

Abstract

## Grinfomed + Medifire, a project for the prevention of great forest fires in the Mediterranean

Esteve Canyameres<sup>a</sup>, Francesc Xavier Castro<sup>a</sup>, Miguel Galante<sup>c</sup>, Gaël Rosello<sup>d</sup>, Marco Marchetti<sup>g</sup>, Núria Ferrer<sup>a</sup>, Susana Dias<sup>b</sup>, Valter Sambucini<sup>f</sup>, Claude Picard<sup>d</sup>, Frédérique Giroud<sup>d</sup>, Toni Tudela<sup>a</sup>, Filippo Russo<sup>h</sup>, Roberto Barichello<sup>h</sup>, Simone Sorbi<sup>k</sup>, Miguel Cruz<sup>c</sup>, Filipe Xavier Catry<sup>b</sup>, João Rocha Pinho<sup>c</sup>, Sandrine Buhours<sup>d</sup>, Jacques Moyà<sup>e</sup>, David Montserrat<sup>a</sup>, Eva Gabriel<sup>a</sup>, Michele Munafò<sup>f</sup>, Simona Federici<sup>i</sup>, Lorenzo Bottai<sup>j</sup>, Alberto Ortolani<sup>j</sup>, Ivete Strecht<sup>c</sup>, Miquel Segarra<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Generalitat of Catalonia, Department of the Environment, Directorate-General for the Natural Environment, Service of Forest Fire Prevention, Finca Torreferrussa, Ctra. de Sabadell a Sta. Perpètua de Mogoda, Apartado de Correos 119, 08130 Santa Perpètua de Mogoda, Spain

<sup>b</sup> Center of Applied Ecology, Prof. Baeta Neves, Institute of Agronomy, Lisbon, Portugal

<sup>c</sup> Directorate-General of Forest Resources, Senhora do Hora, Portugal

<sup>d</sup> Center of Tests and Investigation of l'ENTENTE (CEREN), Gardanne, France

<sup>e</sup> Departmental Service of Fire and Help of the Oriental Pyrenees, Gardanne, France

<sup>f</sup> Agency for the Protection of the Environment and for the Technical Services (APAT), Liguria, Italy

<sup>g</sup> University of Studies of Molise, Molise, Italy

<sup>h</sup> Department Agriculture and Civil Protection, Liguria, Italy

<sup>i</sup> Forest Fires Prevention Service (SPIRL), Liguria, Italy

<sup>j</sup> Laboratory for Meteorology and the Medium Environmental Modelling (LAMMA), Toscana, Italy

<sup>k</sup> Department of the Regional Polices on Innovation and Research, Toscana, Italy

---

**Keywords:** Grinfomed + Medifire; Interreg; Forest fire risk assessment; Forest management

---

Large forest fires are catastrophic events that are occurring more frequently in recent years in the Southern European countries. Various causes are appointed for this situation, among them climate change and the abandonment of agricultural activities are at the head of the list.

As part of the environment conservation and rural development policies, the European Union is developing a group of strategies at local, regional and trans-national levels for the management of forest fires risk. The project GRINFOMED + MEDIFIRE, covering regions of Spain,

Portugal, France and Italy, is acting under the Community initiative INTERREG III B MEDOCC.

The project is focused on improving the work of administrators and local agents in regard to forest fire prevention through three lines of action:

Line 1: Fire risk assessment systems and prediction systems for large forest fires.

Line 2: Territorial planning for large forest areas.

Line 3: Satellite and vegetation.