



Silva Mediterranea

FAO *Silva Mediterranea*

Prevention of forest fires in the Mediterranean

The main recommendations of experts in Rhodes

Conclusions of the workshop organized in collaboration with USSE, Greece and Forest Europe

Presentation prepared by R. Gomez del Alamo, Coordinator
of the Forest Fires Working Group

& C. Besacier FAO *Silva Mediterranea* Secretariat

***European Parliament Intergroup on “Climate Change, Biodiversity and
Sustainable Development” Bruxelles, 13 July 2010***





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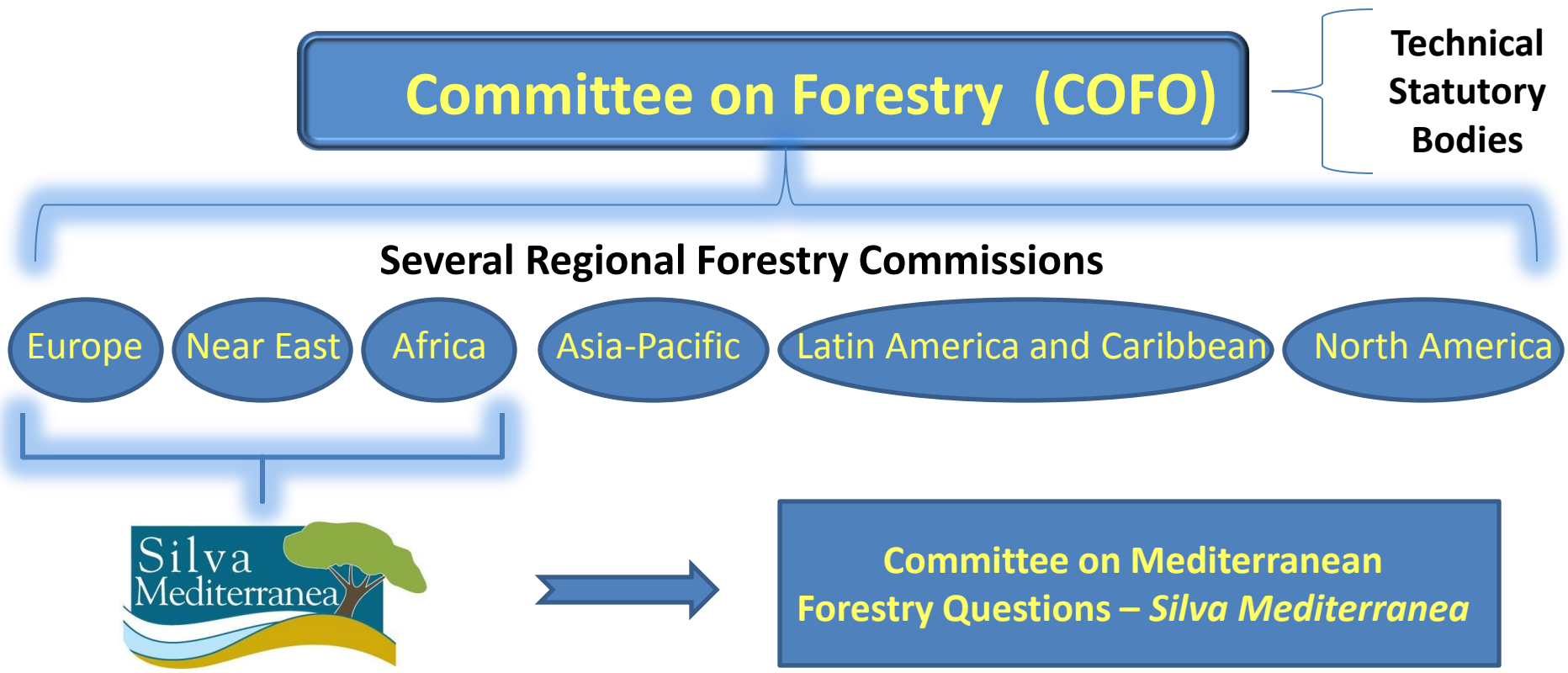
- 1) What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?
- 2) Regional Partnership for Mediterranean Forests ?
- 3) Main conclusions/results of the Enlarged Executive Committee held in Antalya (13 to 16 April 2010) ?
- 4) *Silva Mediterranea* Working Group on Forest Fires?
- 5) Main recommendations of the workshop held in Rhodes (May 2010) on Prevention of Forest Fires ?



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What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?

1. How is organized the Mediterranean dialogue on forest issues within FAO ?





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What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?

2. Objectives of *Silva Mediterranea* ?

1. *Why ?*

Dialogue at the regional level is an essential complement the efforts of individual countries to develop appropriate forest policies, institutions and practices ;

2. *Role of FAO ?*

As part of its mandate, FAO supports several statutory bodies. *Silva Mediterranea* is the statutory body on “Mediterranean Forestry Questions” and the Secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea* is ensured by FAO;

3. *What kind of activities for this Statutory Bodies?*

This committee aims to identify problems and provide policy advice and guidelines to FAO, member countries and other partners involved in sustainable forest management. *Silva Mediterranea* also aims at developing an efficient regional cooperation, information on Mediterranean forest resources and policies...



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What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?

3. Governance of *Silva Mediterranea*

1. *Formal Session of the committee Silva Mediterranea*

Every four year since the last session in Sofia (Bulgaria – 2008) – Presidency Bulgaria

2. *The Enlarged Executive Committee of Silva Mediterranea*

With a meeting every year – Members : Portugal, Morocco, Bulgaria, France and Turkey and the coordinators of the different Working Groups of *Silva Mediterranea*

3. *Extraordinary meetings of Silva Mediterranea* are organized during COFO (Rome)

4. *Secretariat of Silva Mediterranea*

The Secretariat is ensured by FAO – Forestry Department – Forest Conservation Team (FOMC) with Nora BERRAHMOUNI (*Forestry Officer for Arid Zones*) and Christophe BESACIER (*Forestry Officer*)



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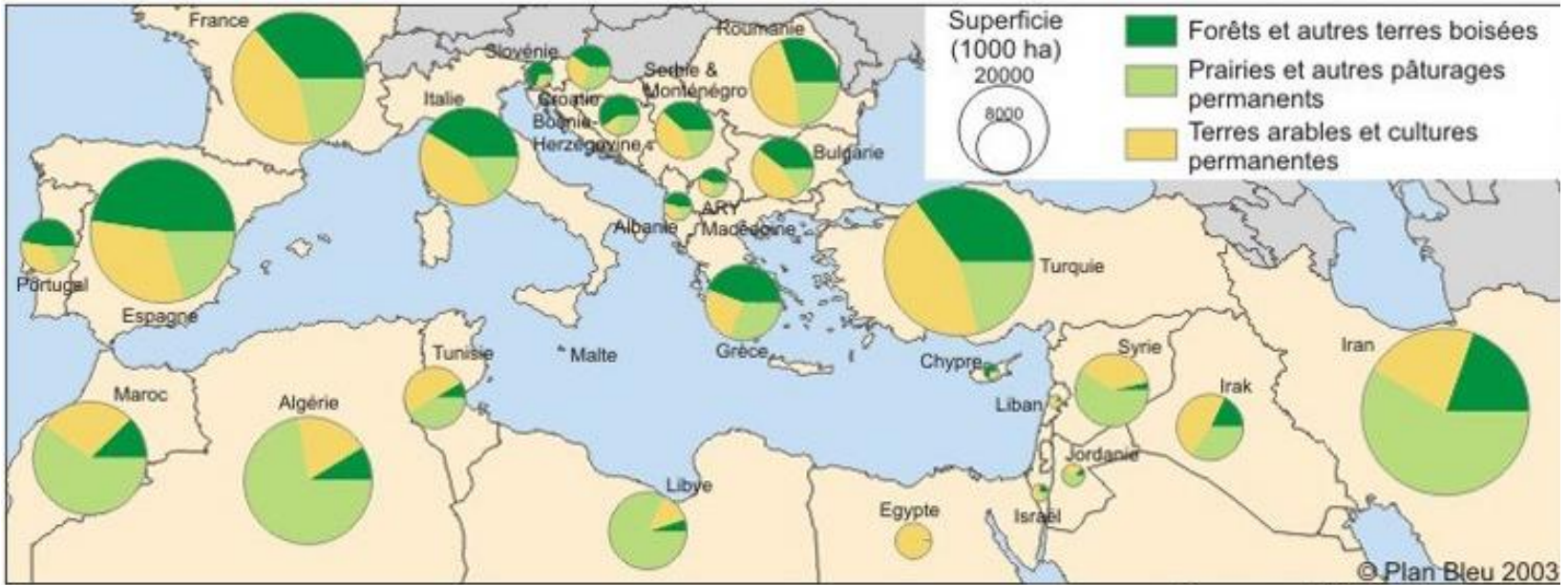
What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?

4. *Members of Silva Mediterranea*

27 countries are members of the *Silva Mediterranea* Committee.

Only twelve countries during the last session in Sofia (Bulgaria – 2008)

One important objective for **2009 – 2012** : Mobilize more North/South/East Mediterranean countries in this regional cooperation on forest issues in the context of Global Change



Source : FAOSTAT database



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What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?

5. *Working Groups of Silva Mediterranea*

In 2008, Member States have decided to boost *Silva Mediterranea* during their last formal session (Sofia - Bulgaria) in April 2008. They recommended preparation (and then validated in 2009) of Action Plans 2009-2012 for the following six working groups :

1. "Forest Fires" with a program focused on prevention of fire risks by improving good silvicultural practices and forestry research for an optimal resilience of Mediterranean woodland ecosystem to Climate Change (Rafael GOMEZ del ALAMO – SPAIN) ;

2. "Cork Oak" with activities focused on sustainable management and restoration of Cork Oak landscapes, diversification of the cork sector and promotion of goods and environmental services provided by Cork Oak landscapes (M.C. VARELA – PORTUGAL) ;

3. "Management of Forests and Sustainable Development" with actions based on a territorial approach in order to promote sustainable management of woodland ecosystem in the Mediterranean (P. ICARD – PLAN BLEU and D. GASC AIFM/FRANCE) ;



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What is *Silva Mediterranea* ?

5. *Working Groups of Silva Mediterranea*

4. “Forest Genetic Resources ” with activities to promote conservation of most endangered species in the Mediterranean and to preserve genetic diversity for adaptation of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in a context of Climate Change (Fulvio DUCCI – ITALIE) ;

5. “Mediterranean Forests and Climate Change” with a program of activities focused on developing an enabling policy environment for adaptation of Mediterranean forest ecosystems to Climate Change(A. HOUMY – HCEFLCD – MOROCCO) ;

6. “Sustainable Financing Mechanism” with a action plan to mobilize financial resources to strengthen regional cooperation on forestry issues and promote “Payment for Environmental Services” (PES) and Market Based Instruments (MBI) (M. TODOROV – BULGARIA).

See Work Plans on Website : <http://www.fao.org/forestry/silvamed/4911/en/>



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A new Regional Partnership for Mediterranean Forests

Why : Mobilized resources (human, financial, genetic and research resources...) in the Mediterranean for adaptation of forest ecosystems to Global Change

How : Reinforce synergies between different partners involved in the regional cooperation for the Mediterranean forests (*Silva Mediterranea*, EFIMED, Plan Bleu, countries and national institutions, WWF MEDPO, AIFM....) ;

Mobilize financial resources in order to involve more Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries in regional projects, networks, research programs ;

Develop an efficient advocacy on Mediterranean forests with collective tools like a “[State of Mediterranean Forests](#)”, a “regional model forests/landscapes network”, “[position papers](#)” to promote forest issues in the context of the [Union for the Mediterranean \(UfM\)](#) in 2010/2011 ;

Implement with efficiency a “regional forest program” through the six working groups of *Silva Mediterranea* , National Forest Programs and the [Mediterranean Forest Research Agenda 2010-2020](#) with EFIMED ;



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Main conclusions/results of the Enlarged Executive Committee of *Silva Mediterranea* in Antalya during the first Mediterranean Forest Week (April 2010)

- **Organization with other Mediterranean partners (*EFIMED, AIFM, Plan Bleu, INRA Avignon...*) of the second Mediterranean Forest Week in Avignon (Palais des Papes) at the beginning of April 2011 (First preparatory meeting the 15th of June 2010) ;**
- **Preparation of a “working paper & concept” on the State of Mediterranean Forests** with data collected by FAO from member states of *Silva Mediterranea* for the Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (FRA 2010) and presentation of this “working paper” during a conference in Alexandria (June 2010) and a side event during COFO (October 2010) ;
- **Preparation and launch of a “full report” on “State of Mediterranean Forests” in 2011;**
- **Advocacy in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean**
 - Preparation of a “position paper” and a “background paper” on Mediterranean Forest;
 - Presentation of these papers for endorsement to the European Forestry Commission ;
 - Preparation for a meeting in Barcelona with the General Secretary of the UfM;



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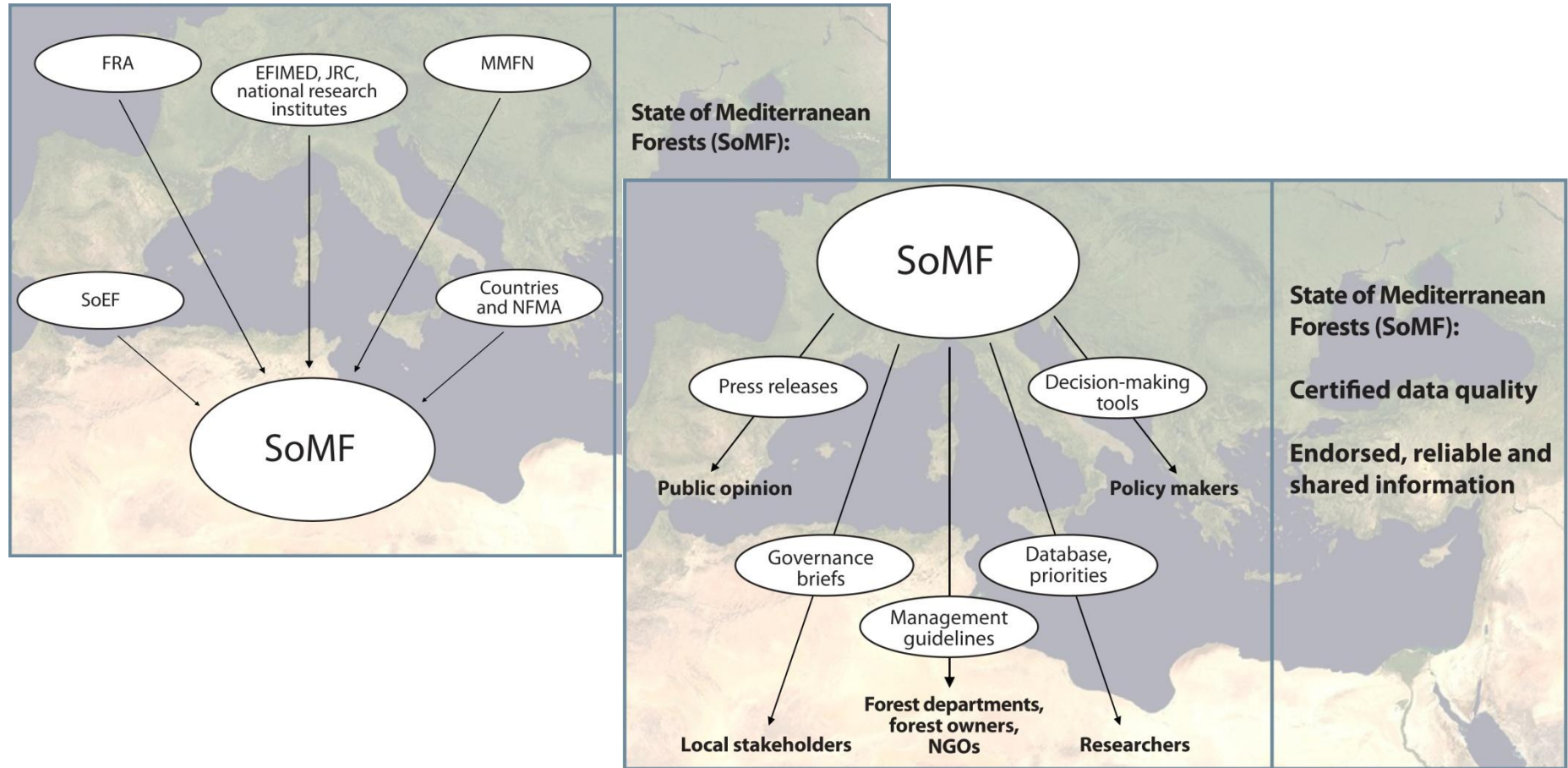
Provisional Agenda of the second Mediterranean Forest Week Avignon – France – 4 to 8 April 2011

Mo 4th	Tue 5th			Wd 6th	Thu 7th	Fri 8th			
	Plenary: Opening by Organizers and Hosts Presentations by UNFF + MCPFE Water and forests Round table with donors			Scientific Seminar	Field trip Mont Ventoux	AGORA	Profitability ARCMED	FAO EEC Silva Mediterranea	NGOs + regional authorities + projects/networks
						Plenary			
Free lunch	Lunch offered			Lunch offered		Free lunch			
Governance session and WG3 of Silva Mediterranea (coor. AIFM + ARCMED?)	EFIMED Annual Meeting	FAO EEC Silva Mediterranea		NGOs + regional authorities + projects/networks (50 people)		Scientific Seminar	Visit to PACA Model Forest		
	EFIMED Advisory Group	FAO EEC Silva Mediterranea	ARCMED General Assembly		18.00 Press conference				
Free dinner	Visit to Palais des Papes + Wine tasting + Silva Mediterranea 100 Anniversary (free dinner)			Gala dinner	Free dinner				



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Concept of the first "State of Mediterranean Forests" in 2011





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➤ **Advocacy in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean**

A position paper on the “**contribution of forests and other wooded lands to food security in the Mediterranean**” (Annex I) was prepared by a panel of experts and endorsed by the Enlarged Executive Committee of *Silva Mediterranea* during the first Mediterranean Forest Week, held on 14-16 April 2010 in Antalya, Turkey.

This position paper was prepared for adoption and inclusion as part of the declaration of Ministers of Agriculture at the “**Ministerial Conference of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) on Food security, Agriculture and Rural Development**” originally scheduled on 15-16 June 2010, in Cairo, Egypt (*At the beginning of June 2010 : announcement of the postponement of the Cairo conference probably at the end of 2010*).

See the Silva Mediterranea Newsletter focus on this meeting in Antalya

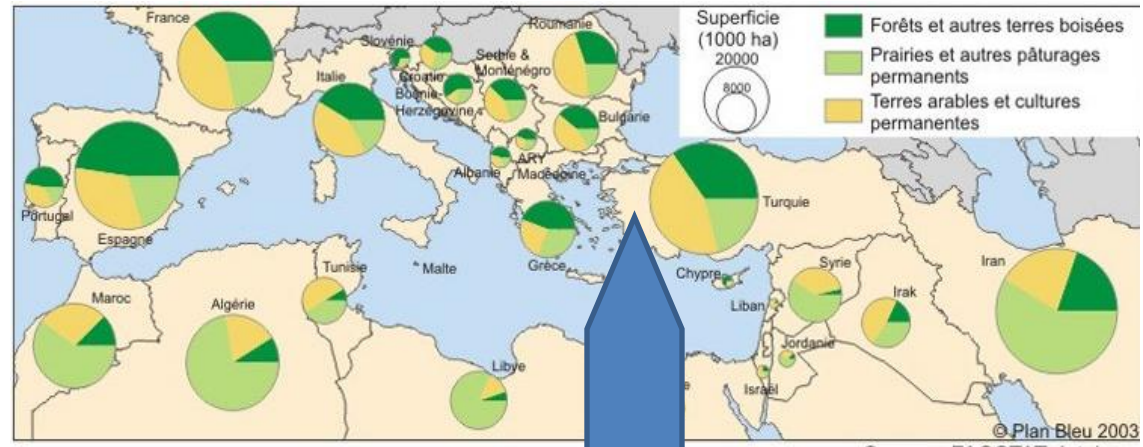
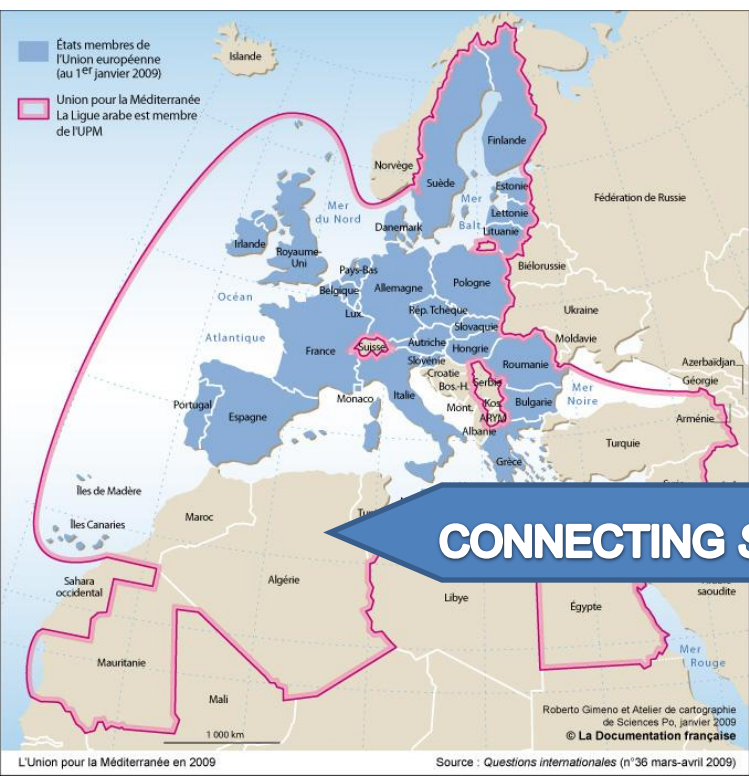


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A STRATEGIC GOAL :

Member states of *Silva Mediterranea*

Union for the Mediterranean



CONNECTING SILVA MEDITERRANEA AND UfM



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Silva Mediterranea Working Group on Forest Fires?

Forest Fires: Prevention through Sustainable Forest Management practices at local level, and building forest resilience at landscape level, a key issue to limit the increasing risks of Mediterranean forest fires in a context of Climate Change

Main objectives during the next 4 years (2009 – 2012)

Objective 1: Promoting the incorporation of all Mediterranean countries to EFFIS ;

Objective 2: Promoting initiatives of prevention of forest fires at local level ;

Objective 3: Promoting bilateral agreements between countries for joint actions on border areas and cooperation in suppression activities ;

Objective 4: Promoting the participation in the FAO Fire Management Actions Alliance of all Mediterranean countries.

See details of the Work Plan in the Website : <http://www.fao.org/forestry/19303-1-0.pdf>



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Main recommendations of the workshop held in Rhodes (May 2010) on Prevention of Forest Fires

Title of the Workshop : Assessment of Forest Fire Risks and Innovative Strategies for Fire Prevention / Rhodes / 4 – 7 May 2010

Organizers : Hellenic Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change / Republic of Cyprus, Department of Forests / Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (FOREST EUROPE) United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) / Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) / Union of South European Foresters (USSE) / *Silva Mediterranea* Committee and the ToS on Forest Fires UNECE/FAO

Objectives :

- To review the current national preventing systems in European Countries ;
- To identify innovative strategies, best available practices and possible policy instruments for Forest Fire prevention in Europe ;
- To develop policy conclusions and recommendations in relation to the forest fire prevention in Europe and in the Mediterranean



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Main recommendations of the workshop held in Rhodes (May 2010) on Prevention of Forest Fires

I) At the global level :

1. Develop a common understanding of prevention of Forest Fires ;
2. Ask Forest Europe (in cooperation with FAO / UNECE) to develop a template and guidelines for Forest Fires Prevention Plans to be used by national (and regional) governments ;
3. Ask Forest Europe to include in the 6th MCPFE (*Ministerial Conference in June 2011*) to put the emphasis on Forest Fires Prevention ;
4. Use all relevant events (*e.g. COFO in October 2010, Mediterranean Forest Week in April 2011, Oslo Ministerial Conference in June 2011*) to create attention to preventive measures in particular in the context of the International Year of Forest (2011);



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Main recommendations of the workshop held in Rhodes (May 2010) on Prevention of Forest Fires

II) At the European Union/*Silva Mediterranea* levels :

1. Disseminate and share experiences ;
2. Build up and replicate best practices ;
3. Establish a sustainable and clear way for funding and make sure that funding reaches local stakeholders in forest fires risky zones ;
4. Evaluate the effects and the efficiency of Prevention of Forest Fires ;
5. Improve cooperation between the different bodies/working groups (*Silva mediterranea* WG1, UNECE Team of specialists and EFFIS);



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Main recommendations of the workshop held in Rhodes (May 2010) on Prevention of Forest Fires

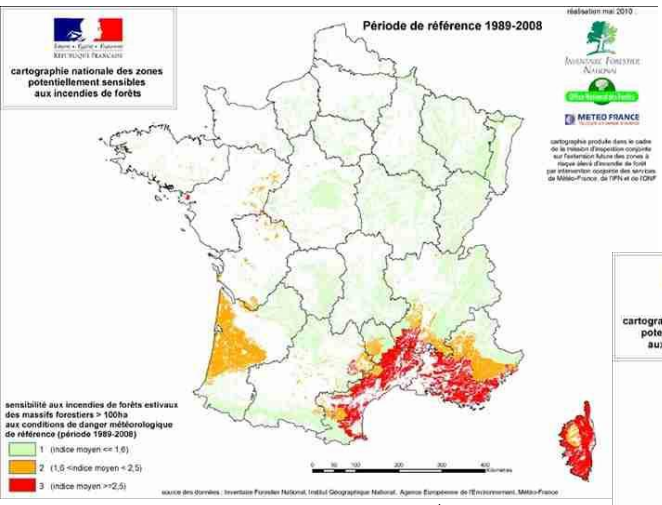
III) At the national level :

1. Ensure that forest fire prevention is an integral part of sustainable forest management and coherent with all relevant policies and integrated in adaptation strategies to climate change ;
2. Prevision of futures forest fire risk (climate change, social change...) for defining sustainable Prevention Policies, Action Plans and relevant budgets ;
3. Raising awareness and education on forests and forestry should be included in all national education programs ;
4. Promoting the economic dimensions of forest fires management (prevention, suppression and rehabilitation) and the efficiency of prevention plans ;
5. Encourage all countries to provide data on forest fires and forest fire prevention (EFFIS and other relevant institution in charge of Information System).



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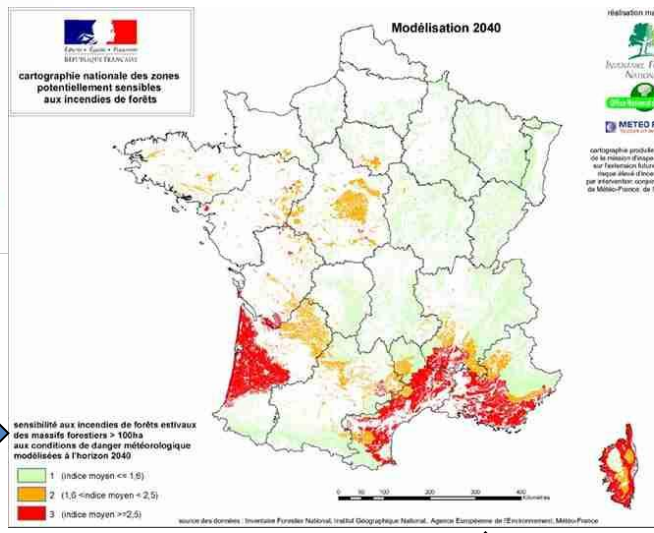
1989 - 2008



Extension of Forest Fire Risk

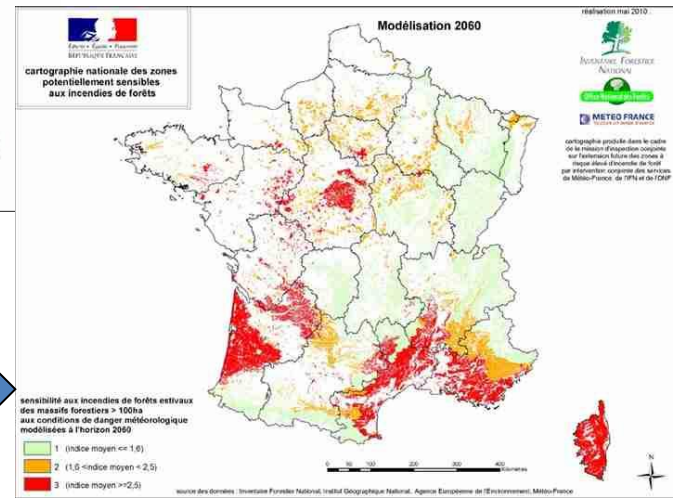
Prevention

2040



THE WAY AHEAD

2060



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Ces cartes sont des documents de travail, reproduits ici à titre purement illustratif, dans le seul but d'expliquer la méthode. Elles montrent clairement une extension forte et rapide des zones sensibles dans les prochaines décennies : à l'échéance 2050, la moitié de la surface forestière métropolitaine sera concernée par l'aléa feux de forêts.