



## Fifth Mediterranean Forest Week

### Capacity-building workshop for Mediterranean and other countries on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

20-24 March 2017, Agadir, Morocco

#### I. Context

As part of a series of workshops organized under the scope of the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI)<sup>1</sup>, welcomed by the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Secretariat of the Convention is convening a capacity development workshop on the conservation and restoration of forests and other ecosystems for the Mediterranean region, from 20 to 24 March 2017, in collaboration with and as an integral part of the Fifth Mediterranean Forest Week (5<sup>th</sup> MedFor)<sup>2</sup>.

This workshop will focus on forest and landscape restoration efforts in the context of meeting existing commitments under the three Rio Conventions, and in particular the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Sessions of the workshop will offer a platform to share experiences and best practices and enable forestry and biodiversity experts to discuss challenges, examine gaps and provide solutions to urgent cross-sectoral issues. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss ways to share information on scientific and technical innovations and approaches to access financial mechanisms, through interactions with other partner organizations across the Mediterranean.

#### II. Information Documents

1. National reports and national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) analysed by the CBD Secretariat will form a basis for discussion (see report in [English](#) and [French](#)). Countries are also presented with country-level dossiers of the same information. The dossiers and the regional report indicate that few Parties present quantitative and specific information on the state and trends of natural ecosystems and

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<sup>1</sup> The FERI was welcomed in paragraph 5 of decision XII/19. The FERI workshops respond to paragraph 5 of decision XI/16 wherein the COP requested the Executive Secretary to conduct capacity-building workshops on ecosystem restoration. FERI receives financial support from the Korea Forest Service of the Government of the Republic of Korea.

<sup>2</sup> The 5th MedFor (<http://www.5.medforestweek.org/>) will focus on the restoration of Mediterranean forests and landscapes.



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therefore lack metrics to define clear, achievable and measurable national targets under Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15. The two main areas for further capacity-building and guidance include:

2. The setting national targets based on accurate assessments of the state and trends of natural ecosystems and the drivers of loss, degradation and fragmentation; and
3. The development of plans for implementation associated with clear planning, budget and resources, and regular monitoring and reporting of progress.

### III. Objective

The main objective of this workshop is to facilitate a review of national targets and commitments for the conservation and restoration of natural ecosystems and their services and to support the development of implementation plans that foster progress towards measurable and achievable national targets under Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15.

This objective will be pursued through the following activities:

- A review of national commitments relating to Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15 and their stages of implementation;
- Measures to leverage South-South exchanges of experiences and knowledge, including through the presentation and discussion of country practices;
- A presentation of best practices in ecosystem conservation and restoration from experts in the field, including approaches taken to mainstream biodiversity at all levels into national development plans;
- A review of relevant tools in support of countries' implementation plans; and
- A discussion of opportunities for scientific and technological innovation and resource mobilization to support countries' implementation plans.

### IV. Outcome

Envisaged outcomes from the workshop include:

- Better understanding of information gaps in countries' national reports to the CBD and NBSAPs and ways to address them in the short term;
- Identified strengths and weaknesses of countries' national targets under Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15; the potential barriers (political, institutional) to the adoption of more specific or ambitious national targets; and the potential for synergies with other efforts, such as in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation;





- Greater understanding of countries' capacity and knowledge of ecosystem conservation and ecological restoration techniques, planning and implementation;
- Better understanding of progress, capacities and the needs of countries' for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15, in order to prioritize actions and support accordingly;
- Further mainstreaming of biodiversity considerations in the MedFor process and establishment of sub-regional networks of exchange to bridge country needs with partner's technical, advisory and financial support services.

## V. Outputs

Each country participant will leave the workshop with at least three outputs:

- A 'country dossier' summarizing the current state of national reporting and target setting under Targets 5, 14 and 15, as well as key indicators of progress under these three targets;
- A draft commitment of three short term actions that participants propose to take to:
  - improve information on the state/trends of natural ecosystems in their country and on measures to avoid further loss of natural habitats, within and across sectors; and
  - advance national restoration targets as a part of countries' NBSAPs.
  - Identify criteria to ensure that restoration, for productive purposes, avoids further degradation of national ecosystems and takes into account other biodiversity considerations.
- A draft outline of how the short term actions advance the implementation of specific elements of Aichi Targets 5, 14 and 15.



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**Capacity-building workshop for the Mediterranean on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets**  
**Combined Agenda with the 5<sup>th</sup> MedFor**

Date	Session	Description and presenters
Sunday 19 March 2017	Pre-registration – afternoon (12-6pm) at Hotel Atlantic Palace Lobby	
Day 1. Monday 20 March 2017	<p>9am-11am Monday. Taj Mahal room (<i>no interpretation</i>)</p> <p><b>CBD Workshop session 1: Workshop Opening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief opening remarks- CBD and FAO</li> <li>• Adoption of agenda and Chair</li> <li>• Introduction of the workshop objectives, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative</li> <li>• Introduction and expectations of participants</li> </ul>	<p>Catalina Santamaria, Forest Biodiversity Programme Officer, SCBD</p> <p>Christophe Besacier, Officer for the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism, FAO</p> <p>Focal point, Morocco</p>
	11.00-13.00 MEDFOR Session 1. Opening ceremony	Catalina Santamaria, SCBD - opening remarks on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the CBD (15 mins)
	14.30-16.30 MEDFOR Session 2. Context, Global initiatives and regional dynamics; Evaluation of forest degradation	Blaise Bodin, CBD consultant - key findings from regional report on progress under Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15 (15 mins)
	<p>16.30-18.30 Monday. Atlas Room (<i>with interpretation</i>)</p> <p><b>CBD Workshop session 2- National commitments on Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15</b></p> <p>Analysis of country efforts on Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14, 15, based on National Reports</p>	<p><b>A. Short recap of the plenary session and questions (10 mins)</b></p> <p><b>B. Setting Targets and potential alignment (40 mins)</b></p> <p>Blaise Bodin, CBD consultant and Christophe Besacier, FAO</p> <p>- Elements of a SMART target, potential for alignment between targets under the Rio Conventions and linkages with the Framework on Mediterranean Forests (20 mins)</p>



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	<p>to CBD, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), and the questionnaire on country status and commitments.</p> <p><i>(Facilitation to be carried out by CBD Staff and other experts)</i></p>	<p>- Country examples of SMART targets: Algeria/ Morocco (10 mins each, 20 mins total)</p> <p><i>Break (10 mins)</i></p> <p><b>C. Practical exercise (1h)</b></p> <p>Clarifying commitments and setting national targets – (30 mins):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What types of targets exist on restoration at national level?</li> <li>- Are they in line with elements of Targets 5, 14, 15?</li> <li>- Can they be more compatible?</li> <li>- If so, how and what would be the incentive to improve such target?</li> </ul> <p>Peer-review of targets – participants work in pairs, making suggestions on how to improve each other's targets (15 min)</p> <p>Plenary discussion: What are barriers to improving the target, and how to overcome them. (15 min)</p>
<p><b>Day 2.</b> <b>Tuesday 21</b> <b>March 2017</b></p>	<p><b>9.00-11.00 MEDFOR Session 3.</b> Ceremony for the International Day of Forests</p>	<p>Catalina Santamaria, SCBD – Statement on the IDF on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the CBD (5 mins)</p>
	<p><b>11.00-13.00 MEDFOR Session 4:</b> State of play; success stories; Mediterranean restoration baseline</p> <p>(see MEDFOR agenda <a href="http://www.5.medforestweek.org/content/agenda">http://www.5.medforestweek.org/content/agenda</a>)</p>	<p><b>Slot 6:</b></p> <p>Presentation by Aviram Zuck, KKL-JNF Israel :</p> <p>Restoring degraded landscapes of Israel: Hula Valley- the historical Jordan River and Mediterranean forestlands (15 mins)</p>
	<p><b>14.30-16.30 MEDFOR Session 5.</b> Identification of opportunities for restoration (methods and concrete cases)</p> <p><b>Parallel sessions.</b> (see MEDFOR agenda <a href="http://www.5.medforestweek.org/content/agenda">http://www.5.medforestweek.org/content/agenda</a>)</p>	<p><b>14:50-15.10</b></p> <p>Catalina Santamaria, SCBD</p> <p>“Short term action plan on ecosystem restoration” (15 min)</p>
	<p><b>14.30-16.30 MEDFOR Session 6::</b> Local governance (issues, methods and concrete cases)</p>	
	<p><b>17.00-18.30 Tuesday.</b> Taj Mahal room (with interpretation)</p>	<p><b>A. Practical exercise (1 hr)</b></p>

	<p><b>CBD Workshop session 3: Assessment and prioritization of areas for ecosystem restoration</b></p> <p><i>(Facilitation to be carried out by CBD Staff and other experts)</i></p>	<p>Mirjam Kuzee, Global Coordinator Forest Landscape Restoration Assessments, Global Forest and Climate Change Programme, IUCN</p> <p>Interactive group exercise on the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), including identification of how restoration actions support Aichi Biodiversity Targets</p> <p>(Groups in French and English)</p> <p><b>B. Plenary discussion on limitations and areas requiring further coordination</b> (30 mins)</p> <p>Facilitated by Michele Bozzano, Coordinator, European Forest Genetic Resources Programme, Bioversity International</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Online- Survey</li> <li>- Summary and discussion</li> </ul>
<p><b>Day 3.</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>22 March</b></p>	<p><b>9.00-13.00. Field trip organised by the Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification</b></p>	<p><b>This field visit (subject to modifications) includes a visit to the Souss Massa National Park and a visit to the Admine Argan plantation</b></p> <p>(details: <a href="http://www.5.medforestweek.org/content/field-visit">http://www.5.medforestweek.org/content/field-visit</a>)</p>
	<p><b>14.30 – 16.30. MEDFOR Session 7. Parallel session</b> Silva Mediterranean Committee</p>	
	<p><b>14.30-16.30 Wednesday. Taj Mahal room</b> <i>(with interpretation)</i></p> <p><b>CBD Workshop session 4.</b> Joint session with the European Forest Institute, Mediterranean Regional Office (EFIMED) on Restoring sustainable forest value chains</p>	<p>Key note: “The economic and social dimensions of restoration in the Mediterranean context”</p> <p>by James Aronson, Chargé de recherche au CNRS, Senior Representative of the Society for Ecological Restoration (15Mins).</p> <p>Inspiring examples of entrepreneurships and land restoration:</p> <p>Case Study on “the Development of multifunctional models for land use in the Portuguese Montado”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alfredo Sendim, Project Manager at Herdade Freixo do Meio (25mins)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>16.30-18.30 Wednesday. Taj Mahal room (with interpretation)</b></p> <p><b>CBD Workshop session 5</b></p>	<p><b>A. Recap from the site visit and session on cost-benefits (10 mins)</b></p> <p><b>B. Review of responses to the workshop questionnaire on implementation measures</b></p>



	<p><b>Roadmaps to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15</b></p> <p><i>(Facilitation to be carried out by CBD Staff and other experts)</i></p>	<p>Blaise Bodin, CBD Consultant (15 mins)</p> <p><b>C. Online Exercise: Mapping progress against the Short Term Action Plan on Ecosystem Restoration (STAPER) (decision XIII/5) (35 mins):</b> For each step in the STAPER participants indicate whether their country (i) has achieved the step (ii) has started (iii) has not started and opportunities and challenges for each of these steps in the national context</p> <p><i>Break (15 mins)</i></p> <p><b>D. Presentation of aggregated results from the group (10 mins)</b></p> <p><b>E. Open discussion:</b> barriers to undertaking these steps/their relevance in each national context (25 mins)</p> <p><b>Introduction to the online exercise to be completed by Friday at noon (10 mins):</b>, participants identify a set of 3 actions to advance the targets, institutions to be involved and potential sources of funding.</p>
<p><b>Day 4. Thursday 23 March</b></p>	<p><b>9.00-11.00. MEDFOR Session 8.</b> Monitoring and evaluation of impacts</p>	<p>Open discussions could receive input from SCBD participants.</p>
	<p><b>11.00 – 18.00. MEDFOR Session 9.</b> Perspectives and obstacles to the funding of restoration</p>	<p>Open discussions could receive input from SCBD participants.</p>
<p><b>Day 5. Friday 24 March</b></p>	<p><b>9.00 -13.00. MEDFOR High-level segment.</b></p>	<p>SCBD statement on behalf of the Executive Secretary on future strategic directions, and contribution to the panel discussion</p>
	<p><b>14.30-15.30. Friday. Taj Mahal room (no interpretation)</b></p> <p><b>CBD Workshop session 6: Workshop evaluation and closing</b></p> <p><i>(Facilitation to be carried out by CBD Staff and other experts)</i></p>	<p><b>A. Review of workshop expectations and restitution of roadmaps from the online exercise on 3 priority actions</b></p> <p><b>B. Adoption of a procedural report</b></p> <p><b>C. Evaluation of the workshop</b></p> <p><b>D. Closing remarks</b></p>

