



## EFIMED E-NEWSLETTER – July 2008

### SUMMER SCHOOL “Do Mediterranean Forests compete for water resources?” in MAICh (Chania, Greece)

15 students from different Mediterranean institutions participated in the EFIMED Summer School 2008. Issues like the water use efficiency of Mediterranean tree forest species, the water needed to fix carbon in a Mediterranean context (an average of 500 g of water per 1 g of carbon) or the climate change impacts in water availability for forest ecosystems were highlighted. The lectures provided an insight on the water processes in trees and forests from the leaf to the watershed level.

The analysis of the field work, taking place in a *Pinus brutia* forest in apparently dry conditions surprised all participants. The high rates of photosynthesis even at the warmest midday hours and the estimated water consumption: 5.000 liters of water per hectare per hour demonstrated the importance of water for Mediterranean ecosystems. Exercises with the GOTILWA+ simulator allow the students to explore the effect of forest management under different climatic scenarios on forest development and water consumption.

Contents of the course and some pictures are available in EFIMED website:

[www.efi.int/portal/about\\_efi/organisation/regional\\_offices/efimed/capacity\\_building/summer\\_schools/2008\\_chania/](http://www.efi.int/portal/about_efi/organisation/regional_offices/efimed/capacity_building/summer_schools/2008_chania/)



### EFIMED ANNUAL MEETING in ORVIETO (Italy)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> EFIMED annual meeting will take place in Orvieto (Italy) on September 17<sup>th</sup> within the framework of the **EFI annual Conference**. During the meeting the main activities carried out by EFIMED during the year, like the preparation of the *Discussion paper Living with wildfires: what science can tell us? A contribution to the Science-Policy dialogue* and ongoing initiatives, like the development of a **Mediterranean Forest Research Agenda** will be discussed.

The EFI Scientific Seminar on **Adaptation of Forest Landscape to Environmental Changes** taking place on 19<sup>th</sup> of September will be an opportunity for EFIMED colleagues to present their ongoing research to a wider geographical audience. EFIMED colleagues will also be invited as observers to the EFI annual conference.

A preliminary agenda and further information is available on the web. Please visit:

[www.efi.int/portal/about\\_efi/organisation/regional\\_offices/efimed/networking/efimed\\_annual\\_meetings/efimed\\_am\\_2008\\_-\\_orvieto/](http://www.efi.int/portal/about_efi/organisation/regional_offices/efimed/networking/efimed_annual_meetings/efimed_am_2008_-_orvieto/)

If you are willing to participate:

Only in <b>EFIMED Meeting</b>	<b>No registration fee.</b> Please register on the website of EFI AC.
In <b>EFIMED Meeting + other EFI AC activities</b> (excepted Field trip)	<b>150 EUR</b> until August 15th; <b>200 EUR</b> afterwards.
<b>Field trip</b>	<b>70 EUR.</b>

EFIMED will cover the accommodation of Mediterranean non-EU participants during the conference activities. This means a single room in a hotel in Orvieto. We can only ensure rooms (as it was mentioned in previous messages) for the participants registering **until August 1st**.

Registrations >>



**International Conference:  
WATER and FORESTS: A CONVENIENT  
TRUTH?  
Barcelona, 30-31 October 2008**

**Call for poster presentations**

Due to the demand of scientists interested in presenting their results in the Conference, the Organising Committee has opened a call for poster presentations. [CALL for POSTERS >>](#)

**Registrations**

EFIMED kindly reminds you that the first period is about to finish.

<b>15 March – 31 July 2008</b>	<b>1 August – 1 October</b>
100 EUR	130 EUR

Further information on: [>>](#)

Download leaflet here [>>](#)

**EFIMED PRESENTATION TO PHOENIX  
MEETING**

The Head of Office of EFIMED, Dr. Marc Palahí and EFIMED Advisory Group Chairman, Mr. Yves Birot represented EFIMED during the PHOENIX Project Centre meeting in Lisbon on last July 7<sup>th</sup>. Marc Palahí presented the new developments at EFI as offering different types of research infrastructures; *hard infrastructures* in the new frame of Regional Offices or *soft infrastructures*, the existing Project Centers. Dr.

Yves Birot presented the EFIMED Discussion paper **Living with wildfires: what science can tell us? A contribution to the Science-Policy dialogue.**

PHOENIX is an EFI Project Center coordinated by the Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Lisbon. Their objective is to develop decision criteria for preventive post-fire forest management.

**EFIMED SHORT SCIENTIFIC VISITS**

Five researchers from different Mediterranean institutions have been granted with the EFIMED Short Scientific Visits. Hence,

- **Mr. Francesco Scarfo**, from Italy, will develop the project “Seedling development under gap system in relation to microsite conditions”, focusing on *Abies alba*. University of Valladolid (Spain) will host and tutor his stay.
- **Dr. Ali Chebil**, from INRGREF - Tunisia, will expand analytical and practical skills through the proposed project “Valuation and payment of forest environmental services in Tunisia” at the University of Catania (Italy).
- **Dr. Nizar Nasri**, from Science Faculty of Tunisia, already spent 15 days in June in INRA Avignon (France) further developing his work on “Climate change effects on *Juniperus phoenicea* in the Mediterranean region”;
- **Mr. Manuel Lucas**, from Spain, will carry out his project “Modelling the natural regeneration process of *Pinus nigra Arn. subsp. salzmannii* forests stands under climate change” at ISA- Technical University of Lisbon (Portugal).
- **Ms. Kaouther Ben Yahia**, from INAT - Tunisia, will learn on hemispherical photographs techniques in INRA - EPHYSE - Centre de Bordeaux in order to develop her work on “Leaf Area index estimation in *Quercus* stand from hemispherical photographs in watershed Sidi El Barrak”, which constitutes a part of her thesis.

Congratulations to all of them!! and thank you to the host institutions for the collaboration in this interchange of knowledge and strengthening Mediterranean forestry links.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **ACES 2008 - A Conference on Ecosystem Services: *Using Science for Decision Making in Dynamic Systems***

**December 8-11, 2008 in Naples, Florida, US.**

The conference is being sponsored a consortium of U.S federal agencies including the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Science Foundation.

The conference consists of plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, and optional workshops and education tours.

Presentation/poster abstracts should be submitted **by August 15** (see website for instructions).

ACES will provide a broad and open forum to discuss the latest and most innovative methods, tools, and processes for assessing ecosystem services. Additionally, the conference will provide focus on research and experience supporting ecosystem service evaluation in planning and decision making.

ACES is organized around four primary themes:

1. Mapping and spatial relationships: Spatial Distribution of Benefits, Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis
2. Values and Measurement: Economic, Ecological, Cultural and Indicators and Monitoring
3. Dynamic Systems and Drivers of Change: Urbanization, Climate Change, Natural Hazards and Resource Management
4. Institutional Structures and Decision Making: Tools and Models, Institutions, Communities and Stakeholders and Barriers

More informaton at:

[www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aces](http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aces)

### **International Congress on INTEGRAL VALORIZATION of the FOREST 19-22 November of 2008 In Santiago de Compostela, Spain.**

The I International Conference for the Integral Valorization of the Forest (Edition 2008: non-timber forest products) will be held at the *Palacio de Congresos e Exposicións de Galicia* (Galician Conference and Exhibitions Center) in Santiago de Compostela and *Feira Internacional de Galicia* (Galician International Fair), from 19 to 22 November 2008.

There will be tree topic areas: Silvipasciculture, Social uses and Other productive uses of the forests.

The Organizing Committee is pleased to invite you to participate in this event. Contributions may be submitted as oral presentations or posters on subjects related to the Conference's topic areas. The deadline for the submission of presentations and poster summaries is **15th August 2008**.

You can find more information in the Conference's web:

<http://congresovalorizaciondomonte.com/en/default.asp>