

**EUROPEAN BIODIVERSITY OBSERVATION NETWORK: A PROJECT TO DESIGN AND TEST A BIODIVERSITY OBSERVING SYSTEM, INTEGRATED IN TIME AND SPACE**

**Rob Jongman<sup>1</sup>, Kalev Sepp<sup>2</sup>, Valdo Kuusemets<sup>2</sup>, Mart Klvik<sup>2</sup>**

*<sup>1</sup>Alterra., <sup>2</sup>Estonian University of Life Sciences*

The objective of the EU FP7 project EBONE project is to develop and implement a terrestrial biodiversity observation network that is spatially and topically prioritized and a structure for an institutional framework allowing European and world wide terrestrial monitoring and projections on trends based on reliable data and indicators.

This objective has been elaborated in seven steps:

1. Design a biodiversity observation hierarchy based predominantly on existing capability.
2. Develop techniques for up-scaling between site, networks of sites, habitats and remotely sensed data for detecting and interpreting changes in key indicators and ecosystems.
3. Validate the observation hierarchy by testing the system with field and earth observation (EO) data.
4. Recommend refinements to the observation system.
5. Make recommendations for the implementation of the system in Europe.
6. Propose how data can be integrated in existing structures and data management systems.
7. Develop and test the world wide compatibility of the system in Mediterranean regions outside Europe