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## XIII World Forestry Congress ABSTRACTS

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**Title:** The importance of the National System of Permanent Plots (SisPP) for the vegetation monitoring in Brazil

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**Thema:** 6. Organizing forest development

**Subtheme:** 6.2 Instruments for forest planning and development

**Abstract of the paper:** In vegetation monitoring, permanent plots (PPs) comprise the establishment of sample units where periodical information is collected and involve quantitative and qualitative remeasurement in the same areas or individuals. This approach is particularly important in tropical or sub-tropical regions, considering the number of existing species, the complexity of vegetation associations, the lack of information regarding forest structure and dynamics and, certainly, because of the anthropogenic influence over the forest remnants. The Brazilian Forest Service (SFB - the forest branch of the Brazilian Environment Ministry) and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation – Embrapa, represented by the Embrapa Forestry (the forest branch of EMBRAPA) have been working in the development and implementation of a methodological model for the National System of Permanent Plots (SisPP) since 2004. The model was designed to be part of the Brazilian Forest Information System, in development by the SFB and will be connected to the National Forest Inventory, also part of same information system. The SisPP model converged to a national network organized by biomes, interconnecting some initiatives as the Dynamic Monitoring of the Brazilian Amazon Forest Network, the Caatinga's (dry forest of the Brazil Northeast) Forest Management Network, associating governmental and non-governmental institutions and universities. In a second phase, a new network was designed to link two important biomes. As a consequence, the Pantanal (the world's largest wetland area) and the Cerrado (savanna vegetation) Permanent Plots Network was established. Once more, other two biomes were grouped in the "Atlantic Forest" and Pampa (also called Southern Grasslands, a lowland located at the southernmost edge of Brazil) Permanent Plots Network. As the system is meant to be national and embraces various networks from different regions of the country, the strategy for its implementation considered the organization of annual workshops, a seminar and a course, involving the Brazilian forest inventory community, aiming to present the proposal, show accomplishments, discuss new issues and exchange information. A web page is available and a databank is being tested to connect the researchers to the regional networks and those to the national system. As Forest Management is totally dependent of information related to growth and yield of the key species and as this information, for natural forests, is rarely known, a systematic database obtained by the permanent plots information constitutes an important tool to the management and sustainable forest development.

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**Full paper:** -