



International Committee of Experts (ICE) of the Index of Biodiversity Potential (IBP)

01/06/23



1 - Context and objectives

The Index of Biodiversity Potential (IBP) is a tool that facilitates the consideration of biodiversity in forest management. It was developed for mainland France (Larrieu, Gonin, 2008), so its use in other European and Mediterranean countries requires extension work according to a defined methodology (Gonin, Larrieu, Deconchat, 2017).

Such work has already been carried out in **Catalonia** with the European Life **Biorgest** project, and in **Italy** with the Life **GoProFor** project. As part of the Life **GoProFor Med** project, this extension is continuing throughout **Spain** and **Greece**, and a definition is being finalized for Belgium and Switzerland.

The IBP **International Committee of Experts** contributes to the **overall coherence** of IBP extension projects (see fig. 1):

- by giving **scientific and technical advice** on extension projects, then **validating** new versions of the IBP on the basis of the extension methodology;
- by **discussing** extension projects and uses of the IBP, in order to coordinate current actions or propose new studies;
- by contributing to the **sharing** of IBP documents.

2 - Composition of the ICE

Coordination: CNPF: Pierre Gonin and Laurent Larrieu

Representatives of Life projects:

Spain: Biorgest and GoProFor Med projects: Teresa Baiges and Teresa Cervera (CPF), Jordi Vayreda (CREAF), Jordi Camprodon (CTFC), Roser Mundet and Josep Tusell (CFC)

Greece: GoProFor Med project: Petros Kakouros (EKBY), Peri Kourakli (MinEE)

Italy: GoProFor Med project: Serena Corezzola and Marcello Miozzo (Dream Italia)

Experts from different European countries and the Mediterranean Basin:

France: Marc Deconchat (INRAE), Alain Chaudron (AIFM), Thierry Gauquelin (IMBE)

Italy: Valentina Garavaglia (international expert), Giovanbattista De Dato and Giovanni Di Matteo (*Sylva Mediterranea* – FAO);

Lebanon: Jean Stephan (Faculty of Science, Lebanese University)

Morocco: Wadi Badri (Faculty of Science Ben M'sik, University Hassan II of Casablanca)

Swiss: Rita Bütler and Thibault Lachat (WSL)

Tunisia: Khaldi Abdelhamid (National Institute for Research in Rural Engineering, Water and Forests)

Turkey: Özge Balkız (Doğa Koruma Merkezi, Nature Conservation Center)

Guest experts: depending on the questions addressed during the meetings, other experts may be invited from time to time.

3 – Functioning of the ICE

The ICE was set up as part of the Biorgest project in 2019 and has met five times since that date, in person or videoconference (report available on the internet: <https://www.cnpf.fr/ibp>):

- 2019 - meeting in Toulouse (France): establishment of the ICE; presentation of current IBP studies and national contexts; exchange on the extension methodology and on the IBP factors to be contextualized
- 2020 – 1 videoconference: assessment of the extension of the IBP in Catalonia and Italy; exchange on other projects
- 2021 - 2 videoconferences: validation of the new version of the IBP harmonized between France, Catalonia and Italy; exchange on other projects
- 2023 - meeting in Florence (Italy) as part of the final conference of the GoProFor project: presentation of calibration studies and IBP data entry and archiving tools

From the end of 2023, the operation of the ICE will continue as part of the new Life GoProFor Med project.

The initial working language is French, but the current working language is English.

4 - Contact

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5 - References

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English version: Gonin P., Larrieu L., Deconchat M.: 2017 - Index of Biodiversity Potential (IBP): How to extend it to Mediterranean forests? In: *5th Mediterranean Forest Week. Mediterranean landscape and forest restoration*, 20-24 mars 2017, Agadir, Maroc. *Forêt méditerranéenne*, tome XXXVIII, n° 3, sept. 2017, p. 343-350
- Larrieu L. & Gonin P.: 2008 - L'indice de Biodiversité Potentielle (IBP): une méthode simple et rapide pour évaluer la biodiversité potentielle des peuplements forestiers. *Rev. For. Française*, LX 6-2008, p. 727-748

Figure 1 – The actors of the IBP extension program

