



## NEWSLETTER N.3 JULY 2018



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### 1. EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is the third edition of our newsletter. It is a pleasure for me to open this document where you will find a lot of news about MEFISTO project. The last period has been very busy for the partnership. Some important actions of the project have been carried out and the related deliverables are now available on the web page of the project. All the scheduled activities were completed successfully. First of all, all the efforts made on MEFISTO activities, have been positively applied in the most important event of the project: the pilot training course for EUFOs (European Forest Fire Officers), held in Valabre -France- on May 2018. On the basis of the results and the feedback obtained in the training course, our partnership confirms that the EUFOs may really contribute at improving collaboration among countries in severe fire seasons. All the partners put a strong effort for completing in the best way all the project tasks and actions and I want to thank them for their important and interesting contributions. Please enjoy this newsletter and, as usual, do not hesitate to contact me at [info@mefistoforestfires.eu](mailto:info@mefistoforestfires.eu) for any information. Finally, I am waiting for you at the final conference to be held close to Siena (Italy) on next December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Best Regards

**Enrico Marchi**

**MEFISTO Coordinator**

Associate Professor of the Department of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Systems, University of Florence (ITALY)



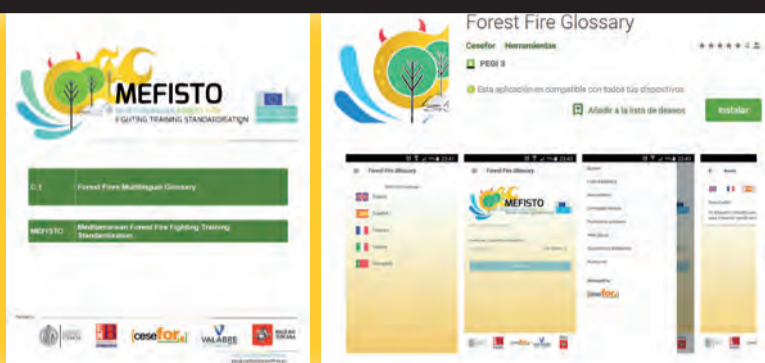
### 2. THE MEFISTO PROJECT

The project "MEDITERRANEAN FOREST FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING STANDARDIZATION", (MEFISTO), coordinated by the University of Florence, aims to raise the preparedness level through an efficient and standardized training protocol developed by a representative network of Mediterranean stakeholders. This project addresses new opportunities for interoperability between Mediterranean training centres, allowing international cooperation against disasters related to forest fires. MEFISTO also aims at establishing training programs with specific sessions on the organization, protocols and procedures applied in neighbouring countries. Its general objective is to improve the effectiveness of cross-border fire fighting and to allow an easy and safe transfer of human and material resources from one Country to another.



Please visit [www.mefistoforestfires.eu](http://www.mefistoforestfires.eu) for detailed project's information.

### 3. STATE OF THE PROJECT



**THE MULTILINGUAL  
GLOSSARY ON FOREST  
FIRES IS READY  
AND FREELY AVAILABLE**

Being the aim of MEFISTO project the standardization of procedures and the creation of common figures operating against forest fires, it is fundamental to give the possibility to involved people to understand each other, especially when operators and technicians come from different countries. For this reason, a multilingual glossary of terms used in fire fighting was carried out. After a hard work in choosing terms and translation, in the first month of 2018 the **MEFISTO multilingual glossary** has been published on the project website in pdf format (see [www.mefistoforestfires.eu/content/common-terminology-and-good-practices](http://www.mefistoforestfires.eu/content/common-terminology-and-good-practices)). Moreover, thanks to the efforts of CESEFOR, an **app for smartphone -both IOs and Android-** has been developed and freely downloadable.

The terms and their definitions are available in **English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian**.



**EUROPEAN  
PROCEDURE  
FOR FOREST  
FIRE FIGHTING**



**TRAINING PROGRAMS  
STANDARDIZATION AND  
IMPLEMENTATION**

In the surrounding of the increasing needs at European level to share human and technological resources between member States to face emergency in forest fires, a set of procedures has been defined and proposed in MEFISTO implementation. These procedures would easily allow the activation of a mechanism of mutual support between different administrations (regions, countries) in terms of suppression of forest fires. Finally, the most important item produced has been a transboundary collaboration protocol where the objectives, the territorial scope, the costs of the assistance and the general terms of application are established.

[www.mefistoforestfires.eu/sites/default/files/annexes/mefisto\\_d\\_c.3\\_0.pdf](http://www.mefistoforestfires.eu/sites/default/files/annexes/mefisto_d_c.3_0.pdf)

The key-task of MEFISTO project is to find a shared approach in fire fighting through the creation and the training of figures with the same competences and skills. Each partner has compiled the information related to the training courses that must be carried out by the personnel that participates in the extinction of forest fires of each country / region that participates in the project, (objectives of the courses, programs, etc.). With this information, the document "Common and shared list of training programs" has been prepared. [www.mefistoforestfires.eu/sites/default/files/action/doc/mefisto\\_d\\_e\\_1.pdf](http://www.mefistoforestfires.eu/sites/default/files/action/doc/mefisto_d_e_1.pdf)

In this document, all the figures involved in fire fighting activities and their specific role in the four partner countries have been identified and compared. Taking into account the skills, experience required, and training programs identified in each country, a set of common minimum training objectives and contents has been created for the common position of responsibility recognized by all partners. These positions are:

**Incident Commander  
Logistics Section Leader  
Group Leader**

**Team Leader  
Team Member**

Once the basic figures and the minimum standards to operate in an international context have been fixed, we studied about a reference figure as connection between the different teams from different countries, supporting the local incident commander. Finally, a profile and training program for a European Forest Fire Officer (EUFO) was proposed and put into practice in the first pilot training course held in Valabre-Gardanne (FRA) last May.

## 4. EVENTS

### 3<sup>RD</sup> MEFISTO TECHNICAL MEETING

León (Spain), March 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> 2018

In this third technical meeting the state of the project has been reviewed, taking important decisions for the finalization of the glossary and its mobile application.

The doubts and final details of the "European procedure for forest fire fighting" were also solved, as well as the documents corresponding to the task "Training programs standardization and implementation".

Large time of the meeting was spent to reach shared decisions on the definition of the pilot training program for the European Forest Fire Officer (EUFO).

Finally, the practical part of the course for the EUFO, which will be held in Italy in the month of December 2018, as well as the final conference of the project, was presented.



### MEFISTO PILOT TRAINING COURSE AND 4<sup>TH</sup> PROJECT MEETING

Valabre, (France), May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The pilot training course held in Valabre, France, was aimed at the training of the "European Forest Fire Officer" (EUFO), a figure able to support and develop efficiently international collaboration in forest fire fighting.

EUFO have the knowledge, capacity and ability for being integrated into an operational structure of the partner countries. He is able to identify the essential information to be acquired and transferred and to solve the main issues for achieving efficiency and effectiveness in international collaboration during fire fighting.

The course was held between May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with great success. At the end of the course several contributions were made, both by the partners and by the participants, to improve the program and contents for future editions. The trainees were three Incident Commander of each partner country.

In Valabre, the fourth technical meeting of the project also took place. The main objective was the follow-up to the pilot course, analysis and proposal for improvements. A review of the completed tasks was also made and the tasks to be carried out were scheduled until the end of 2018.



### PRESENTATION OF THE MEFISTO PROJECT IN THE LAUNCH OF THE COOPEREM COORDINATION COOPERATION PROJECT

Girona, (Spain), May 2018

Lieutenant-colonel Philip Tosello, the project manager of Entente (French partners), presented the MEFISTO project in Girona in Spain at the launch day of the COOPEREM cross-border cooperation project on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. During this day he met the representant of the national French and Spanish government and local authorities from Catalunya and Pyrénées-Orientales.





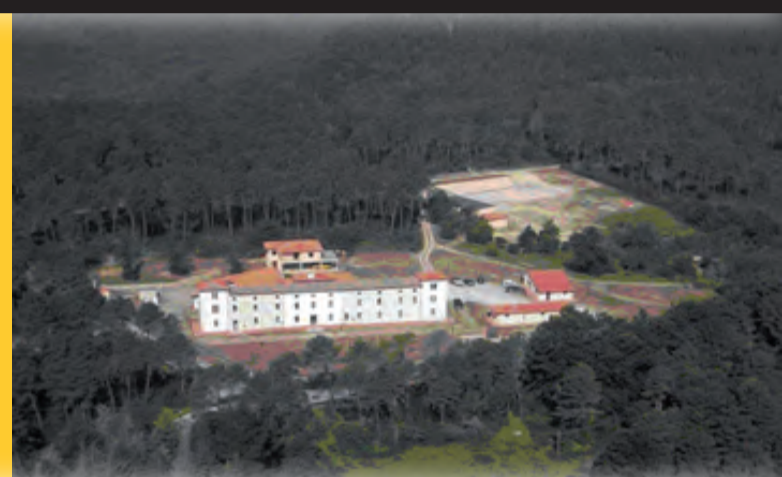
## 5. NEXT ACTIONS AND EVENTS

In the coming months, reports related to the training of the "European Forest Fire Officer (EUFO)" will be completed. Also the Mefisto Final Conference program will be defined and delivered to all stakeholders. All this information will be also available on the project website.

### PILOT EXERCISE

**Forest fire training Center of Tuscany - La Pineta, Tocchi. Siena. Italia**

On December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the practical exercise for "European Forest Fire Officer (EUFO)" will be held in Italy. The place will be the Forest fire Training Centre of Tuscany - La Pineta, Tocchi, Siena. The participants will be the Incident Commander trained during the pilot training course in Valabre (France) in the month of May.



### MEFISTO FINAL CONFERENCE

**La Pineta, Tocchi. Siena. Italia, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Final Conference of the MEFISTO Project "Mediterranean Forest Fire Fighting Training Standardization" will be held in Siena, Italy. The place will be the Forest fire Training Centre of Tuscany- La Pineta, Tocchi. There we will discuss various topics, including the results of the project, and more specifically, the forest fire fighting in the European Union and cross-border collaboration. The program of the conference will be available on project website soon.

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