

Society for Tropical Ecology - gtö



43rd Newsletter

Letter from the President

Dear members of gtö, dear friends and colleagues,

With this newsletter we are pleased to announce that the next “European Conference of Tropical Ecology” and the annual members assembly of the Society for Tropical Ecology (Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie, gtö) in 2018 will be hosted by the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle / UPMC / Académie des Sciences - COPED, Sorbonne Universités, Paris. The conference will take place from Monday 26 to Thursday 29 March 2018 at the Centre International de Conférences Sorbonne Universités (CICSU) of the University Pierre-Marie Curie and at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris historic center. Let me say that we are extremely happy and thankful to have found, after our very successful and pleasant conference 2017 in Brussels, again great local hosts and a wonderful, very special place to hold our meeting. The fact that we are again going to a city (and what a city!) outside Germany reflects very nicely our intention to become a really European society. Also the elections of the Board, which we will have this year, points in the same direction. We have, and further seek for candidates from a number of European countries. It will be your privilege as members of the gtö to vote the members of the Board. So please inform yourself in time about the candidates at the conference in Paris to make your choice at the member's assembly. In this context I would also like to address you in a personal matter. After having been on the Board of gtö for almost three decades, first as a member of the Advisory Board, later as your President, I will not stand for re-election and I

In this issue

Letter from the President.....	1
Invitation to the European Conference of Tropical Ecology 2018 Paris, France.....	3
Invitation to the 31st annual members assembly of gtö in Paris, France 2018.....	5
Search for Candidates for the Board of the Society	6
European Conference of Tropical Ecology in Brussels, 2017.....	9
Winners of the Merian Award 2017.....	10
Treasurer's corner.....	11
gtö welcomes its new members... 11	
Miscellaneous.....	11
Suggested reading.....	14
The Society for Tropical Ecology... 14	
Impressum.....	14
gtö Executive Board.....	12
gtö scientific advisory board.....	15
APPENDIX I: Minutes of the 30th annual general assembly.....	17
APPENDIX II: Budgetary revenues and expenditures 2016.....	20
Membership changes.....	23
Membership application form	24

am glad to see that we have excellent candidates who, I am sure, will lead gtö in a professional and successful way through the next years.

As tropical ecologists and conservationists we are facing great challenges, maybe bigger than ever before. This is why we chose as the motto "Challenges in tropical ecology and conservation - global perspectives", as the overarching topic of our 2018 Conference. I am more than confident that this will be another well attended and rich gtö event. So please join us in Paris! Please see the invitation to the conference and details for our member's assembly on pages 3-8 and have a look at the conference homepage.

I do hope to see you all in Paris and wish you, until then, all the best,



Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
President of the Society for Tropical Ecology (gtö)



Grey mouse lemur (*Microcebus murinus*) at Ankafantsika National Park. Although the Grey mouse lemur is the largest species of its genus, mouse lemurs include the smallest primates in the world. Picture: Ute Radespiel

Invitation to the European Conference of Tropical Ecology and 31st Annual Meeting of the Society for Tropical Ecology, 26-29 March 2018, Paris



Dear colleagues,

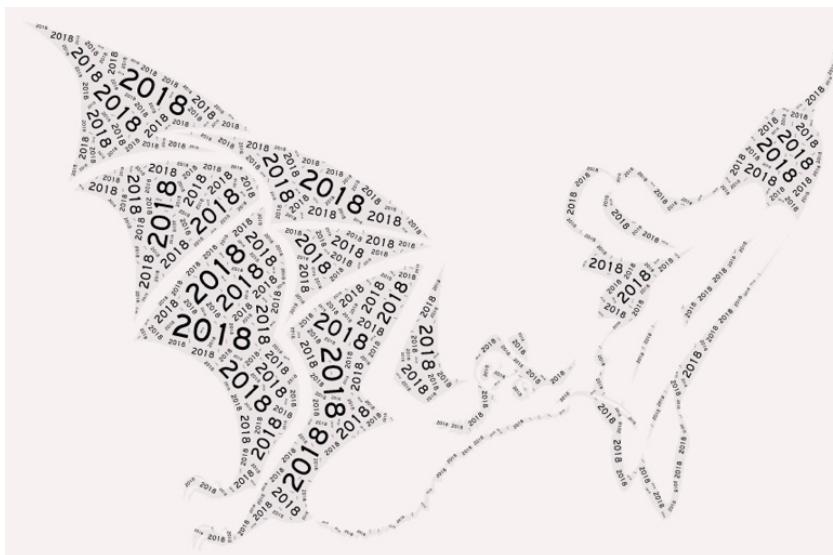
We are pleased to announce that the European Conference of Tropical Ecology - the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Tropical Ecology (gtö) - will be organized in **Paris (France)** by the **Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle and the University Pierre et Marie Curie**, members of Sorbonne Universités. It will take place from **Monday 26 to Thursday 29 March 2018** at the International Conference Center Sorbonne Universités (CICSU) at Pierre Marie Curie University (UPMC), situated in the heart of the 5th district of Paris, right in the center of the Latin Quarter and at the waterfront of the Seine. This district is commonly known as the Quartier Latin because it is where the first great Parisian university, the Sorbonne, was founded, and because Latin was the language of scholars at that time.

The overarching topic will be “**Challenges in tropical ecology and conservation - global perspectives**”. It will highlight both tropical aquatic (marine and freshwater) and terrestrial ecosystems that are global biodiversity hotspots and increasingly under pressure from a growing population. The complexity and unpredictability of these systems present considerable challenges for ecologists, conservation biologists and natural resource managers. The global demand for food, energy and recreation, large scale industrial land use change and anthropogenic climate change present scientific and social challenges. Ensuring resilient tropical ecosystems and provisioning a broad array of ecosystem services necessitates maintaining biodiversity as well as ecological function at all its levels. Past and present mismanagement and habitat degradation require counter measures, including habitat restoration and developing novel management approaches for resilient tropical landscape mosaics which both meet the immediate livelihood needs of oceanic, coastal, and rural communities and the ecosystem services for broader society. This presents great challenges but also opportunities.

The annual conference of the Society for Tropical Ecology (gtö) will provide an interdisciplinary platform for discussing the major challenges and future opportunities in tropical Ecology including:

- Understanding tropical biodiversity at all spatial and taxonomical scales
- Defining the resilience and resistance of tropical ecosystems
- Novel approaches to understand and manage tropical ecosystems
- Conservation and restoration of tropical ecosystems

The scientific program of the conference includes **five plenary talks by renowned international early-career women scientists**, and contributed talks or posters organized in thematic sessions during 3 entire days. A welcome reception (Monday evening) and the conference dinner (Wednesday) will complete the social program. **Don't forget to participate in the photo competition!** During this 2018 edition, we especially want to celebrate the 3rd International Year of the Coral Reefs, which is why we will have our tropical **conference dinner at the Tropical Aquarium of the Porte Dorée**.



The location of the venue in the center of Paris will also allow participants to visit and discover tropical collections of nearby research-MNHN institutes, visit the Aquarium and the Zoological Parc of Paris, as well as other facilities at the MNHN (Ménagerie du Jardin des Plantes, Wet and Dry Tropical Plant Collections in the Grande Serres, Galerie de Botanique, Grande Galerie

de l'Evolution, Galerie of Paleontologie) at your best convenience. Please, contact your colleagues at MNHN to organize visits of herbarium and zoological collections in your respective fields.

Please share this information with colleagues, students and all other persons who have an interest in participating, and visit our website to register: www.socstropecol-conference.eu/ We are looking forward to arranging a stimulating conference and hope that you will be able to join us in Paris, in the center of the Latin Quarter.

Local Organizing Committee:

Pierre-Michel Forget, Professeur MNHN, UMR MECDEV, and vice-président de la Society for Tropical Ecology, **Catherine Reeb**, Professeur agrégée UPMC, UMR ISYEB, **Eloïse**

Boucheron-Dubuisson, co-chair, UPMC, UMR ISYEB, CNRS 7205 MNHN UPMC EPHE, Paris, **Eric Guilbert**, co-chair, MNHN, UMR MECADEV, CNRS 7179 MNHN, Paris, **Jacques Gignoux**, CNRS, Institute of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Paris, **Sébastien Barot**, IRD, Institute of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Paris, **Virginie Roy**, UPEC, Institute of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Créteil, **Sandrine Grouard**, MNHN, UMR ARCHEOZOO-ARCHEOBOTA, CNRS 7209, Paris, Aude Lalis, MNHN, UMR ISYEB, CNRS 7205 MNHN UPMC EPHE, Paris, **Violaine Nicolas-Colin**, MNHN, UMR ISYEB, CNRS 7205 MNHN UPMC EPHE, Paris, **Jérôme Sueur**, MNHN, UMR ISYEB, CNRS 7205 MNHN UPMC EPHE, Paris, **Tarik Meziane**, MNHN, UMR BOREA MNHN, CNRS 7208, IRD 207, UPMC, UCBN, UAG, Paris, **Malika Trouillefou**, Université Antilles, UMR BOREA MNHN, CNRS 7208, IRD 207, UPMC, UCBN, UAG, Point-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe, **Colin Fontaine**, CNRS, UMR CESCO, CNRS 7204, Paris.

Contact conference office: info@gtoe-conference.de



Einladung zur 31. Mitgliederversammlung der gtö in Paris 2018 / Invitation to the 31st annual members assembly of gtö in Paris 2018

Das Präsidium der gtö, vertreten durch den Präsidenten, lädt alle Mitglieder zur **31. Mitgliederversammlung der gtö am 28. März 2018 von 16:30 bis 17:30 Uhr im Auditorium des International Conference Center Sorbonne Universités (CICSU) an der Pierre Marie Curie University (UPMC), 4 place Jussieu, 75005 Paris, Frankreich.**

The Executive Board of the gtö, represented by its President, invites its members to the **31st annual general assembly held on the 28th of March 2018 from 16:30 to 17:30 at the auditorium of the International Conference Center Sorbonne Universités (CICSU) at Pierre Marie Curie University (UPMC), 4 place Jussieu, 75005 Paris, France.**

Tagesordnung / Agenda:

1. Eröffnung der MV durch den Präsidenten und Annahme der Tagesordnung / Opening of the general assembly by the president and approval of the agenda

2. Wahl des Schriftführers / Election of the assembly's secretary
3. Genehmigung des Protokolls der 30. MV / Approval of the minutes of the 30th general assembly
4. Bericht des Präsidiums über das Geschäftsjahr 2017 und Bericht des Schatzmeisters / Report of the executive board on financial year 2017 and report of the treasurer
5. Bericht des Sprechers des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats / Report of the advisory board
6. Bericht der Kassenprüfer / Report of the cash accounter
7. Entlastung des Präsidiums / Discharge of the board
8. Wahl des Kassenprüfers / Election of the cash accounter
9. Vorstellung der KandidatInnen für die Neuwahl des Präsidiums / Candidates' presentation for the election of the board
10. Neuwahl des Präsidiums / Election of the board
11. Ecotropica / Ecotropica
12. Vorbereitung der Tagungen / MVs 2019, 2020, 2021 / Preparation of annual meetings / general assemblies in 2019, 2020, 2021
13. Verschiedenes / Miscellaneous

Search for Candidates for the Board of the Society for Tropical Ecology

Dear members of the Society for Tropical Ecology,

according to § 6 of our statutes, the members of gtö have to elect the members of the board ("Präsidium") every three years. The next election of the board will take place at the general meeting in Paris on 28. March 2018.

The board ("Präsidium") consists of the Executive Board ("geschäftsführendes Präsidium", consisting of the President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary General and Treasurer) and the Advisory Board (Beirat, up to 15 members). The board meets at the annual conferences of the Society and additionally once a year to discuss current and future developments of the Society.

The majority of the members of the board, as one Vice-president, Secretary General and Treasurer, stand for re-election, as it is possible according to the statutes. Pierre Michel Forget (until now Vice-president) has kindly agreed to stand for election for president, as I (Manfred Niekisch) will not be available for re-election after having served for many years as the president of the society. Vojtech Novotny (until now board member) has kindly agreed to stand for election for Vice-president.

We seek for further highly motivated candidates who would like to get involved in the work of the board, so please get involved and bring your ideas forward! All candidates have to

specify for which position they are standing for election, as the elections have to be made individually (by simple majority). If you are interested in standing for election, please send a short profile (ca. 200 words) about your research, your motivation to become active in the board and if you like, a photograph of yourself to the Secretary General Prof. Dr. Nina Farwig (farwig@staff.uni-marburg.de) or the speaker of the advisory board Prof. Dr. Eckhard W. Heymann (eheyman@gwdg.de). We accept self-nominations as well as suggestions for potential candidates. If you would like to propose a candidate, please make sure prior to nomination that the candidate is willing to stand for election. Application requires membership in the Society of Tropical Ecology.

Candidates need to be proposed six weeks prior to the election (**deadline: February 13th, 2018**). The candidates' profiles will then be introduced to the membership of the Society as soon as possible at the annual conference in Paris. We expect the candidates to attend the general meeting. The election of the candidates will take place during the general meeting at the annual conference of the Society in Paris, 28 March 2018, 16:30-17:30.

We warmly invite all members, but particularly young members to become active in the board. Once being elected to the board, you can make major contributions to the further development of gtö as member of the board and for example as chair of one of the following committees: Awards committee, congress committee, conservation and policy committee, communication committee, publication committee, or contribute to other topics.

We look forward to nominations of potential candidates who would like to become active in the board of the Society for Tropical Ecology and invite you all to make use of the right of the members to elect the board.

Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
President of the Society for Tropical Ecology (gtö)

Neuwahl des Präsidiums der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie (gtö)

Sehr geehrte Mitglieder der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie,

am 28. März 2018 findet auf der Mitgliederversammlung der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie in Paris turnusgemäß alle drei Jahre die Neuwahl des Präsidiums der gtö statt, gemäß der Satzung § 6.

Das Präsidium besteht aus dem Geschäftsführenden Präsidium (Präsident, zwei Vizepräsidenten, Generalsekretär und Schatzmeister) und dem Beirat (bis zu 15 Mitglieder). Das Präsidium trifft sich regelmäßig auf den Jahrestagungen der Gesellschaft und zusätzlich einmal pro Jahr um aktuelle und zukünftige Entwicklungen der Gesellschaft zu diskutieren.

Die Mehrzahl der bisherigen Mitglieder des Präsidiums, so auch ein Vizepräsident, Generalsekretärin und Schatzmeister sind zur – satzungsgemäß möglichen - Wiederwahl bereit, doch sind einige andere Positionen mit neuen Kandidaten zu besetzen. Pierre Michel Forget (bisher Vizepräsident) hat sich dankenswerterweise bereit erklärt sich als Kandidat für das Präsidentenamt aufzustellen zu lassen, da ich (Manfred Niekisch) nach langjähriger Tätigkeit als Präsident der Gesellschaft nicht für eine Wiederwahl zur Verfügung stehe. Vojtech Novotny (bisher Beiratsmitglied) wird sich dankenswerterweise zur Wahl des Vizepräsidenten aufstellen lassen.

Wir suchen weitere hoch motivierte Kandidaten, die bereit sind, sich im Beirat der Gesellschaft zu engagieren. Alle Kandidaten müssen angeben, für welche der Positionen sie kandidieren, da die Wahl einzeln (mit einfacher Stimmenmehrheit) zu erfolgen hat. Bei Interesse senden Sie bitte ein Kurzprofil (ca. 200 Worte) über Ihre Forschung, die Motivation im Präsidium mitzuwirken, gern auch mit Foto, an die Generalsekretärin Prof. Dr. Nina Farwig (farwig@staff.uni-marburg.de) oder den Sprecher des Beirates Prof. Dr. Eckhard Heymann (eheyman@gwdg.de). Wir akzeptieren Selbstnominierungen sowohl als auch Vorschläge für potentielle Kandidaten. Wenn Sie Kandidaten vorschlagen, stellen Sie bitte vorher sicher, dass diese bereit sind, zu kandidieren. Die Kandidatur setzt eine Mitgliedschaft in der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie voraus.

Vorschläge sind bis 6 Wochen vor der Wahl (**Stichtag 13. Februar 2018**) einzureichen. Die Kurzprofile der Kandidaten werden dann während der Jahrestagung rechtzeitig bekanntgemacht. Es wird erwartet, dass sich die Kandidaten auf der Mitgliederversammlung persönlich vorstellen. Die Wahl erfolgt auf der Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie am 28. März 2018 in Paris um 16:30-18:30.

Wir freuen uns auf Bewerbungen und laden besonders Nachwuchswissenschaftler ein zur Mitarbeit in den Gremien unserer Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie. Im Falle Ihrer Wahl können Sie wichtige Beiträge zur weiteren Entwicklung der gtö leisten, zum Beispiel auch als Leiter der folgenden Komitees: Preiskomitee, Kongresskomitee, Naturschutz- und Politik-Komitee, Kommunikationskomitee, Komitee für Veröffentlichungen, oder in anderer Weise Beiträge leisten.

Wir freuen uns auf Bewerbungen aller derer, die sich im Präsidium der gtö engagieren wollen und rufen alle Mitglieder auf, von Ihrem Recht der Wahl des Präsidiums Gebrauch zu machen.

Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
Präsident der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie (gtö)

European Conference of Tropical Ecology and 30th annual meeting of the Society for Tropical Ecology in Brussels, 2017



The annual meeting of the gtö and the European Conference of Tropical Ecology 2017 took place in Brussels from 06-10 February entitled “(Re)Connecting Biodiversity in Space and time”. With 216 talks in four parallel session and 104 poster contributions, the meeting in Brussels cut the record of highest conference participation at the meetings in Zürich and Göttingen in the past two years. Five plenary speakers gave enlightening presentations on their research. In the Public Lecture, Maaike De Ridder, Jean-Louis Doucet, Katharine Abernethy, Paul-Emmanuel Huet, Kasso Dainou, Richard Eba'a Atyi and Hans Beeckman discussed the question “Can industrial logging and nature conservation be allies in central Africa?” During the conference, there was one afternoon reserved for visiting the Botanic Garden Meise, The Royal Museum for central Africa - Tervuren, or the Natural History Museum Brussels. We enjoyed ourselves at the spectacular conference dinner with Belgian and exotic (meal worms!) food and a fantastic live performance of African music.



We thank the local organizers, **Olivier J. Hardy, Jérémie Migliore, Yves Roisin, Farid Dahdouh-Guebas, Karolien Van Puyvelde, Marc Kochzius, Nico Koedam, Jean-Louis Doucet, Maurice Leponce, Erik Verheyen, Patricia Mergen, Hans Beeckman, Steven Janssens, Philippe Goyens** for this great European meeting.

**See Appendix I for the minutes of the general assembly, in both German and English
See Appendix II for budgetary revenues and expenditures (“Kassenbericht”) Year 2016**

Winners of the Merian Award 2017



At the annual meeting in Brussels, the best three talks and the best three posters of young scientists were honoured by the Merian Award. From left to right on the picture: Siria Biagioni, Kerstin Pierik, Frederike Gebert, Manfred Niekisch congratulating the awardees, and Kartika Hapsari. Not on the picture: Frederike Clever and Michael Staab. **The gtö congratulates the winners for their excellent presentations!**

We also strongly encourage the young members of the gtö who will present their research at the conference in Paris to sign up for the Merian Award 2018!

Merian Awards 2017 for the best talks

1st: **Siria Biagioni**, University of Göttingen “Prehistorical and historical human-landscape interactions at the Lindu plain and the link to climate variability of central Sulawesi (Indonesia)”

2nd: **Kartika Hapsari**, University of Göttingen: “Anthropogenic disturbance and resilience of a tropical peatland: a message from the past”

3rd: **Frederike Gebert**, University of Würzburg: “Mammals and dung beetles along an elevation and land use gradient on Mt Kilimanjaro”

Merian Awards 2017 for the best posters

1st: **Kerstin Pierik**, University of Göttingen: “Variation of tree fine root architecture along a topographical gradient in an Ecuadorian tropical montane forest”

2nd: **Frederike Clever**, Manchester Metropolitan University: “Local and regional differences in fish community structure on the Mesoamerican barrier reef”

3rd: **Michael Staab**, University of Freiburg: “Trap nests for Hymenoptera: past, present, and future of a standardized sampling method in (tropical) ecology”

Treasurer's corner

The treasurer of the Society of Tropical Ecology, Holger Kurz, announces that **2017 members' fees** had been collected **end of December 2017**. Thank you all for your support!

gtö welcomes its new members

We welcome all new members that joined the Society in the past year!

Giorgia Campero Ciani, Irene Maria Antoinetta Bender, Sophie Graefe, Sara Leonhardt, David Bauman, Maria Fabiola, Gomes da Silva de Barros, Grace Loubota Panzou, Janica Wendefeuer, Paulina Zigelski, Hemant Tripathi, Susan Rutherford, Pablo Orozco terWengel, Manfred Finckh, Jeremy Migliore, Kartika Hapsari, Joeri Zwerts, Mark Abrahams, Kerstin Pierick, Molly Czachur, Kate Abernethy, Maaike Bader, Georgina Hollands, Manfredo Di Porcia e Brugnera

Miscellaneous

Raffle amongst new gtö members at the conference in Brussels

Anemarie Wurz (University of Göttingen) won a price for becoming a new member of the society: She received a 50% discount of the registration fees for the next conference in Paris. Congratulations!



Paulina Zigelski won the photo competition at the annual conference in Brussels. Her submission is entitled:
“Alternative hideaways of reed frogs discovered in Angola!”

Pia Parolin (left) was awarded by the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC), here represented by its Executive Director Robin Chazdon (right) for her outstanding service as co-chair of the conservation committee.



Call for joining the International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF)

Dear Society for Tropical Ecology,

We hope you will be interested in joining the **International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF)**. The organization is being **reactivated after a five-year hiatus**. With its focus on being a **communication network**, ISTF can help you connect with others interested in tropical forests and forestry. ISTF was founded in the 1950s and “in response to a worldwide concern for the fate of tropical and subtropical forests, ISTF is committed to the protection, wise management and rational use of the world’s tropical forests”. So far, over 400 people from around the world have joined. For now, **the organization will be dues-free**, for simplicity and to encourage broad participation (although this is under discussion).

If you would like to join, please contact Sheila Ward [<mailto:tropicalforesters@gmail.com> / tropicalforesters@gmail.com] or Teija Reyes [<mailto:reyesteija@gmail.com>/ reyesteija@gmail.com].

We look forward to hearing from you. Please pass this invitation on to your friends. We will keep you posted on the progress in reactivating ISTF.

Regards,
Sheila Ward and Teija Reyes

Inauguration of the Comoé NP Research Station and award for Prof. Linsenmair

In presence of minister Bakayoko-Ly Ramata, Ministère de l'Éducation Supérieure et de la Recherche Scientifique, the Comoé National Park Research Station of the University of Würzburg in Côte d'Ivoire was formally inaugurated. The inauguration act is part of the scientific cooperation agreement between the Côte d'Ivoire and the University of Würzburg. The ceremony finished with a visit of the German delegation to the minister on the 03.02.2017 in Abidjan. The German delegation was formed by a representative of the German embassy in Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Alexandre Callegaro, and researchers of the University of Würzburg.



Senior Prof. Dr. Karl Eduard Linsenmair, founder of the Comoé NP Research Station, was awarded the “Officier de l'orde de merite pour l'éducation nationale” for his outstanding merits in science and education in Côte d'Ivoire over the past 30 years. The ceremony started on the 01.02.2017 at the Research Station in the Comoé National Park with the participation of a delegation of 16 high-ranking officials from the Côte d'Ivoire (including representatives from the ministry, the universities Felix-Houphouet-Boigny and Nangui Abrogoua in Abidjan and various research centres in Côte d'Ivoire). The delegation visited the station's facilities and participated in an excursion into the surroundings of the park. Representatives of the park's administration and protection (OIPR), the prefect of the district from Nassien and the eldest from the village of Kakpin were also present at the inauguration.

Suggested reading / Lesetipp



Two new books and a special issue in Ecological Indicators have been published within the Platform for Biodiversity monitoring South Ecuador: **Biodiversity Hotspot – Tropical Mountain Forest** (Eds. F. Bogner, J. Bendix and E. Beck); **Landscape restoration, sustainable use and cross—scale monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem functions – A science-directed approach for south Ecuador**“ (Eds. E. Beck, T. Knoke, N. Farwig, L. Breuer, D. Siddons, J. Bendix); Special issue in **Ecological Indicators: „Functional monitoring in megadiverse tropical ecosystems“** (N. Farwig, J. Bendix, E. Beck; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2017.02.027>)

The Society for Tropical Ecology (gtö)

The Society for Tropical Ecology (Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie, gtö), founded in 1987, is Europe's largest scientific association in the field of tropical ecology. It aims to enhance the understanding of the biodiversity and function of tropical ecosystems, and to drive decision-making and management at all levels, to safeguard as much as possible of what is left in its original state and to further the development of sustainable forms of use and effective means of rehabilitation through research and its application. The society also aims to promote the conservation and rehabilitation of tropical biodiversity and ecosystems through research and its application. <http://www.socstropecol.eu/>

Impressum

Herausgeber: Society for Tropical Ecology gtö
 Anschrift: c/o Zoo Frankfurt, Bernhard-Grzimek-Allee 1, D - 60316 Frankfurt am Main
 Redaktion: Eike Lena Neuschulz, Pia Parolin, Manfred Niekisch

gtö Executive Board



President

Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch

Zoologischer Garten Frankfurt, Bernhard-Grzimek-Allee 1, D-60316 Frankfurt am Main

Tel: +49-(0)69-21233727, Fax: +49-(0)69-21237855

E-mail: manfred.niekisch@stadt-frankfurt.de

1. Vice-President

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Michel Forget

Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, UMR 7179 CNRS-MNHN, 1 avenue du petit château, 91800 Brunoy, France

Tel: +33 160 479246

E-mail: pierre-michel.forget@mnhn.fr

2. Vice-President

Dr. habil. Pia Parolin

Dept. Biodiversity of Plants, Biocenter Klein Flottbek and Botanical Garden, University of Hamburg, Ohnhorststr. 18, D-22609 Hamburg

E-mail: pparolin@botanik.uni-hamburg.de

Secretary General

Prof. Dr. Nina Farwig

Department of Ecology – Conservation Ecology, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Karl-von-Frisch-Str. 8, 35043 Marburg, Tel: +49 6421 2823478, Fax: +49 6421 2823387,

farwig@staff.uni-marburg.de

Treasurer

Dr. Holger Kurz

Büro für biologische Bestandsaufnahmen, Ohlestr. 35, D-22547 Hamburg

Tel: +49 40 8315565, Fax: +49 40 8326151

E-mail: gtoe@bfbb.de

gtö scientific advisory board – Wissenschaftlicher Beirat

Prof. Dr. Bettina Engelbrecht, Dept. of Plant Ecology, University of Bayreuth, Germany

Dr. Raffael Ernst, Senckenberg Natural History Collections Dresden, Germany

Dr. Ingo Grass, Department of Crop Sciences – Agroecology, Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany

PD Dr. Sven Günter, Forestry Worldwide Thünen Institute of International Forestry and Forest Economics, Hamburg, Germany

Prof. Dr. Eckhard W. Heymann, Deutsches Primatenzentrum Göttingen, Germany – *speaker of the advisory board*

Dr. Jürgen Homeier, Albrecht-von-Haller-Institut für Pflanzenwissenschaften, University of Göttingen, Germany

Dr. Alice Hughes, Centre for Integrative Conservation Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Prof. Dr. Patrick Jansen, Department of Environmental Sciences, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

Dr. Chris J Kettle, ETH Zürich, Switzerland

Prof. Dr. K. Eduard Linsenmair, Department of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology, University of Würzburg, Germany

Dr. Eike Lena Neuschulz, Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (BiK-F), Frankfurt am Main – *co-speaker of the advisory board and editor of the gtö Newsletter*

Prof. Dr. Vojtech Novotny, Department of Zoology at the Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic

Dr. Simone Pfeiffer, Centre of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Use, Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany

Prof. Dr. Ute Radespiel, Institute of Zoology, University of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover, Germany

PD Dr. Marco Tschapka, Institute of Experimental Ecology, University of Ulm, Germany



Board members at the conference in Brussels.



Board members working hard at the summer meeting 2017 in Frankfurt...

APPENDIX I: Protokoll der 30. Mitgliederversammlung / Minutes of the 30th annual general assembly

30. Mitgliederversammlung der Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie (gtö)/ 30th General Assembly of the Society for Tropical Ecology gtö

Brüssel, 9. Februar 2017, 17:30 bis 18:30 im Hörsaal QMatthai der Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Campus Etterbeek

Brussels, 9th February 2017 (17.30-18:30h in the lecture hall QMatthai, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Campus Etterbeek)

Protokoll/Minutes: Prof. Dr. Nina Farwig

Anwesende Mitglieder / Number of members present: 23

Tagesordnung/Agenda:

1. Eröffnung der MV durch den Präsidenten und Annahme der Tagesordnung mit kleinen Änderungen / Opening of the general assembly by the president and approval of the agenda with minor changes
2. Wahl des Schriftführers / Election of the assembly's secretary
3. Genehmigung des Protokolls der 29. MV / Approval of the minutes of the 29th general assembly
4. Bericht des Präsidiums über das Geschäftsjahr 2016 / Report of the executive board on financial year 2016
5. Bericht des Sprechers des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats / Report of the advisory board
6. Bericht des Schatzmeisters / Report of the treasurer
7. Bericht der Kassenprüfer / Report of the cash accounter
8. Entlastung des Präsidiums / Discharge of the board
9. Wahl des Kassenprüfers / Election of the cash accounter
10. Ecotropica / Ecotropica
11. Organisation DAAD Alumni Seminar 2018 / Organization DAAD Alumni seminar 2018
12. Ankündigung der Wahlen für Präsidium und Beirat in 2018 / Announcement of elections of the executive and advisory board in 2018
13. Vorbereitung der Tagungen / MVs 2018 und 2019 / Preparation of annual meetings / general assemblies in 2018 and 2019
14. Verschiedenes / Miscellaneous

1. Eröffnung der MV durch den Präsidenten und Annahme der Tagesordnung / Opening of the general

assembly by the president and approval of the agenda

Der Präsident, Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch, begrüßt die Anwesenden und stellt die ordnungsgemäße Einladung zur Mitgliederversammlung 2017 fest. Die Tagesordnung wird angenommen mit Umstellung des Berichts des Schatzmeisters nach dem Bericht von Präsidium und Beirat.

The president, Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch, welcomes all attendees and asserts the correct invitation to the general assembly in 2017. The agenda is accepted with the treasurer's report following the report of Executive Board and Scientific Board.

2. Wahl des Schriftführers / Election of the assembly's secretary

Als Schriftführerin wird die Generalsekretärin Prof. Dr. Nina Farwig vorgeschlagen. Dies wird angenommen. The secretary general Prof. Dr. Nina Farwig is proposed as assembly's secretary. This proposal is accepted.

3. Genehmigung des Protokolls der 29. MV / Approval of the minutes of the 29th general assembly

Das Protokoll wurde am 16. Dezember 2016 zeitgerecht veröffentlicht und allen Mitgliedern zugestellt. Das Protokoll wird ohne Ergänzungen angenommen.

The protocol was timely published on December 16, 2016, and delivered to all members. The protocol was accepted without changes.

4. Bericht des Präsidiums über das Geschäftsjahr 2016 / Report of the executive board on financial year 2016

Vorgestellt vom Präsidenten der *gtö* Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch

Die Gesellschaft ist zu einer europäischen Gesellschaft geworden, was an bei der Tagung hier in Brüssel deutlich sichtbar wurde.

Es gab verschiedene Treffen von Mitgliedern des Präsidiums zur Vorbereitung der Jahrestagung in Brüssel.

Der Newsletter ist am 16.12.2016 erschienen. Dank an Dr. Eike Lena Neuschulz für die Zusammenstellung des Newsletters.

Die Satzung wurde ins Englische übersetzt. Dank an Dr. Ute Radespiel für dieses Engagement.

Der Vorstand der Elisabeth Kalko Stiftung hat sich getroffen. Ihm gehören PD. Dr. Marco Tschapka, Dr. Volkhard Wille und Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch an. Eine erste Projektförderung wurde beschlossen.

Als weitere Aktivitäten gab es einen Informationstisch der *gtö* auf der Tagung der ATBC in Montpellier.

Außerdem fand der Abendvortrag vom Naturfotojournalisten Christian Ziegler auf Einladung der *gtö* statt.

Presented by the president of *gtö*, Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch

The society has successfully become a truly European society, which is clearly visible at the meeting in Brussels.

A few meetings with board members took place to prepare the annual conference in Brussels.

The newsletter of *gtö* was published on 16th December 2016. Special thanks to Dr. Eike Lena Neuschulz.

The statutes are now available in English on the web-page. Thanks to Dr. Ute Radespiel who translated them.

There was the first meeting of the board of the Elisabeth Kalko Foundation, composed by Dr. Marco Tschapka, Dr. Volkhard Wille and Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch. A first project was supported.

As further activities the *gtö* had an information table at the annual meeting of the ATBC in Montpellier to promote the society. The *gtö* also invited and sponsored the journalist Christian Ziegler for his evening lecture at the ATBC.

5. Bericht des Sprechers des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats / Report of the advisory board

Vorgestellt vom Sprecher des wiss. Beirats Prof. Dr. Eckhard W. Heymann

Besprechungen mit geschäftsführendem Präsidium wurden immer gemeinsam abgehalten.

Überarbeitung der website hat stattgefunden und der Name der Gesellschaft wurde in viele Sprachen übersetzt. Ein großer Dank an PD Dr. Raffael Ernst für sein Engagement in diesem Bereich.

Dank an Dr. Eike Lena Neuschulz, die als Ko-Sprecherin des Beirats aktiv für die Gesellschaft wirkt insbesondere bei der Erstellung des Newsletters.

In Anbetracht der geringen Zahl von anwesenden Mitgliedern appelliert der Sprecher an die Anwesenden, bei persönlich bekannten Mitgliedern auf die Wichtigkeit der Teilnahme an Mitgliederversammlungen hinzuweisen.

Presented by the chair of the advisory board, Prof. Dr. Eckhard W. Heymann

Meetings were always held together with the executive board.

The website was relaunched and the name of the society has been translated into various major foreign languages. Special acknowledgement to PD Dr. Raffael Ernst for his activities.

Thanks to Dr. Eike Lena Neuschulz who as co speaker of the board is very active for the society, particularly in compiling all the information for the annual newsletter.

In light of the small number of members present in the assembly, the speaker asks the attendants to emphasize the importance of participating in assemblies to other personally known members.

6. Bericht des Schatzmeisters/Report of treasurer

Ein großer Dank an Dr. Holger Kurz, den Schatzmeister, für seine geleistete Arbeit bezüglich der Mitglieder- und Jahresbeitragsverwaltung. Dr. Holger Kurz stellt die einzelnen Posten der Einnahmen und Ausgaben in 2016 vor und erläutert die Abweichungen zu den bisherigen Jahren.

Special acknowledgements to Dr. Holger Kurz, the treasurer, for all his work for the society, particularly regarding the administration of the members and the fees. Dr. Holger Kurz presents all incomes and expenses for 2016 and explains the variation from previous years.

7. Bericht der Kassenprüfer/Report of cash auditors

Die Kassenprüfer Erik Frank und Janina Schäfer haben die Kasse geprüft und hatten keine Einwände. Alle Belege haben vorgelegen und die Buchführung ist vorbildhaft.

The cash auditors Erik Frank and Janina Schäfer have checked the accounts of the society and have no complains. All receipts were present and the cash auditors certified an excellent book keeping of the treasurer.

8. Entlastung des Präsidiums / Discharge of the board

Der Vorstand wird einstimmig entlastet. Großer Dank an die Kassenprüfer.

The Executive Board is discharged. Special acknowledgement to the cash auditors.

9. Wahl der Kassenprüfer / Election of the cash auditors

Erik Frank und Janina Schäfer werden als Kassenprüfer vorgeschlagen. Dieser Vorschlag wird angenommen. Erik Frank and Janina Schäfer are proposed as cash auditors. This proposal is accepted.

10. Ecotropica / Ecotropica

Vorgestellt vom Vizepräsidenten Pierre-Michel Forget:

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Michel Forget hatte sich im letzten Jahr als Editor für Ecotropica zur Verfügung gestellt. Leider war erst im November ein Treffen mit PD Dr. Marco Tschapka, dem bisherigen Editor möglich, um den Status der Zeitschrift zu diskutieren. Mitte Januar wurde eine online Platform getestet, um mit dem Open Journal System einen Neustart zu machen. Das Editorial Board soll schnellstmöglich überarbeitet werden, sodass Ecotropica wieder sichtbar wird.

Presented by the vice-president Pierre-Michel Forget:

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Michel Forget volunteered last year to step in as an Editor of Ecotropica. Unfortunately, a meeting with the former editor PD Dr. Marco Tschapka could only be realized in late November to discuss the current status. In January an online managing system was tested together with the Open Journal System to realize a relaunch of the journal. A new editorial board shall bring Ecotropica back on track and even increase the importance of the journal.

11. Organisation DAAD Alumni Seminar 2018 / Organization DAAD Alumni seminar 2018

Das Alumni Seminar 2016/gtö-Jahrestagung Göttingen war sehr erfolgreich. Daher hat der DAAD großes Interesse, diese Initiative zu wiederholen. Großer Dank an Dr. Simone Pfeiffer für Ihr Engagement.

The DAAD Alumni seminar 2016/gtö meeting Göttingen was a great success. DAAD is interested in repeating this initiative. Special acknowledgement to Dr. Simone Pfeiffer for her activities.

12. Ankündigung der Wahlen für Präsidium und Beirat in 2018 / Announcement of elections of the executive and advisory board in 2018

Im kommenden Jahr sind Wahlen, und die Gesellschaft funktioniert nur, wenn es engagierte Mitglieder gibt. Daher sind Kandidat*innen für den Beirat gesucht. Generell ist eine bessere Kommunikation zwischen Beirat und Mitgliedern gewünscht, die die Mitgliederversammlung interessanter machen.

The society can only work well when members are committed to its aims. Please spread the word here and look for potential candidates. Better communication between board and members is wished for, so that members are encouraged to participate and make the general assembly more fun!

13. Vorbereitung der Tagungen / MVs 2018 und 2019 / Preparation of annual meetings / general assemblies in 2018 and 2019

Bisher ist es leider noch nicht gelungen, einen Tagungsort für 2018 vorzustellen. Wir sind aber optimistisch, dass wir dies zeitnah bekannt geben können.

This year we are unfortunately not yet able to announce the location for the next meeting but we are optimistic that we can do it in due course.

14. Verschiedenes / Miscellaneous

Grüße von Prof. Dr. Eduard Linsenmair, der kürzlich für seine wissenschaftliche Tätigkeit die höchste Auszeichnung der Forschungsministerin der Elfenbeinküste erhalten hat. Gratulation von der *gtö* an Prof. Dr. Eduard Linsenmair.

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Michel Forget wurde von Prof. Dr. Farid Dahdouh-Guebas dem Koordinator des "Erasmus Mundus Masters Course in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems (TROPIMUNDO)" gefragt, ob die *gtö* Interesse hat, assoziierter Partner von TROPIMUNDO zu werden. TROPIMUNDO bietet Kurse im Bereich tropische Biodiversität, Ökosystemfunktionen, Ressourcen und Dienstleistungen an.

Kind regards from Prof. Dr. Eduard Linsenmair, who recently received the highest award from the minister of science from the Ivory Coast for his scientific work. Congratulations from *gtö* to Prof. Dr. Eduard Linsenmair.

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Michel Forget has been approached by Prof. Dr. Farid Dahdouh-Guebas the General Coordinator of the Erasmus Mundus Masters Course in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems (TROPIMUNDO) and inquired whether *gtö* would like to become a TROPIMUNDO Associated Partner. TROPIMUNDO offers hands-on education in the domain of tropical biodiversity and the people dependent on its ecosystem functions, goods and services.

Der Präsident, Prof. Dr. Niekisch dankt allen Mitgliedern der *gtö*, dem Beirat und Vorstand für eine sehr aktive und produktive Zeit und schließt die Sitzung um 18:30 Uhr.

The president, Prof. Dr. Niekisch, thanks all members of *gtö*, the board for a very active and productive time and officially closes the general assembly at 18h30.

APPENDIX II: Kassenbericht 2016 / Budgetary revenues and expenditures 2016

Einnahme-Überschuss-Rechnung 2016	2016	2016
Einnahmen:	Kontosumme Einnahmen (Euro)	Kontensumme Ausgaben (Euro)
Mitgliedsbeiträge	15,600.00	
Spenden	10.00	
Buchhandlungen	0.00	
Taggeld-Zinsen	1.40	
Summe:	15,611.40	
Ausgaben:		
Retouren Mitgliedsbeiträge		0.00
Erstattung von Reisekosten (Vorstand und Beirat)		0.00
Verpflegung für Keynote-Redner, Vorstand und Beirat		280.00
Bürobedarf		0.00
Porto- und Versandkosten		0.00
Internet-Kosten (Pflege, Gebühren)		942.48
Merian-Preis		1,100.00
Ecotropica Druckkosten		0.00
Ecotropica Revision (Muttersprachler)		0.00
Ecotropica Werbungs- und Versandkosten		0.00
Rechtsanwaltskosten (Satzungsänderungen)		1,050.90
Beitrag für Tagung Göttingen		80.00
Kosten für Werbung		510.51

Rücklastschrift- und Kontoführungsgebühren		92.15
Spende für BioFrankfurt - Network Biodiversity	(für 2015&16)	300.00
Spende für Plenary Speaker für ATBC		2,500.00
Summe:		6,856.04
Einnahme-Überschuss-Rechnung:		8,755.36
Kontostand Girokonto Jahresanfang	01.01.2016:	20,305.76
Kontostand Tagesgeld Jahresanfang	01.01.2016:	25,045.76
Gesamtkontostand Jahresanfang	01.01.2016:	45,351.52
Kontostand Girokonto Jahresende	31.12.2016:	29,059.72
Kontostand Tagesgeld Jahresende	31.12.2016:	25,047.16
Gesamtkontostand Jahresende	31.12.2016:	54,106.88

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures 2016	2016	2016
	Account balance	Account balance
	(Euro)	(Euro)
Revenues:		
Membership fees	15,600.00	
Donations	10.00	
Booksellers fees	0.00	
Annual interest	1.40	
Sum:	15,611.40	
Expenses:		
Writing back of membership fees		0.00
Reembursement of travelling costs (Executive Board)		0.00
Catering for Keynote speakers, Advisory and Executive Board		280.00
Office supplies		0.00
Postal charges (except Ecotropica)		0.00
Homepage costs		942.48
Merian Award		1,100.00
Ecotropica printing		0.00
Ecotropica revision (native speaker)		0.00
Ecotropica advertisement, shipping and handling		0.00
Legal advice for statutes (lawyer)		1,050.90
Conference grant		80.00
Representation costs		510.51
Account maintenance charges		92.15
Donation for BioFrankfurt - Network Biodiversity	(für 2015&16)	300.00
Sponsoring Plenary Speaker for ATBC		2,500.00
Sum:		6,856.04
Annual cash flow:		8,755.36
Account balance giro (beginning of the year)	01.01.2016:	20,305.76
Account balance day-to-day money (beginning of the year)	01.01.2016:	25,045.76

Overall account balance (beginning of the year)	01.01.2016:	45,351.52
Account balance giro (end of year)	31.12.2016:	29,059.72
Account balance day-to-day money (end of year)	31.12.2016:	25,047.16
Overall account balance (end of year)	31.12.2016:	54,106.88

Membership changes

This form is for current Society members who would like to change their address in the Society database. If you are interested in joining the Society, please see the membership application form below.

Full name:

OLD ADDRESS – please give us your old address information (Address – City – Zip Code – Country):

Old E-mail address: _____

NEW ADDRESS – please give us your new address information (Address – City – Zip Code – Country):

Current E-mail address: _____

Please select your membership level:

- Student (with verification of student status)
 Regular Member

Please send this form to:

Dr. Holger Kurz
Büro für biologische Bestandsaufnahmen
Moorkamp 10, D-20357 Hamburg

or via Email to gtoe@bfbb.de

Membership application form



The subscription covers reduced registration fees for the annual conferences of the society. Payments via credit card are most welcome. Payments by check or international money order must be drawn on a bank. Please make sure to add the appropriate transfer charges.

Yes, I want to become a member of the Society for Tropical Ecology – Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie e.V.

Family name, given name: _____

Organization: _____

Institutional address: _____

Postal code & city: _____

Private address: _____

Country: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone (private): _____

Phone (work): _____

Date of birth: _____

Membership status:

regular

student

library

Students please enclose a verification of student status.

I will pay membership dues via:

Master Card

Visa

Standing order

Master Card & Visa (available only for members without a German bank account)

Credit-card number: _____

Card holder's name: _____

Expiration date: _____

3-digit code on reverse side of card: _____

Standing Order / Bankeinzugsermächtigung (available only for German bank account)

Hiermit ermächtige/n ich/wir die Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie e.V. bis auf Widerruf zum Einzug des jeweiligen Jahresbeitrags mittels Lastschrift von meinem/unserem

Girokonto Nr: _____

Kontoinhaber: _____

IBAN: _____

BIC: _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Please send this form to: +49 40 8326151 (fax)

or Dr. Holger Kurz, Treasurer – Schatzmeister

Büro für biologische Bestandsaufnahmen

Moorkamp 10, D-20357 Hamburg

or via Email to gtoe@bfbb.de