8th International Conference on Air Quality - Science and Application

Athens 19-23 March 2012

Report by:
Efisio Solazzo,
Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
Ispra (italy)

My attendance to the 8th International Conference on Air Quality - Science and Application has been supported by the European Meteorological Society (EMS) through a Young Scientist Travel Award. I am thankful to the EMS for giving me this opportunity.

The conference has been a success, both in terms of attendance and of contents. There were as many as 240 people from all continents registered for the event. The scientific relevance and the high level of expertise of many presenters will help setting the future directions in air quality applications and management. In particular, the plenary talks (four at the beginning of each day) have contributed to enrich the discussion on topical issues at all scales, from street scale, to regional and global scales.

The topics covered have ranged from air quality management in cities and health impacts, to innovative applications of regional air quality models and policy response, to climate change on global scale and sustainability.

I particularly found of interest the studies related to air quality model assessment and evaluation, being this topic relevant to determine the role models have in supporting policy and regulatory decisions. As it emerged from several authors, uncertainties in models are intrinsic and should be included in any decisions made on the basis of these.

Thanks to the award | have received, | have been able to present a work | carried out while joining the University of Birmingham (UK), entitled "A CFD methodology for interpreting long-time averaged measurements in urban streets". | was also co-author of three more papers that were orally presented, including the plenary talk by Dr. S.T. Rao on the Air Quality Model Evaluation International Initiative (AQMEII), which | am currently work on.

Once again, I would like to thank the EMS for allowing me to attend the conference, which I found very useful for the future of my career.