



An Overview of Ecological Potential and the Outstanding Universal Value of Forests Resources of I.R.Iran with respect to Climate Change

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phytogeographical Diversity of Iran :

Iran is contact point of 5 phytogeographical regions namely:

Euro-siberian

Irano-Turanian

Mediterranean

Saharo-Sindian

Sudano – Decanian



Biological Diversity of IRI

- About 8000 plant species are identified which 1700 of those are endemic. Estimation of total plant is about 12000 species (167 Family & 1200 Genera).
- Also 168 mammals' species,
- 514 birds species
- 206 reptiles species,
- 20 amphibians species
- 174 fishes species,
- 358 butterflies species
- and 25000 Insects species are already identified.

Iran has a high domestic plants and agro-biodiversity.



Climate Change related Vulnerabilities of forests Resources Of IRI



- Regarding 5 phytogeographical regions of Iran, the Euro-siberian: Hyrcanian Sub-province of Euxino-Hyrcanian Province of Euro-siberian phytogeographical region may have resilience to climate change.
 - assumed 25-50M.years self-regulating forest ecosystems exist up to now
 - richness in woody plant species
 - evergreen species in the understory and
 - abundance of lianas and ferns

Key gaps and challenges Regarding adaptation of IRI forests ecosystems to climate change

- **Disturbances by human activities such as;**
 - Grazing
 - Fire
 - Illegal cutting
 - And so on
- **Migration patterns toward natural resources**
- **Unsustainable Development**
- **Unsustainable tourism**
- **Proper legal framework deficiency**
- **Natural unexpected disturbances;**
 - Disturbance by fire (average annual area affected is about 8000 hectares)
 - Disturbance by insects (average annual area affected is about 175000 hectares)
 - Disturbance by diseases and etc.



Recent Climate Change Activities and Funding opportunities Related to natural resources

•Also 9.5 millions forests and 5.5 millions of shrub land are under multiple purpose management.

• About 637000 hectares of afforestation, w.farming, plantation is done during last five years and about million hectare by five coming years

•. Most funding comes from central and state governments.

Type	Number	Area (hec)	% NR	% Country
National Parks	16	1619750	1.57	0.98
Natural Monument.	13	16255	0.016	0.01
Wildlife Refuges	33	3433927	3.4	2.08
Protected Areas	90	6559441	6.37	3.98
Forest Reserves	91	322855	0.32	0.20
Forest and Nature Parks.	56	50450	0.05	0.03
Total	387	12002678	11.7	7.3

Recommendations: To Develop a Regional Protected Area system to preserve representative of tertiary relics forests regarding climate change.



Regarding West and Central Asian and North Africa Region (WESCANA), Iran forms Mid-West Asia Geographical Unit with a very strategic location to develop over national network of protected areas.

Iran may serve as a Contact Point to develop Regional protected network

- Hyrcanian Sub-province stretches the northeast of IRI
- Azerbaijan Hirkan National Park
- Euxino- Sub- province of Turkey : occur South of the Black Sea
- Western Caucasus World Heritage is a typical representative of Caucaso – Iranian
- Irano – Anatolien Hotspots