

## General Assembly of the ARCMED at the CTFC

CTFC, the Forest Sciences Center of Catalonia, hosted the General Assembly of the ARCMED, an organization that brings together regional associations of private forest owners from the Mediterranean area, and that works closely with the SylvaMED project on the valorization of the systems of payment for environmental services.

The meeting, which was attended by representatives of the Confederation of Spanish Foresters (COSE), the Union of Southern Europe Foresters (USSE), the French Federation of Forest Owners (FFP) and PEFC, discussed the need for unified messages from the Mediterranean region for Brussels in order to urge for continuing support for the development and modernization of the forestry sector, and to contribute to the protection and recovery of Mediterranean forests.

The organizations will jointly organize a seminar in October at the European Parliament with the aim of introducing the Mediterranean forest reality to Members of Parliament and offer policy options for promoting forest protection and continuous recovery. Forestry in Southern Europe is one of the economic sectors with the highest potential to generate employment and local growth, and can actively support Europe in achieving its growth target based on a green economy by 2020.

Solsona, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013