

**29/08/2024**

***Dear participants of the IAVS Conference /EVS symposium 2024 in Madeira  
Dear Colleagues***

On the 14th of August, a wildfire started in the central area of Madeira, affecting a large stretch of forest and mountain areas. The onset was due to unusual meteorological conditions: high temperature, dryness and wind. The fire extended by more than 5000 ha and was extinguished by the 25<sup>th</sup> of August.

The city of Funchal was not affected, so our conference is unchanged and will go on as planned.

Nonetheless, some of the mid-symposium excursions will be affected, but the local organizing committee will replace them by viable alternatives, and surely the new excursions will be as enjoyable. You will receive more information at check in.

We are saddened mostly by the loss of biodiversity, also by the disturbance on our symposium and conference. Nevertheless, we are confident that it will be a very good one.

The Organizing Committee.