



Call for participants to the AGORA international scientific workshop on

Adapting Mediterranean forests to climate change: Genetics / Economics / Management

Venue and dates

Hammamet, Tunisia

30th September to 3rd of October 2010

Background - AGORA Project: Advancing Forest Research Capacities

The AGORA project is funded by the European Commission, FP7 Capacities and will last from 2010 to 2012.

The aim of AGORA is to improve existing and to create new forest Research, Technology and Development (RTD) capacities in key forest scientific areas in Morocco and Tunisia. These scientific capacities will support policymaking and forest management in the face of rapidly changing climatic and land-use conditions in the Mediterranean area. The improvement of the capacities will be achieved through grants, workshops, new equipment and the development of a new research strategy for North Africa.

It covers three key thematic areas:

- (G) Response to drought and genetic diversity and their role regarding adaptation to environmental changes
- (E) Economic tools and policies for sustainable forest goods and services
- (M) Participatory and adaptive forest management decision models

As part of the activities of the project, a scientific workshop will be organised addressing independently three thematic areas. In order to promote the excellence of the event and to incorporate the experience from other countries, this workshop also open to participants from other Moroccan or Tunisian institutions and other Mediterranean countries.

Further information: www.efimed.efi.int/portal/agora and [brochure](#)

Objectives

The aim of the workshop is to transfer to the young generation of Mediterranean scientists the latest knowledge, methods and tools regarding the following three topics:

- (G) The adaptive diversity of Mediterranean forest genetic resources facing climate change
- (E) Economic evaluation of forest goods and services
- (M) Forest inventory and modeling

Structure

The workshop is structured in:

- two plenary half-day sessions on the 29th September and 1st October to provide an integrated vision on emerging challenges and scientific needs of Mediterranean forestry;
- parallel lectures, dealing with the specific topic selected (above mentioned); and
- a field trip, common for all the participants, encouraging integrated discussions.

Admission

The course is designed for a maximum of 30-35 participants, which should be PhD students from a Mediterranean education or research institution involved in the subject matter of the course (students from Forestry, Agronomy, Environmental Sciences, or other related subjects are welcome).

Every applicant should choose the topic of the parallel lectures according to the work s/he is developing.

A good knowledge of English language is required to follow the course.

Scholarships

AGORA project will cover the travel and accommodation expenses of the selected participants from any Mediterranean country.

Students interested to apply should fill in the **application form** enclosed. The application form must be submitted to EFIMED Secretariat (efimed@efi.int) **by 31st May 2010** at the latest.

The applications will be evaluated and the candidates might be contacted for further interviews by phone or Skype.

We especially encourage students from North-Africa and the Middle East to apply.

[Application form](#)

More information:

Ms. Elena Gorriz (e - mail: elena.gorriz@efi.int)

Calendar of the workshop:

Time	Wd 29 th	Thursday 30 th	Friday 1 st			Saturday 2 nd			Su 3 rd
9:00-10:50	Arrivals	Introductory session P.1. / P.2. / P.3. / P.4.	G.2.	E.3.	M.2.	G.5.	E.7.	M.5.	Field trip
		Coffee Break							
11:10-13:00		P.5.	G.3.	E.4.	M.3.	G.6.	E.7.	M.6.	P.8.
		Lunch break							
15:00-18:00		G.1.	E.1. E.2.	M.1.	G.4.	E.5. E.6.	M.4.	Final session P.6. / P.7	Departures

(P.x) Plenary: for all the participants

(G.x.) Only for those participants who have selected the GENETICS thematic area

(E.x.) Only for those participants who have selected the ECONOMICS thematic area

(M.x.) Only for those participants who have selected the MANAGEMENT thematic area

(P) – PLENARY SESSIONS – Addressing common aspects

Teachers: Marc PALAHÍ (EFIMED), Carlos GRACIA (CREAF-UB), Elena GORRIZ (EFIMED-CTFC), Margaret SHANNON (EFI), Yves BIROT (EFIMED), Davide PETTENELLA (Univ. Padova)

	Morning	Afternoon
30 Sept	<p>Introductory session</p> <p>P.1. AGORA project (M. Palahí)</p> <p>P.2. Impacts of Climate change in Mediterranean forests (C. Gracia)</p> <p>P.3. Policy and economic aspects for the sustainable provision of forest goods and services (E. Gorriz)</p> <p>P.4. New approaches, tools and models for optimising forest management (M. Palahí)</p> <p>P.5. Introduction to research design and methodology (M. Shannon)</p>	<p>Parallel session</p>
1 Oct	Parallel session	Parallel session
2 Oct	Parallel session	<p>Final session</p> <p>P.6. Changes in the research environment (Y. Birot)</p> <p>P.7. How to publish a scientific paper? (D. Pettenella)</p>
3 Oct	Field visit	

P.8. Results from the stakeholders workshop

(G) – GENETICS & ECOPHYSIOLOGY - The adaptive diversity of Mediterranean forest genetic resources facing climate change

Teachers: Oliver BRENDEL (INRA, Nancy), Bruno FADY (INRA Avignon), Roland HUC (INRA Avignon), Abdelhamid KHALDI (INRGREF), François LEFEVRE (INRA Avignon)

	Morning	Afternoon
30 Sept	Introductive session	<p>G.1. The ecophysiological response to drought in trees and its variability (O. Brendel)</p> <p>G.2. Importance of the genetic diversity in the response to climate change (F. Lefevre)</p>
1 Oct	<p>G.3. The genetic diversity of pines and oaks around the Mediterranean (B. Fady)</p> <p>G.4. The genetic diversity of drought related traits in Mediterranean trees, an overview (R. Huc)</p>	G.5. Students' presentations (Chair A. Khaldi)
2 Oct	<p>G.6. Susceptibility to cavitation and proxys (R. Huc)</p> <p>G.7. Experimental assessment of the genetic diversity of adaptive traits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodology (F. Lefevre) - Exp. network in France (B. Fady) - Exp. network in Tunisia (A. Khaldi) 	Final session
3 Oct	Field visit	

(E) – FORESTS POLICY AND ECONOMICS – Economic evaluation of forest goods and services

Teachers: Davide PETTENELLA (Univ. Padova), Robert MAVSAR (EFIMED), Hamed DALY (INRGREF), Laura SECCO (Univ. Padova)

	Morning	Afternoon
30 Sept	Introductive session	<p>E.1. CBA applied to forest investments (D. Pettenella)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - financial vs. economic analysis - discounting; r selection - indicators (NPV, IRR, R/C) - risk and uncertainty <p>E.2. TEV: the concept and its application to Mediterranean forest</p>

		ecosystems (H. Daly)
1 Oct	E.3. Non-market benefits evaluation: - Indirect methods (TCM, HPM) (R. Mavsar) E.4. Methodological unit: How to organize a research proposal on social science issues? (L. Secco)	E.5. Non-market benefits evaluation: - Direct methods (CVM, Choice Models) - Benefit transfer (R. Mavsar) E.6. Methodological unit: How to a present a scientific paper on social science issues? (L. Secco)
2 Oct	E.7. Students' presentations	Final session
3 Oct	Field visit	

(M) – MANAGEMENT - Forest inventory and modeling

Teachers: Jose BORGES (ISA), Margarida TOMÉ (ISA), AGORA secondments

	Morning	Afternoon
30 Sept	Introductory session	M.1. Introductory presentation (M. Tomé or J.Borges) Data acquisition methods (ISA) Data acquisition processes (AGORA secondments) Discussion
1 Oct	M.2. Natural resources modelling (ISA) M.3. Natural resources modeling (AGORA secondments) Discussion	M.4. Modeling in experimental forests (ENFI) Case studies on data acquisition in experimental forests (ENFI / INRGREF secondments) Case studies on modeling in experimental forests (ENFI / INRGREF secondments) Discussion
2 Oct	M.5. Data acquisition methods and natural resources modeling (students presentations) Discussion Next steps, work ahead	Final session
3 Oct	Field visit	



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