



**Interuniversity National Consortium
"Chemistry for Environment"**

**Progetto "Donne e scienza per la Chimica al servizio dello sviluppo sostenibile" (DO.C.)
Women and science for chemistry supporting sustainable development
*(Italian acronym: DO.C.).***

In August 2002, the Italian Ministry for Education, University and scientific Research (Italian acronym: MIUR) approved the project called "Donne e scienza per la Chimica al servizio dello sviluppo sostenibile" (women and science for chemistry supporting sustainable development; Italian acronym: DOC). It was prepared by INCA as a reply to call No. 4391 (year 2001) related to PON¹ entitled "Scientific Research, Technological Development, High-level Education (2000-2006)" sponsored by the European Social Fund.

DOC is intended to support women presence within the field of environmental research, thus enhancing their job position. The course will be held at the University of Lecce with the aim to provide 25 young female chemical researchers with:

- Specialist knowledge on Green Chemistry.
- Management knowledge to complete their professional training and make them able to become project leaders.
- Consultation about job regulation and contracts (to grant them job flexibility) to help them suitably fit work in their private life.

The aim of the project is to train and upgrade curricula of female researchers, working in universities or public research organizations, to make them able to prepare new research projects in chemistry or adapt the existent ones to the principles of Green Chemistry.

The project is a great chance for the participants, since it offers them the possibility to be competitive in the field of basic research and have good chances for a career. It is also strictly related to European policies on environmental sustainability.

Thanks to its technical contents and participants, the project complies with international guidelines proposed by OCSE (Organization for Cooperation and Economic Development) and issued by IUPAC (International Union Pure Applied Chemistry), within the Working Party called "Synthetic Pathways and Processes in Green Chemistry", with the coordination of INCA. On that occasion OCSE published some "recommendations" to Member States for promotion of the role of environmental chemical sciences for support of sustainable development. The last recommendation stresses out the importance of the "promoting activities of Green Chemistry principles within the educational and training system at all levels, and the production of supporting material".

¹ Italian National Operational Plan for research (translator's note):