

## THE NEAR EAST PROCESS ON CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT



### Near East Process on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management



The Near East process originated in an FAO/UNEP Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management, held in Cairo, Egypt (10/1996) under the coordination of FAO and UNEP. The experts in forest management from 30 Near East countries identified seven regional and national level criteria and 65 indicators, focusing mainly on the management of dry-zone forests and woodlands in the region. The Near East Forestry Commission (NEFC) once more endorsed the process in its Fourteenth Session held in July 2000 and subsequently follows its work and activities.

Member countries of the Near East Process (30): Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

#### **Reports and other publications:**

A number of regional workshops and expert meetings have been held thereafter to review the applicability of the criteria and indicators in countries concerned and to

discuss the availability of information and national capacities for collection and analysis of data. These meetings are:

- FAO, Islamic Republic of Iran; National Coordinators' Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the Near East. Tehran, Iran 29-30 June 2000.
- FAO/UNEP National Coordinators Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management for the Near East Countries. Damascus, Syria, 02-04 December 1998. [Damas Report Arabic](#)
- FAO Workshop on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Near East Process. Cairo, Egypt, 30 June – 03 July 1997. [C&I Cairo Report 97 E.](#)
- FAO/UNEP Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the Near East, Cairo, Egypt, 15-17 October 1996.

Reports of all these meetings and of the following guidelines have been published in either English and/or Arabic.

- FAO/UNEP 2000. Practical Guidelines for the Assessment and Measuring of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the Near East Region. FAO Regional Office for the Near East. Cairo, Egypt, 2000 (E, A.)

The guidelines were prepared following a recommendation of the National Coordinators Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management for the Near East Countries held in Damascus, Syria (02-04 December 1998). They are available in **English** ([E. Guidelines](#)) and **Arabic** ([A. Guidelines](#)). The set of criteria and indicators developed by Experts and later endorsed by the Near East Forestry Commission (NEFC) are available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Arabic](#).

The reports by member countries of Near East region on criteria and indicators will be available soon in the web in Arabic and English.

The reader is also referred to [A Compendium of Criteria and Indicators](#) published by FAO and to the following web pages for information on all other on-going international processes on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management:

1. "Regional Initiative for the Development and Implementation of National Level Criteria and Indicators for the Sustainable Management of Dry Forests in Asia" <http://www.dryzoneci.org>
2. Dry-Zone Africa Process on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management: (a) Southern Africa Development Community – Forestry Sector Technical Coordination Unit (SADC-FSTCU): <http://www.fstcu.org/fstcu.htm> and (b) Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS): <http://www.cilss.org>
3. African Timber Organization (ATO): <http://www.focusintl.com/whos0008.htm>

4. International Tropical Timber Organization ITTO:  
<http://www.itto.or.ip/Index.htmI>
5. Lepaterique Process of Central America on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management: www address: (Please refer to:  
[http://rds.org.hn/forestal/manejo/criterios\\_indicadores/zapata.shtml](http://rds.org.hn/forestal/manejo/criterios_indicadores/zapata.shtml))
6. Montreal Process on Criteria and Indicators for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forest: <http://www.mpci.org>
7. The Pan-European Forest Process on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management: <http://www.minconf-forests.net>
8. The Tarapoto Proposal of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of the Amazon Forest: www address: <http://www.tratadoamazonico.org>
9. CIFOR: [www.cifor.cgiar.org](http://www.cifor.cgiar.org)

**Contacts:**

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