Fifth Mediterranean Forest Week side event

Date: Monday 20 March 2017   Time: 16:30-18:00 pm
Meeting room: Taj Mahal room

Moving toward a strengthened cooperation
in the Mediterranean region

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I. Context

Mediterranean countries are covered by 25 million hectares of forests and 50 million hectares of other wooded lands of the Mediterranean type. These forests provide many goods and services: fuelwood, fodder, non-wood forest products (cork, mushrooms, honey, aromatic and medicinal plants, pine nuts, acorns, etc.), recreation and hunting, carbon storage, soil protection, water quality preservation. Global changes (climate and social changes) are jeopardizing the provision of these goods and services that are a source of livelihood for local populations.

II. Background

A Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests (CPMF - http://www.fao.org/forestry/silva-mediterranea/89593/en/) has been launched on 29 September 2010 in Istanbul with an initial core set of eight institutions (FAO; GTZ; AIFM; French Ministry of Agriculture; Plan Bleu; WWF-MedPO; ONF International; Mediterranean Model Forest Network). Four additional partners joined in October 2010 (EFIMED), November 2010 (IUCN-Med), and April 2011 (AFD/FFEM and COFOR International). Five additional members (CIHEAM, UNDP country office in Turkey, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, CTFC and TIKA) joined the CPMF on 25 September 2012. The Parties of this CPMF intend to jointly strengthen the capacity of member countries of the FAO Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-*Silva Mediterranea* in order to accelerate the implementation of sustainable forest management and the protection of forest-based ecosystem services under climate change conditions, targeting six countries: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey. The CPMF addresses four interlinked key problems: inadequate policies and lack of inter-sectoral cooperation; lack of knowledge and information; low public awareness; lack of adequate funding.

The CPMF has been the platform for the implementation of regional projects funded by GIZ, FFEM, MAVA and other donors.

The project "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes" funded by the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) (http://www.fao.org/forestry/82782/en/) was implemented between 18 September 2012 and 31 December 2016 with the objective to promote the sustainable management of forest ecosystems by optimizing the production of goods and services (including carbon sequestration). The objectives of the FFEM regional project were directly derived from the objectives of the CPMF and the FFEM regional project targeted the same six Mediterranean countries as the CPMF.

IV. Event Objectives and Outputs

Objectives
Re-activate the regional dynamic of the Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests by connecting it to ongoing regional initiatives.

Expected outputs
Road map for defining and implementing a plan of operations of the CPMF, by addressing the following questions:
- What should be the shape of the extended CPMF agreement?[1]
- What are the next actions to be undertaken?
- What are the sources of funding for the CPMF?
- Distribution of tasks among partners.

VII. Proposed Program

5 min.	**Welcome address**
	Ismail Belen – President of *Silva Mediterranea*
10 min.	**The Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests: overview of its results 2010-2016**
	Nicolas Picard – Secretariat of the CPMF
10 min.	**The regional FFEM project: main lessons learned and evaluation**
	Nelly Bourlion – Plan Bleu
10 min.	**New edition of the State of Mediterranean Forests and Memento**
	Valentina Garavaglia – Secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea*
10 min.	**Towards a renewed regional cooperation dynamics**
	Nicolas Picard – Secretariat of the CPMF
45 min.	**Exchange with audience**

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[1] The agreement of the CPMF was signed in 2010-2012 for a period of four years.