



MedForum 2013
Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

The Mediterranean Model Forest Network (MMFN) was officially launched in 2008, as a subset of the International Model Forest Network (IMFN). It includes 13 regions and countries from all sides of the Mediterranean rim, which have joined and are in the process of developing Model Forests. Current Model Forest members are: Urbion (Castile and Leon, Spain); Yalova (Turkey); Ifrane (Morocco) and Montagne Fiorentina (Tuscany, Italy).

The MedForum is an annual gathering of the MMFN. In addition to the General Assembly, the program generally includes learning and networking activities such as workshops and field trips. Previous editions of the MedForum were held in: Valladolid, Spain (2009); Ifrane, Morocco (2010); Ramatuelle, France (2011); Yalova, Turkey (2012).

This year, the Tuscany Region, the Union of Municipalities "Valdarno and Valdisieve", the Montagne Fiorentina Model Forest Association and the MMFN Secretariat are pleased to invite you to participate in the MedForum that will take place in Florence, Tuscany (Italy) on November 13-14-15, 2013.

Model Forest delegates as well as MMFN country/region representatives are cordially invited to attend. As usual, the meeting is also open to observers including from our partner organizations involved in the Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests (CPMF) and the new IPA ADRIATIC "Adriatic Model Forest" Project.

2. Content of the MedForum 2012

The MedForum 2013 will consist of 3 half-day sessions and a field trip. Discussion will be facilitated during the plenary.

The proposed title is

The proposed sessions are:

- Technical sessions: Traceability/WebGIS/Ecotourism/Structural use of timber/Carbon Credit Market.
- MMFN Assembly (Board of directors of the MMFN).
- Field trip "Montagne Fiorentina Model Forest Landscape and partnership" (program elaborated by FMMF Association)

Overview of Sessions:

- Technical Session 1:
- Technical Session 2:
- Technical Session 3:
- Technical Session 4:

- **MMFN Assembly:** The MMFN Assembly will analyze the evolution of the Network since its creation, from a single site in 2008 to at least 5/6 Model Forests having been established around the basin by the end of 2013. Taking into consideration the present period of transition in Europe, a revised Action Plan for the MMFN (2014-2015) will be proposed including an overview of potential upcoming projects.
- **Field Trip:** The visit to the Montagne Fiorentine Model Forest landscape and partnership will offer a perspective on local Model Forest activities.

3. Location and dates

The event will take place in Florence (Tuscany) on 13-14-15 November 2013, and will include a day trip to the Montagne Fiorentine Model Forest (Valdarno and Valdisieve landscape).

4. Objectives

The goals of the event are:

1. To consolidate the MMFN, partners and participant countries/regions as a way of supporting the improvement of sustainable forest management in the Mediterranean;
2. To strengthen networking capacities of Network members in the local Model Forest development process;
3. To stimulate reflection and discussion on the way forward in research, programs, and for policies to support effective governance and management in the Mediterranean basin;
4. To draw together representatives of like-minded and like-mandated organizations and initiatives, to catalyze opportunities for networking and collaboration in the Mediterranean basin.

The specific objectives of the event include the following:

- a. To agree on a biannual Action Plan for the Network;
- b. To consolidate the MMFN project database in order to capture funding opportunities during the new period of the structural funds program 2014-2020;
- c. To explore new funding options for the Network and its Secretariat in a transition period.

5. Responsibilities

The Organizers of this event are:

- Tuscany Region
- Montagne Fiorentine Model Forest Association
- Union of Municipalities Valdarno and Valdisieve
- MMFN Secretariat, Cesefor Foundation

The Co-organizer of this event is:

- IMFN Secretariat

Event organizers are keen to engage like-minded and like-mandated organizations, initiatives, and programs engaged in Mediterranean forests, in order to ensure a maximum opportunity to generate knowledge exchange, new perspectives and new partnerships.

6. Invited Participants

- Member countries/regions and Model Forests of the MMFN and their local partners;
- Partner organizations collaborating with the MMFN;
- Countries/regions of the Mediterranean basin considering to join the MMFN;
- Other interested members of the IMFN.



7. Deliverables

1. A biennial MMFN Action Plan 2014-2015;
2. Specific work plans for thematic workshops;
3. Proceedings of the meeting, including summaries of presentations.

8. Methodology

An organizing committee co-chaired by the Organizers and comprised of representatives of the Co-organizer will oversee the general layout of the MedForum 2013.

9. Important dates

- 15th July 2013: Official announcement of the event.
- 15st September 2013: Final version of the program.
- 30-31 October 2013: Warm-up session.

10. Documentation and Registration

The MedForum 2013 webpage is www.mmfn.info . Practical and logistical information about the event, as well as online participation means, will also be available on the web page.

11. Resources

The Organizers and Co-organizer are expected to contribute funds to offset core costs and to increase strength and coverage of the event to the largest possible audience. Network participants are expected to support their own participation costs and make their best effort to provide their confirmation and prepare the meeting well in advance, so as to ensure a fully productive meeting.

12. Program of activities

In progress.

13. Languages

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided on site in English, French and Italian. Official documents and registration material will be available in English and French.

14. Contacts

For general enquiries, please write to: mmfn@mmfn.info

For specific questions for the organizers, please contact:

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