



Mycoforum

CONDITIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A MYCOFORUM® APPLICATION

1.- Concept and objectives of Mycoforum®

Mycoforum® is an international event created by the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation “European Mycological Institute” (EGTC-EMI) in order to facilitate the exchange of scientific-technical knowledge between Mycological Parks linked to EMI and promoting the responsible use of mycological forest resources as a driver of rural development. It aims to facilitate innovative cooperation between public-private stakeholders involved, based on quality mycological products and services capable of generating territorial attractiveness from cities to rural areas.

In addition, Mycoforum will sensitize society to: a) The ecological importance of fungi in forests, b) The importance of considering fungi in forest management (mycoselviculture), c) The different usable local species, where and how to collect them from responsibly. d) The importance of quality control to guarantee food safety and avoid fraud. e) The most suitable ways of using mushrooms in the kitchen to enjoy all their qualities. f) Mycotourism: mycological parks, local agri-food products, fairs, workshops, specialized restaurants, etc.

2.- Where and when can Mycoforum® be organized?

Mycoforum® is an annual itinerant event that has been devised for its organization in municipalities around a Mycological Park with attractive exhibition spaces that guarantee the influx of public from cities to rural areas and maximum dissemination.

Mycoforum® is celebrated for 5 days from Thursday to Monday in the middle of the mycological season in spring or autumn.

3.- Activities that must contain Mycoforum®

The event must have the following activities:

- a) International technical scientific seminar on mycological parks to update knowledge on the management and valorization of mycological resources.
- b) International business meeting and market for products and services based on edible mushrooms (management, biotechnology, agri-food, micro-tourism, pharmacy, cosmetics, crafts ...) in which companies and stakeholders from the EMI territories will be able to sell and publicize to consumers their innovations under common quality control and visual identity.
- c) International Meeting of Mycological Associations.
- d) Specific workshop for gastronomy professionals EMI-Mico-Culinay-Hub.
- e) Exhibition of mycological species led by specialists to explain to the public the differences between them, their qualities and ecology.
- f) Informative talks and workshops on the objective themes of this promotional and informative event.
- g) Popular gastronomic demonstrations to promote the healthy consumption of wild mushrooms with the involvement of local restaurants.

4.- International scientific seminar on Mycological Parks.

The seminar will be coordinated by the EMI and will be held on Thursday and Friday to facilitate the attendance of stakeholders involved in the management and valorisation of the mycological parks. It will have the participation of at least 5 specialized speakers on the following subjects: a) Fungal ecology, mycoselviculture and climate change, b) Sustainable collection management and governance, c) Agri-food and mycotourism valorisation.

The scientific-technical seminar will be divided into three blocks:

- Block 1: Scientific advances in the management and valuation of mycological resources.
- Block 2: Current diagnosis of the Mycological Parks / Territories and ongoing projects.
- Block 3: Coordinated actions of the network of parks: a) specification terms of the network of parks, b) Fitting the network of parks with tourism sector companies, c) Joint promotion and communication strategies.

The organization will cover the travel & accommodation expenses of the speakers and coordinators of the seminar, as well as at least 10 representatives of the participating parks.

The seminar will also schedule a technical visit to the Mycological Park and a public evaluation of it by the EMI Scientific Committee.

Other expenses of the seminar that will be borne by the organization are:

- a) Conference fees.
- b) Coffee service in the morning and afternoon and meals on the working menu on Thursday and Friday for 100 participants.
- c) Simultaneous translation service English-French-Spanish. Booths and headphones for 100 people.
- d) Excursion buses.
- e) Visual identity facilities, screens, computers, projectors.
- f) Rental of conference and discussion rooms.
- g) Costs of the evaluation of the Park by the Scientific Committee of the EMI.

The organization will provide a conference room for at least 150 people and audio-visual and translation services.

5.- Business meeting and international market for mycological products and services.

The business meeting will promote the exchange of knowledge and collaborative innovation between companies related to mycological management, mycobotechnology, myco-agri-food, mycotourism, pharmacy, cosmetics, crafts ...).

The promotional market for products and services based on edible mushrooms will be the forum for the presentation and sale of companies' innovations under common quality control and visual identity.

The market will be set up on Friday afternoon and will be operational on Saturday (morning and afternoon) and Sunday (morning) coinciding with the maximum influx of tourists and the public.

The organization will provide an attractive exhibition space and with maximum ease for the influx of visitors, for example, the main square of the municipality. Each company will have a separate stand with a light point and a cover against inclement weather. Likewise, the organization will provide companies with a meeting room to promote the exchange of ideas, projects and joint ventures.

The organization will guarantee the assistance of at least 10 related companies. For this, the organization will cover the travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses of a representative of each company (two days). In this regard, priority will be given to EMI collaborating companies. The companies participating in the market will dress the stands under the conditions of the common identity project.

6.- International Meeting of Mycological Associations.

The organization will cover the participation of a representative of the main amateur mycological associations belonging to the EMI regions in order to promote the coordination and implementation of citizen science actions.

7.- Workshop for culinary professionals (EMI-Mico-Culinay-Hub)

Mycoforum will also have a specific workshop for culinary professionals interested in improving or expanding their knowledge about the use of local edible mushrooms collected in the Mycological Park. For this, the organization will invite specialized international chefs preferably with a Michelin star and will provide adequate facilities for the workshop. Likewise, these workshops will include scientists specialized in food technology with the aim of forming a Mico-culinary -Hubs network that contributes to innovating and responding to the gastronomic challenges of the territory.

The workshop will be held on Monday to facilitate the attendance of culinary professionals.

8.- Mycological exhibition.

There will be an exhibition of wild mushrooms present in the Mycological Park. For this, the organization will provide a covered exhibition space near the market to facilitate the influx of the public.

The exhibition will be assembled by personnel specialized in mycological taxonomy with the preferential collaboration of members of mycological associations or local companies. Said specialized personnel must accredit their taxonomic knowledge to the scientific committee of the EMI.

The species will be exhibited distributed by the main habitats of the Park and must be duly labelled with cards designed for this purpose with the scientific and vernacular name, edibility and possible confusions. Each species will gather several specimens and different stages of maturity in order to facilitate their identification.

The species will be collected on Thursday and Friday and will be kept in a cold room at 4 degrees. The exhibition will be set up early on Saturday and will be open to the

public on Saturday (morning and afternoon) and Sunday (morning). At all times the exhibition will be attended by specialized personnel (monitor) to answer questions to visitors.

9.- Promotional and informative talks

Coinciding with the organization of the market, the organization will schedule informative talks to make known to tourists the mycological potential of the Mycological Park, its species, times of fruiting and collection conditions to guarantee its sustainable use.

10.- Popular culinary tastings.

For culinary tastings, the organization's quality committee will meet with local restaurants to propose tapas routes or mycological menus that use preferably wild, local and fresh fungal species.

These tapas routes or menus will be adequately advertised by the organization.

11.- Common visual identity and quality control of products and services.

All the promotional materials used in the market will respect the common visual identity established by the European Mycological Institute for Mycoforum® event in order to offer a quality and united image of the entire sector, respecting the identity of the producers / companies from each territory.

The organization will provide a common wardrobe. Each stand will have a background display with the Mycoforum® logo, promotional paper bags to wrap the products and plasmas to project promotional videos of the product and services.

The EMI and the organization will create a Quality Committee that will supervise all the products and services offered in Mycoforum and may withdraw some of them when do not meet the necessary guarantees according to the Quality Committee.

12.- Communication and marketing actions.

The event will have a communication and marketing plan that will be detailed in the application. The event will be promoted locally, nationally and internationally. The promotion on social networks will be made from twitter, Facebook and official Instagram Mycoforum. The event website will be www.mycoforum.com.

All information will be published in at least English, French and Spanish. The EMI will prepare a Decalogue with direct, clear and impressive messages to communicate to society.

13.- Who can apply?

Applications can be submitted by EMI partners, provided that the present conditions are accepted and have a minimum public / private funding committed to the application of 40,000 euros, in order to guarantee the minimum quality, promotion and image required in the event.

14.- Who evaluates the applications and with what criteria?

The selection process of the candidacy has an evaluation commission made up of 3 independent members of the Scientific Committee of the EMI, as well as the Director of the EMI (with voice but without vote).

Regarding the selection criteria that the selection commission will take into account, they are as follows:

- Committed budget for the organization of Mycoforum (up to 20 points).
- Quality and location of the celebration space. (up to 20 points).
- Activities program and proposed date, (up to 20 points).
- Communication plan (up to 20 points).
- Attractiveness of the venue in relation to the planned potential visits. (up to 20 points)

Once the evaluation of the candidacies has been carried out, the EMI members are informed that they must ratify (if applicable) the candidacy chosen in the Assembly.

Signed

The representative of the candidacy

Signed

The EMI Director

Fernando Martínez Peña