16TH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORK GROUP FOR PALAEOETHNOBOTANY 17-22 JUNE 2013. THESSALONIKI, GREECE



ABSTRACTS BOOK

SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

IWGP-2013.WEB.AUTH.GR

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

The School of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

The Municipality of Thessaloniki

The Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Culture and Sports

The Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food







WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF

The Institute of Aegean Prehistory

The Research Committee of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

The Greek Ministry of Rural Development and Food







WITH THE SUPPORT OF

The Museum of Byzantine Culture

The Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki





development of infill, which could reflect trends within longue durée time scale as well as intra-site and off site environmental processes.

Tracking environmental changes between Odra and Vistula rivers in the Migration Period

Małgorzata Latałowa¹, Anna Pędziszewska¹, Joanna Święta-Musznicka¹, Marcelina Zimny¹ and Aleksander Bursche²

¹Laboratory of Palaeoecology, Department of Plant Ecology, University of Gdańsk, Poland

²Institute of Archaeology, University of Warsaw, Poland

The massive migration movements of Germanic tribes which occurred in central Europe in the first millennium after Christ, was one of the most spectacular demographic and economic events in the late antiquity that had major impact on vegetation and some other environmental components. All pollen diagrams from the area between Odra and Vistula rivers in Poland illustrate more or less distinct, and more or less extended, period of the economic decline and concurrent regeneration of forest cover. However, the pattern differs in many details when compare high resolution palynological record from site to site. This suggests that the demographic processes and following economic activity varied not only among regions but also within particular regions. To obtain better insight into the demographic shifts taking place during the Migration Period and their environmental consequences, joint archaeological, archaeobotanical and palaeoecological research started within the framework of the project "Migration Period between Odra and Vistula" financed by the Polish National Science Centre (grant no 2011/02/A/HS3/00389).

The first results of inter-comparison of the pollen sequences from a number of sites from NW Poland indicate that although the demographic and subsequent settlement crisis resulted in a large-scale regional reforestation of the whole area earlier occupied by Germanic tribes, forest expansion concerned different dominant tree taxa what resulted in a very clear phytogeographical division of the area. In several sites persistence of small settlements is suggested by scattered pollen of cereals and other cultural indicators. The new colonization by the early medieval tribes took place in different centuries and varied as concerns intensity of the land-use.

The aim of the poster presentation is to introduce the outline of the environmental aspects of the new project and the preliminary results of the palynological survey concerning the Migration Period in NW Poland.

