VI Forestry Week - Lebanon, March 2019

Scaling up forest and landscape restoration in order to restore biodiversity and promote joint mitigation and adaptation approaches in the Mediterranean

- An FAO promoted, an IKI funded, UfM labelled project -
Union for the Mediterranean:
• Set up to respond to the challenges of the region;
• the Euro-Mediterranean intergovernmental institution of 43 countries, 28 EU member states + 15 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries

UfM Mission
• To promote dialogue and cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region; identifying and working together on “commonalities”/issues of common interest to the 43
• To address three strategic objectives for the region: human development, stability and integration
A response to the challenges of the region

- Barcelona Process
- Launch of the Union for the Mediterranean
- Set up of the UfM Secretariat
- 2004 Launch of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)
- 2008
- 2010-2012
- 2013-2018
- 50+ projects labelled
- UfM Regional Forum
- UfM Roadmap
- UfM-EU Neighbourhood policy
- UN Observer Status
The UfM Secretariat builds relationships and synergies with all the members of the Euro-Mediterranean community and other relevant stakeholders.
The UfM Secretariat is the operational institution that empowers the regional dialogue between the UfM Member States and stakeholders and promotes regional cooperation projects and initiatives.

**UfM Co-presidency (North + South)**

The Co-presidency ensures coherence of activities and equal footing and representation of North and South.

**UfM Senior Officials’ Meeting’s (SOM)**

Governing Body

Trimestral meetings of the Ambassadors of the 43 countries.

**UfM Secretariat**

1. Secretary General from the South
2. Deputy Secretary Generals (3 North and 3 South)
3. Diplomats, financial experts and project managers from more than 20 countries and institutions

*Jordan and the EU have been Co-presidents since 2012*
The 3 P’s: Policies in Action - Strategic Objectives

Union for the Mediterranean

Political Forum / UfM Ministerial Meetings

Strategic Objectives

Human development

Stability

Integration

Programs/Projects with Regional Impact

Regional Dialogue - Platforms

UfM labelling
The UfM Environment agenda

Protecting the Mediterranean Sea and overall environment; contributing to de-pollution and pollution prevention efforts in the region

- 2014 Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change and associated WG on ENV and CC and UfM Environment Task Force
  - De-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (wastewater, municipal waste; industrial pollution; marine litter and hazardous waste)
  - Sustainable Consumption and Production (Pollution Prevention)
  - Climate Change
  + ecosystem protection, integrated maritime policy/blue economy, ICZM, education sustainable development

- 2018 and beyond:
  - Potential 2nd UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC in 2020
  - Towards the reinforcement of the Circular, Inclusive, Low-Zero Carbon Economy package, with a focus on pollution prevention/Sustainable Consumption and Production; Landscape Restoration/Drought/Desertification/Forestry
  - Close link to the Rio Conventions; UfMS Observer at UNFCCC (UN Climate Change), CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) and UNCCD (UN Convention on Desertification)
UfM labelled projects become part of the Regional agenda and Work plan; ownership, flexibility and fundraising, if need be
Why here today

*FAO promoted, IKI funded and UfM labelled project*

“Scaling up forest and landscape restoration in order to restore biodiversity and promote joint mitigation and adaptation approaches in the Mediterranean”

- The project addresses directly the Rio Conventions
  - the Bonn Challenge on forest landscape restoration
  - the Paris Agreement on Climate Change;
  - Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity

- The project as labelled falls directly into the wider UfM regional agenda;

- The project operates at both regional level and national level; its potential upscale to other countries willing to join, is already embedded in the project structure

- The project foresees the involvement of multiple partners in the region

- This work falls within the wider UfMS-FAO-UNCCD partnership on drought/desertification

- Consultation and ongoing preparatory work for the next *UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC*, tentatively scheduled for 2020; Since 2014 we have a switch towards a more integrated approach soil land air, associated to circular economy, SCP and green entrepreneurship
Forests and LULUCF in NDCs in the Mediterranean - NDC Study

Compact assessment of where the SEMed countries stand with the NDCs (and whenever available NAPs) implementation process.

Identification of common goals that could lead to joint approaches on the regional or sub-regional level (public policies, technical assistance, investment projects)

Analysis of the benefits of collective/joint approaches

Through a review of all official NDCs submitted to the UNFCCC, as well as all NAPs and National Communications
In Adaptation, Forestry is one of the relevant NDC sectors.
LULUCF – Prioritized mitigation measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures grouping</th>
<th>Countries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afforestation and reforestation, and biosphere conservation</td>
<td>Albania, Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Turkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support to national, regional or local policy, through technical assistance or policy lending</td>
<td>Morocco, Turkey</td>
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Examples of measures relevant for at least 4 countries:

- Increase/Introduce Afforestation projects
- Increase/introduce Reforestation projects
- Promote and increase the practice sustainable forest management
- Biosphere conservation projects (including payments for ecosystem services) targeting reducing emissions from deforestation or degradation of ecosystems
Forestry – Prioritized adaptation measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures Forestry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reforestation, aiming at increasing the share of high natural forests</td>
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<td>Natural regeneration as the basis for forest growth, adequate support through</td>
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<td>afforestation (using indigenous tree types) if the natural process of forest</td>
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<td>regeneration fails</td>
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<td>Silvicultural improvement of low forests and shrubs, mainly in small private</td>
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<td>holdings, for bio-energy production and carbon storage</td>
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<td>Rehabilitation of forest nurseries and the expansion of indigenous and multi-use</td>
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<td>species,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preservation of the forest (e.g. from deforestation, erosion, etc.) particularly</td>
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<td>through the protection of key habitats and varieties, and of trees, plants and</td>
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<tr>
<td>animals.</td>
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<td>Development of fire-protection measures, with an emphasis on prevention and fast</td>
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<tr>
<td>response in the case of fire.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Re-establishment of forest order after harvesting; adequate and timely</td>
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<tr>
<td>rehabilitation of surfaces damaged by fire</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Currently only Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia are prioritizing forestry for adaptation in their NDCs.

Soft measures such as Policy and Regulation, Education or Monitoring and Evaluation is currently only prioritized by Lebanon.
Thank you

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Head of Sector – Environment and Blue Economy
Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean
Sectoral GHG emissions in the SEMED region

Energy - 2011 (in MtCO₂e), 850.24, 70%
Industrial Processes - 2011 (in MtCO₂e), 102.5, 8%
Agriculture - 2011 (in MtCO₂e), 110.77, 9%
Land-Use Change and Forestry - 2011 (in MtCO₂e), -68.84
Waste - 2011 (in MtCO₂e), 85.89, 7%

Sectoral GHG emission
Which steps are foreseen in-between?

- UfM Senior Officials Meeting, June 2019
- UfM ENV TF, 9th of April 2019, Brussels
- UfM CC EG, April 2019, Barcelona
- 2nd UfM Min on ENV and CC end 2019/early 2020
  - Priorities
  - Operational Modalities
  - Work Programme