



## Newsletter n°15: Editorial of *Silva Mediterranea* Committee

It is a great pleasure for me to sign this editorial after hosting in my country the second meeting of the Steering Committee of the project "**Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes**" funded by the French



Chadi Mohanna  
Beirut - June 2013

Global Environment Facility - FFEM (Beirut, Lebanon from 4 to 6 June 2013).

First of all I would like to thank my colleagues from the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture and the whole team of the Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa (AJPM) for their support and involvement in

the organization of this steering committee and all participants who attended this event jointly organized with the FAO Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-*Silva Mediterranea* and Plan Bleu.

The agenda of the Second Steering Committee of the FFEM project was mainly focused on technical and financial aspects concerning the implementation of activities of the various components with a detailed presentation of the current situation on :

- expenses made since September 2012 as well as commitments for the second half of 2013;
- future contracts to be signed with several technical partners for activities to be implemented by the end of 2013 ;
- measures to be taken to ensure efficiency in the process of coordination and exchange of data between components ;
- planification for future workshops to be organized for the various components of the project by end of 2015.

This meeting was therefore an opportunity for members of the Steering Committee to be aware of all activities implemented by the project coordinators (Secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea*/FAO and Plan Bleu) since the inception workshop of September 2012 and to formally approve new activities scheduled by end of 2013.

A field trip was also organized on the Lebanese pilote site of Jabal Moussa on 5 June, 2013 (See article dedicated to this field trip prepared by the staff of the Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa).

In this Newsletter, entirely dedicated to the regional project funded by the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM), information are also available on two technical workshops organized during the second quarter of 2013:

- the workshop to define and adopt a common methodology for vulnerability assessment in the pilot sites selected for the implementation of activities planned in the context of component 1 of the FFEM project. This workshop was held at the headquarters of CTFC in Solsona, Spain, from 27 to 31 May 2013;
- the workshop on participatory approaches for management of Mediterranean forest landscapes in the context of implementation of component 3. This workshop was held in Antalya, Turkey from 25 to 27 June 2013.

I would like to conclude this editorial by thanking the representatives of the French Global Environment Facility for the significant financial support (2.65 million Euros) given to Southern and Eastern Mediterranean partners to maximize production of goods and services in our Mediterranean forest ecosystems. I am convinced that the good dynamic created since the launch of the project in September 2012 in Rome will allow us to produce relevant results to ensure sustainable management of mediterranean forested landscapes in the context of global changes.



Opening of the Steering  
Committee (FAO/FFEM)  
Beirut - June 2013

**Chadi H. MOHANNA**  
Director of Rural Development  
and Natural Resources  
Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture  
Beirut - Lebanon

### News from *Silva Mediterranea* partners:

**The annual EFIMED week 2013 will be held in Barcelona, Spain, from 4 to 6 September 2013** ([http://www.efimed.efi.int/portal/events/annual\\_meeting/](http://www.efimed.efi.int/portal/events/annual_meeting/)).

**The meeting of the Mediterranean Model Forests Network (MMFN) will be held in Rufina – Italy - from 12 to 15 November 2013** (<http://www.mmfn.info/sitio/red.php>).

**The Steering Committee of the Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests (CPMF) will be held in Tunisia at the beginning of December 2013** (<http://www.fao.org/forestry/silvamed/35411/en/>).

## Second meeting of the Steering Committee for the regional project funded by the FFEM



The second meeting of the Steering Committee of the project: "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes" was held in Beirut from 4 to 6 June 2013. In addition to discussions on the implementation of activities for the various components (to be implemented or scheduled by the end of 2013), this meeting was particularly interesting for the visit of the Lebanese pilot site Jabal Moussa, organized on Wednesday, June 5, 2013.

About twenty people attended the meeting:

- Members of the Steering Committee:
  - An official representative of each beneficiary country namely: focal points of Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey;
  - The representatives of the French Development Agency in Paris (AFD), the secretariat of the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) and the representatives of the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (MEDDE);
- The coordinators of the project (FAO and Plan Bleu);
- Observers:
  - Few key member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests involved in the implementation of several Letters of Agreement (CTFC and ONF International);
  - All Lebanese thematic experts in charge of the various technical components as well as members of the Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa (field trip on the pilot site organized on June 5, 2013).



A brief opening session allowed the representative of the French Global Environment Facility (Mr. Didier SIMON) to thank Lebanese authorities for their hospitality and to expose his main expectations regarding this second meeting of the Steering Committee in Beirut.

The FAO representative in Beirut, Mr. Ali MOUMEN, highlighted the importance of sustainable management of Mediterranean forest ecosystems and recalled the main priorities identified in the FAO Country Program 2012-2015 in Lebanon formally signed in November 2012.



The representative of the hosting country, Mr. Chadi Mohanna, warmly welcomed participants to the second meeting of the Steering Committee and stressed the importance of forest ecosystems for Lebanon.

He especially emphasized the new program of afforestation for 40 million trees in Lebanon, considered as a priority by Lebanese authorities, with the ambitious goal to increase forest cover from 13% to 20% by 2030. He also expressed his sorrow for the absence of Syria at the meeting.

The main decisions taken at this meeting of the Steering Committee were the following:

- 1) Confirmation of the pilot site of Duzlerçami for Turkey and decision to implement activities of the four technical components of the project as indicated in the following table:

Country	ALGERIA		LEBANON		MOROCCO	TUNISIA		TURKEY
	Djelfa	Chrea	Jabal Moussa	Country		Maamora	Barbara	
Component 1	1		1		1		1	1
Component 2		1	1		1			1
Component 3		1	1		1	1		1
Component 4	1			1	1	1	1	1

- 2) Endorsement of the main conclusion (methodological choice to conduct vulnerability assessment) of Solsona workshop organized in the context of component 1 from 27 to 31 May 2013 at the Forest Research Centre of Catalonia (See article on page 4) and of main orientations of the letter of agreement signed with INRA Avignon to achieve the regional state of the art on climate change impacts on Mediterranean forest ecosystems for the main species encountered in the pilot sites selected for the implementation of this component in the context of this regional project funded by FFEM.



- 3) Endorsement of the work program, methodological choices (made in partnership with CTFC) and proposed new financial commitments submitted by Plan Bleu for the implementation of activities of component 2 aiming to estimate the economic and social value of forest goods and services in the selected pilot sites for the implementation of this component in the context of this regional project funded by FFEM.

- 4) Endorsement of the work program, methodological guidelines (developed in partnership with COFOR International and CTFC) and proposed new financial commitments submitted by Plan Bleu for the implementation of activities of component 3 aiming to the implementation of participatory approaches in the five pilot sites selected for the implementation of this component in the context of this regional project funded by FFEM.
- 5) Endorsement of the work program and Letter of Agreement signed by FAO with ONF International for the implementation of activities of component 4 dedicated to the optimization and valorization of the mitigation role of Mediterranean forests (carbon sinks) in the several pilot sites selected for the implementation of this component in the context of this regional project funded by FFEM.

Expected products and outcomes of this agreement are:

- Achieve a study describing main drivers of deforestation and degradation of forest ecosystems and other wooded lands in the various pilot sites selected to implement activities of component 4;
- Organize a first coordination meeting of thematic experts appointed by beneficiary countries of the project (Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey) to coordinate the implementation of Component 4 and mobilize the expertise available on REDD+ issues on priorities for the Mediterranean by October 2013;
- Submit a detailed work plan for the development of an appropriate methodological approach on REDD+ issues for countries of the Mediterranean basin as well as for its implementation in the form of REDD+ pilot projects in the various pilot sites selected to implement activities of Component 4.



Regarding this last component the steering committee has also approved the terms of reference of a new expert in the context of a shared costs position between ONF International, FAO and UNREDD. Consequence to this decision was the signature of the agreement between FAO and ONFI for the provision of the expert, Ms. Anne Martinet, under a contract of consultancy COF.WOC within the Department of Forests of FAO from July 8, 2013.

**Christophe Besacier/Caterina Marchetta**  
Secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea* – FAO

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### Testimonial from Didier Simon, FFEM Secretariat, addressed to the team of the Association for Protection of Jabal Moussa

« Back to Paris, I would like to thank you for welcoming us to Jabal Moussa and emphasize the dynamism of your team as well as your relevant activities addressed to an area rich in biodiversity but particularly sensitive to the pressure of urbanization. I am sure that your organization will be an important partner of our regional project with the pilot sites of Jabal Moussa for Lebanon (4 other countries also benefit from this initiative: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey) »

## Workshop to define and adopt a common methodology for the vulnerability assessment of pilot sites of component 1 in the context of the FFEM project: "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes"

The Forest Research Centre of Catalonia (Solsona, Spain) hosted the first Workshop of thematic experts of component 1 for the FFEM project: "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes" held from 27 to 31 May, 2013. The main objective of this component is to produce data and to develop tools to help decision and support forest managers in the context of Mediterranean forest ecosystems vulnerability to climate change and, also, in terms of capacity of adaptation of these forest ecosystems.



Twenty-three participants attended this workshop in Solsona: thematic experts from Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, Plan Bleu, the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-*Silva Mediterranea*, VITO (Vision on technology), the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), the International Association for Mediterranean Forests (AIFM), the Forest Technology Centre of Catalonia (CTFC) and ONF International (ONFI). The Director of CTFC, Denis Boglio, and key members of his team welcomed participants and actively contributed to the workshop with several presentations focused on activities of research implemented by CTFC on adaptation of Mediterranean forests to climate change.

A field trip was also organized by CTFC during the workshop to: (i) observe the regeneration of an area affected by a large forest fire in 1998 (28,000 ha), (ii) introduce the technique of prescribed burning tested by CTFC in Catalonia and (iii) show techniques to measure water flow and carbon fluxes in agro-pastoral areas and method of regeneration by group cutting in a population of pubescent Oak.

The workshop at CTFC was organized in two sessions. The first session was dedicated to methods for vulnerability assessment. Examples of vulnerability assessment already implemented were presented by Valentina Garavaglia (FAO), Gazi Gadher (GIZ) and Lluís Coll (CTFC). The workshop was an opportunity to show possible mapping results that could be produced by the several pilot sites of Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey. An example of mapping analysis on the site of Maamora (Morocco), implemented through collaboration between experts of VITO (Antoine Royer and Pieter Kempeneers) and Moroccan experts (Mustapha Bengueddour and El Houssine Jdira), showed a possible model for the implementation of activities in all pilot sites selected for implementation of the component 1.

The second session of the workshop was focused on the presentation of each pilot site and, also, on available data to be used for vulnerability assessment by thematic experts of each country (Zighem Lalle, Maya Nehme, Ameer Mokhtar, Mustapha Bengueddour, Sukran Gokdemir). This part of the meeting was an opportunity to discuss specific problems encountered in data collection and the possibility to receive a financial support to improve the information available and the organization of missing data collection. Practical arrangements for financial support to be given to each country were also discussed in order to implement these vulnerability assessments by 2014.



Finally, the workshop, held in Solsona with all the experts designated for the implementation of Component 1 of the FFEM project, allowed to identify a common methodology for the vulnerability assessment in each pilot sites selected by partners of the FFEM project. Specific needs in terms of collection of additional data and of international expertise were also identified for the various pilot sites. Supports from experts of VITO/ONFI and GIZ will be scheduled with two regional training workshops for national experts to support the implementation of the vulnerability assessment methodology adopted during the synthesis of the workshop in Solsona.

**Valentina Garavaglia**  
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## Workshop on participatory approaches to manage Mediterranean forest landscapes

Plan Bleu organized from 25 to 27 June 2013 in Antalya (Turkey) a workshop on participatory governance approaches in order to share experiences and identify relevant methodologies for the implementation of participatory approaches in forest landscapes in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean.



Pilot Site of Düzlerçami  
Turkey – 26 June 2013

This workshop was held in the context of the Component 3 "Improving governance of forest ecosystems at the landscape scale" of the regional cooperation project "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes" funded by the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM).

This workshop brought together representatives of each country to exchange with various experts on participatory governance, experiences in terms of participatory approaches, methods and tools, and to work on defining the participatory approach to be implemented in the pilot site of their country – Chrea in Algeria, Jabal Moussa in Lebanon, Maamora in

Morocco, Barbara in Tunisia and Düzlerçami in Turkey.

The Forest Research Centre of Catalonia (CTFC) and COFOR-International, contracted by Plan Bleu to prepare a synthesis of several methodological approaches on participatory governance, presented an analysis of participatory management initiatives in selected areas, mainly woodlands, in the Mediterranean and outside the Mediterranean.

They also made recommendations in terms of process (*Iterative process of the following phases: diagnosis, strategic orientations and objectives, action plan, implementation, monitoring and evaluation*), participatory methods and tools that can be used for the initiatives considered in the various pilot sites of the regional project funded by FFEM.

Representatives from each country presented the situation of governance on the pilot sites and, following a work of reflection fed by the methodological recommendations and related discussions, defined first outlines of the participatory approach to be implemented on their pilot sites: purpose, operational objectives and synergies, stakeholders, roles and responsibilities, process, methods and tools.



Plantation of Pinus Brutia  
Pilot site of Düzlerçami  
Turkey – 26 June 2013

The workshop was organized in partnership with the General Directorate of Forestry (OGM) within the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs and the West Mediterranean Research Institute of Turkey. Turkish authorities invited participants to visit the pilot site of Düzlerçami where the several activities will be implemented in the context of the regional project funded by FFEM. This wooded area of Pine Brutia and many other tree species, with a rich fauna, is a particularly popular landscape around Antalya for recreational activities.

For further information on this workshop held in Antalya jointly by Plan Bleu and Turkish General Directorate in charge of Forests please contact Dominique Legros ([dlegros@planbleu.org](mailto:dlegros@planbleu.org)) or Marion Duclercq ([mduclercq@planbleu.org](mailto:mduclercq@planbleu.org)) at Plan Bleu.

**Marion Briens**

Officer in charge of Forestry Questions  
Plan Bleu – Sophia Antipolis



**Marion Briens, responsible for forestry questions at Plan Bleu since the beginning of 2011, resigned on 31 august 2013.** She was a significant partner of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-Silva Mediterranea with several key contributions: the publication of the first edition of the State of Mediterranean Forests, the organization of the Third Mediterranean Forest Week in Algeria and the implementation of the regional project "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes" funded by the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM). The whole team of the Secretariat of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-Silva Mediterranea would like to thank Marion for her strong support and wish her every success and happiness in the future.

## Field trip in the Jabal Moussa Biosphere Reserve - Kesrouan - Lebanon

Pilot site selected by the Steering Committee for the implementation of the project funded by FFEM

The Second Steering Committee of the project "Maximize the production of goods and services of Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the context of global changes", funded by FFEM (French Global Environment Facility), was held in Beirut from 04 to 06 June 2013.



President of APJM

On this occasion, a field trip to Jabal Moussa Biosphere Reserve was scheduled on 5 June 2013. The main objective of this field trip was to introduce the pilot site selected for Lebanon to the members of the Steering Committee. The field trip was jointly organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa (APJM), the managing body of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, which is strongly committed in the protection and rehabilitation of the Biosphere Reserve of Jabal Moussa.

The full discovery of the mountainous reserve of Jabal Moussa was impossible to be experienced in only few hours. Therefore, the Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa team decided to show to participants a glimpse of its work through a guided tour around the mountain, with several stops targeted to introduce some local stakeholders and/or few key partners of APJM.

During the visit it was possible to appreciate the beauty of the mystical Adonis Valley and the ridge of Jabal Moussa Mountain, bordered by Nahr Ibrahim and Nahr Ed Dahab rivers.

The first stop was in Chouwen, a tiny secluded village at the foot of the mountain, where the group arrived after walking along the breathtaking valley of Adonis. The mayor of this village explained the negative impact of irresponsible tourism on this landscape where an appropriate waste disposal service misses and explained how APJM is trying to include Chouwen to its network of ecotourism paths.

The second stop was in the village of Yahchouch. In this village participants had the opportunity to visit one of the three nurseries of APJM dedicated to production of local species (some are endemic). This initiative aims to produce plants of local trees for reforestation at the regional level while providing local incomes through jobs related to the management of the nursery.



Nursery of Yahchouch

On the way to the second nursery, in Mchati village, participants stopped by the equipped workshop and food production unit funded by the Association for the



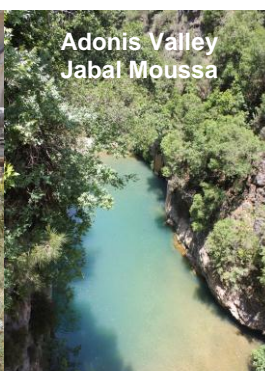
Protection of Jabal Moussa in Ghbaleh village, where food and handicraft products are manufactured by local women and later marketed by the team of the Association for the Protection of Jabal Moussa. After a short stop at the Bed and Breakfast Guest House called "Dimitriades", which hosts mainly "responsible tourists", a lunch was offered to members of the Steering Committee in a local guesthouse.

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Field trip in Lebanon  
Jabal Moussa – 05/06/2013



Adonis Valley  
Jabal Moussa



AFD/FFEM/MEDDE  
Beirut – 04/06/13



Field trip in Lebanon  
Jabal Moussa – 05/06/2013

