



REGIÃO AUTÓNOMA DOS AÇORES

SECRETARIA REGIONAL DOS RECURSOS NATURAIS

Direção Regional do Ambiente

Direção de Serviços da Conservação da Natureza e Sensibilização Ambiental

Internacional Day for Biological Diversity - 2014

The Regional Government of the Azores celebrates the International Day for Biological Diversity, as the 2014 theme “Island Biodiversity” is very appropriate to our archipelagic context. Both the Environment Regional Directorate and the Marine Affairs Regional Directorate promote several events related with this theme, by the action of the Island Natural Parks. This date is an opportunity to communicate and involve the public to build awareness on the value of biodiversity for human well-being around the world.

On 22nd May, the main regional event will be the inauguration of the exhibition “Natural history of the Azorean vegetation” by the Regional Director of the Environment, with the permanent exhibit being at the Faial Botanical Garden, and the itinerary exposition starting its course at the “Rural World Fair”, on the same island.

Related to the marine biodiversity, the campaign “Açores Entre-Mares” (Azores between seas, in English) is taking place, from 20th May (the European Maritime Day) until the 8th June (the World Ocean Day), which brings together a number of initiatives, many of which promoting the International Day for Biological Diversity. On several islands of the archipelago boat trips are being organized for observation of the Marine Biodiversity, for whale, dolphin and bird watching, not only for school groups but also for general public. During this period, the Island Natural Parks are also organizing exhibitions, scientific sessions and of environmental education, fieldtrips, among other activities. For example, on the 4th June, the Corvo Island Natural Park, the smallest island of the archipelago, is organizing a mural painting about the Azores Marine Biodiversity, with the students of the School of Corvo, which is an Eco-School for many years. One can learn more by contacting one of the nine Island Natural Parks, or on the official website of the campaign <http://www.azores.gov.pt/entremares>.