

BULLETIN of the

At long last, our project "The Problem of Mediterranean Forests" was given the go-ahead in Rome on July 23, 1999. The project's objective is to create the conditions needed for the preparation and organisation of the "First Mediterranean Conference on Forests and Natural Land Environments".

After the usual administrative formalities were dealt with, a first meeting to provide information and concert efforts was held at Avignon on July 29, 1999.

The participants were the two partner Regions, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (France) and Campania (Italy); the French and Italian national governments; and

our own Administrative Council. Then, in Naples at the beginning of March this year, we had the first preparatory seminar on the theme " Ecological fea-

tures specific to the Mediterranean Rim ".

So we are now in a position to invite you to join us in our efforts and thus contribute to carrying out a thorough-going of our Mediterranean woodlands.

In this Bulletin, which provides updatings about our Association's activities, you will also find several short articles by friends of the Association. Their purpose is to generate reactions and further contributions because, while this Bulletin has no intention of becoming a full magazine, nor should it be a mere diary. It will be what we - you and us together - make of it. For my part, I would like to see it become one of our fixed rendez-vous, somewhere between the actual physical meetings we'll be having and the Internet site we're in the process of setting up.

Consider just how important the natural and forest environments of the Mediterranean Rim are and just how much a part of our day-to-day lives they form. Yet how often these same areas are neglected, divided up willy-willy and, paradoxically, claimed as their own by parties with vested interests. It has become abundantly clear that our Association must use every means available to attain its goals, working patiently, carefully and with real determination.

In this way, we may hope that little by little our forests will be seen in all their richness and complexity, meriting attention for their spatial, economic, environmental and social dimensions.

Mohamed Larbi CHAKROUN
President



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MEDITERRANEAN FORESTS

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
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AIFM, day in, day out

All round the Mediterranean, from one side to the other, at meetings and events, our young Association is making a name for itself.

Our executive secretary, Jean Bonnier, met with Mr Eric Dufeil (Government Regional Policy

**Brussels (EC)
September 4
1998**

Department), Mr Loic du Breil de Pontbriand and Mrs Michèle Lemasson (Ministry of Agriculture) and Mr Saturnio Munoz-Gomez (Ministry of the Environment) and submitted to them the framework for a conference to be held as part of the of the Interreg IIC programme run by the Regional Policy Department.

The same Project was put before a seminar, organised by the Prefecture (French national

**Marseille (France)
September 28
1998**

government representative) and the Government Council of the Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur Region (France), and devoted to the Interreg IIC programme. Here it was agreed in principle to adopt the project of the International Association for Mediterranean Forests and, furthermore, to approach Bartolo Vienna and Adolfo Conte representing the Region of Sicily (Italy), Francisco Cardells-Romero from the Community of Valencia (Spain), Cristina Casula and Giosué Lot and Sandro Ciccu from the Region of Sardinia (Italy), in order to associate their regions with the project. Financial resources were not sufficient to carry out this last intention.

**Salamanca (Spain)
15 - 18 October
1998**

Jean Bonnier took part in a European seminar, held within the framework for EC development, which centred on aspects relating to the development and improvement of rural areas in Europe.

Once again, it was quite clear that for our European contemporaries, forests and woodlands form a subject that is of only marginal concern and their Mediterranean aspects are even more neglected.

**Hyères (France)
October 29 1998**

At the 10th Workshop of the Environment Agency of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region (France), the Association was present through its stand looked after by Denise Afxantidis, our representative, looked after.

**Benalmàdena
(Malaga, Spain)
28 - 31 October
1998**

Jean Bonnier represented the Association at the International Conference on the Sustainable Use and Conservation of Mediterranean Forests and read a paper on "Models for the use of forests around the Mediterranean Rim".

The Conference, organised by the forestry service of the Andalusia Region (Spain), was international in scope and of very high quality.

The Conference Proceedings are available from : Junta de Andalucia, Cosigenia de medio ambiente Casa Rosa - 41071 Sevilla, Spain.

**Athens (Greece)
3-6 February 1999**

Mohamed Larbi Chakroun, Denise Afxantidis and Jean Bonnier represented the International Association for Mediterranean Forests at a seminar organised for UNESCO by the Greek National Commission on the topic of "Wildfire in Mediterranean Woodland - prevention, extinction, soil erosion and afforestation".

Our president presented a contribution on "Making worthwhile use of Mediterranean forests as a way of protecting them" (paper available from the Association offices).

**Bizerte (Tunisia)
March 11 1999**

The International Association for Mediterranean Forests was invited by the Association of Forestry Technicians, presided over by Habib Abid, to take part in its seminar on "Integrated improvement and the development of clearings within forests".

The seminar was very successful and was followed by a field trip to the Mogods region which the AIFM delegates also went on.

**Bizerte (Tunisia)
March 12 1999**

The AIFM took advantage of the occasion in Bizerte to hold its Annual General Meeting on March 12. An Administrative

**Seminar " Ecological features specific to the
Mediterranean Rim "
Steering committee for the Interreg IIC project " The
Problem of Mediterranean Forests ".
5th Annual General Meeting of the AIFM, held March
2-4 2000 at Naples (Italy)**

The first seminar preliminary to our projected First Mediterranean Conference was on the theme " Ecological features specific to the Mediterranean Rim ". It was organised by Carlo Bifulco, within the framework of our programme " The Problem of Mediterranean Forests ", which forms part of the European programme Interreg IIC Western Mediterranean – Latin Alps.

This seminar, in which some 100 people took part, also gave us the chance to hold a meeting of the Project Steering Committee. The Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region was represented by Jacques de Lustrac, the Campania Region by Gaetano Danielle, and the Italian Government by Francesco Gaeta. At this time, too, the Association members held the 5th AGM.

The proceedings of these various meetings, which highlighted certain aspects that might well be subjects for discussion at our Conference, will soon be available. You can obtain a copy from the AIFM headquarters.

Council meeting was also held.

It was an opportunity to renew members of the Council and the Executive. The financial statement and the President's report for 1998 were also given.

The programme for 1999 was detailed, with the major part given over to the follow-up of grant applications from the Interreg IIC programme (see below).

**Naples (Italy)
May 7 1999**

Carlo Bifulco and Jean Bonnier submitted to Nino Daniele, Vice-president of the Campania Regional Government Council, the project "The Problem of Mediterranean Forests" with the result that the Campania Region has decided to enter into a partnership with the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region (France)..

**Arles (France)
May 26-29 1999**

Many members of the AIFM took part in Foresterranée '99, organised by the French association "Forêt Méditerranéenne". Among those attending were the President Mohamed Larbi Chakroun, Carlo Bifulci, Murielle Jappiot, Abdelhamid Khaldi and H'maied Kouki.

An informal get-together took place on this occasion during which the state of progress of the Interreg IIC programme was presented.

In his closing speech at Foresterranée '99, Michel Vauzelle, the president of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Government, assured our Association's president, Mohamed Larbi Chakroun, that the Regional Government Council would back the AIFM's projects.

**Athens (Greece)
6-9 September
1999**

Jean Bonnier represented the AIFM at the Meeting of National Focal Points within the framework of the PAM (Plan for Action in the Mediterranean /NPEU).

Participants were the representatives of the governments involved. At the end of the meeting, the AIFM submitted its candidacy for membership of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development.

**Avignon (France)
October 29 1999**

At the 11th Workshop of the Environment Agency of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region (France), Mohamed Larbi Chakroun gave a paper on



"Decentralising Cooperation around the Mediterranean Rim" (text available from the Association's office).

Arles (France) October 22 1999

An Administrative Council meeting was held, attended by : Mohamed Larbi Chakroun, Carlo Bifulco, Murielle Jappiot, Abdelhamid Khaldi, H'maied Kouki, Jean Bonnier, Denise Afxantidis as well as Gérard Falconnet, Saod Helal and Guy Benoit de Coignac.

The Council took note of the acceptance of the project "The Problem of the Mediterranean Forest" and lay down a framework for further work : for each of the six topics at the Conference, a network of people must be set up, along with a schedule of meetings.

Thus, the group "Ecological features specific to the Mediterranean Rim" was organised a seminar at Naples at the beginning of March 2000.

The group "Training, research, raising public awareness" hopes to meet in Tunisia in Spring 2000.

Members of the AIFM Administrative Council

Eva BARRENO : Professor, University of Valencia (Spain)

Lisa BARSII secretary : Doctor in Forest Sciences (Italy)

Carlo BIFULCO : Director, Vesuvius National Park (Italy)

Ahmed BOUKIL : Regional Director, Water and Forest (Morocco)

Mohamed Larbi CHAKROUN president : Representative FAO (Tunisia)

Uçkun GERAY : Professor, University of Istanbul (Turkey)

Marielle JAPPIOT treasurer : Engineer, Cemagref (France)

Abdelhamid KHALDI : Research Scientist, INRF (Tunisia)

H'Maied KOUKI : Official, Ministry of Agriculture (Tunisia)

José MOREIRA da SILVA vice-president : President of Forestis (Portugal)

André WERPIN vice-president : President of the Regional Union of Forest Municipalities of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region (France)

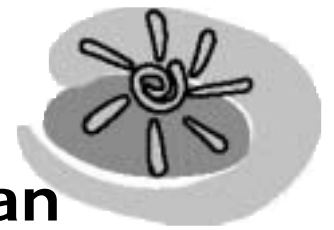
Executive Board members in italics



Members of the AIFM Administrative Council present at the last General Meeting at Bizerte (Tunisia). From left to right : H'maied Kouki, André Werpın, Uçkun Geray, Mohamed L. Chakroun, Murielle Jappiot, José Moreira da Silva, Abdelhamid Khaldi, Carlo Bifulco.

Photo J.B.

The integrated development of forests : topic of a Mediterranean forestry seminar in Tunisia



Invited by the Tunisian Association of Forestry Technicians, members of the International Association for Mediterranean Forests held an AIFM Administrative Council meeting at Bizerte March 12 - 13 1999. On this occasion, a workshop on the integrated improvement and development of woodland zones was organised by the National Forestry Administration (D.G.F.), with the backing of the A.T.T.F., it took place within the context of the AIFM's preparations for the First Mediterranean Conference on Forests and Natural Land Environments. The workshop's chief aim was the exchange by forestry professionals from around the Mediterranean of experiences and perspectives relating to resources and forestry development.

The first day was devoted to the presentation of four papers related to the main theme of the meeting, to a discussion in plenary session, then group workshops devoted to : the terms of reference for use in studying forestry

development and improvement, the process and means of validation and the accompanying measures required in carrying out integrated development plans.

On day two, there was a field trip to the Sejenane area to see a zone replanted mechanically at Riah ; a pilot integrated-development project at Zilia ; and the work undertaken to stabilise sand dunes at Louka, on the coast.

The discussions and relexion that followed these papers and visits gave rise to the following observations and recommendations :

- the importance of secondary resources in the integrated development of Mediterranean woodland and the socio-economic development of the inhabitants ;
- forest dwellers and girls and women should be integrated into the management of the available silvi-pastoral resources ;
- the necessity of a coordinated and harmonious approach involving the different people concerned at a local, regional, national and even international level ;

- the need to integrate forestry development plans within the overall framework of rural development; also, to make the Regional Council aware of the importance of adopting such plans and of effectively integrating development measures of a socio-economic nature, which already figure in the regional development programmes, so that they actually get carried out ;

- setting up by local users and participants of organised structures to validate what is being done and ensure the follow-up of integrated development plans as well as to coordinate inter-regional matters at a national level ;

- the exchange of experience and know-how at a circum-Mediterranean level through institutions and organisations, both governmental and other.

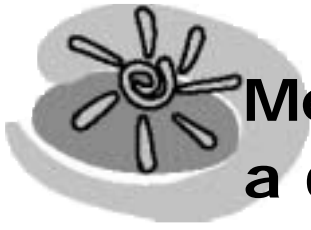
Said HELAL

Assistant Director for
Development, Tunisian
National Forestry
Administration

Participants in the seminar at
Sejenane (Tunisia)

Photo D.A.





Mediterranean Habitats : a course at the E.N.G.R.E.F.¹ in France

Context

Background

It was many years ago that the France's *Ecole nationale des eaux et forêts*, in the first instance, and subsequently the E.N.G.R.E.F.¹ began training forestry professionals capable of understanding the Mediterranean environment : the south of France is, of course, Mediterranean, but the French were then a major force in the North African countries of the Maghreb —Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria— and in other countries too : Lebanon, Syria, the Balkan states, Iran, Turkey...

Today

Exchange between France and these countries remains vigorous still, and, in addition, through the the European Community, extends nowadays to Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece.

At the present time, the curricula of the forestry programmes taught at the E.N.G.R.E.F include two on-site work training periods, partly in the Mediterranean zone. Each year, student forestry engineers carry out 8 in-depth studies of technical projects and site management

(afforestation projects) in the Mediterranean area or related zones, working with public and/or private forestry services. Each year, on average, three students in the E.N.G.R.E.F (in various specialities) gain their end-of-studies work placement experience in a Mediterranean context. Doctoral students from Iran, Syria, Morocco... come to Nancy or benefit from the help of the teaching staff at the School.

An increased demand for specific training has, in fact, resulted from the growing importance of the protection and the profitable use of Mediterranean woodland along with its integration into regional development schemes.

The E.N.G.R.E.F strives to meet the demand for a range of training programmes by a combination of its own resources with those of its wide network of relations.

Here are a few examples of its recent activity :

- inclusion in the Forestry Engineers programme of students from Italy, Spain Morocco ;
- inclusion of Tunisian students in the Rural Engineering for Water and Forests (GREF) course ;
- inclusion in the Master's course of Lebanese students ;
- cooperation with the National Agronomic Institute in Tunis ;
- students from the School have been sent to Spain, the Lebanon, Iran, Tunisia and Portugal ;
- "afforestation" project involving students from the GREF and the Master's in Forestry Sciences programmes in Morocco, Tunisia and the Lebanon ;
- contact with forestry professionals from Morocco, Algeria,

Albania and Greece ;

- on behalf of the FAO, the organisation and supervision of training sessions on special topics for Mediterranean forestry engineers ;

- setting up of research programmes in collaboration with the forestry services in Tunisia, Spain and Algeria.

Discovering needs

Former students now in positions in the Mediterranean area have found a need for specialised training in adapting to their jobs. Both themselves and their employers (public and private owners of woodlands) express a need for further ongoing training.

The FAO, responsible for several projects in various Mediterranean countries, is appreciative of the possibility of training in the Mediterranean area using French and is ready to participate in such training programmes.

Forestry organisations in the Mediterranean (regional woodland owners' associations, National Forestry Commissions, elected officials, non-profit-making bodies...) consider that it is both justified and useful that the E.N.G.R.E.F take responsibility for made-to-measure training related specifically to the Mediterranean context. The existence at Montpellier in the south of France, close to the Mediterranean, of a centre specialising in tropical rural life and forestry, subjects which are related synergetically, as it were, with Mediterranean concerns,

1 - Ecole nationale du génie rural, des eaux et forêts - French National School of Rural Engineering, Water and the Forest - is France's foremost institution for training forestry engineers : 14 rue Girardet, 54000 Nancy, France.

argues for closer collaboration between the two centres of Montpellier and Nancy.

How best to meet the demand ?

Until now, the E.N.G.R.E.F has met each request for help with ad hoc proposals. But treating each case separately is, in fact, a wasteful method demanding a lot of time and energy. Clearly it is preferable and more efficient to set up training programmes based on a concept of further or continuing education.

- *First session* : Spring 2000.

- *Place* : E.N.G.R.E.F campus in Montpellier (in the future, arrangements can be made for decentralising all or part of the training).

- *Duration* : 7 weeks, of which 3 will be for theoretical training based on modules, with three modules of one week each (participants can enroll in one or several modules e.g. ecology, silviculture, plant protection etc...) and 4 weeks of placement experience in a Mediterranean organisation. This last period would enable forestry engineers involved in FAO projects to take advantage of training budgeted for in their project and addressing specific subjects in accordance with the needs of the forestry service in the country involved.

- *Teachers* : recruited among people active around the Mediterranean Rim (managers, high-ranking civil servants, university staff, elected representatives, research workers...)

Who will benefit ?

This training programme is aimed at students at the end of their course at the INAT (Tunisian National Institute of Agronomy) but foreign students

can also enroll. It will meet a need for further education as well as for retraining.

Putting the programme together

To ensure that the expectations of the public and private sectors are met, interested Mediterranean forestry organisations are invited to join a steering committee responsible for setting up the programme. Those interested should contact the E.N.G.R.E.F at Nancy : Michel Buffet, Head of the "Forests" department, Dominique Danguy des Déserts, Acting Director of the Nancy centre or Gérard Falconnet, Teacher and Research Scientist,

Silviculture and Afforestation Group.

The underlying approach is shared by the executive of the International Association for Mediterranean Forests and the Association, within the framework of its preparations for the First Mediterranean Conference on Forests and Natural Land Environments, has already set up a working party to reflect on the training programme.

It is vital that the programme satisfy all concerned. Please don't hesitate to send your suggestions either directly to the E.N.G.R.E.F at Nancy or to the International Association for Mediterranean Forests. Thanks in advance.

Gérard FALCONNET
Teacher and Research
Scientist,

E.N.G.R.E.F Nancy France

The six topics adopted for the Interreg IIC programme "The Problem of Mediterranean Forests" and the group leaders :

At last the programme "The Problem of Mediterranean Forests" has been officially adopted and we can now get down to work. Our next Bulletin will give all the details about how to take part. So join in, as many of you as possible.

Ecological features specific to the Mediterranean Rim

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Risks and their prevention

Eva Barreno (Espagne) Eva.Barreno@uv.es
Tel 00-34-96-38-64-376 Fax 00-34-96-38-64-372

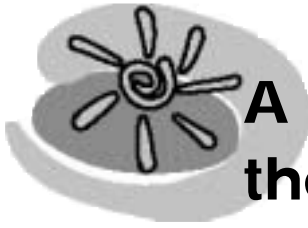
Societies, territories, institutions

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Tel 00-261-96-200 Fax 00-261-96-291

Training, research, raising public awareness

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International and interregional cooperation AIFM Head Office



A technical guide for countries of the Mediterranean Rim : Protecting Forests against Wildfire (*Protection des forêts contre l'incendie*)

This guide has several aims :

- to provide an overview of what we know about wildfire around the Mediterranean
- to be first and foremost a practical, technical work for use as a tool
- to eventually function as a means for exchange across the Mediterranean, as people in different countries find in it examples of what has been done elsewhere.

This technical manual will provide backup know-how in the management of problems arising from wildfire. It will supply part of the technical and practical information on the subject that needs to be assembled and distributed throughout the whole Mediterranean area.

By virtue of its exhaustive treatment and international frame of reference, it can serve as a basis for information and training for all those concerned with forest fires.

The document forms part of a United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation regional project entitled "International cooperation relating to information on forest wildfire and its prevention in the Mediterranean area".

Among the countries of the Mediterranean Rim, five have been designated by the FAO as priorities : Cyprus, the Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia.

Responsibility for producing the Guide was given by the FAO to the PFCI (Protection of Forest against Wildfire) team of the Cemagref, a French organisation based in Aix-en-Provence specialising in agricultural and environmental engineering. This body can justifiably claim experience in this field because in 1989 it published a *Guide technique du forestier méditerranéen français*. Its chapter on wildfire was widely distributed in France and demand for it was strong in other Mediterranean countries. But it was not written with other coun-

tries in mind, so that the present international Guide fills a real gap.

It was cofinanced by the FAO, the French Ministry of the Environment and the Cemagref.

Putting the information together involved a massive bibliographical effort using several bibliographical bases. In all, some 300 assorted articles and documents were consulted and have been referenced in a new bibliographical database created specifically for this guide. Contact was made with relevant people in positions of responsibility in each country. Working visits were made to each of the priority countries, with the exception of the Lebanon, and a second visit was made to Turkey. The information obtained from each study tour was written up as a synthesised research report.

The manual is organised around eight main themes covering protection, firefighting and the rejuvenation of burnt-out areas.

The international perspective that the project offers is especially interesting because, as a source of much knowledge and know-how, it will be exceptionally useful in those countries where forest wildfire represents a critical threat.

Pierre-Yves COLIN

Cemagref Aix-en-Provence (France)

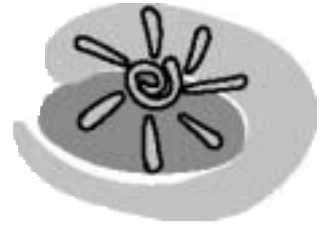


Village in the forest in Syria

Photo Cemagref Fomedi /
Luc Talassinou

National programme for urban parks (PNPU)

A new way of protecting forests in Tunisia



Introduction and aims of the PNPU

As a result of human action, forest cover in Tunisia has been reduced by some 90% over the last 2,000 years. Estimates of the vast areas of woodland that supplied the Carthaginian and Roman empires with wood for shipbuilding, for light weapons and for decoration and everyday use, give about 3 millions hectares. This expanse was reduced under French colonisation to about 1.5 million hectares and by the time of independence in 1956 was about 365,000 hectares.

Since independence, one of the Government's priorities has been a policy of vigorous replanting. The aim has been to turn the situation around, as regards forests and livestock grazing, through large-scale programmes. In 40 years, the area under forest has more than doubled, increasing from 365,000 hectares in 1956 to 830,000 in 1995. Plant cover was only 2.3% in 1955 but has risen from 4.8% in 1986 to 9.6% in 1995, 10.6% in 1998, reaching 11% in 1999.

In order to avoid imbalance between the different regions and to maintain a steady rate of growth, the government's environmental policy is centred on the improvement of living conditions, regional development and the protection of natural resources.

It is with this perspective as a guideline that the "Green Hand"

programme (*La Main Verte*) has constituted one of the bases of Ministry of the Environment and Regional Development policy, ever since the Ministry was set up in 1991. Its main concern is protection of the country's natural heritage by setting up programmes and carrying out comprehensive projects at a national level related to afforestation and

creation of parkland as well as the reasoned management of natural resources.

By increasing the ratio of green areas to inhabitants, this national PNPU development is a multiple pilot technique to enhance both attractiveness and management of land and space and to protect them so as to improve people's leisure and their conditions of life.

PNPU - National programme for urban parks

Introduction

Due to a rise in population and the often anarchic and accelerating growth of urban areas at the expense of forest and agricultural land, Tunisia found itself short of recreational land with a low ratio of green areas to population (8.1 m²/inhabitant in 1999, whereas the usual norm aimed for is 16 m²/inhabitant).

In order to preserve natural areas and to provide citizens with areas for leisure, recreation, education and culture, as well as providing an opportunity to encounter nature as it is, a national programme for the creation of 100 parks was drawn up and launched in 1996.

The objectives of the plan are esthetic, social and cultural. Creating and encouraging parks in built-up areas facilitates achieving the nobler purposes of forests and green areas, that is to say providing recreative and educational opportunities for citizens.

In this context, the PNPU favours public education and awareness about nature and offers an initiation to science through a scientific approach to questions of environmental protection and safeguarding woodlands and helps put a stop to piecemeal construction as well as the depositing of waste inside green areas.

Aims of the PNPU

The project aims to :

- offer strict protection for urban and peripheral woodland against all manner of damage ;
- prohibit any urban encroachment or the depositing of waste in such areas ;
- improve the overall appearance of these areas ;
- increase the acreage of such areas in order to improve the ratio of green areas to inhabitants in an urban environment and enhance the quality of life there ;
- make a contribution to improving the ratio of green space to

inhabitants in the country as a whole, the level desired at the start of the third millenium being 10 m2/inhabitant.

Programme schedule

The PNPU involves two stages :

Stage 1 : Erection of an entrance and start of the fencing.

This entrance should be noticeable enough to convey a message about the park and the region. Its dominant features should include architectural, cultural, traditional, historic and social aspects of the region and the park.

It will be classified as a civic building at departmental level, according to the Ministry of Housing and Public Works scale.

Stage 2 : Interior arrangement of the park.

This stage begins with a study for the internal design of the park. Such a study should define all the features that will be included in the park, taking into account the available areas and their relative locations. The main elements for inclusion are a reception centre, an ecomuseum, children's play area, picnic areas, fitness paths, plant nursery....

This second stage of the PNPU is oriented towards ecological, esthetic, social and economic

objectives. Creating and encouraging parks facilitates achieving the nobler purposes of forests and green areas, that is to say providing recreative and leisure opportunities for citizens. It hopes to favour public education and awareness about nature and offers an initiation to science through a scientific approach to questions of environmental protection and safeguarding woodlands. It aims also to help put a stop to piecemeal unregulated building. Furthermore, increased use of parks as hoped for in the PNPU, provides increased opportunity to get to know the forest environment and thus give it the attention it deserves.

Timetable and work to be done

The Ministry of the Environment and Regional Development, on the basis of the PNPU, decided in 1996 on the creation of 100 parks to be set up across the country. 50 were to be included in each of the 9th and 10th five-year plans. The schedule for creating the parks took into account two main factors :

- the number of available woodland areas in each Region capable of being transformed into an urban park;
 - the urban and peripheral urban population in each Region.
- In drawing up and scheduling

the plan, the Ministry of the Environment and Regional Development took as a starting point the census returns of 1994 which gave the population in urban and peripheral urban areas as 5.5 million (NIS). On this basis, and for 100 parks, there will be one park for every 55,000 inhabitants.

The PNPU - national programme for urban parks - started effective life in 1996 and, as of today, there exist the following : completely finished are the Nahli Park in the Ariana Region and the Mourouj Park in the Ben Arous Region; nearly completed parks include The Temple of the Waters Park at Zaghouan, Falaise Park at Monastir and Hachid Park at Radès. Work is under way in five other parks while studies have been completed for 14 other parks and 10 more are in the drafting stage.

Nahli Park was visited by the members of the AIFM Administrative Council at the time of the Council meeting at Bizerte in March 1999.

H'maied Kouki

Formerly with the
Ministry of the Environment
and Regional Development,
Tunisia



Animal compound in Nahli Park, Ariana Region (Tunisia)
Photo D.A.

GOOD NEWS!



La Valette (Malta) 27-30 October 1999

The signatories of the PAM - Plan of Action for the Mediterranean -, part of the United Nations Environment Programme, have co-opted the International Association for Mediterranean Forests as a member of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development.

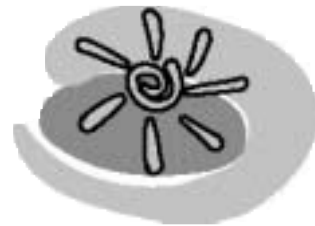
Our Association is proud to have been selected and sincerely thanks the governments involved in this decision.

The Association will take part in the following work groups :

- free trade and the environment
- industry and sustainable development
- managing urban development.

It may also suggest other topics in which it will then become involved.

Announcements



✍ 12 – 13 May 2000 - Draix-Barcelonnette (04) - France

Franco-Italian field trip on erosion

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14 rue Louis Astouin 13002 Marseille France
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✍ 13 – 14 June 2000 - Alger - Algeria
International seminar on " The strategy for sustainable development of biodiversity in Algeria "

Adress : Programme des Nations Unis pour le Développement M. Kouider Mediouni
Tel. + (216) 2 69 23 55 Fax. + (216) 2 69 12 12

✍ 15 – 26 May 2000 - Nairobi - Kenya
Conference of parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Adress : CBD Secrétariat Montréal - Québec Canada
Tel. + 1 514 288 22 20 Fax. + 1 514 288 65 88
e-mail : chm@biodiv.org Site Web : www.biodiv.org

✍ 12 – 15 September 2000 - Dijon (21) - France
International Symposium : Forest and Vine, Wood and Wine, 16th – 20th centuries

Adress : Groupe d'histoire de forêts françaises
45 rue d'Ulm 75005 Paris Tel. +33 (0)1 44 32 32 86
Fax. +33 (0)1 44 32 30 44
e-mail : vautelin @canoe.ens.fr

✍ 2 – 7 June 2000 - Expo 2000 Hanover - Germany

Congress of Prosilva Europe : Intensive regimes through time and space

Adress : Uwe Cebulla - Niedersächsisches Forstamt
Oerrel Forstweg 5 - D-29633 Munster-Oerrel
Tel. +49 (0)5192-9804-23 Fax. +49(0)5192-9804-55
e-mail : uwe.cebulla@infa-oerrel.Niedersachsen.de

✍ 25- 27 October 2000 - Hyères-les-Palmiers (83) - France

Euro-Mediterranean meeting on forest fires – RFF 2000

Adress : Entente interdépartementale - Domaine de Valabre 13120 Gardanne Tel. +33 (0)4 42 94 95 00
Fax. +33 (0)4 42 94 95 29
e-mail : entente@rff2000.com Site web : rff2000.com



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