



## EFIMED E-NEWSLETTER – May 2008

### EFIMED PRESENTATION TO SILVA MEDITERRANEA

The Head of Office of EFIMED, Dr. Marc Palahí was invited to present EFIMED activities during the FAO *Silva Mediterranea* meeting members taking place in Sofia (Bulgaria) on last April.

FAO, through its Silva Mediterranea Committee, and EFIMED agreed to strengthen the cooperation through specific activities and projects like the development of a proposal for an *International Mediterranean Master of Forestry* or the organization of the International Conference “*Water and Forests: a convenient truth?*”

The Council is the highest decision making body of the Institute, constituted by representatives of the European States which had ratified the Convention on EFI. The Council meets in ordinary session every three years. The Chairmanship of the Council from 2005-2008 has been held by Finland. Spain holds the Chairmanship for the period of 2008-2011.

The Council selects 4 members of the EFI Board. The other 4 members are selected by the Conference. From the Mediterranean region, Dr. Miroslav Benko, Director of the Croatian Forest Research Institute, has been reelected and Prof. Dr. José Antonio Bonet, Director of the Forest Technical Institute of Catalonia, has been recently appointed.

### EFIMED VISIT TO MOROCCO

On last 12-13<sup>th</sup> May, the Head of Office of EFIMED, Mr. Marc Palahí, and the Chairman of the Advisory Group, Mr. Yves Birot, carried out a mission to Morocco. They presented our Regional Office to different institutions and organizations in Rabat.

ENFI strongly supported the arrangements of these meetings, whose results were very interesting feedback and future stronger collaborations. One of the main outcomes of the visit was the commitment by Morocco (ENFI) to host EFIMED 2009 Annual Meeting.

### EFI COUNCIL MEETING in Madrid

During this year 2008 many important events of the European Forest Institute are taking place in our Mediterranean area.

After hosting the last Scientific Advisory Board meeting in Barcelona, the EFI Council meeting has taken place in Madrid during this week.

### EFIMED ANNUAL MEETING in ORVIETO (Italy)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> EFIMED business meeting will take place on September 17<sup>th</sup> within the framework of the EFI Conference week.

A review from last year activities will be presented and new project proposals and scientific initiatives will be discussed.

As this year EFI Regional Offices issue is raising relevance within EFI members, interested persons are invited to attend the event and learn from EFIMED experience.

A detailed agenda will be available later.

EFIMED is also co-organising the session III “*Ecosystem services and tourism*” of the Scientific Seminar “*Adaptation of Forest Landscape to Environmental Changes*”.

Registration **before June 13th** is free of charge. EFIMED will cover the accommodation from EFIMED non EU Mediterranean participants.

Further information and registration forms on:  
[www.efi.int/portal/news\\_events/events/extra/2008/efi\\_2008\\_annual\\_conference\\_and\\_scientific\\_seminar/home/](http://www.efi.int/portal/news_events/events/extra/2008/efi_2008_annual_conference_and_scientific_seminar/home/)



### **SUMMER SCHOOL in MAICH (Chania, Greece)**

15 students from different Mediterranean institutions have been selected for participating in the Summer School. Congratulations! Organisers from MAICH and EFIMED as well as both lecturers and students are finalizing the details.

### **Prof. MOHAMED SABIR in EFIMED AG**

Prof. Mohamed Sabir, Director of the École Nationale Forestière d'Ingenieurs, has been recently appointed as a member of the Advisory Group of EFIMED. He is an expert in soil and water conservation, with several publications on soil erosion indicators in African mountains and holds a broad international experience.

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

EFIMED jointly with FAO Forestry, IUFRO, MCPFE, CREAM, UB, FTIP, CTFC and the support of the Catalan Government is organizing this International Conference.

During the four sessions it will be analysed the future predictions on rainfall patterns, the relationships between water and trees and the impacts of forests in water provision for humans.

Outstanding scientists and leading figures in politics will share their knowledge and it is expected that a fruitful discussion will arise on the water resource and forestry management. Registration is open.

Further information on:

[www.efi.int/portal/about\\_efi/organisation/regional\\_offices/efimed/information\\_and\\_dissemination/water\\_and\\_forests\\_conference\\_2008/home](http://www.efi.int/portal/about_efi/organisation/regional_offices/efimed/information_and_dissemination/water_and_forests_conference_2008/home)

### **ANNOUNCEMENT from the Polytechnic University of Valencia (Spain)**

At the established Technology Platform for the forest-based sector, the strategic research area 5.3 is "*citizens' perceptions on forests*". The Unit of Forest Science at the Polytechnic University of Valencia is developing a joint research project with the Ministry of Environment of Spain in order to implement this research area in Spain.

Therefore they would like to reach the following objectives:

- Objective 1: To compile past and ongoing experiences in Europe and Mediterranean basin related to the research of the citizen's perceptions in forestry (in order to carry on a state of art and a comparative analysis)
- Objective 2: To create a network of social scientists in forestry related to the research of the citizen's perceptions in forestry in Europe and the Mediterranean basin.

With the persons and/or the research groups interested we will implement further steps of collaboration.

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Please, contact him **by 9<sup>th</sup> June**.