



Project Highlights

SYRIA

Integrated and community-based fire management

Project code: GCP/SYR/012/ITA

Donor: Italy

Contribution: USD1 099 963

Implementation: 11/01/2009 – 30/09/2012

Target areas: Fire management

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Objective:

To ensure sustainable management forest resources for the benefit of the Syrian population's livelihoods, through the enhancement of wildfire management capacity of the Forestry Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform (MAAR).

Key partners:

FAO, Forestry Directorate, MAAR.

Beneficiaries reached:

Small farmers living in and round forest areas, technical staff at the Forestry Directorate and agricultural extension staff.

Activities implemented:

- Community mobilization and support through establishment of an awareness plan, formation and training of voluntary Integrated Forest Fire Management (IFFM) groups and identification of partnerships and resource mobilization;
- Institutional strengthening, in particular implementation of IFFM strategy, enhanced legal framework on forests and establishment of coordination and partnership mechanism;
- Major staff capacity-building efforts, through wide-ranging training in CBFiM, forest fire management and early warning systems, as well as study tours to Tunisia and Turkey;
- Technical and methodological issues examined and improved, with focus on areas such as fire suppression approaches, fuel reduction techniques and fire management information systems.

Impact

- Valuable experience gained by the Forestry Directorate in terms of planning and implementation of integrated forest management plans;
- Formulation of the National IFFM Strategy and related implementing regulations facilitated.