DELIVERABLE ACTION E.9
REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE LOBBYING ACTIVITY AT PROJECT MID-TERM
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DELIVERABLE E.9

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of the activities related to FoResMit Actions E.9 from the start of the project (01/09/2015) until the mid-term period of the project (30/09/2017). In particular some FoResMit beneficiaries activated preliminary contacts with 10 policy makes, as detailed in the next chapter.
2. FORESMIT LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

During the Mid-Term period of the FoResMit project the following preliminary contacts were organized and defined with Institutions and policy makers; the following list defines the name of the person contacted, when and where and the topics discussed:

- Meeting with the Sesto Fiorentino Municipality on 2 March 2016 and on 3 May 2016 (Enio Bruschi, Cultural services responsible and Library Ernesto Ragionieri and the environmental responsible). The Municipality culture responsible asked information about the environmental and climate impact of the project activities and results.

- On 27th of April 2016 the General Secretary of Decentralized Administration of Macedonia & Thrace Dr. NikitasFragkiskakis was informed by DAMT team members for the project actions that have already completed and for the future actions of European Program LIFE14 CCM/IT/000905 "FoResMit" «Recovery of degraded coniferous Forests for environmental sustainability Restoration and climate change Mitigation». He showed great interest in future replicability activities in other areas.

- The Deputy Minister of the Environment & Energy Mr. John Tsironis visited the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace on Monday the 13th of June 2016. The Minister was
welcomed by the General-Secretary of DAMT, Dr. Nikitas Fragkiskakis, and participated in a wide-ranging meeting with participation of all heads (Forest directors, Chief foresters) of forest services Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace. In this meeting, the Minister listened to the opinions and suggestions of the Services about the environment protection, financing and Management of forests. He was also informed about the European programs in which the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace takes part through its forest services such as: LIFEGENMON, SEEMLA & LIFE FORESMIT. The Minister, analyzed the Government's policy on the forest sector and gave special emphasis to the suspensions and ratification of forest Maps after the passage of law No. 4389/2016.

- During the COST event in Rome, 17-19 November 2015, CREA had many contacts with NGOs interested in soil-plant relationships and the role of belowground biodiversity in promoting ecosystem resilience and stability

- Visit of local authorities (città Metropolitana, Regione Toscana, Corpo Forestale dello Stato) at the monte Morello site on June 22. Local authorities discussed with interest on project analysis results and on the cutting activities
The Deputy Minister of the Environment & Energy Mr. Sokratis Famelos during his visit in Thessaloniki attended business meeting in the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace on Thursday the 3th of January 2017. The Minister was welcomed by the General-Secretary of DAMT, Dr. Nikitas Fragkiskakis, and participated in a wide-ranging meeting with all the Chief Executives of Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace. With the participation of the Forestry Coordination and Inspection Director Dr. Apostolos Ainalis and officials from forestry departments was discussed the protection, management and funding of actions on forests, with an emphasis on programming the suspensions and ratification of forest maps. He was also informed about the European programs in which the Decentralized Administration of Macedonia-Thrace takes part through its forest services such as: LIFEGENMON, SEEMLA, WETAID & LIFE FORESMIT and for the new proposals that have been submitted to the current European financial tools.
During The Old Town Festival of Xanthi in September 2016, the city authorities were informed about the program and the city mayor expressed his interest about the actions and the activities of the project.
Two meetings with Tuscany Region team in February and April 2016 to discuss on the project objectives. Dr Andrea Varallo of Tuscany Region visited the project area and discussed about the possibility of the replication of project activities in other forest areas of the Tuscany Region.

18 May 2017: Conference and interview at the event “LIFE & Foreste” on 18 May 2017. CREA representant met different forest and environmental responsible of around 20 counselors of Florence area municipalities which expressed a real interest on normative and climate aspect of the project activities.