

# Forest Landscapes and Global Change

New Frontiers  
in Management,  
Conservation  
and Restoration

Abstracts

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**Oral Session Tools of landscape assessment and management 3**

**LAND-USE MANAGEMENT AND CHANGES IN CAMPANIA REGION (SOUTHERN ITALY): EXAMPLES FROM TEN REGIONAL STATE FORESTS**

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In the last 50 years the Italian territory has undergone a remarkable transformation as a consequence of anthropogenic activity. In the Campania Region, the main causes of change are urban expansion, abandonment of mountainous and marginal agricultural areas and expansion of industrial settlements. We document land use variation during the last 50 years and the changes occurred in ten Regional Forests which contain mainly natural land use patches. Their geographic distribution makes these areas representative of the major physiographic and ecological features present in the Campania Region. Two different approaches were followed: At a landscape level, carriers responsible for the transformation of Campania's landscape agroforestry were identified, covering the last fifty years. A land-systems map was used as background to focus on ten different forests, highlighting their status and management perspectives. The main problems of land and forest management are discussed focusing the actions promoted by two new important legislative instruments: the "Piano Territoriale Regionale (PTR)" and the "Piano Forestale Generale (PFG)", related to socio-economic revitalization of rural areas and to the sustainable management of agro-forestry systems. Sustainably managed State Forests could be used as pilot areas for monitoring natural forest processes, testing different management options and results.

**Oral Session Urban Forestry 1**

**GREEN SPACE INFLUENCE ON THERMAL COMFORT – STRUCTURED STUDIES IN THE CITY OF BRAGANCA (PORTUGAL)**

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Green Spaces are regarded as elements that can provide thermal comfort in cities. A research on green spaces contribution to thermal comfort was carried out, with the purpose of identifying essential principles that can help urban designers to enhance the social use of open spaces. These studies were developed in summer and early fall conditions, by means of structured experiments. These experiments took place in three occasions between June 2008 and September 2009, in a total of 432 thermal sensations questionnaires. The methodology consisted in placing different individuals, organized in uniform age groups and equal numbered in gender, under different thermal environments (shadow versus sun exposure, wind versus wind shield, grass versus artificial pavement) and asking them to express their thermal sensations (using a seven levels scale), while collecting meteorological data. A multinomial logistic regression was used to study the influence of both meteorological variables and personal attributes in thermal sensations. Significant results were found relating differences in thermal comfort with the radiation, air temperature and wind speed. Gender was also found to have a significant influence in human thermal sensations. Results show that differences in green spaces layout can significantly change the thermal environment, thus influencing thermal perceptions.