Progress of Silva Mediterranea and progress report of the European Forestry Commission Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

24 November 2021
FAO, Rome, Italy
I. Activities of Silva Mediterranea

• Strategic Framework for Mediterranean Forests

• State of Mediterranean Forests (2023 edition)

• 7th Mediterranean Forest Week and 24th Committee of Silva Mediterranea

• Points for Consideration
A. Strategic Framework for Mediterranean Forests

• Draws on recommendations provided in the State of Mediterranean Forests (SoMF) 2013 publication, which also inspired creation of Tlemcan Declaration (2013).

B. State of Mediterranean Forests (2023 Edition)

- Two surveys launched to determine themes of State of Mediterranean Forests 2023
- First survey in Feb 2020; second survey in coming months
C. 7\textsuperscript{th} Mediterranean Forest Week and 24\textsuperscript{th} Committee of Silva Mediterranea

- Originally to be hosted by Tunisian Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries => Turkish General Directorate of Forestry
- 21-25 March 2022 in Antalya, Turkey
- Main topics:
  - identifying opportunities of forest-based solutions for young people
  - promoting landscape approaches with focus on restoration and conservation of biodiversity
D. Points for Consideration

• The Commission may wish to:

(a) Encourage development of activities related to youth entrepreneurship in the bioeconomy to address challenges faced by Mediterranean forests in the context of global changes;

(b) Contribute to preparation of and encourage high-level participation in the 7th Mediterranean Forest Week in 2022.
II. Activities of the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

- Activities of the Working Party
- Points for Consideration
A. Activities of the Working Party (1)


- Working Groups: WG1 ‘Forest and Water’ (Czech Republic); WG2 ‘Hazards and Disaster Risk Management’ (Austria and France); WG3 ‘Protective Functions of Forests’ (Austria)
  - **WG1** conference on ‘30 years of Headwater Control: Forest and Water in Changing Environment and Society’ (Feb 2020; Prague) with follow-up publications
  - **WG2** workshop on ‘Forestal and Technical Measures on Erosion-Torrent Control and Landslide Management in Mountain Watersheds (Sept 2021; Trabzon-Rize, Turkey), along with scientific publication
  - **WG3** first meetings in Jan 2021 and June 2021
A. Activities of the Working Party (2)

- 33° Session of the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds in Traunkirchen, Austria (13-15 October 2021): ‘Integral approach to the flood protection effect of the forest with special consideration of water and sediment retention’
  - 5-year action plan for Working Party and Working Groups
  - ‘Model-Watershed’ excursion
  - Co-publication (FAO and Austrian Government) on ‘The protective functions of forests in a changing climate – European experience’
B. Points for Consideration

- The Commission may wish to take full advantage of the services of the Working Party and facilitate its work by:
  - (a) Strengthening further commitment, including through designating a focal point to the Working Party;
  - (b) Providing continued guidance for the Working Party, especially on priority topics to be addressed;
  - (c) Publicizing work of the Working Party and making full use of its services, e.g. submission of news items and announcements to be posted on website.
Thank you

Ms. Amy Duchelle
Senior Forestry Officer
Team Leader, Climate Change and Resilience
FAO

Mr. Giovanbattista de Dato
Senior Forestry Expert; Secretary Silva Mediterranea
Climate Change and Resilience Team
FAO

Mr. Rikiya Konishi
Forestry Officer
Water and Mountains Team
FAO