



**MEFITU**

ELS BOSCOS  
MEDITERRANIS,  
EL FOC I TU.



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**2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Fire Behaviour and Risk**

# **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR FIRE RISK PREVENTION**



**Marc Font Bernet**

**Alghero, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015**





# **MEFITU**

**ELS BOSCOS  
MEDITERRANIS,  
EL FOC I TU.**

IN A IDEAL WORLD...

IMPROVE YOUR ODDS

*Prepare For Wildfire!*



...IN THE REAL ONE





## **PREMISE:**

The low social awareness regarding the fire risk exposure combined with the reduced individual capacity to prevent and face emergencies, increase both social vulnerability and civil protection cost.



**A generalized lack on**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS**

**is identified**



# WHAT *MEFITU* PROGRAM IS?

Communication toolkit for the wildfire risk prevention capacity building through environmental education techniques

## WHAT *MEFITU* MEANS?



**Mediterranean  
Forest**

**Fire**

**&**

**You**

# **WHAT *MEFITU* AIMS?**

Enhancing the Mediterranean citizenship resilience to wildfires, through effectively promoting and increasing awareness and participation on the culture of risk with updated knowledge and best practices

## **WHO IS THE *MEFITU*'s TARGET AUDIENCE ?**

Scholars, youths and their teachers → sensitize future generations



# HOW DOES IT WORKS?

## BUILDING UP A FIRE RISK CONSCIENCE THROUGH:

**attitude**                      **knowledge**  
**awareness**                **involvement**  
**evaluation capacity**   **responsibility**

**FIRE PARADOX**  
**E.U. project**  
**"Social perception**  
**conclusions"**

## KEY CONCEPTS



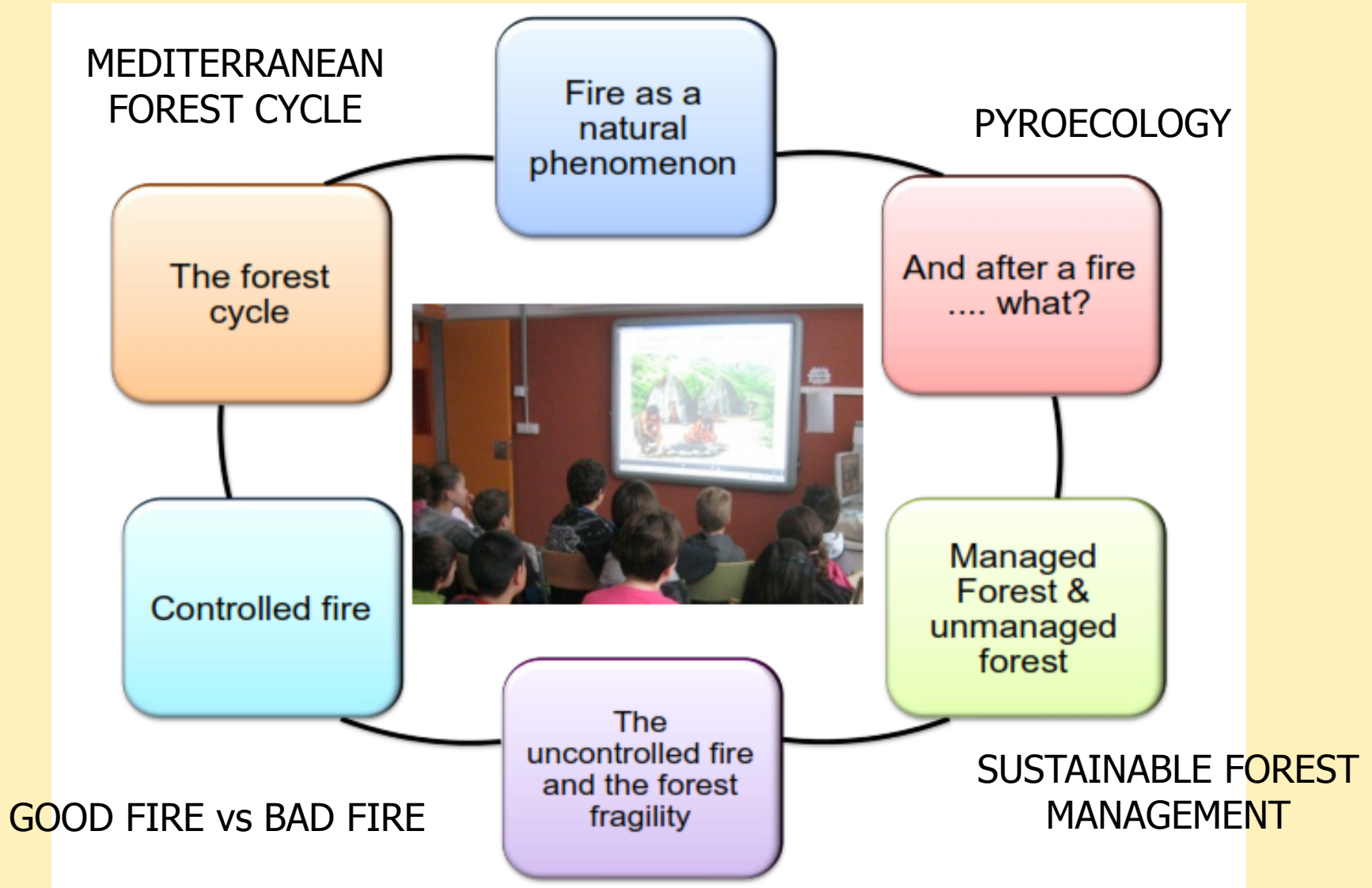
**Mefitu wolf**  
**(media driver)**





# KEY CONCEPTS

## FIRE HISTORY

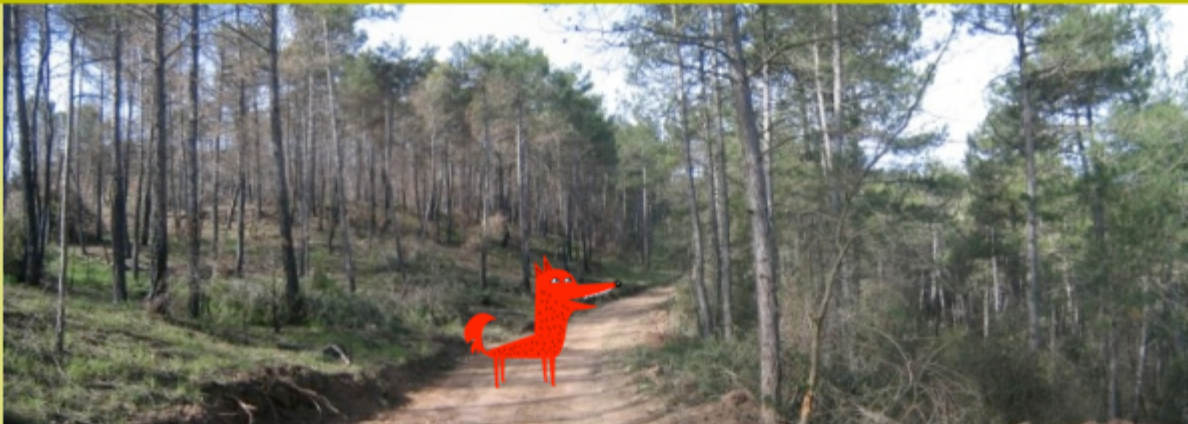


# MEDITERRANEAN FOREST SITUATION



Structured forest

Unstructured forest



Managed forest

Unmanaged forest



# MEDITERRANEAN FOREST FIRE STRATEGIES





# MEDITERRANEAN FORESTRY MANAGERMENTS TOOLS



# **PROGRAM STRUCTURE**

Duration: program developed during 3 days once in a lifetime

Knowledge transfer supports:

- | Initial survey (fire risk perception)
- | Audiovisual presentations
- | Interactive workshop
- | Field trip
- | Final survey

Educational stuff:

- | Forestry Engineers / Ecologists / Geographers
- | Wildland Fire Fighters



# Audiovisual presentations





# Interactive workshop

Handmade origami tree and houses activity to supply  
the burning forests scale models





# Interactive workshop

2 forest scale models:

1 non managed forest Vs 1 managed and structured forest





# Interactive workshop

Structured forest

Unstructured forest



Managed forest

Unmanaged forest



Controlled Fire

Uncontrolled Fire





# Field trip → Post fire effects, natural regeneration, extinction tactics and equipments



# SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

Since 2011 Mefitu has been applied along Spain reaching around 1000 scholars and 15 schools

Initial surveys preliminary results show:

## *Fire as a natural element*

- 82% students perceive fire as a bad element
- 15.4% undersatnd fire as a natural element into Mediterranean areas

## *Fire as a management tool*

- 28% - affirmative
- 41% - fire is always destructive and dangerous

## *Forest management*

- 51% think if trees are cutted, nature is endangered
- 25.6% think forest management could decrease fire magnitudes
- 

## *WUI*

- 43.6% are aware about living in WUI and wildfire exposition

## FURTHER APLICATIONS

On the beginning of 2015 Mefitu has been integrated into a E.U. project (eFIRECOM) to promote and develop efficient fire risk communication toolkits within the Mediterranean basin (south Europe and North Africa).

The aim of the Mefitu's Actions and Tasks within the project, is to adapt the educational program and content to other cultural Mediterranean regions, specifically North Africa, in order to be applied there into the same target audience (youth, scholars and their teachers).



# Efficient fire risk communication for resilient societies (eFIRECOM)

***Project co-funded by ECHO -Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection***

Coordinate: Forest Sciences Centre of Catalonia (Spain)

Calendar: 01/01/2015-31/12/2016

Web page: <http://efirecom.ctfc.cat>

## eFIRECOM Partners:

Forest Sciences Centre of Catalonia - CTFC, Spain [www.ctfc.cat](http://www.ctfc.cat)

Fire Ecology and Management Foundation Pau Costa Alcubierre – PCF, Spain

European Forest Institute. Mediterranean Office – EFIMED, Spain

EEIG FORESPIR, France

Tunisia General Forest Direction DGF

BATNA University (Algeria)



## eFIRECOM objectives:

- † To analyse the current level of risk communication in different Mediterranean countries for different target groups (citizens of wildland urban areas, users of fire risk areas, local entities and municipalities, scholars and their teachers, as well as journalists)
- † To share experiences and lessons learned on the development of risk communication tools
- † To develop and test social participation and communication tools on wildfire risk, adapted to each target group in EU and non-EU countries
- † To prepare and promote technical and policy recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the communication on wildfire risk and to reduce social vulnerability to wildfires in the Mediterranean region, with special attention to North African countries.



# International workshop on risk culture and wildfire risk communication

8th -10th July 2015

Forest Sciences Centre of Catalonia (CTFC),  
Catalonia, Spain

<http://efirecom.ctfc.cat>

**Thank you for your attention**



**MEFYTU**

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