# **Ismail BELEN**

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Forest Engineer

Ministry of Forests and Water Affairs, Turkey

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# **Professional Background**

- Forest and Water Affairs Expert, General Directorate of Nature Protection and National Parks (September 2015)
- Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion, 2011-2015
- ❖ Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Forests, 2007-2011
- Chief of the Cabinet to the Minister, Ministry of Environment and Forests, 2005-2007
- Head of the Department, General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control, 2003-2005
- Division Director at the Research Planning and Coordination Department, General Directorate of Forestry, Ministry of Forests, 2002-2003
- **t** Engineer, 1999-2001
- Forest Ranger at the Field, 1992-1998

### Education

- Special Program for Senior Managers in Government, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Boston, the USA, 2013
- ❖ Master of Science in Public Management, Public Administration Institute for Turkey And The Middle East, Turkey, 2006-2010
- Master of Science in Applied Science, Karadeniz Technical University Trabzon / TURKEY, 1996-2002
- Bachelor of Science in Forest Engineering, Karadeniz Technical University Trabzon / TURKEY, 1986-1991

## Languages

- Turkish, Native
- English, Master Level
- French, Basic Level
- Arabic, Basic Level

## **International Experience**

- Candidate in Short List for Executive Secretary of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, 2013
- Elected President of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions (Silva Mediterranean, FAO, 2012-2016
- ❖ Member of "Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe", 2011
- Member of the Steering Committee of European Forestry Commission Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds
- ❖ Vice Chair of the European Forestry Commission, 2010-2011
- ❖ Vice Chair of the UNECE Forest and Timber Committee, 2010

## **Relevant Experience**

- Founding President of "Association of the People Caring for the Future"
- Member of "Forest Engineers Chamber" Member of "Green Turkey Foresters Association
- Member of the Aid Foundation for the Members of General Directorate of Forestry and Chairman of the Board of Representatives, 2009-2010

#### **International Projects**

- Chair of the steering committee of "Capacity Building in Sustainable Forest Management Planning and Forest Fire Management in Syria" Project, 2010-2011
- Member of the "Regional project" entitled "Adapting Forest Policy Conditions to Climate Change in the Mena Region" (Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey), 2009-2011.
- Member of The Middle East Watershed Monitoring and Evaluation Project, Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Turkey and the United States, 2004
- ❖ TCDC Consultant of Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds In Central Asia and the Caucasus GCP/SEC/002/TUR, 2013-2014
- ❖ National Coordinator for Alignment of Turkey's National Action Plan with UNCCD 10-Year Strategy and reporting process" GCP/TUR/060/GFF,2014-2015
- Member of Advisory Committee Enhancing FOrest RESearch in the MediTERRAnean through improved coordination and integration
- ❖ International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests,2007-2010
- Integrating Forest Fire Protection and Sustainable Wood Pellet Production in Turkey, 2010 (Not completed)

#### **Awards and Honors**

- ❖ 2010, Given by the Minister of Environment and Forestry
- 2007, Given by the Minister of Environment and Forestry
- 2006, Given by the Minister of Environment and Forestry
- 1996, Given by the Director General of Forests

Some of International Conferences, Meeting and Visits

- 2015, Morocco, Capacity Development Workshop on National Forest Funds (NFF)-Steering Committee of Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests
- 2015, Kyrgyzstan, Expert Workshop on Restoration and Adaptation of Mountain Forests in Central and Northeast Asia
- 2015, Turkey, UNCCD COP12
- 2015, Switzerland, The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Liaison Delegate Annual Meeting Montreux,
- ❖ 2015, **Spain**, Mediterranean Forest Week

- ❖ 2015, **Morocco**, Committee Meeting of Silva Mediterranean
- ❖ 2014, the USA, International Seminar on Disaster Management
- 2014, Kyrgyzstan, Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain
  Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus
- 2014, Azerbaijan, Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus
- 2013, Turkey, United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF10)
- ❖ 2013, Tunisia, Enlarged Executive Committee of Silva Mediterranean
- 2013, Senegal, International Workshop on Building forest landscapes resilient to global changes
- 2013 Algeria, Third Mediterranean Forestry Week
- ❖ 2012, **Niger**, Establishing Turkish-Niger Brotherhood Forest
- 2012, Greek, Regional workshop of experts to develop a Strategic Framework on Mediterranean Forests
- 2012, Austria, First Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (INC-Forests)
- ❖ 2012, **Algeria**, Fourth Enlarged Executive Committee of Silva Mediterranean
- ❖ 2011, **USA**, UNFF 9
- 2011, Turkey, United Nations Forum on Forests, First Meeting of the Bureau of the Tenth Session (UNFF10 Bureau)
- ❖ 2011, **South Korea**, UNCCCD COP10
- 2011, Norway, Forest Europe Ministerial Conference
- ❖ 2011, **Germany**, Study visit to the plants producing electric from forest biomass
- 2011, Germany, Regional Meeting Preparatory to the Tenth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) for Annex IV
- ❖ 2011, **France**, Second Mediterranean Forestry Week
- 2011, Egypt, Regional workshop on "Forest policy and Integrating Climate change in NFPs in the Near East Region
- 2011, Czech Republic, Preparatory meeting for INC

- 2011, Brussels, Preparatory meeting for INC
- 2010-2012, Italy, Committee on Forestry of FAO
- 2010, Slovak Republic, European Forestry Commission Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds
- 2010, Hungary, Climate Change impacts on Forest Management in Europe and Central Asia
- ❖ 2010, Hong Kong, Study visit and conference on Mobile Government,
- 2010, Belarus, International Workshop on Policy Options for Wood Energy in CIS Countries
- ❖ 2009-2010, **Syria**, Project implementation
- 2009, Turkey, Forest Europe Workshop on Forest and Water
- ❖ 2009, **Turkey**, 5th World Water Forum
- ❖ 2009, **Spain**, Climate meetings for the preparation of UNFCCC
- 2009, Germany, Bonn Climate Change Conference
- 2009, Denmark, UNFCCC COP 15,
- 2008, Turkey, COST Strategic workshop, "Forest Ecosystems in a changing environment"
- 2008, Switzerland, MCPFE Expert Level Meeting
- ❖ 2008, **South Africa**, Study visit to Pilanesberg National Park
- 2008, Russia, International Conference on Forest and Climate and International Forest Forum
- 2008, Norway, Forest Europe Expert Level Meeting
- ❖ 2008, **Jordan**, Study visit for the preparation of World Water Forum
- 2008, Israel, Study visit on dry zone forestry activities
- 2008, Canada, International Model Forest Network (IMFN) Global Forum
- 2007, Germany, Steering Committee Meeting for the COST workshop "Forest ecosystems in a changing environment"
- ❖ 2006, **Kazakhstan**, Ministerial Meeting of Economic Cooperation Organization
- ❖ 2006, Austria, European Union Ministerial Meeting on Environment

- **❖** 2005, **USA**, UNFF5
- ❖ 2005, **USA**, International Seminar on Watershed Management
- 2005, Italy, Study visit for "forest reproductive materials"
- ❖ 2005, France, Study visit for mountainous area management
- 2005, Cyprus, Meeting on Monitoring and Evaluation of Watersheds in the Middle East Region
- ❖ 2005, **Brussels**, EU Basics Module- Euro Med Training of Public Administrations
- 2003, Switzerland, Second Workshop for Northern Mediterranean focal points on regional cooperation activities within Annex IV
- 2003, Netherlands, Study visit for nurseries and seedlings
- ❖ 2003, **Cuba**, UNCCD COP6
- 2000, Finland, Training Courses on Remote Sensing