



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



# Integrated Fire Management

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# Introduction

## Forests play key role in climate change mitigation and adaptation

- Forest biodiversity and ecosystem services enhance the adaptive capacity and resilience of people and ecosystems

### ***But...***

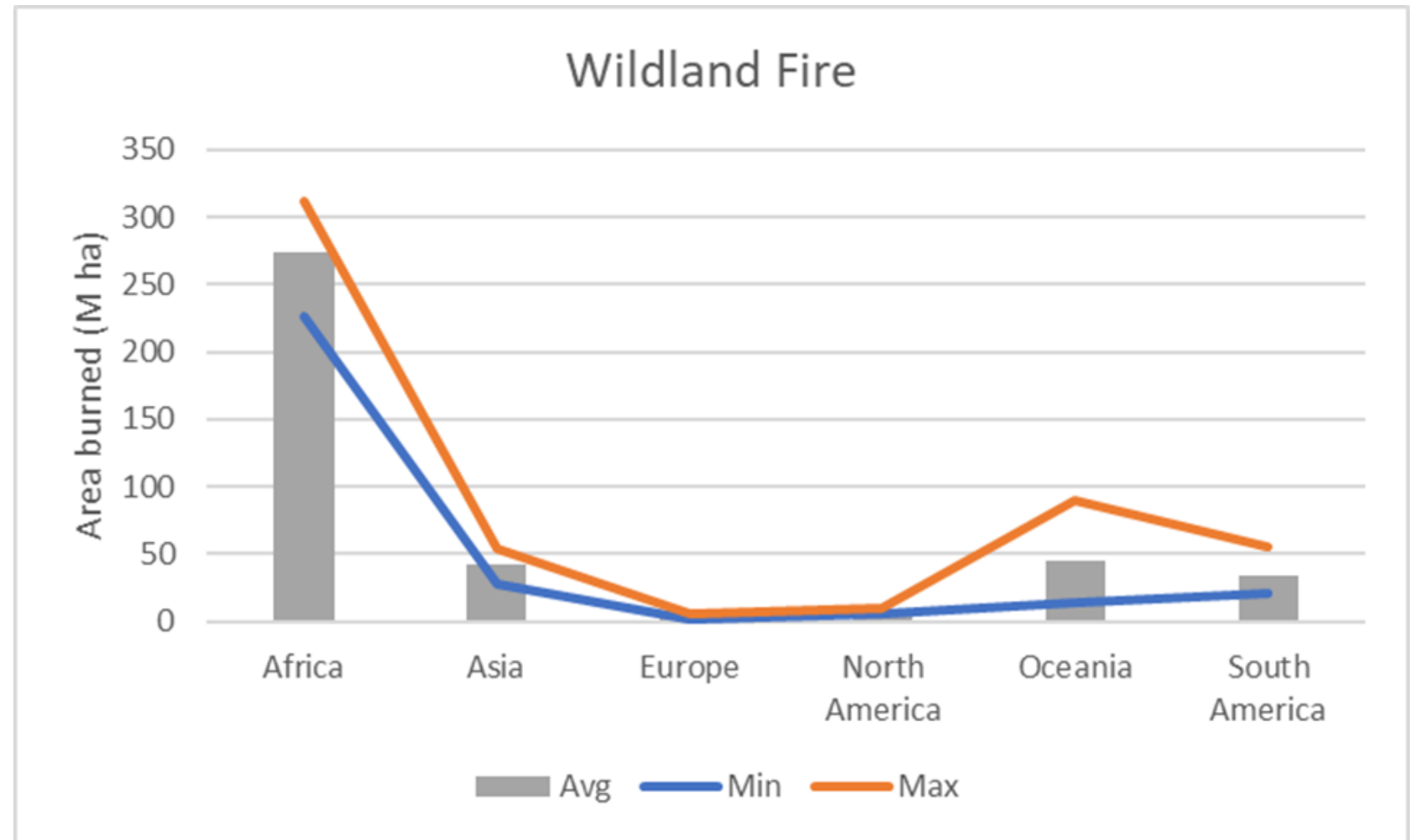
- Forests are threatened by disturbances that reduce their ability to store carbon, adapt to climate change and support the most vulnerable



# Global Wildland Fire (2002-2021)

Ave. Annual Area  
Burned = 407.3 M ha

Ave. Number of Fires  
= 1.1 M

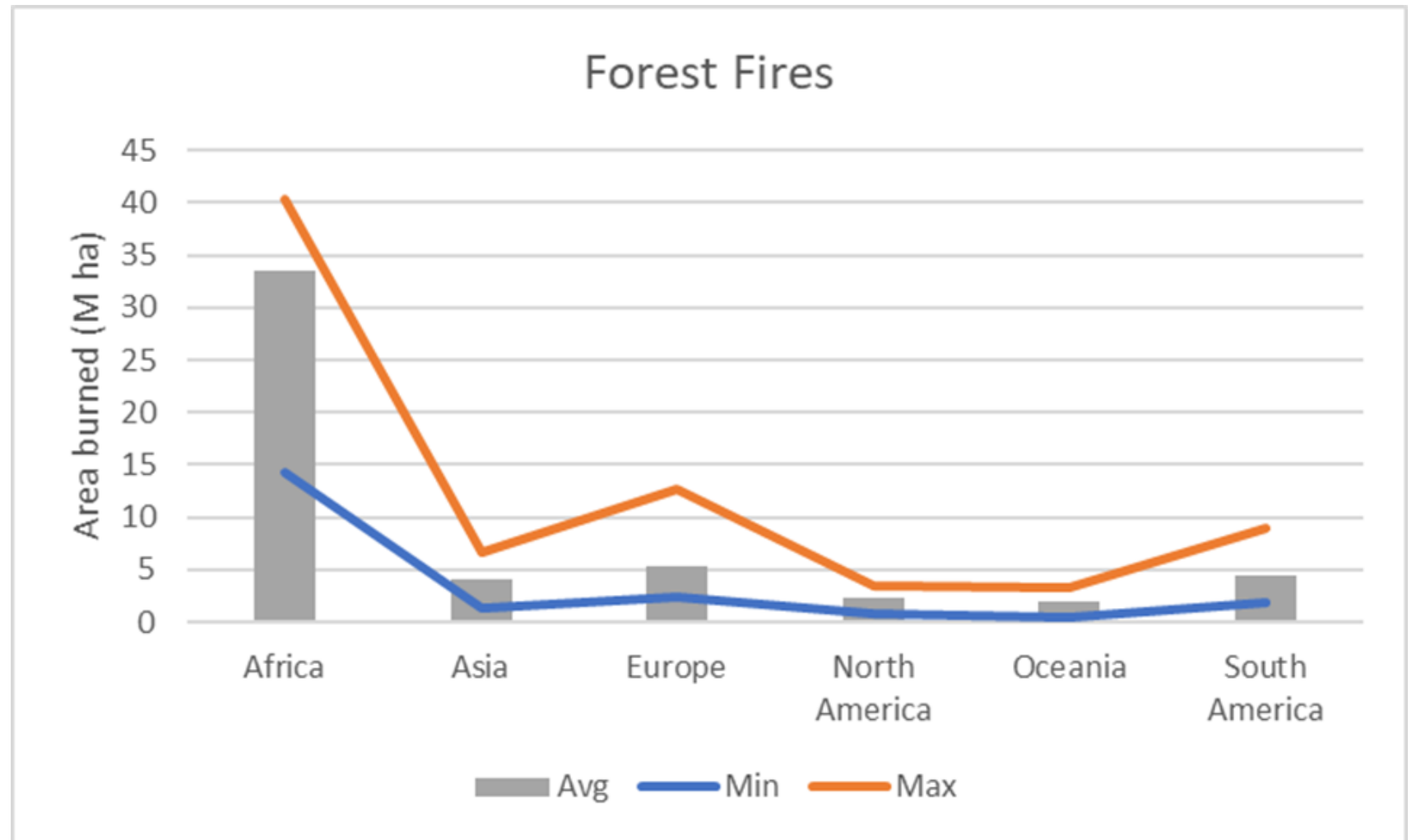


**Source: Global Wildfire Information System (GWIS) / JRC / EU**

# Global Forest Fires (2002-2021)

Ave. Annual Area Burned = 51.7 M ha

Proportion of global wildland fire = 12.6%



Source: Global Wildfire Information System (GWIS) / JRC / EU

# European Forest Commission

Ave. Annual Area Burned = 16.0 M ha

Ave. Number of Fires = 72,326

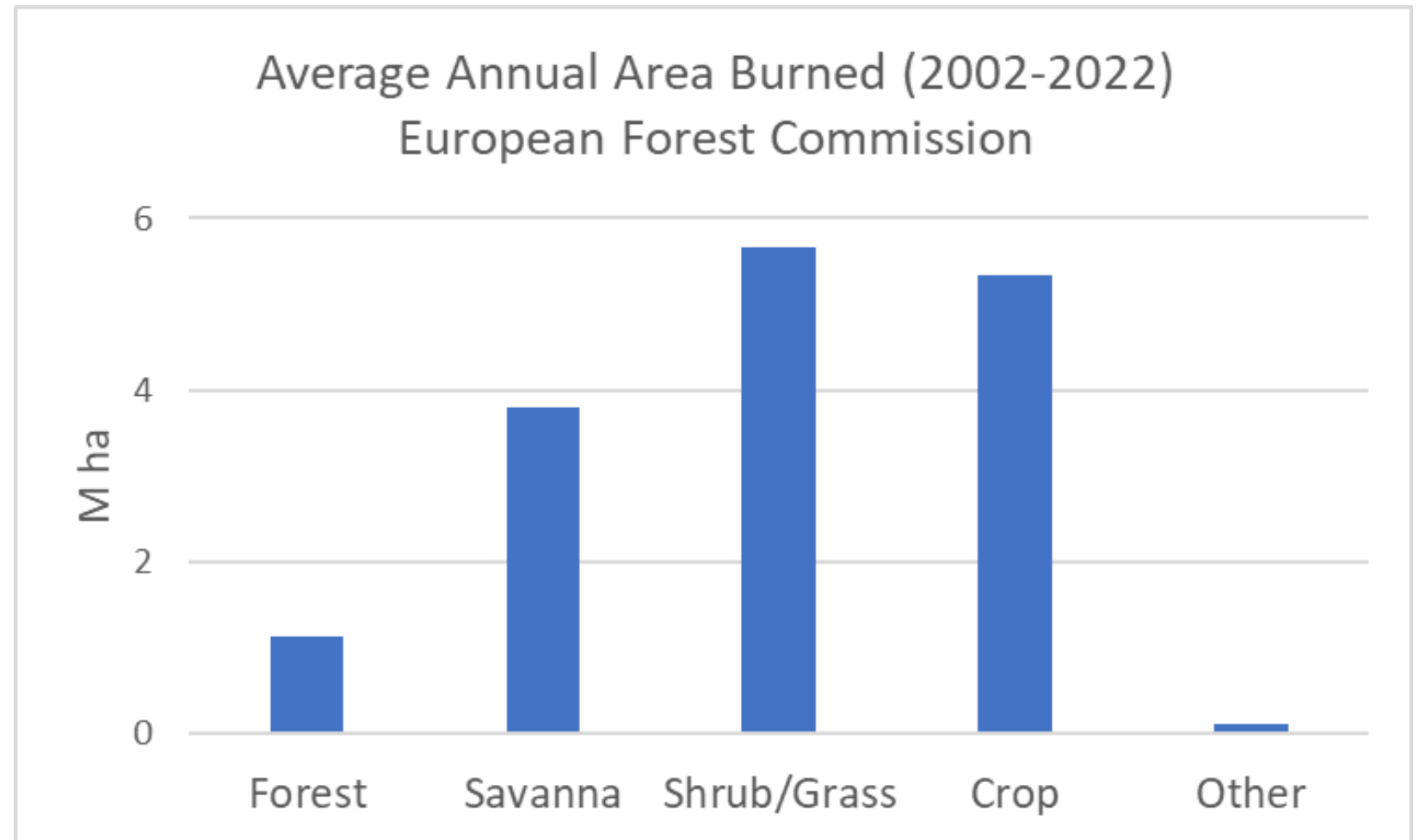
Forest 7%

Savanna 24%

Shrub/Grass 35%

Crop 33%

Other 1%



**Source: Global Wildfire Information System (GWIS) / JRC / EU**





# FAO approach to Integrated Fire management

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Myers, 2006



# FAO Strategy – IFM and the 5 RS

- **Review and analysis** – understanding fire issue (why, who, where, loss and damage)
- **Risk reduction** – prevention; focusing on underlying causes to make wildfire and damage less likely
- **Readiness** – preparedness to fight fires
- **Response** - suppressing unwanted fires
- **Recovery post fire** - community welfare, repairing infrastructure and restoration of landscapes – Build Back Better for Resilience

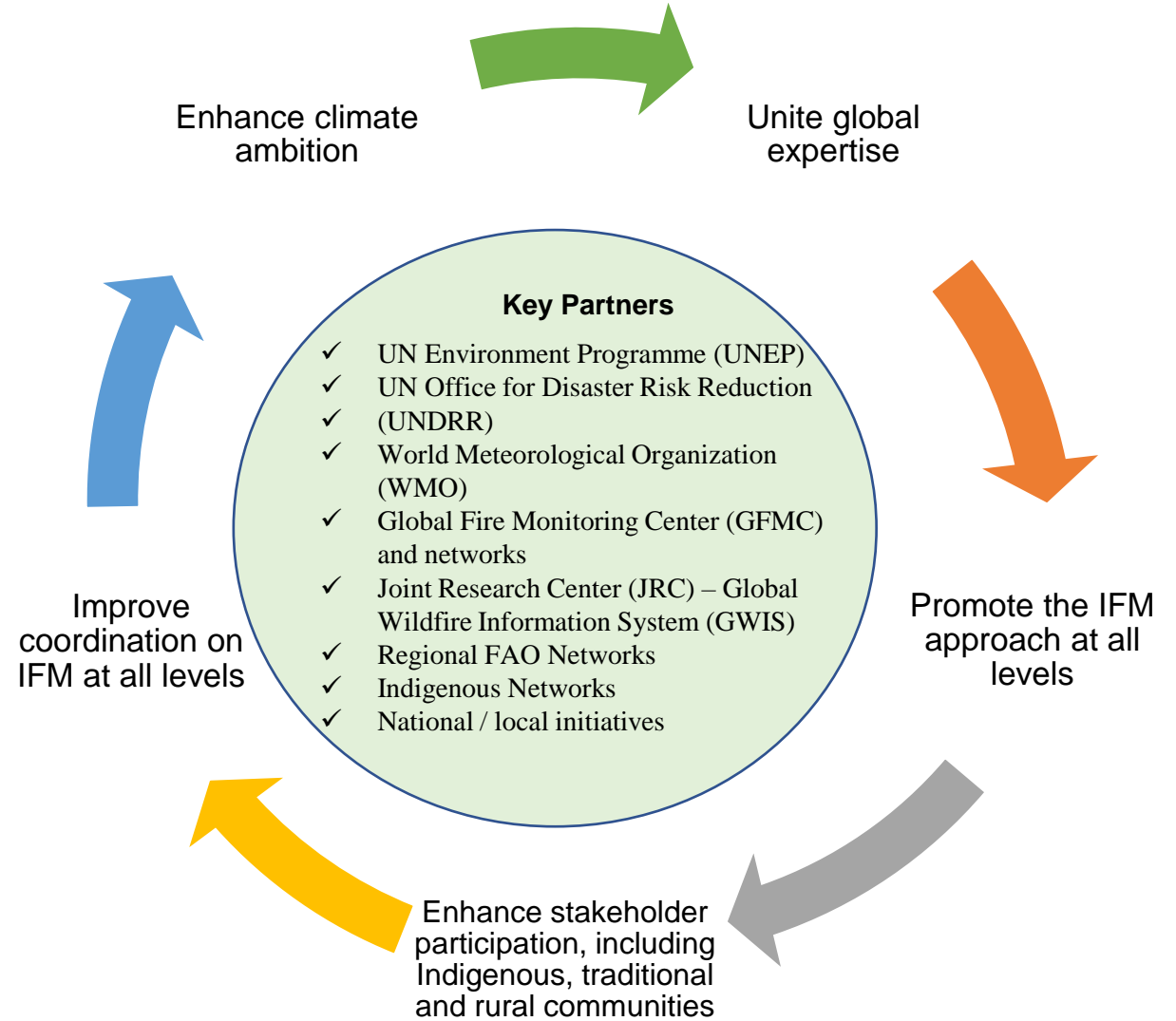
# FAO Efforts Global Level

- Supporting Member Nations in integrated fire management
- UN-REDD efforts on fire management: REDD+ Results Based Payments projects
- Multi-country projects on IFM
- AFFIRM Project
- Collaborating with the Joint Research Center of the EU for the Expert Group on Forest Fires for Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean
- Supporting enhancement of the Global Wildfire Information System
- Support to global cooperation
- Global Fire Management Hub – Fire Hub

# Global Fire Management Hub

Aim is to strengthen countries' capacities to implement Integrated Fire Management (IFM) in order to reduce the many negative impacts of wildfires on:

- people (human life, health, livelihoods),
- landscapes (communities, critical infrastructure, ecosystems)
- global climate



# Fire Hub – Five initial pillars

## Knowledge sharing

- IFM major concepts
- Readily accessible technical advice
- Publications, workshops and events

## Capacity building

- Trainings with national actors
- Mentoring programme for young fire experts

## Fire Risk Assessment and Early Warning

- Wildfire risk assessment methods and tools, including loss and damage

## Wildfire Resilient Communities

- Indigenous and traditional Knowledge
- Community-Based Fire Management - CBFiM
- Gender, equity, diversity and inclusion

## Policy support

- Integration of IFM into national and subnational policies
- Support for regional fire networks



# Governance Principles

## ➤ Landscape Fire Management Framework

Launched at the 8<sup>th</sup> IWFC in Porto, Portugal



- Hub to serve as a mechanism to implement and monitor the Framework's goals and outcomes

# Hub Technical Workshops

- 1st TW 14-16 Nov 2023: integration of the GFMC and related networks and partners into the Fire Hub
- 2nd TW February 2024: operation of the Global Wildland Fire Network and associated regional networks and centers
- 3rd TW May 2024: further refinement of operationalization
- July 2024: side event on IFM during the 27th session of the COFO (22-26 July 2024)

# Regional level initiatives and activities

- FAO is engaged in supporting member nations, in fire management related projects in Kosovo\*, North Macedonia, and Montenegro and Türkiye
- Subregional project “Enhancing of the Capacity of the International Forestry Training Centre” funded by FAO Türkiye Forestry Program
- “Post-Fire Restoration Activities of Forest and Maquis Ecosystems in Mugla Province” funded by TCPf
- FAO organized a 5-days training on fire management for the countries of the subregion, which has been successfully carried out in 2021 in Antalya, Türkiye
- FAO continues to participate and engage with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission in the Expert Group on Forest Fires for Europe

\*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244(1999)

# Points for consideration

The commission may wish to invite Members to:

- Continue to participate in the Expert Group on Forest Fires for Europe and use it as a platform to strengthen the regional exchange of experiences and lessons learned, and mutual support
- Promote and adopt the Integrated Fire Management approach
- Invest more in the revision and analysis of fires to be able to focus fire risk reduction efforts strategically
- Champion and adopt the Landscape Fire Governance Framework – Guiding ‘Principles for Adjusting Strategies, Policies, and Management to Global Change and bring it to the discussion at the next COFO session



# Points for consideration

The Commission may wish to invite FAO to:

- Continue promoting and leading a common approach by all Member Nations in the region regarding Integrated Fire management
- Strengthen its efforts on developing the Global Fire Management Hub to provide stronger support on the development of regional and national capacities, including through partnership with those in the European Region, and, in particular, take advantage of the experience, skills and systems that already exist



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**Thank you**

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