Training on the Guidelines on Nature-based Solutions (NbSs) to Combat Negative Impact of Climate Change on Forestry in FAOSEC Countries

26-30 September 2023 Antalya, Türkiye

Vedat DİKİCİ

Regional Director of Antalya Forestry Regional Directorate

September 27, 2023

Time 10:00-10:10

Dear Chairman of the Chamber of Forestry Engineers,

Dear Representatives of FAO

Dear guests from Türkiye and abroad who came to our program,

Dear colleagues

I greet you on behalf of myself and the General Directorate of Forestry and welcome you to Antalya.

Forests play an important role in reducing the negative aspects of climate change and adapting to new conditions with their benefits for ecosystem services, human welfare and biodiversity.

Due to the practical contribution of the nature-based solution approach adopted by our Regional Directorate of Forestry to global climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, it has found important application opportunities in forestry to support the protection, restoration, expansion and sustainable management of forests under the influence of climate change.

As a result of global climate change, our forests within our Regional Directorate of Forestry are exposed to major fires.

In 2008, 16 thousand hectares of forest area within the borders of Taşağıl Forest Management Directorate was severely damaged.

In 2021, 60 thousand hectares of forest area were damaged within the working boundaries of Akseki, Alanya, Gündoğmuş and Taşağıl Forest Management Directorates, especially in Manavgat Forest Management Directorate.

With the great efforts of our organization, burned trees were removed from the fields and the fields were restored to forest cover.

In addition, in order to prevent possible fires and minimize their damage, within the scope of the "Rehabilitation of Burned Forest Areas and Establishment of Fire Resistant Forests Project (YARDOP)", fire-resistant species such as carob, laurel, cypress, oleander, sycamore, terebinth, sumac, jujube, etc. are used in fire intervention zones and afforestation works were carried out around the settlements.

In order to combat the negative effects of climate change on forestry, nature-based solutions will contribute to common development goals by promoting cost-effective and proven solutions.

In this context, I think that the " the Guidelines on Nature-based Solutions (NbSs) to Combat Negative Impact of Climate Change on Forestry in FAOSEC Countries ", prepared by the Chamber of Forest Engineers in close cooperation with the General Directorate of Forest and other stakeholders, will fill a big gap and will be extremely useful.

As I conclude my words, I once again share my pleasure in seeing our guests and colleagues from FAO, the Chamber of Forestry Engineers, our General Directorate, and our friendly and brotherly countries Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and wish a successful program.