

RICCARDO VALENTINI

Department for Innovation on Biological, Agro-food and Forest Systems (DIBAF) University of Tuscia

Euromediterranean Center for Climate Change (CMCC) Strategic Council member



rik@unitus.it

Achievements

Riccardo Valentini has contributed to advance understanding of forest science and its role in the society in several ways.

His main research interest concerned the interaction between forest and environmental processes from the level of plant physiology to whole ecosystem, large scale and regional assessment and policy implications. Riccardo Valentini led a European project (EUROFLUX) aimed at understanding the role of European forests in the carbon cycle.

Later on, under the support of NASA, he coordinated a global network of flux towers placed in several ecosystem of the world (FLUXNET)

The recognition of forests as important carbon sinks was the basis of the IPCC (2000) "Land Use and Land Use Changes and Forestry" Report, where Prof. Riccardo Valentini was Coordinating Lead Author. In the following years he has been consulting and chief negotiator for the Italian Ministry of Environment at the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP).

In parallel, he was also appointed chair of the Committee of Science and Technology in the United Nation Convention to combat Desertification (UNCCD). He is currently supporting the Italian Government in several national and international initiatives concerning forests and the European Commission.

He is also chairman of the Global Terrestrial Observation Programme, sponsored by FAO, WMO, UNESCO, ICSU and UNEP.