

Meeting announcement
**Improving cooperation among actors involved in conservation and
utilization of *Beta* genetic resources**
Venice (Italy), 18-20 June 2018



Conference organizers

- Piergiorgio Stevanato (Dept. DAFNAE, University of Padova, Italy)
- Parthenopi Ralli (Institute of Plant Breeding and Phytogenetic Resources, ELGO-DIMITRA, Greece)
- Lothar Frese (Institute for Breeding Research on Agricultural Crops, Julius Kuhn Institut, Germany)

Location

Venice International University (VIU), Isola di San Servolo, Venice, Italy

Meeting outline

This meeting offers the opportunity to different stakeholders to collaborate and exchange opinions regarding the conservation, evaluation and utilization of *Beta* and *Patellifolia* germplasm, above all as regards the genetic resistances to biotic and abiotic stresses. The meeting will strengthen networking, facilitate the dissemination of knowledge and enhance the relationship among the participants as well as establish relationships between the PGR conservation and user community and the nature / species conservation community. The participation of representatives from breeding companies will be arranged as well, in order to find ways to fund innovative breeding research projects which will underpin the value of *Beta* CWR and genetic reserves. In addition, participants will present papers or posters on ongoing research projects. This will allow us to gather comprehensive information on genetic diversity, conservation and use of beet PGR in Europe and non-European countries.

Registration fee (Non-ECPGR Activity partners): €150

Important dates

- **7 March 2018** booking of accommodation at VIU
- **31 March 2018** registration deadline

The venue

Venice International University is on the Island of San Servolo, 10 minutes by boat from Piazza San Marco. The n. 20 vaporetto (public transport) connects the island with the city center. It departs from San Zaccaria, the waterfront adjacent to Piazza San Marco. The landing dock for the n. 20 vaporetto is "San Zaccaria - Monumento", in front of the "Londra Palace" Hotel.



Facilities on the island include a dozen conference rooms, wifi connection, a library, computer rooms, offices, accommodation for over 300 guests, a park, a collection of works of art by contemporary artists, a self-service cafeteria, a small café, sports courts and, a barbecue grill.

Accommodation

If you wish staying on the San Servolo Campus, VIU has booked a slot of rooms (95 Euros per night) for this event on Campus from June 18 to June 20. To book a room on campus, write to stevanato@unipd.it. Please note that this pre-booking is guaranteed only until March 7, after this date it is not ensured availability on campus.

For further information please visit the Meeting website:

<https://betameeting.weebly.com>