

# WORKSHOP REPORT

## Forests, Rangelands and Climate Change in the Near East Region

20 – 22 September 2011

Hotel Flamenco  
Cairo, Egypt

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## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

APIKUT	Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey
CPMF	Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAORNE	FAO Regional Office for the Near East
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KSA	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
MENA	Middle East and North Africa Region
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NE	Near East Region
NFP	National Forest Programme
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
REDD	Reduced Emissions form Deforestation and forest Degradation
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN	United Nations
WG	Working Group
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

## BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded that there is very high confidence that the global average effect of human activity since 1750 has been one of warming of the climate system, with the industrial era seeing the highest increase rate of the last 10,000 years. Most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to anthropogenic greenhouse concentrations. This change is already having a significant detrimental impact on species and habitats worldwide, and is likely to be the most profound threat to global biodiversity. Dryland ecosystems, like those of the Near East, are among the most vulnerable to this threat.

Climate change will have an inordinate impact on rangelands because the productivity of grass and shrub dominated ecosystems is so closely linked to the short term expression of climate, weather. In general, most rangeland ecosystems and human activities associated with them are forecast to experience increasingly erratic precipitation and temperature patterns in the short and mid-term future (20-100 years). Other aspects of climate change, such as invasive species and changes in land use, will also have significant effects on the ability of forests and rangelands to meet human needs and desires.

Over thousands of years, Near East forests have gone through several intense and abrupt changes in climate. It is expected that under a climate change scenario, the great stability and genetic diversity of the many relic tree species of the Near East may play a significant adaptation role, and become an important target for in-situ conservation strategies. Nevertheless, there is also evidence of the extinction of trees species and forest types at a local and regional scale, mainly due to the combination of sharp changes in climate and human impacts. Because of the high human impact in the region, the Near East forests will be especially sensitive to future environmental changes and their consequences.

UNFCCC calls on all countries to take action on climate change adaptation and identifies the potential contribution of regional cooperation to the achievement of national goals. UNFCCC, in the Cancun Agreement of December 2010: *Invites Parties to strengthen and, where necessary, establish regional centres and networks, in particular in developing countries, with support from developed country Parties and relevant organizations, as appropriate, and to facilitate and enhance national and regional adaptation actions, in a manner that is country-driven, encourages cooperation and coordination between regional stakeholders and improves the flow of information between the Convention process and national and regional activities.*

There is currently no platform for the sharing of information and experiences on forests, rangelands and climate change in the Near East Region. There is also very little bilateral or regional cooperation among the countries in the region on the issue. Such interactions and cooperation should be endorsed and initiated, including through a regional or sub-regional cooperative project(s). Such projects would be developed to address commonly shared needs of participating countries. They could include development of a regional information sharing platform, support for securing financing for climate change adaptation, strengthen research programmes, and strengthen technical and institutional capacities of countries to address climate change adaptation in the forest, range and related sectors. .

FAO, with support of the FAO Finland Partnership Programme and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), convened a two and a half day workshop (see Annex I for the agenda) in Cairo to focus on priority needs and to explore areas for regional cooperation related to climate change, forests and rangelands in the Near East region.

## **OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP**

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- take stock of national efforts on climate change adaptation;
- identify key sub-regional cooperative actions that would enhance national efforts on forests and climate change adaptation;
- identify priorities for national and sub-regional action on forests, rangelands and climate change adaptation;
- assess countries' interest in strengthened regional and/or sub-regional cooperation
- develop logical frameworks for sub-regional project(s); and
- discuss possible funding sources for forests, rangelands and climate change adaptation projects.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

A total of thirty six participants from eighteen countries took part in the workshop. The countries represented were Afghanistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

In addition to the country representatives, staff from FAO Headquarters, FAO Regional Office for the Near East, FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central Asia, FAO's country office in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and a representative from GIZ also participated. Annex II provides the list of participants.

## **RESULTS OF PLENARY AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

The workshop was opened by Mr. Mohamed Saket, Senior Forestry Officer, FAORNE who welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of the meeting given the current and potential adverse effects of climate change in the Near East.

Mr. Moujahed Achouri, Deputy Regional Representative, FAORNE and FAO Representative in Egypt, also welcomed participants and thanked the government of Egypt for its continued support to FAO and in particular the Ministry of Agriculture for facilitating the organization of the workshop. He emphasized that the workshop was an opportunity for the exchange of information among country representatives in order to identify key issues for future projects and mobilize resources to fund these projects.

Mr. Reinhard Kastl, head of the GIZ Regional Project on Adapting Forest Policy Conditions to Climate Change in the Middle East-North Africa region (MENA), gave a brief introduction stressing GIZ collaboration with FAO in the MENA region and its active contribution to the Silva Mediterranea Network. He added that this regional workshop constitutes an excellent opportunity for exchange of information and lessons learned. It is also a platform for funds mobilization for forest development.

Following the opening session, presentations by Susan Braatz (FAO) and Said Messat (FAO consultant) provided an overview of the general impacts of climate change, the status of the international negotiations and the options for forestry and key issues and developments in the Near East Region. These were followed by brief presentations from each of the participants, highlighting gaps, weaknesses, challenges

and priorities with respect to forests, rangelands and climate change at the national level. Countries reiterated the importance of rangelands.

Participants highlighted the adverse effects of climate change impacts facing their countries and the national efforts to respond to climate change. They reiterated the socio-economic importance of rangelands and highlighted land use conversion between rangelands and agricultural lands, and overgrazing, forest fires, pests and diseases, poverty and encroachment as some of the main problems and drivers of degradation of rangelands and forests in their countries. Preventative measures had been taken against forest degradation through rehabilitation, afforestation and protection.

Key institutional concerns raised were lack of intersectoral collaboration, lack of capacity for research and development, lack of accurate data to guide policy making, where policies existed, there was lack of enforcement and lack of a legal framework for climate change.

Participants stressed the need for capacity building, research to provide accurate data and information on climate change, increased awareness amongst communities dependant on forests and rangelands, increased awareness and political will amongst policy and decision makers, improved techniques for climate change mitigation and adaptation, enhanced early warning systems for natural disasters (e.g. droughts and floods), protection of genetic resources and the establishment of research centres to facilitate exchange of information between countries.

Brief presentations were also made on some of the ongoing regional initiatives – the results of the second forum on climate change in the Near East, the GIZ Regional Project on Adapting Forest Policy Conditions to Climate Change in the MENA region, FAO's planned Guidelines for Afforestation and Restoration of Degraded Forests in Arid Environments and for Integrating Climate Change into Forest Policies and Practices.

The presentation, "Financial Mechanisms and Funding Sources for Climate Change Adaptation Activities" highlighted the various funding options for climate change projects in the region and the eligibility requirements for funding sources. These are:

- UNFCCC Funds - Adaptation Fund, Green Climate Fund, and, administered by GEF: Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)
- Global Environment Facility (GEF) Funds
  - Strategic Priority for Adaptation (SPA), GEF Trust Fund
- Multi-lateral Funds
  - Climate Investment Funds: Strategic Climate Fund – Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience
- Bi-lateral Financing
  - Global Climate Change Alliance (EU)
  - International Climate Initiative (Germany, Algeria, Jordan, MENA)
- Private Sector Financing

It was noted that application for project funding was a complex and time consuming process and could take as much as one year for approval of funds. Participants were concerned about the time taken by donors for project proposal appraisal. The case of Mauritania was raised where they completed the NAPA in 2004 and developed more than 60 adaptation projects. However to date they have received funding for one of these projects.

Participants then received a brief introduction into the project cycle including guidance on project identification and preparation of the logical framework.

Following the presentations, participants were divided into four working groups representing the four sub-regions. The composition of the groups was based on language and geographical position in the region as follows:

- **North Africa:** Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia;
- **Oriental Near East and the Gulf States:** Iraq, Jordan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Syria and Yemen;
- **Nile Basin:** Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan;
- **Non-Arabic speaking countries:** Afghanistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

The objective of the working groups was to identify and discuss, for each sub-region, key issues, gaps and needs, as well as appropriate priority actions to respond to climate change in the context of forest and rangelands development. The main output of this exercise was the preparation of the first draft of a logical framework for a project to address the priority actions identified. More details on the working groups are provided in Annex III. Rapporteurs for each group presented the results of their group discussions as well as the logical framework that was developed.

The key concerns discussed and agreed within the groups and reflected in the logical frameworks are:

- Decision makers still not enough convinced of the high importance of forest and rangelands with regard to climate change impacts.
  - Therefore, there is a need of awareness increase among government and parliament staff.
- Weak capacities for convincing/negotiating in international forums and with aid agencies
  - Need for special training for capacity building in this field.
- Weak involvement and participation of local communities, NGOs, civil society, and private sector in forest and rangelands with regard to climate change related issues.
  - There is an urgent need for awareness rising and capacity strengthening among non governmental bodies acting in forest and rangelands rehabilitation and development.
- In general, present policies, regulations, legislations, and development plans do not take into account climate change considerations.
  - These tools should be reviewed and updated to include climate change related issues.
- Lack of adequate training of foresters and technicians with respect to forest/rangelands and climate change related issues.
  - Capacity building through targeted special training is required.
- Present research and studies reflect limited attention and interest in forest/rangelands and climate change related issues. In addition there is lack of data and weak exchange of research/studies results.
  - Urgent need to create and develop databases by using modern technologies and enhance exchange of information and research results among sub-regional/regional/national institutions.
- Majority of current forest management approaches and rangeland practices do not integrate climate change issues.
  - Appropriate forest management methodologies and rangeland practices should be developed to improve adaptation to climate change.

- Limited allocation of financial resources to forest/rangelands activities, especially those related to climate change issues.
  - Develop sub-regional/regional project(s) with three financial options (or combined) were proposed for exploration: self funding, when possible; national/regional development funds; and international aid agencies.

The detailed logical frameworks may be found in Annex IV.

Participants were not opposed to either regional or sub-regional projects with arguments being advanced for both. The scope of the projects will be finalized at the project development stage, taking into consideration financing options among other things.

The next steps in the process of the development of the project document were discussed and agreed upon as follows:

<b>TASK</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Upload workshop documents to on FAO website	5 October 2011
Distribution of workshop report to countries (including FAO Permanent Representative) with information on the initiative and requesting focal point nomination	5 October 2011
Assess financing options for subregional projects	30 October 2011
Send draft project proposals to participants for comments before finalizing	1 November 2011
Send draft project proposals to focal points for comments	15 November 2011
Send finalized project proposals with indication of potential donor to countries	15 January 2012
FAO finalize proposals and commence submission to donors	15 March 2012

Following the conclusion of the discussions, the chair thanked all the participants for their fruitful interventions and valuable inputs and efforts.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

In conclusion:

- Countries of the Near East region are already experiencing severe and significant impacts of climate change on their forest and rangelands ecosystems, although insufficiently assessed due to lack of adequate monitoring.
- The ecosystems of the region are extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change but countries have dedicated limited attention and resources to the issue. Limited international assistance has been granted for support for mitigation and adaptation actions.



- Research on forests and climate change in the region is still very limited. There is some experience in the region with climate change vulnerability and impact assessments as well as with development of forest carbon projects. Opportunities exist for exchange of experiences within the national/sub-regional/regional institutions.
- Capacities in the forestry sector in most of the countries in the region are relatively weak in relation to climate change issues.
- There is a lack of awareness among decision makers, forestry research and the general public on the actual and potential roles of forests in climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- There has been limited involvement and awareness of forestry authorities in international negotiations on climate change and forestry.
- There is a need for adjustment of national forestry policies and legislation in line with international obligations integrating climate change issues.

## **LIST OF ANNEXES**

- Annex I : Workshop Agenda
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## ANNEX I: Agenda of the Regional Workshop

<b>Tuesday 20 September 2011</b>	
<b>Opening Session: Chair – Mohamed Saket</b>	
8:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:20	Welcoming remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>FAO Deputy Regional Representative RNE</i></li> <li>• <i>Representative GIZ</i></li> </ul>
09.20-09.40	Introduction of participants
09.40-09.50	Workshop objectives, approach & expected outcomes - <i>Simmone Rose (FAO)</i>
09:50-10:30	Forests and Climate Change – a general introduction and discussion - <i>Susan Braatz (FAO)</i>
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
<b>Session 1 Setting the scene: Chair - Amr Rabie</b>	
11:00-11:30	Key issues & developments in region and discussion - <i>Said Messat (FAO consultant)</i>
11:30-13:00	Country presentations – gaps, weaknesses, challenges and priorities - <i>Country representatives</i>
13:00-14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
<b>Session 1 Setting the scene cont'd: Chair - Syed Mahmood Nasir</b>	
14:30- 15:30	Country presentations cont'd - <i>Country representatives</i>
15:30- 16:00	Regional forest and climate change and related initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Alexander Kastl (GIZ)</i></li> <li>• <i>Mohamed Saket (FAO)</i></li> <li>• <i>Susan Braatz (FAO)</i></li> <li>• <i>Simmone Rose (FAO)</i></li> </ul>
16:00-16:45	Plenary discussion on developing a regional/sub-regional cooperation programme(s) for forests, rangelands and climate change and key areas for cooperation
16:45 -17:00	Summary of main issues and wrap up <i>Syed Mahmood Nasir</i>

<b>Wednesday 21 September 2011</b>	
<b>Session 2 Project identification: Chair - Saud Al Rowaily</b>	
08:30 -09:00	Funding options for projects - <i>Patricia Gorin (FAO)</i>
09:00-09:30	Introduction to project identification and logical framework - <i>Said Messat (FAO consultant)</i>
09.30-10:30	Working group session: Expectations from regional project, modes of implementation & stakeholders
10:30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00-13:00	Working group session: Identification of logical framework: project goal, outcomes, outputs/results and activities to be covered by regional/sub-regional project(s) and their indicators
13:00-14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30- 15:30	Working group session: Identification of logical framework: project goal, outcomes, outputs/results and activities to be covered by regional/sub-regional project(s) and their indicators - <i>cont'd</i>
15:30- 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00- 18:30	Working group session: Identification of logical framework: project goal, outcomes, outputs/results and activities to be covered by regional/sub-regional project(s) and their indicators - <i>cont'd</i>
<b>Thursday 22 September 2011</b>	
<b>Session 3: Working group presentations: Chair: Youssef Saadani</b>	
08:30-10:30	Reports from working groups
10:30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 –12:00	Discussion of logical frameworks Next steps - <i>Susan Braatz (FAO)</i>
12:00 – 12:15	<i>Closing of workshop - Mohamed Saket (FAO)</i>

## ANNEX II: List of participants

Country	Participant	E-Mail	Ministry	Title	PO Box
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KSA	Abdullah Saleh M. AlSubaihi	<a href="mailto:Sup112233@gmail.com">Sup112233@gmail.com</a>	Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources	Range technician	

			Directorate		
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	Simmons Rose	<a href="mailto:Simmons.rose@fao.org">Simmons.rose@fao.org</a>	FOMC	Forestry Officer	
RNE	Moujahed Achouri	<a href="mailto:Moujahed.Achouri@fao.org">Moujahed.Achouri@fao.org</a>	FAO Sub Regional for Near East	DRR/Head of Multidisciplinary Team for Oriental	11 El Eslah El Zerai, Dokki
RNE	Mohamed Saket	<a href="mailto:Mohamed.saket@fao.org">Mohamed.saket@fao.org</a>	FAO Regional Office	Senior Forestry Officer	11 El Eslah El Zerai, Dokki
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Tunisia	Youssef Saadani	ysaadani04@yahoo.fr		
Sudan	Ismat Hassan Abdalla	egha1957@yahoo.com	Forests National Corporation	Director of forest management, production, M&E/ extension, information and technology transfer admin. admin.,
Syria	Mohamad Cheikho	cheikho@scs-net.org		
Sudan	Hassan Abdel Nour	hoanour@gmail.com		Prof. Hassan Osman Abdel Nour Freelance Forestry Consultant

## ANNEX III: Working groups

Group	Countries	Chair	Reporters
North Africa	Mauritania Morocco Tunisia	Youssef Saadani (Tunisia)	Benmessaoud Mahmoud (Morocco)
Oriental Near East & the Gulf States	Iraq Jordan KSA Oman Syria Yemen	Gafar Awadallah Mahgoub (Sudan)	El Mostafa Darfaoui (KSA)
Non-Arabic Speaking Countries	Afghanistan Iran Kyrgyzstan Pakistan Turkey Uzbekistan	Morteza Sharifi (Iran)	Sayed Mahmood Nasir (Pakistan)
Nile Basin Countries	Egypt Ethiopia Sudan	Ismat Hassan Abdalla (Sudan)	Zerihun Adenew Tsige (Ethiopia)

### Key sub-regional issues

The key issues by sub-region are grouped as follow:

#### North Africa

- Increased incidences of wildfire and increase of GHG emission;
- Weak extension and research programmes focussing on climate change impacts
- Need to integrate climate change into forest and rangelands strategies and management tools
- Weak capacities on issues related to management strategies and climate change
- Lack of involvement of forestry micro-enterprises in related climate change measures

#### Oriental Near East & Gulf States

- Need to review and/or update policies and regulations to include climate change
- Lack of capacity within rangeland institutions with regards to climate change impacts
- Insufficient awareness of local communities and all stakeholders involved on climate change issues
- Need to improve practices and technologies for rehabilitation of resources and with regards to climate change related issues

#### Non-Arabic Speaking Countries

- Improved understanding of the role and the status of forests and rangeland in addressing climate change
- Need to establish appropriate enabling environment in policies, legislation and institutions and financing related to forest, rangelands and climate change.



- Appropriate forestry and rangeland practices for improved adaptation to climate change need to be developed.

### **Nile Basin**

- Deterioration of water quality and increase of siltation in the Nile Basin
- Accelerated desertification, land degradation and soil erosion
- Deterioration of air quality
- Accelerated social migration
- Inadequate capacity of human resources
- Weak awareness raising programmes targeting all stakeholders at all levels.

## ANNEX IV: Logical frameworks

### Working group - North Africa

#### Background

- Existing strategies and programmes
- Accumulated national experiences
- Awareness at different levels
- Some projects (NFP, GIZ)

Project Structure	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<b>Goal:</b> Sustainable promotion of the forestry and pastoral ecosystems' multi-functionality taking into account the impacts of Climate Change and the work with partners/actors.			
<b>Purpose:</b> Revision of strategies and management tools integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation measures	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Four national strategies achieved and approved</li> <li>2. At least one management achieved and applied by country</li> </ol>	Approved Strategies	Adherence and politic will Institutional Capacities
<b>Outputs</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. wildfire control (reduction of risk and GHG emission)</li> <li>2. population and other actors sensitization on CC impacts</li> <li>3. Strategies and management tools revised integrating CC impacts</li> <li>4. management capacities developed and strengthened (AD, BE, ONGs)</li> <li>5. Promotion of forestry micro-enterprises</li> <li>6. Adjustment and realization of a research-development programme</li> </ol>	X % reduction number and hectares burned Average time of intervention reduce By the end of the project, + X % of the population and other public sensitized TOR revised and approved X Plans executed X persons trained At least one micro-enterprise by field is developed 2/3 of thematic identified are achieved	Annual Reports Survey at the beginning and at the end of the project TOR and management Plans Report of tanning sessions state Research results	Insufficient finance

<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p><b>1. Forest wildfire and GHG emissions are controlled</b></p> <p>1.1 Elaboration of master plan. 1.2 Realization of sensitization campaigns 1.3 Get adequate prevention and fight equipment.</p> <p><b>2. Population and other actors are sensitized about CC</b></p> <p>2.1 Elaborate a communication's plan. 2.2 Create and equip a communication's cell. 2.3 Identify and diffuse the local know-how</p>	<p>Depend on resources and executive period of the project</p>
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p><b>3. Strategies and management tools are revised/CC</b></p> <p>3.1 Elaborate forestry strategy taking into account CC. 3.2 Update the TOR to elaborate management plans of forests and rangelands. 3.3 Elaborate management's plans of forests and rangelands. 3.4 Strengthen skills at administration and private level to elaborate and execute management plans of forests and rangelands.</p> <p><b>4. Management capacities are strengthened</b></p> <p>4.1 Identify the needs 4.2 Realize training's modules 4.3 Promote intra and inter countries exchanges</p>	<p>Depend on resources and executive period of the project</p>
<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p><b>5. The micro-enterprises are identified and promoted</b></p> <p>5.1 Identify production and exploitations' chains of forest's products 5.2 Promote socio-professional organizations of local population 5.3 Adapt incentives and financing mechanisms of micro-enterprises</p> <p><b>6. Programme of R/D identified and realized</b></p> <p>6.1 Identify a R/D programme (integrating the test and the diffusion of results)</p>	<p>Depend on resources and executive period of the project</p>

## Working group - Oriental Near East & the Gulf States

Project Title: Sustaining Forest and Range Management as Means of Adaptation to Climate Change and Improvement of Livelihoods

Impact: The Sustainable Management of Forests and Rangelands for Adaptation to Climate Change Strengthened and livelihoods Improved

Outcomes and outputs:

Outcomes	Outputs
<b>A. Policies and regulation prepared or updated and institutions strengthened</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policies and regulations adopted/ updated</li> <li>2. Institutions and capacities strengthened and governance improved</li> <li>3. Advocacy for dry forest and range lands improved</li> <li>4. Early warning systems for droughts, forest fires, and disasters established</li> </ol>
<b>B. Awareness increased and local communities and all stakeholders involved</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Awareness of decision makers and all stakeholders increased and translated into positive behaviour</li> <li>2. Local communities and all stakeholders involved in forest and range management/improvement</li> <li>3. Public relations and media defending the cause of forest, range and adaptation/mitigation of climate change</li> </ol>
<b>C. Practices improved and resources rehabilitated</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good forest/range management practices established/enhanced in target countries</li> <li>2. Degraded forest/rangelands rehabilitated</li> </ol>
<b>D. Knowledge and technologies developed</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Databases created developed by using modern technologies (GIS, Remote sensing)</li> <li>2. Ecological, economic and social research and studies related to range, forest and climate change mitigation/adaptation work developed.</li> </ol>

Outcome	Output	Activities		
<b>A. Policies and regulation prepared or updated and institutions strengthened</b>	<b>1. Policies and regulations adopted/ updated</b>	1. Organize Expert meetings and provide technical assistance to adopt update regulations	2. Organize Expert meetings and provide technical assistance to adopt update regulations.	3. Organize Expert meetings and provide technical assistance to strengthen regulations enforcement
	<b>2. Institutions and capacities strengthened and governance improved</b>	1. Provide technical and financial assistance for establishment and/or upgrading of forest and range institutions	2. Provide technical and financial assistance for capacity building/strengthening	3. Organize workshops and visit exchange to improve governance
	<b>3. Advocacy for dry forest and range lands improved</b>	1. Organize workshops for coordination among forest and range advocates	2. Organize training workshops in forest and range advocacy techniques and methods	
	<b>4. Early warning systems for droughts, forest fires, and disasters established</b>			

Outcome	Output	Activities	
<b>B. Awareness increased and local communities and all stakeholders involved</b>	<b>1. Awareness of decision makers and all stakeholders increased and translated into positive behaviour</b>	1. Organize awareness campaigns to increase public awareness about forests rangelands sustainable management and climate change	2. Organize meetings and exchange of visits for decision makers
	<b>2. Local communities and all stakeholders involved in forest and range management/improvement</b>	2. Provide technical assistance to create enabling political and legislative environment for the organization and participation of local communities in forest and range management as related to climate change	2. Create and strengthen local organizations able to participate in resource management and project design and implementation
	<b>3. Public relations and media defending the cause of forest, range and adaptation/mitigation of climate change</b>	1. Organize meetings and workshops for coordination and exchange of experiences among media professionals.	2. Preparation and distribution of communication tools and media such as films, brochures and other

Outcome	Output	Activities				
<b>C. Practices improved and resources rehabilitated</b>	<b>1. Good forest/range management practices established/enhanced in target countries</b>	1. Provide technical assistance and exchange of experience in forest and range management and stopping degradation		2. Prepare guidelines on good practices in forest and range sustainable management and climate change mitigation/adaptation		
	<b>2. Degraded forest/rangelands rehabilitated</b>	1. Establish and rehabilitate nurseries and produce forest and range saplings and seeds	2. Strengthen in-situ forest and range biodiversity	3. Strengthen ex-situ forest and range biodiversity	4. Provide technical assistance for developing water harvesting and erosion control technologies	5. Strengthen Afforestation/ reforestation and range seeding

Outcome	Output	Activities					
<b>D. Knowledge and technologies developed</b>	<b>1. Databases created developed by using modern technologies (GIS, Remote sensing)</b>	1. Provide technical assistance for building/upgrading databases using GIS and Remote sensing (hard and software)		1. Build/strengthen capacity in database management	3. Provide assistance in resource mapping and monitoring data collection		4. Create a regional information network on forest, range and climate change adaptation and mitigation
	<b>2. Ecological, economic and social research and studies related to range, forest and climate change mitigation/adaptation work developed.</b>	1. Develop forest and range genetic resources adapted to climate change	2. Prepare studies and research on economic value of forest and range products and services	3. Prepare studies and research on environmental, social and cultural value of forest and range products and services	4. Strengthen research and studies on forest and range inventory and technologies	5. Inventory, develop and use local knowledge related to forest and rangelands	6. Research and studies on climate change effect on forest and range biodiversity

## Working group – Non Arabic speaking countries (APIKUT)

Project title : Addressing Climate Change issues of Forestry and rangelands in APIKUT (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkey) region.

Project Structure	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<b>Goal</b> Enhancing enabling environment to address climate change issues of forestry and rangelands	Forestry and rangeland policies effectively implemented at national level.	National development plans, national climate change strategies	Necessary political support and commitment extended to the project.
<b>Purpose</b> 1. To improve understanding of the role and the status of forests and rangeland in addressing climate change 2. To establish appropriate enabling environment in policies, legislation and institutions and financing related to forest, rangelands and climate change. 3. To develop appropriate forestry and rangeland practices for improved adaptation to climate change.	1.1. Media coverage increased. 1.2. At least one regional communication network established. 1.3. Financial resources allocated to forest and range sectors increased 10%. 2.1. One national strategy for each country developed. 3.1. Best practices developed for three priority adaptation measures.	Media coverage tracking tools. Project reports, regional reports.  General budget allocations.  Project Progress Report.  Project Progress Reports, Publications and Guidelines.	Media is not dominated with other issues or concerns. Countries are ready to cooperate and share their information with others. Economical stability.  Necessary capacities are available.  Testing and demonstration sites are made available.
<b>Outputs</b> 1.1. Public, policy makers and practitioner’s knowledge and awareness enhanced. 1.2. Collaborative research programs and related information platforms on key research topics related to forestry, rangeland, climate change developed. 2.1. Forest and range policies amended reflecting emerging needs related to climate change and including indigenous people and gender issue.	1.1. At least two major meetings/workshop at the national level held, involving forestry and rangelands. 1.2. At least two regional meetings/workshops. 1.3. At least two regional research programs initiated in APIKUT.  2.1. At least three countries take action to amend the policies to reflect climate change.	Number of participation.  Number of country participation.  Annual research report.  National reports, Progress reports.	Interest key stakeholders.  Voluntary hosting country.  Financial support and scientific expertise.  Recognition of need to amend the policies.

<p>2.2. Assess and identify synergies between forestry, rangeland and climate change strategies and national commitments to related international agreements.</p> <p>3.1. Suitable management system to climate change are developed and tested on a pilot basis.</p>	<p>2.2. At least 90% of related documents and analyzed.</p> <p>3.1. At least five pilot projects developed.</p>	<p>National communication to international conventions and processes.</p> <p>Project Process Report</p>	<p>Clarity and coherence among different conventions.</p> <p>Financial resources are available.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>1.2.1. Organizing regional symposium on climate change parliamentarians and policy makers.</p> <p>1.2.2. Production of film on forest, rangelands and climate change for APIKUT region.</p> <p>2.1.1. Development of national strategy on forest, rangeland and climate change consistent with national climate change strategy and other relevant national strategies and programs.</p> <p>2.1.2. Promote policies and programs to enhance the contribution of forest and rangelands to green economy.</p> <p>3.1.1. Identify areas of priority for adaptation in the region and identify pilot sites.</p> <p>3.1.2. Develop and test adaptation measures.</p> <p>3.1.3. Forest fires and forest diseases research and information systems.</p> <p>3.1.4. Developing best practices to reduce vulnerability and enhance adaptation of watersheds to climate change.</p>			



## Working group – Nile Basin Countries

Project title: Environmental conservation and sustainable development of the Nile basin

	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Important assumptions</b>
<b>Goal</b> Environmental conservation and sustainable development of the Nile basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved quantity and quality of natural resources (e.g. soil, water and vegetation cover)</li> <li>Decision makers and planers consider environmental issues as part of their development plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The presence and adherence to environmental impact assessments</li> <li>Reformed and revitalized regional political and economical groups e.g. EGAD and COMESA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nile Basin countries consider this an important issue</li> <li>Decision makers understand the commonality of the problem</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the deterioration of water quality and siltation in the Nile Basin countries</li> <li>To reduce desertification, land degradation and soil erosion</li> <li>To improve air quality</li> <li>To maintain the social matrix</li> <li>To strengthen capacity and raise awareness of all stakeholders at all levels</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 The amount of eroded soil in the Nile</li> <li>1.2 Amount of pollutant in the Nile</li> <li>2.1 Siltation in Nile</li> <li>3.1 Heavy metal content in the air</li> <li>4.1 Household income levels</li> <li>5.1 Media coverage of environmental issues</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Record silt levels at water treatment stations</li> <li>1.2 Data from reference labs</li> <li>2. Record silt levels at water treatment stations</li> <li>3. Frequent measurements of air pollutants</li> <li>4. Household surveys</li> <li>5. Random media surveys</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water quality standards set by international organizations</li> <li>International norms established by conventions (e.g. UNCCD)</li> <li>WHO standards</li> </ul>
<b>Outputs</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved water quality</li> <li>Enhanced forest and vegetation cover</li> <li>Reduced air pollutants</li> <li>Improved livelihoods of Nile basin communities</li> <li>Improved awareness of all stakeholders</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduction in water born diseases</li> <li>2. Increase in forest extent</li> <li>3. Less cases of respiratory ailments</li> <li>4. Relative increase in household income</li> <li>5. Behavioural changes of all stakeholders</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reports from water quality treatment plants</li> <li>2. FRA reports and frequent surveys</li> <li>3. Medical statistics</li> <li>4. Statistical surveys</li> <li>5. Adoption of improved technologies</li> </ol>	
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>			

	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Important assumptions</b>
<b>Output 1. Improved water quality</b>			
<b>Activities</b> 1.1 conduct periodic water quality assessments 1.2 develop legislation to regulate dumping of water pollutants 1.3 plant trees and grasses along river bank to reduce soil erosion 1.4 adopt soil conservation measures in the upper catchments through biological and/or mechanical means			
<b>Output 2. Enhanced forest and vegetation cover</b>			
<b>Activities</b> 2.1 collect baseline data on forest and vegetation cover and produce stock maps 2.2 select priority areas for piloting (equitably in each country) 2.3 establish land ownership and tenure rights 2.4 develop integrated natural resource management plan for selected areas (incl. establishment of seed banks and nurseries) 2.5 Provide inputs 2.6 Enrichment planting			
<b>Output 3. Reduced air pollutants</b>			
3.1 Formulate, revise and/or enforce relevant legislation regarding air pollution 3.2 Establish environmental monitoring network			

	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Important assumptions</b>
<b>Output 4. Improved livelihoods of Nile basin communities</b>			
4.1 conduct socio-economic surveys to establish the baseline for poverty, literacy, income, nutrition, health & gender.....			
<b>Output 5. Improved awareness of all stakeholders</b>			
<b>Activities</b> 5.1 Design capacity building and awareness raising programs for all stakeholders (workshop.etc...) 5.2 Encourage community participation in all project activities			