



## XII International Mediterranean Ecosystems Conference

### FIRST CIRCULAR

#### MEDECOS XII 2010

The International Conference

La Serena, Chile

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010

MEDECOS is an international conference organized by ISOMED, the International Society of Mediterranean Ecology, which aims to meet the scientific community interested in Mediterranean-type ecosystems (MTEs). MTEs are regarded biodiversity hot-spots because they hold an extremely great amount of species and endemisms, and hence, there is a strong need for these ecosystems to be preserved. But unfortunately, MTEs also concentrate high levels of human activity, and as consequence, they are exposed to intense land use, habitat fragmentation, increased fire frequency, invasive species, nitrogen deposition, and many other factors derived from the global change endangering the singularity of their biota. MEDECOS XII meeting brings the opportunity for scientific researchers and students to review the recent development in Ecology, Conservation and Management of habitats and species from MTEs, and to delineate new trends and perspectives of research. MEDECOS XII will create a space for scientific discussion, networking and friendship among participants within a beautiful environment in La Serena, Chile.

The first MEDECOS meeting was in Valdivia, Chile, in March 1971. Since that date, MEDECOS has been hosted every 3-4 years in different locations of the five Mediterranean areas of the world (Mediterranean Basin, SW Australia, S California, Central Chile and the Cape Region in South Africa). The next year MEDECOS returns to Chile to celebrate four decades of advances in research concerning to MTEs.

This first circular is calling for all colleagues to start preparing their papers for MEDECOS XII, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> October 2010 in La Serena, Chile. Suggestions for symposia and workshops are welcome. Symposia have to be limited to half-day in length. MEDECOS XII will address a wide variety of topics, all of them within the context of Ecology, Conservation and Management of Mediterranean habitats and species:

- Molecular Ecology
- Evolutionary Ecology
- Ecophysiology
- Functional Ecology
- Population Ecology
- Community Ecology
- Ecosystem Functioning
- Landscape Ecology
- Reproductive Biology
- Fire Ecology
- Arid zones Ecology
- Biological Invasions
- Conservation Biology
- Management and Restoration Ecology
- Global Change

MEDECOS XII will precede the 10th Latinoamerican Congress of Botany, 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October 2010 (X Congreso Latinoamericano de Botánica “*Conservación y uso sustentable de la flora nativa latinoamericana*”), which will be also hosted in La Serena, Chile ([http://www.botanica-alb.org/X\\_Congreso/](http://www.botanica-alb.org/X_Congreso/)).

We are still working on the web site for the congress. For questions and suggestions please email to: [medecos2010@gmail.com](mailto:medecos2010@gmail.com). The organizing committee looks forward to your attendance at MEDECOS XII.