



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Working Group on Effects

**International Cooperative Programme on Effects
of Air Pollution on Natural Vegetation and Crops**

An invitation to participate in the

**37th Task Force Meeting of
the UNECE ICP Vegetation**

Lithuania, Kaunas

Monday 19th – Thursday 21st February, 2024

Information about the meeting, travel details and a registration form are included in this document. The meeting will accommodate up to 100 participants, and places will be allocated on a first come, first served principle. The final programme will be distributed in January 2024.



**UK Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology**



**LITHUANIAN
RESEARCH CENTRE
FOR AGRICULTURE
AND FORESTRY**

37th Task Force Meeting of the UNECE ICP Vegetation 19–21 February 2024

Meeting venue

The 37th Task Force Meeting (TFM) of the ICP Vegetation will be held at the Victoria hotel Kaunas (Misko st. 11, Kaunas, Lithuania): <https://hotelvictoria.lt/en/contacts/>

Accommodation, meals and costs

Victoria hotel Kaunas (Misko st. 11 <https://hotelvictoria.lt/en/rooms/>) has agreed a special deal for the meeting. **No rooms have been reserved in the hotel by the local organizers. Participants are responsible for their own room reservation!** To receive the special price, all the bookings should be made via Victoria hotel Kaunas Reservations (e-mail: kaunas@hotelvictoria.lt, phone +370 37 407500) using code: **ICP Vegetation**.

Other hotels at a range of budgets are available in the local area.

A package deal has been arranged and it includes refreshments during coffee breaks, lunches, welcome reception (Monday evening, February 19, 2024), conference dinner (Tuesday evening, 20 February 2024) and a visit to Kaunas city centre (Tuesday evening, 20 February 2024).

The cost of this package is 100 Euros.

This package does not include evening meals for any evening not specified above.

The Kaunas walking tour (Tuesday afternoon, 20 February 2024) will go through the old town.

Depending on interest, an **optional excursion** will be arranged (Thursday, 22 February 2024) to Trakai Castle – Vilnius old town tour (full day; max 8 hours). The cost for the excursion (travel, entrance to the Trakai Castle – Vilnius old town tour and lunch break) will be 50 Euros. After the excursion, participants departing from Vilnius airport will be able to stay in Vilnius.

Payment for the package deal (100 Euros) and/or excursion (50 Euros) is required by bank transfer in advance. The deadline for payment is 15th January 2024. Payment in cash or by card at registration on 20th or 21st February 2024 is not possible.

For bank transfer, in Euros, please use the following information:

Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry

Beneficiary's account No.: LT117044090108266303

Beneficiary's address: INSTITUTO AL. 1, AKADEMIJA, KEDAINIAI DIST., LITHUANIA

Post code: LT58344

Bank name: AB SEB BANKAS
SWIFT (BIC) code: CBVILT2X
Bank code: 70440

Bank address: KONSTITUCIJOS AVE. 24, VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

Post code: LT08105

Please indicate as payment description:

Name of conference and the name of the participant

(for example, payment for Harry Jones: ICP Vegetation Meeting, Harry Jones).

In order to receive a Proforma Invoice for payment of registration fees, please send your details (Participant's Name and Surname/Organization name, address, company code, VAT code) to Mrs. Juneta Vildžiūnė by email juneta.vildziune@lammc.lt

Other information about Kaunas can be found at

<https://visit.kaunas.lt/en/>

<https://www.inyourpocket.com/kaunas>

Visa

Citizens of the EU countries and Schengen area do not need to acquire a VISA.

If you are a citizen of a country that requires a visa to visit Lithuania, please see

<https://keliauk.urm.lt/en>

Please find the VISA policy at the following link: <https://keliauk.urm.lt/en/entry-to-lithuania/visas>

Should you already be fully registered for the event in Kaunas, our team can prepare a visa invitation letter supporting your application stating that you are already fully registered for the event.

Travel information

Kaunas is the second-largest city in Lithuania, situated in the centre of the country. Here are the most convenient ways of traveling to Kaunas:

<https://visit.kaunas.lt/en/plan/transport/atvykimas-i-kauna/>

Victoria Hotel Kaunas location: Kaunas Bus station – 750 m (10 min on foot or 1 bus stop), Kaunas Railway station – 1,2 km (15 min on foot or 2 bus stops), Kaunas International Airport KUN – 15 km, Vilnius International Airport VNO – 100 km, Palanga International Airport PLQ – 240 km, Riga International Airport RIX - 250 km.

Travel from Kaunas International airport (<https://www.kaunas-airport.lt/en/>) to Victoria hotel Kaunas: The city bus #29 (its timetable is adjusted to the arrivals schedule) will help you reach the city centre (get off at stop – Griunvaldo). It takes about 40–50 minutes.

See information: <https://visit.kaunas.lt/en/plan/transport/public-transport/>

The price of a single paper ticket bought in the bus from the driver is 1 Euros. But you can also buy a e-tickets, using a mobile app (Ziogas app). Taxi costs about 20 Euros.

Travel from Vilnius International airport (<https://www.vilnius-airport.lt/en/>) to Kaunas:

To reach Victoria hotel Kaunas you will need to either drive to Kaunas city or take a train or a bus from Vilnius Railway or Bus stations, both are in proximity of each other. To connect from Vilnius Airport to both stations, take the bus routes #1, #2 (direction Airport> Viking st.>Station) or train (Vilnius Airport>Vilnius).

Use this LTG Link website for train schedules and tickets (<https://ltglink.lt/en>) or check the bus connections and tickets online here for Kaunas destination: <https://www.autobusubilietai.lt/en>

Travel from Palanga International airport (<https://www.palanga-airport.lt/en/>) to Kaunas:

The city bus #31 (its timetable is adjusted to the arrivals schedule) will help you reach the city: 1) get off at first stop – Palanga Bus station, it takes about 12 minutes or get off at last stop – Klaipeda Bus station, it takes about 40 minutes. Check the bus connections and tickets online here for Kaunas destination (Palanga>Kaunas or Klaipeda>Kaunas): <https://www.autobusubilietai.lt/en>

Registration

Registration is by online form (<https://forms.gle/ytA9s5vYfMj3kMXL9>) by **Friday 15th December 2023**

Posters and presentations

There will be opportunities for participants to give an oral presentation or present a poster. Oral presentations will generally be 20 min (15 min presentation + 5 min discussion).

Poster size maximum A0 (poster stand size is 850 x 1200 mm).

Authors are requested to indicate their preferred presentation on the online **REGISTRATION FORM**.

One-page **ABSTRACTS** will be published in a book of abstracts and a hard copy will be provided at the registration desk. The book of abstracts will be circulated to all participants before the meeting in pdf format and made available on the ICP Vegetation website (<http://icpvegetation.ceh.ac.uk>).

Authors should prepare their abstracts according to the enclosed instructions and e-mail them by **Sunday 14th January 2024 to Felicity Hayes** (fhay@ceh.ac.uk)

If you need further details or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact:

Felicity Hayes (fhay@ceh.ac.uk) (Chair ICP Vegetation)

Or

Local organisers (ICPmeeting@lammc.lt)

A provisional programme is provided below.

Provisional Programme

Monday, 19 February 2024

18:00 Registration in Victoria hotel Kaunas and putting up posters

18:30 Welcome reception

Tuesday, 20 February 2024

08:30 Late registration and putting up posters

Session 1:

09:00–10:45 Plenary session

09:00 Welcome address

10:45–11:30 Coffee/tea and poster viewing (with authors at poster)

Session 2:

11:30–13:00 Two parallel sessions: Ozone and Moss survey

13:00–14:00 Lunch

Session 3:

14:00–15:30 Two parallel sessions: Ozone and Moss survey

15:30–16:00 Coffee/tea and poster viewing

Session 4:

16:00–17:30 Walking tour in Kaunas old town

19:30 Conference Dinner

Wednesday, 21 February 2024

Session 5:

08:30–10:30 Two parallel sessions: Ozone and Moss survey

10:30–11:00 Coffee/tea and poster viewing

Session 6:

11:00–13:00 Two parallel sessions: Ozone and Moss survey

13:00–14:00 Lunch and coffee

Session 7:

14:00–16:00 Final plenary session

Thursday, 22 February 2024

Excursion to Trakai – Vilnius (With possibility to drop off to Vilnius Centre for those who would prefer to stay in Vilnius on Thursday night and for those with a Thursday evening flight)

Note: The final programme will depend on presentations offered.

Parallel sessions:

There will be several parallel sessions on 'Ozone' and 'Moss survey'. Depending on papers offered, the following topics are likely to be presented and discussed:

Ozone (and nitrogen):

- Application and new developments of flux-based methodology and critical levels of ozone for crops, forest trees and (semi-)natural vegetation;
- Updates required to Scientific Background Document B for Chapter 3 of the Modelling and Mapping Manual;
- Monitoring and recording ozone damage on vegetation – EU National Emission Ceilings Directive (2016/2284/EU) and smart-phone App;
- Evidence of ozone impacts on crops in developing regions, mapping areas at risk;
- New evidence of nitrogen impacts on vegetation;
- Interactive impacts of ozone and nitrogen on vegetation.

Moss survey:

- Progress toward the report of the 2020/21 moss survey on heavy metals, nitrogen and POPs (at national and regional scale);
- New developments and applications of mosses as biomonitors of heavy metal, nitrogen and POPs pollution;
- Mosses as biomonitors of atmospheric microplastic deposition;
- Preparations for the 2025 moss survey;

Both sessions:

- Outreach activities in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), Asia and other regions (e.g. Africa, South-America);
- Collaboration with other subsidiary bodies of the Convention, including other ICPs and EMEP Centres/Task Forces.