforsa) explained his experience from the local forestry company. To finish the session, a model workshop was held to better explain the Bioengineering techniques.

The second day was dedicated to the results of the Phusicos project, in which were presented the concrete works carried out by the Phusicos members. Efib will invited to introduce the SWB as alternative Nature Based Solutions. After the morning session, the block fall containment works of Artouste were visited.
Participants at the Phusicos Seminar

Excursion Phusicos 12th Avril
Soil and Water Bioengineering was presented in EGU 2023 in Vienna in the session.

**Nature-based and bio-based solutions for geohazard mitigation on slopes and streambanks**

Climate induced or anthropogenically triggered soil-related geohazards may cause damage to buildings, infrastructure and the environment. Solutions that mimic natural or biological processes are increasingly being adopted to mitigate the triggering or propagation of such geohazards through improvement of the soil behaviour and its characteristics.

The use of Soil and Water Bioengineering on potentially unstable slopes and streambanks is an example of a Nature-Based Solution (NBS).

These NBS combine ecological approaches with engineering design in order to provide practical solutions, while also maintaining/enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Chairpersons: Vittoria Capobianco (NGI), Alessandro Fraccica (ISPRA), Grainne El Mountassir

In this session, together with field and laboratory research, practical cases of bioengineering on slopes and riverbanks were presented.

Paola Sangalli presented some examples of slope stabilisation carried out in linear infrastructures in the Basque Country as well as a new manual of techniques. She also mentioned the EFIB and its role in the dissemination and promotion of these techniques.

André Evette, from Inrae, presented the Proteger project being developed in Guadeloupe, showing the work to identify the most suitable plant species for the application of these techniques on riverbanks.

Aldo Freitas, from Ecosalix and Apena, showed a concrete example of the restoration of an old canal using bioengineering techniques.

In the poster session Klaus Peklo showed examples of river restoration in France.
The Department of Agriculture, Food, Environment and Forestry of the University of Florence (UNIFI-DAGRI) has worked within the Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project, POUR LE RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITES ET LA SUPERVISION DES TRAVAUX DE TERRASSEMENT, DE BIO-INGENIERIE ET DE RECUPERATION DE L'EAU DE PLUIE. With the Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Breeding of the Republic of Burundi (MINAGRIE), EFIB has collaborated in this initiative.

Last February and March, a team formed by Federico Preti, Giulio Castelli and Cesare Crocetti gave a two-week course and practical workshop during which they carried out a slope stabilisation project using SWB techniques. In this project, several professionals in Burundi have collaborated.

In the coming months, we will share a series of videos and more information about the evolution of the techniques.
El congreso se realiza en forma conjunta con el V Congreso Colombiano de Restauración Ecológica. Los invitamos a revisar el programa y el formato de participación.

More information: https://congresorestauracion.redcre.com/
The aim of the BioHydrology conferences is to provide a forum to share knowledge and network about any topic related to the interactions between biotic systems and hydrology. Biohydrology aims to gather scientists and practitioners dealing with issues in the field of hydrology, biohydrology, biology, ecohydrology, ecology, geography, and engineering in natural, agricultural, forestry, and anthropogenic areas.

The theme of Biohydrology7 will be “Biota, water, and humans. Management for a sustainable world”. We are planning two conference days (posters and talks), one day of a mid-conference field visit and two days for a post-conference tour.

More information at https://7biohydrology.webador.es

Abstract submission open: 1st April 2023
Abstract submission deadline: 15th September 2023

www.efib.org