



**Reg. CE n. 614/2007 LIFE+ “FutMon” Project - Contract n. LIFE 07
ENV/D/000218**

INTERNATIONAL CROSS – COMPARISON COURSE ON FOREST CONDITION (Mediterranean Europe)

Follonica, ITALY September 27 – 30, 2009

DRAFT MINUTES

The International Cross Calibration Course on Crown Condition for Mediterranean Countries was held in the structure of the National forest Service School of “Marsiliana” (Follonica) in a National Reserve, also in part of the same plots as the course in 1999.

The meeting was opened by the Chief of the Forest School, Mr. Stefano Vagniluca, who welcomed the participants to Follonica. Following Mr. Enrico Pompei, Italian responsible for FutMon Programme and Chairman of the meeting, invited participants to adopt the agenda (annex1, programme).

In total 24 participants of 6 countries took part in the meeting (annex2, list).

The chairman showed to participants the implementation of FutMon Project in Italy.

Mr. Marco Ferretti, responsible of Action C1-QAC-15 (IT) about Quality control and assurance of the data, spoke about the importance of Quality control and assurance in FutMon Project.

Prof. Filippo Bussotti, the scientific responsible of the action, explained the method of assessment, according to the FutMon Field Protocols.

In the introductory meeting the plots to be assessed have been briefly introduced too and more explanation about the changes of the method to be tested was given by Enrico Cenni (Linnaeambiente Firenze) in a short presentation.

According to the FutMon Field Protocols, the new definition of “assessable crown” was tested to evaluate, whether the different understanding is the main cause of differing results in the ICCs.

Also the variation of defoliation scores in relation to different assesment position was tested. The point is to find a new routine for arrangement of ICCs in the future.

In the field assessment, after detailed information on the stand and plot, all participants, gave six different scoring to each tree in each plot. First three scorings (upper 1/3 of the crown, widest part of the crown, whole crown national) from the fixed position; the last three, of the same parts of the crown, done according the national method.

The afternoon of the first day and the second day were fully dedicated to field tree crown assessments in *Pinus pinaster* and *Quercus ilex* stands, following the agenda and instruction of the coordinating staff.

Very preliminary results shows a good calibration between different Countries and a good impact of new rules of assessment. More details about the results will be given soon, together with drawing general conclusion