Natural Resources and Environment

6. World Water Forum

Marseille, France

12. - 17. March 2012

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- ► A **platform** where the water community and the policy and decision makers from all regions of the world get together, debate and attempt to find solutions to achieve water security.
- Organized every three years, it is the largest international event on "water".
- Participation of FAO to the Forum in 2009 has raised the Agricultural dimension in the debates, initially dominated mostly by drinking water supply and sanitation.

- ► At the 5th WWF (March 2009) in Istanbul, FAO obtained a significant success because, as Chair of UN-Water, it coordinated the Theme "Advancing Human Development and the MDGs" (particularly poverty and hunger).
- ► In that occasion, Food, Water & Agriculture reached the maximum recognition ever before by the Forum
- ▶ Due to this success, FAO has been invited to participate in the 6th WWF (March 2012) and to coordinate the thematic priority on "Water & Food Security".

- ► The Forum of Marseille will address technical, political, institutional, financial and other strategic solutions
- ► The Thematic Priority on "Water & Food Security" will more specifically address how to:
 - sustainably increase "productivity" of land and water (under rainfed and irrigated agriculture)
 - better manage groundwaters
 - reduces post-harvest losses
 - improve food supply chain efficiency
 - promote sustainable diets



- ► The contribution to the Water & Food Security Theme by FAO is at corporate level, with inputs from HQ and ROs. The FAO-Water Platform will provide input and coordinate.
- For the various aspects related to *Water & Food Security* there will be the development of "action plans" and "road maps"
- Outreaching surveys, back-to-back sessions of main events worldwide, and mobilization of key networks have been used as modalities to achieve a wide stakeholder engagement and participation

- ► WWF 6 will also provide a contribution to the World Water Day (22. March 2012), and to the World Water Week in Stockholm (August 2012)
- The World Water Council, being the main organizer of the Forum, together with the hosting country, has organized its 43rd Board-of-Governor meeting in FAO (14-15 November 2011), to further strengthening the food, agriculture and water nexus in the Forum
- ► WWF 6 will significantly increase visibility of "Water and Food Security" in the global and regional debate





