

**International conference “Steppe habitats of Europe”
from 3rd to 6th of June 2012 in Erfurt**



From 3rd to 6th of June 2012 the international conference “Steppe habitats of Europe - threat, conservation measures, and protection” is held in Erfurt (Thuringia, Germany). This conference is organized by the LIFE+-project “Conservation and development of the steppe grasslands in Thuringia”. The conference sessions compass the following main topics:

1) The distribution of steppe relic species and steppe habitats in Europe in the chorological, ecological and vegetation history context, 2) Natura 2000 – Sub-Pannonian steppes of Central Europe (continental region), 3) Natura 2000 – Sub-Pannonian steppes and loess-steppes of Central Europe (Pannonian region), 4) Natura 2000 – steppe habitats in Romania and Bulgaria - (continental region, steppe region and Black Sea region), 5) Steppe habitats of the „Emerald Network“ (Berne Convention), 6) Conservation and management of steppe habitats and steppe relic species, and 7) Ex situ-/In situ-conservation of steppe plants species.

Two excursions will lead to four of the 13 project areas in the Thuringian basin. The final programme will be published at the end of January 2012 on the project’s website.

Registration is possible from now in the project office. The participation in the conference and the excursions is free of charge!

More information and conference flyer with application form:

<http://www.thueringen.de/de/tmlfun/themen/naturschutz/steppenrasen/aktuelles/content.html>

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Photo: Keuper badlands with *Adonis vernalis* at the Burg Gleichen hill (photo: Th. Stephan).