



*Genetic Nature
Observation & Action*

GENOA News & Views

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Dear GENOA community members,

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Report from the World Biodiversity Forum



Isa-Rita Russo, GENOA co-chair

How to cite: Russo, I.-R., Buzan, E., Galbusera, P., Gargiulo, R., Heuertz, M., Hoban, S., Hvilsom, C., Kalamujić Strojil, B., Kopatz, A., Laikre, L., Mergeay, J., Paz-Vinas, I., Segelbacher, G., Vernesi, C., Fedorca, A., and Action, G. C.: Integrating genetic diversity monitoring in Europe: The GENOA COST Action, World Biodiversity Forum 2026, Davos, Switzerland, 14–19 Jun 2026, WBF2026-932, <https://doi.org/10.5194/wbf2026-932>, 2026.

GENOA was featured at the World Biodiversity Forum 2026 (14-19 June, 2026) in Davos, Switzerland, where co-chair Isa-Rita Russo delivered two presentations on genetic diversity monitoring and the implementation of Global Biodiversity Framework indicators across Europe. The talks highlighted the importance of coordinated monitoring, practical tools, and science-based policy support for biodiversity conservation.

[Click here](#) to read more about GENOA's representation at the World Biodiversity Forum.

WG1 Training School on Law and Policy of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Ahead of CBD COP17, [GENOA hosted a WG1 Training School](#) in Brussels focused on the legal and policy dimensions of genetic diversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Training school brought together 25 participants from 18 countries across Europe and neighbouring countries. Through expert lectures, practical exercises, and a visit to the European Parliament, participants strengthened their understanding of biodiversity

governance, national reporting, genetic diversity indicators, and negotiation processes while building connections at the science–policy interface.



Group photo with organizing team and trainees at the European Parliament, Brussels

2026 SCB Conservation Genetics Travel Awards

The SCB Conservation Genetics Working Group (CGWG) has opened applications for its 2026 Travel Awards, supporting delegates presenting conservation genetics research at SCB Regional Meetings. Awards of USD 500–1,500 will help cover travel and registration costs, with **priority given to early-career researchers, Indigenous community members, and applicants from low- and middle-income countries.**

Applications are open until **1 August 2026**.

[Read more](#) and [apply](#).

INFORMATION FOR YRI AND PRACTITIONERS

Postdoc Position on Developing Analytical Pipelines and Analyses to Survey Invasive Alien Species in Aquatic Systems using eDNA (2 years)

The Altermatt lab at the Department of Aquatic Ecology at Eawag and the Department of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies (IEU) at the [University of Zurich](#) have a vacancy for a Postdoc Position on Developing Analytical Pipelines and Analyses to Survey Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Aquatic Systems using eDNA.

In this Postdoc project, successful candidate will establish and develop analytical pipelines to analyse and survey invasive alien species using existing eDNA datasets. The initial focus will be on IAS in Central Europe/Switzerland, but pipelines should be scalable across Europe and beyond. **Own contributions and ideas are explicitly encouraged** and extensive intellectual freedom to shape the project is provided.

Applications must be submitted by **14 August 2026**.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the program and how to apply.

DECODING THE CBD

Learn your CBD ABCs

Less than 100 days remain until CBD COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia, and it's time to crack the CBD code! New to biodiversity policy? We'll help you decode the jargon. Already fluent in CBD-speak? Put your knowledge to the test. In each upcoming newsletter, we'll spotlight and explain some of the most common acronyms found in CBD documents.

- **CBD - Convention on Biological Diversity**

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) entered into force on 29 December 1993. It has 3 main objectives:

- The conservation of biological diversity;
- The sustainable use of the components of biological diversity;
- The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

The Convention on Biological Diversity was inspired by the world community's growing commitment to sustainable development. It represents a dramatic step forward in the conservation of biological

diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.

The full text of the convention can be found [here](#).

- **COP - Conference of the Parties**

The Conference of the Parties is the governing body of the Convention, and advances implementation of the Convention through the decisions it takes at its periodic meetings. It brings together the Parties to the CBD (196 states currently that are bound by this treaty) to agree on the Convention's major agenda items.

To date the Conference of the Parties has held 16 ordinary meetings and two extraordinary meetings. From 1994 to 1996, the Conference of the Parties held its ordinary meetings annually. Following a change in the rules of procedure in 2000, these meetings are being held every two years.

The full list of parties can be found [here](#).

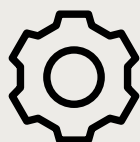
- **CHM - Clearing House Mechanism**

The Clearing-House Mechanism seeks to support the Convention's thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work by promoting cooperation, exchanging information and developing a network of partners. The mechanism's first priority was to ensure universal access to the Convention's official records. Since then, the range of available information has been greatly expanded. Users can now readily access case studies, national reports, and other relevant documentation.

The Clearing-House Mechanism consists of the following components:

- The [CHM Portal](#), acting as the central node.
- The [network of national Clearing-House Mechanisms](#).
- Various partner institutions.

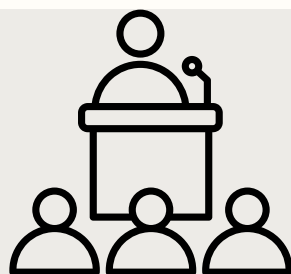
UPCOMING EVENTS



GENOA WG2/WG3 workshop

July 23-24, 2026

Brussels, Belgium



[7th Conservation Genetics Meeting](#)

August 26-28, 2026

Antwerp, Belgium



[7th World Conf. on Marine Biodiversity](#)

November 17-20, 2026

Bruges, Belgium

Questions?

Reach out to us at genoa.costaction@gmail.com

Are you organizing an event? Did you receive an award? Are you looking for collaborators on a publication? If you have any news or information you'd like to share with the GENOA community, write to us and we will share it.

Email us



GENOA COST ACTION

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