



Side Event "**European Research Projects 2. FIRE PARADOX**: an innovative and integrated approach to wildland fire management.

Sevilla, May 14, 2007, 18.00-19.30

SESSION REPORT

Chairperson: Peter Moore (Principal. Forests and Environment. Australia)
Honorary Co-Chairman: Armando González-Cabán (U.S. Forest Service)

1.- General presentation of FIRE PARADOX: Regulating the wildfire problem by the wise use of fire

Eric Rigolot, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Unité de Recherche Ecologie des Forêts Méditerranéennes, Avignon, France

2.- Proposal of new land use and fire policies in Europe

Cristina Montiel, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Dpto. Análisis Geográfico Regional y Geografía Física., Grupo de Investigación Política y Socioeconomía Forestal, Madrid, Spain.

3.-Innovative tools and methods in fire management

Marc Castellnou, Generalitat de Catalunya, Departament d'Interior – Departament General d'Émergencies i Seguretat Civil – Grup de Recolzament d'Actuacions Forestals, Tivissa, Spain

4.- The main expected benefits of the FIRE PARADOX project.

Domingo Molina, University of Lleida, Department of Crop and Forest Sciences, Unit of Forest Fires, Lleida, Spain

5.- Discussion with the assistance





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Regulating Mitigating the wildfire problem by the wise use of fire

The social, economical and environmental consequences of the current wildfire regime in southern Europe are severe, and are likely to aggravate and geographically expand in the near future. FIRE PARADOX (<http://www.fireparadox.org>) seeks to contribute to the mitigation of fire impacts by creating the scientific and technical foundation for practices and policies consistent with the concept of integrated wildland fire management, i.e. allowing an adequate balance between the management of natural resources and the management of unwanted fires. For the sake of integration, coherence and completeness, FIRE PARADOX approaches fire from four complementary sides, respectively prescribed burning (a powerful tool in a proactive risk management), wildfire initiation, wildfire propagation, and suppression fire (the wise, educated or professional use of fire in fire fighting). Our work programme comprises thirteen interrelated modules evenly distributed by the Research, Development, and Dissemination domains.

A global partnership

FIRE PARADOX is sharing experiences of partners from member states of the European Community and from third countries, including developing countries: Fire Paradox was extended in the frame of specific measures in support of International Cooperation (INCO). The project includes 36 partners from 16 different countries: Argentina, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Mongolia, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, South-Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom. The project Partnership includes various types of entities necessary to ensure integration like universities and forestry schools, research institutes, fire management agencies, international networks, associations or SMEs.

FIRE PARADOX expected benefits include the increased cooperation between European researchers, enhanced exchanges and increased integration for the forest and fire professionals using fire wisely, and a better awareness and preparation and safer behaviour of citizens. Finally, the FIRE PARADOX project will have an impact on policymaking and initiative in regards to integrated wildland fire management.

Project description

Project acronym: FIRE PARADOX

Project full title: An Innovative Approach of Integrated Wildland Fire Management Regulating the Wildfire Problem by the Wise Use of Fire: Solving the Fire Paradox

Project coordinator: Francisco C. Rego, Instituto Superior de Agronomia, Tapada da Ajuda, 1349-017 Lisboa, Portugal. Tel: +351213616085. Fax: +351213623493. E-mail: frego@isa.utl.pt

Contract no: FP6-018505

Start date: March 2006 - Duration: 48 months

E U contribution: 12.6 M€; Total cost: about 16 M€

<http://www.fireparadox.org>

