



18th Annual Sahelo-Saharan Interest Group Meeting

May 2 - 5, 2018 Paris, France

**Hotel Mercure
77600 Bussy Saint Georges**

INFORMATION

Background

The Sahelo-Saharan Interest Group (SSIG) meeting has been an annual forum for all those working in wildlife conservation within the arid areas of North Africa and the Middle-East since 2001. Facilitated by the Sahara Conservation Fund, the meeting provides an opportunity to bring people together to share ideas and projects, and to continue a strong tradition of collaboration on behalf of Sahelo-Saharan wildlife and people. The meeting format includes a series of presentations and discussion groups covering a range of topical issues.

Host

The SSIG meeting will be hosted by SCF Europe and facilitated by the Conservation & Science Committee of the Sahara Conservation Fund.

Program

May 1	Arrival of participants
May 2	Day 1 SSIG Meeting (presentations & discussion schedule to be announced)
May 3	Day 2 SSIG Meeting (presentation & discussion schedule to be announced)
May 4	Visit (optional)
May 5	Departures

Registration

Please submit a completed registration form and lodging reservation to Pierre comizzolip@si.edu and Thomas thomas.rabeil@saharaconservation.org by April 15, 2018.

Please follow that link to make your payment online:

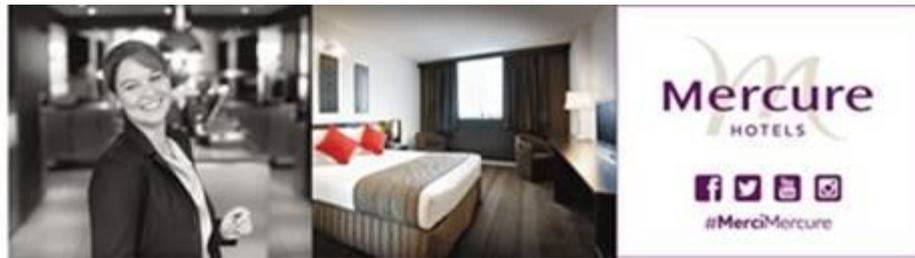
http://www.saharaconservation.org/2018_SSIG_meeting_registration

Registration fees:

The registration fee for the conference is **150€** or **\$185** (including coffee breaks and lunches over the 2 day meeting).

Accommodation

**MERCURE
MARNE-LA-VALLÉE
BUSSY ST-GEORGES**
44, boulevard Antoine Giroust
77600 Bussy Saint-Georges - France
T +33 (0) 1 64 66 11 11
F +33 (0) 1 64 66 29 05
E-mail : HA211@accor.com
mercure.com
accorhotels.com



If you want to book your room at the hotel Mercure where the conference will be hosted, please make your reservation as soon as possible due to a limited number of rooms at the following number +33 1 64 66 11 and give the **code SSIG**.

- Hotel B&B

The B & B is a 15-minute walk from the Mercure hotel where the meeting will take place.

To book: Call directly +33 1 60 21 45 40 and give the **code SAHARABUSSY10** (offers a 10% discount on the price of the room).

Hôtel B&B Marne-la-Vallée, Bussy St-Georges
6, Avenue Marie Curie
77600 Bussy Saint-Georges - France

Telephone : + 33 (0) 8 92 70 75 84
E-mail : bb_4709@hotelbb.com
Website : www.hotel-bb.com

Invitation letters for Visas

If you need a visa, please mention it on the registration form and send the document as soon as possible in order to get your visa on time.

How to get to SCF Europe

1. By train via Disneyland Paris: TGV trains (high-speed) from CDG to Disneyland take only 12 minutes to complete the journey. TGV train ticket prices for CDG to Disneyland vary from as little as 17.50€ for 2nd class tickets to 34€ for first class tickets (slightly more legroom and wider seats). Tickets can be purchased ahead of time: see [Buying TGV Tickets](#) for more information. CDG to Disneyland tickets can also be purchased upon arrival at the CDG Airport Terminal 2 train station. A related article, [CDG Terminal 2 to Paris](#), has some photos of CDG Terminal 2 that should help you get your bearings in this station.
Then, use the RER trains (normal-speed), RER A from Disneyland Marne La Vallée station to Bussy St Gorges, only two stops (8 minutes). Ticket prices for RER train travel from Disneyland Marne La Vallée station to Bussy St Gorges cost 2.55€ as of August 1, 2017.
2. By Taxi or Uber: the journey takes between 25 and 45 minutes depending on traffic, and costs 40-50€

Call for Abstracts

You are invited to submit abstracts for oral presentations at the meeting. Talks will be organized into sessions around key themes on the restoration and conservation of Sahelo-Saharan wildlife and habitats. Presentations on other relevant topics will also be accommodated.

- In situ efforts (including basic and applied research)
Biodiversity assessments and field studies
Results of biological surveys or ecological studies that help understand and prioritize conservation needs
Management of wild populations including research, action plans and reinforcement/reintroductions
- Ex situ efforts (including basic and applied research)
Captive breeding and management of animal populations
- Raising support and awareness for conservation
Outreach and communication, environmental education, participatory approach in conservation programs

- Building sustainability through improved knowledge, skills and capacity
Protected area management issues like anti-poaching patrols, implementation of monitoring activities, conflict with local communities
- Human dimensions of biodiversity conservation, including sustainable use of wildlife resources

Speakers will be given up to 15-20 minutes for their presentation followed by questions. The programme will end with a discussion forum and the opportunity for groups to address key themes or issues arising.

Contributors are requested to submit an abstract of no more than 250 words, including three to five keywords outlining the aim and content of their presentation no later than April 15, 2018. Conference proceedings will be compiled from papers received by June 15, 2018 to ensure timely publication of proceedings after the meeting. Authors are requested to submit papers not exceeding 5,000 words including abstract and references in MS Word format using Arial font 11 for the main body of the text. Additional maps, photographs, diagrams or maps are welcomed in JPG or TIFF format.

Please submit your abstracts in French or in English directly to Pierre Comizzoli comizzolip@si.edu and Thomas Rabeil thomas.rabeil@saharaconservation.org (SCF Conservation & Science Committee).

STEP BY STEP GUIDE:

1. Complete and return the registration form to Pierre and Thomas by April 15, 2018
2. Pay your registration fee and lodging by following the link http://www.saharaconservation.org/2018_SSIG_meeting_registration
3. If you would like to give a presentation at the meeting, please submit an abstract to Pierre Comizzoli and Thomas Rabeil no later than April 15, 2018. A schedule of talks will be circulated to registered delegates in advance of the meeting.