

NWFP of Turkey



İsmail Belen <ismailbelen52@gmail.com>	7 February 2020 Cum 11:41
Alıcı: Shiroma, Kittı, Norbert, Özgür, Ekrem, GALİP, Özlem, simona.sorrenti, giulia.muir, Hüseyin, Ahmet, Ümit,	

Dear Colleagues,
Greetings from Turkey and I really thanks for your supports.

I would like to inform my colleagues who have recently joined the correspondence.

As some of our colleagues know very well, a LoA has been signed between FAO and the Chamber of Forest Engineers (**OMO**) for "*Provision of Technical Guidelines on sustainable management of NWFPs and the Status Report on selected products*" at 20 December 2019.

With line of the "*Item 3: Designation of the FAO Responsible Officer*" Ms. Shiroma Satyapala has been designated the officer responsible for the management of this agreement.

As the Chamber of Forest Engineers, we have already started to work on the issue. In Turkey the General Directorate of Forest (**OGM**) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests is responsible to manage all kind of non-wood forest product. For that reason, we officially notified the OGM about this LoA and wanted their collaboration at the date of 31 December 2019. The General Directorate of Forestry, with its letter dated **14 January 2020**, assigned the **Department of Non-Wood Forest Products and Services** as the focal point.

According to this LoA, the outputs and the activities should be as follows:

Outputs. The Service Provider will produce, achieve or deliver the following outputs:

- **Status Report of the selected NWFP and Guidelines on sustainable management on NWFP prepared.**
- **The Reports shared and disseminated at national and international level through existing networks**

Activities. The Service Provider will undertake the following activities:

- **Identify, select and showcase NWFPs that have economic impact on rural and national economies and environmental importance in the sense of biodiversity.**
- **Review the existing national policies and action plans related to specific Non-Wood Forest Products (NWFP) in Turkey and provide recommendations to strengthen governance.**
- **Analyze and map out the selected NWFPs taking into account the potential impact on rural workforce, in particular women and youth.**
- **Conduct consultation meetings on the findings of the review with relevant stakeholders (local, national and private) to enhance their inputs,**
- **Prepare guideline on sustainable management, production and marketing of NWFP in line with international standards and market requirements.**
- **Prepare Status Update Reports on the selected NWFPs along with recommendation in the value chain,**
- **Consolidate the findings with other ongoing projects in REU or Mediterranean Region,**

In this context, a preparatory meeting was held on **January 15, 2020** with the participation of relevant people from the General Directorate of Forestry and the Chamber of Forest Engineers.

The following decisions were taken at this meeting.

- a) A working group was established in the OGM to carry out the necessary studies. In this working group,
 - a. Mr. Galip Çağatay Tufanoğlu, Deputy Head of Department of Non-Wood Forest Products and Services,
 - b. Mr. Zafer Filiz, Director of Crop Production,
 - c. Dr. Özlem Dostbil-Engineer, was assigned.
- b) The following products were identified as non-wood forest products to be studied. While determining these, attention was paid to the issues of "economic value, contribution to biodiversity and regional representation" as stated in the LoA.
 - a. Laurel- *Laurus nobilis* - Mediterranean Region
 - b. Pine honey- <http://www.carfu.org/?p=524> - Turkish Aegean Coast
 - c. Truffles- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Truffle> - Whole Country
 - d. Tulipa -*Tulipa Sintenisii*- Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region
 - e. Chestnut- Black Sea and Marmara Region
- c) It is decided to visit the following provinces for field surveys and technical trips. Other visits will be made if needed.
 - a. [Giresun](#)- Chestnut
 - b. [Muğla](#)- Pine honey
 - c. [Muş](#)- Tulipa

With this LoA, we tried to inform our colleagues in FAO and get their opinions, as reports will be prepared to the standards requested by FAO. We also shared with UNECE with the help of Ekrem Yazıcı. We asked for their opinions and suggestions for the selected species, report format and a side event likely to be organized during the COFO.

To date, we have received mails from Shrimo, Horvath, Ekrem and Sven.

- **Horvath** expressed her suggestions on reports and stated that "tulipa -*Tulipa Sintenisii*" could be replaced by another species.
- **Ekrem Yazıcı** expressed the following points.: "My advice for NWFP products is to use the following criteria: current knowledge about species, economic value, linkage to forest management, food safety, gender relationship". He also noted that "laurel, chestnut and pine honey are suitable for me. In addition, resin, Liquidambar oil- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liquidambar> , thyme, salvia- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salvia> , pine nut, Carob- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carob> " could be included. He also added that "Gender connection" is very important.
- Sven wrote as follows: "*The Forest Products and Statistics Team and its non-wood forest products programme are delighted to support the LoA, which sounds very exciting and very much in line with activities we are carrying out in other countries. Turkey is indeed a country for which a wealth of information is available. We particularly look forward to hearing more about the work on NWFP policies and frameworks, which feeds into our activities very nicely (we are conducting a global assessment of NWFP policies as one of our milestones for which biennium) in addition to the activities related to value chains and guidelines. Currently **no dedicated reporting on NWFP** exists although we recently started working on a standard reporting format to be used at product level. So far, we use some standards only for data reporting such as the one of the global reporting exercises on Forest Resources - the Forest Resources Assessment - and the*

statistical one used to feed the FAOSTAT crop database. However, based on our draft template and possibly on the model you are currently using we will develop a standard that may be used for reporting. On COFO, no decisions have been taken. We note with appreciation the interest of Turkey to join a possible side event. Our team is indeed planning to propose a side event of NWFP showcasing achievements in countries such as Uganda, Zambia, Algeria – and Turkey. We will share with you a draft proposal in due course for your comments. Finally we appreciate linkages with the incredible project. In this context, it might be strategic to focus in the context of this LOA on selected edible NWFP as this is a topic of particular interest to FAO, which provides opportunities to create synergies with other ongoing initiatives." He also shared the " Guidelines and specifications FRA 2020 Version

1.0 <http://www.fao.org/3/I8699EN/i8699en.pdf#page=40> " <http://www.fao.org/3/I8699EN/i8699en.pdf#page=40>

In the light of this information, I would like to mention the following issues.

- "Non-Wood Forest Products" issue is really an important issue for Turkey. It takes place seriously in policy documents, laws and regulations.
- Turkey's has an extremely rich product portfolio due to its geographical location. NWFPs play an important role in many areas such as rural development, food security, women's employment, biodiversity, national and international trade, forest resource management and forest conservation.
- A Department of the General Directorate of Forestry (Department of Non-Wood Forest Products and Services) deals directly with this issue. In addition, a Branch Office follows this issue within each Forest Regional Directorate.
- With the line of the LoA signed and as suggested by Sven, we will work with close cooperation with INCREDIBLE Project. <https://www.incredibleforest.net/content/project-0>

As the Chamber of Forest Engineers; we are supposed to:

- "Identify, select and showcase NWFPs that have economic impact on rural and national economies and environmental importance in the sense of biodiversity in Turkey.: Deliverable: NWFP assessment report" as the 1st activity/service.
- "Review the existing national policies and actions plans related to specific non-wood forest products in Turkey and provide recommendations to strengthen governance. Deliverable NWFP Policy Report"
- "Analyze the status of the selected NWFPs taking into account the potential impact on rural workforce , in particular women and youth. At least Min. 5 NWFPs. Deliverable: Detailed Analysis of Selected NWFPs

As a conclusion, I kindly request you,

- To support us on the format of "NWFP Assessment Report". <http://www.fao.org/forestry/statistics/en/> or <http://www.unece.org/forests/fpm/onlinedata.html>
- To support and share your ideas on the format of " NWFP Policy Report"
- To support and share your ideas on the format of " Detailed Analysis of Selected NWFPs"

I know this message is a bit long but I thought it would be necessary and useful to provide detailed information at least for the beginning. Thank you very much for your interest, cooperation and guidance.

İsmail BELEN

