

## **Montserrat: nature and spirituality 1st Workshop of the Delos Initiative**

### **IUCN Task Force on Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas**

Monastery of Montserrat – 23-26 November 2006  
Catalonia, Spain

#### **Thursday, 23 of November**

Arrival around 16:00

17:00 Welcome and introductions of the participants  
Presentation of the workshop goals and schedule  
Short introduction about the facilities and logistics and visit to the Monastery facilities

18:45 Vespers

19:30 Welcome from the Prior of the Monastery and the President of the Executive Committee of the Board of the Montserrat Mountain

20:15 Dinner

#### **Friday, 24 of November**

09. Coffee

09:30 Opening of the workshop  
Puri Canals, IUCN vice-president  
Jordi Sargatal, director Fundació Territori i Paisatge - Caixa Catalunya  
Jordi López, President, Steering Committee Natural Park Mountain of Montserrat  
Ramon Ribera-Mariné, Prior of the Monastery  
Francesc Baltasar, Minister of the Department for the Environment and Housing of Catalonia

10:00 Key-note speech by Jesús García-Varela: Nature and Spirituality.  
Gonzalo Oviedo: Protected Areas and Sacred Natural Sites of Indigenous and Traditional People  
Edwin Bernbaum: The experience of the Sacred Mountains Program  
Santos Casado: Spiritual values in the history of protected areas of Spain

Discussion

Session title: The case study of Montserrat

## **FINAL PROGRAMME, updated 10-11-2006**

11:30 Introduction to the case study of Montserrat. Guided visit to the Sant Joan old hermits area, with the Prior of the Monastery and the Director of the Natural Park.

13:30 Picnic near a hermit

15:30 The holy mountain of Montserrat

Presentations of:

Ramon Ribera-Mariné, Prior of the Monastery  
Jordi Lopez, President, Executive Committee Board of Montserrat  
Josep Altayó, manager of L'ARSA, public services of Montserrat  
Xavier Ariño, Catalan Federation of Hiking and Climbing Clubs  
Francesc Diego, Department of the Environment and Housing of Catalonia

17:00 Questions and answers

17.30 Coffee-break

17:45 Conclusions and recommendations- Josep M. Mallarach

18:30 End of the session

### **Saturday, 25 of November**

Session title: Presentation of the case studies of the Delos Initiative

9:15 First session

- 1) Mount Athos, by Thymio Papayannis
- 2) Vanatori – Neamt Natural Park, by Sebastian Cataniou
- 3) Kii Mountain Range, by Makoto Motonaka

Questions and answers

10:15 Coffee-Break

10:45 Second session

- 4) Ukonvuori, by Matti Määta
- 5) Aiji / Ukonsaari , by Yryo Norokörpi
- 6) Smoky Mountains National Park, by Edwin Bernbaum

Questions and answers

12:00 Third session

- 7) El Rocío -Doñana protected areas, by Jordi Falgarona
- 8) Meteora, by Thymio Papayannis

Questions and answers

**FINAL PROGRAMME, updated 10-11-2006**

13:30 Lunch

Session title: Case studies and lessons learned

- 9) Holy Island of Arran, Scotland, by Isabel Soria
- 10) Contribution of sacred natural sites to nature conservation: The view of the WWF, by Liza Higgins-Zogib

16:00 Open discussion about the diagnoses, chaired by Thymio Papayannis

17:00 Coffee-Break

17:15 Open discussion about the recommendations, chaired by Edwin Bernbaum

18:30 End of the session.

**Sunday, 26 of November**

Session title: Conclusions and proposals for the Delos Initiative

- 9:15 Last open session by: Thymio Papayannis and Josep M. Mallarach  
Contributions to the UNESCO-IUCN Guidelines on sacred natural sites  
Proposals to develop further the Delos Initiative  
Conclusions and outputs of the workshop

11:30 Coffee break and free time.

12:00 Salve Regina and Virolai (hymn of the Black Madonna) by the Escolania of Montserrat (one of the oldest boy chorus of Europe).

13:30 Farewell lunch.

Visit to the Les Agulles and Coll de la Massana areas, with Miquel Rafa, Fundació Territori i Paisatge. Trip back to Barcelona.

+++++

**Sponsors :** Board of the Montserrat Mountain, Department for the Environment and Housing of Catalonia and Fundació Territori i Paisatge.

**Collaborators:** Monastery of Montserrat, IUCN, Mediterranean Institute for Nature and Anthropos, Silene Association, Fundación de Estudios Tradicionales, The Mountains Institute, Junta de Andalucía (RENPA), Metsähallitus Natural Heritage Services - Finland.

**Secretariat:** Josep M. Mallarach, e-mail: [mallarach@silene.es](mailto:mallarach@silene.es)

**Web sites:**

The Delos Initiative: [www.med-ina.org/delos](http://www.med-ina.org/delos)

Monastery of Montserrat: [www.abadiamontserrat.net](http://www.abadiamontserrat.net)

Nature Park of the Mountain of Montserrat [www.muntanyamontserrat.net/parc\\_natural\\_index.php](http://www.muntanyamontserrat.net/parc_natural_index.php)

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

The main expected results of the First Workshop of The Delos Initiative are the following:

1. Conclusions about the key lessons learned from the case studies of the Pilot plan. They may be of at least three types: concerning the methodology, the diagnoses and the recommendations.
2. Proposals for the further development of The Delos Initiative, within the framework of the WCPA Task Force on Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas. They may include suggestions for organizing the second workshop.
3. Contributions to the UNESCO-IUCN Draft Guidelines on Natural Sacred Sites, bringing in the points of view of mainstream religions, and / or completing the existing text, which is related to indigenous or primal spiritual traditions.
4. Contributions to a short position paper prepared by Nigel Dudley, Chair of the Task Force on IUCN Protected Areas Categories, about the inclusion of the concept of sacred natural sites in all the IUCN categories for protected areas, to be presented in the WCPA summit of Seville, Spain, in March 2007.