

Project Update: December 2016

During this period, we have started to make soil analysis (carbonate content, nitrogen content, common mineralisation, acidity and humus content) to understand how edaphic factors influence on calcareous outcrops vegetation distribution.

We have started to write another paper “Comparative characteristic of calcareous outcrops vegetation from Ukrainian and Moldavian part of Dniester Canyon and its tributaries” using new methods of modern synthaxonomy and vegetation ecology using JUICE Software, PC-Ord Programme, Statistica 10.0, ArcGIS 10.

Also we spread pictures of Dniester Canyon and its tributaries rare plants (*Festuca pallens*, *Schivereckia podolica*, *Sesleria heufleriana*, *Poa versicolor*, *Allium obliquum*) in social net gathered scientists and many nature protectors, such as <https://www.facebook.com/groups/floraofukraine>.

We took part in the open discussion event “Implementation of EU Habitat Directive: determination of habitats of Ukraine” (funded by EU: project “Support to Ukraine in approximation of the EU environmental acquis”) in November 2016. There were many scientists and nature protectors among them Iakiv Didukh, Anna Kuzemko, Olexandr Kagalo, Grygoryi Parchuk. The key of this discussion was to create new habitat list adapted to Ukraine. There were many difficulties because of endemic character of many regions such as Carpathian Mountains, Podillia, Crimea and many others. Then we are planning to use this renewal list of habitat according to Habitat Directive to make NATURE 2000 sites in Ukraine.

Also we have announced our workshop partly funded by Rufford Small Grant Foundation “NATURE 2000 net as innovative approach of protecting rare species and habitats in Ukraine” in February 2017 with the participation of leading specialists, such as Jan Sheffer (Slovak Republic), Anna Kuzemko (Ukraine), Nastia Drapaliuk (Ukraine) and scientists from different parts of Ukraine, where we are planning to present the results of our investigations and recommendations how to protect rare species and habitats in our country. Also we are planning to gather different information about rare plants and habitats according to Habitats Directive in Ukraine.

