

EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

29th Session of the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

Announcement of the 29th Session

The 29th Session of the EFC Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds will be held in Montgenèvre, a municipality close to Briançon in the Département of Hautes-Alpes in South-East France, at an altitude of 1860 m a.s.l and about 15 kilometers far away from the Italian border.



Photo 1. View of Montgenèvre. © Office de Tourisme de Montgenèvre

The session will run from 03 to 05 September 2013 and is being jointly organized by the French “Ministère de l’agriculture, de l’agro-alimentaire et de la forêt”, the Service of “Restauration des terrains en montagne” (RTM) of the “Office national des forêts” (ONF) and FAO. The main topic under discussion will be natural disaster risk management in mountain areas. The meeting will last for two days, followed by a one-day field excursion.

The programme anticipates a seminar on the session theme on Tuesday 03 September, with invited speakers from France and other concerned countries. The second day (Wednesday, 04 September) will start with the presentation and discussion of the recommendations resulting from the recently accomplished review of the mandate and modus operandi of the Working Party, which will be fundamental for defining Working Party’s activities and work plan for the period 2014-2015. Following this discussion, member country and observer reports focusing on disaster risk management will be presented and relevant debate will be animated.

On the third day (Thursday, 05 September) the organizers will guide the participants on a study tour in the Queyras, during which local authorities and professionals will provide explanations on themes such as hazard mapping, risk assessment, emergency management and torrent control.

Several options are available to reach the venue of the session.



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By plane:

From the airport of Turin it takes one hour and a quarter by car to get to Montgenèvre, two hours from the airports of Lyon and Grenoble, and two hours and a half from the airports of Geneva and Milan.

By train:

there is a TGV train station in Oulx, in Italy, only 16 km far away from Montgenèvre.

Direct TGV trains run from Paris to Oulx in four hours and a half, in two hours and a half from Milan, and in one hour from Turin. Taxis are available from Oulx to Montgenèvre.

The SNCF train station of Briançon is located at a distance of 12 km from Montgenèvre. Regular trains from Marseille and Paris stop in Briançon.

By car:

Montgenèvre is a 30-minute drive away from the Fréjus tunnel between France and Italy, after leaving the A43 motorway from Lyon. Montgenèvre is 130 km far away from Grenoble.

The organizers will set up a shuttle bus service from Briançon to Montgenèvre and, upon specific request, from Oulx or Turin.

Additional details on how to get to Montgenèvre can be found at <http://www.montgenevre.com/winter/en/village/how-to-find-us>

More information on the 29th Session, including options for lodging and instructions to register, will soon be made available through the web site of the Working Party:

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/37705/en/>



Photo 2. Alluvial debris on a steep slope in the Queyras. © RTM

