



HORTUS
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Conservation studies on Mediterranean threatened flora and vegetation

X INTERNATIONAL MEETING BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Sardinia, 13-18 June 2016

Book of Abstracts



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Edited by Gianluigi Bacchetta

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PLENARY LECTURE

The SISV support to the implementation of a national manual for monitoring the Habitats of the 92/43/EEC Directive in Italy

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Since the enactment of the 92/43/EEC Directive, a periodical monitoring of Annex I Habitats is expected from every European country at six-year intervals, based on Article 17. In 2011 a methodological frame was published and indicated as the official reference guideline for Habitat's monitoring in EU (Evans and Arvela, 2011). Based on this general, wide-scale document, a large team of experts, members of the Italian Society for Vegetation Science (SISV), is developing a national protocol for monitoring the vegetation-based Annex I Habitats of Italy. The final scope is to produce a user's basic manual, offering practical, slender and scientifically sound methodological tools for an efficient and effective monitoring of the Italian Habitats. Several critical aspects, including the selection of proper parameters for area, structure and function, the concept of "typical species", or the most appropriate Habitat-specific sampling methods, have been examined through a largely shared scientific discussion. Simple but resolute models have been identified which will allow a harmonized data collection by way of national-scale standardized technical protocols, resulting in comparable evaluations of the conservation status of each Habitat, at national and European level. Promoted by the Italian Ministry for Environment (MATTM) and coordinated by the environmental agency ISPRA, the project is now close to a final version and will hopefully provide a useful tool to implement nature conservation in Italy.

Keywords: biodiversity, conservation status, Habitat Directive, vegetation.

References:

Evans D., Arvela M. 2011. Assessment and reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive. Explanatory Notes & Guidelines for the period 2007-2012. Final version. July 2011. ETC-BD.