

SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Women in science and innovation working towards sustainable natural resources management and governance in the Mediterranean region

Tunis (Tunisia), 14th June 2012

Background and Objectives

Women bring diversity. They bring difference in how to work with others, how to understand issues, how to make priorities, and what values to bring into decision-making. These differences strengthen the diversity of social and ecological systems. These differences create innovations in natural resources management and rural development.

This Scientific Seminar comes at an important moment in terms of the role of women. Changes in political systems lead to changes in social priorities and research needs as well as demands on natural resource systems. In the Mediterranean region, a revolution is underway in the roles of women in politics, science and management. In each of these arenas, women are making a difference. The scientific literature on the implications of increased participation of women documents several key contributions. Women provide new forms of leadership drawing strongly on creating and utilizing the collaborative capacity of others. Women bring new kinds of knowledge to bear on critical social, political and ecological questions. Women tend to develop research that is more holistic and embedded in place. Women are creating new opportunities for rural development benefiting women who have been neglected.

The purpose of this first scientific conference on Women Making a Difference held in the Mediterranean region is to explore:

- I. How women lead research in a different way; using different approaches, or methods, or if they are interested in different questions or problems, or do they bring different frames of interpretation and analysis to their research?
- II. How innovation processes in a context of natural resources management and rural development are differently organized by women, including decentralization, participation, employment and income generation.

This conference is an opportunity to make these connections so as to enhance innovation in science, policy, management and rural development in the Mediterranean region.

Participants

The scientific seminar is addressed at researchers, decision-makers, technicians, consultants and practitioners working in the following fields:

- natural resources management and governance,
- rural development and
- business and innovation related to natural resources.

The seminar will be held in English and simultaneous French translation will be provided.

Seminar programme

The latest version of the seminar programme is available at:

www.efimed.efi.int/portal/events/efimed_week_2012/sciseminar/programme/

Grant

The regional programme Silva Mediterranea – CPMF of the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ) will grant up to 25 female participants from: Tunisia, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Algeria and Morocco (5 per country). The grant will cover travel, accommodation, registration fee and meals.

Applications

Applicants should send the application form and their CV to: efimed@efi.int (the application e-mail subject should be: “Application to GIZ Grant”)

Deadline for applications: *28 February 2012*

The applications will be jointly evaluated by EFIMED and the GIZ regional programme Silva Mediterranea – CPMF. The successful candidates will be contacted by the end of *March 2012*.

Further information

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