

The AGORA project

AGORA aims at advancing scientific knowledge on the sustainable management of forests in Tunisia and Morocco through scientific cooperation, networking and targeted capacity building using the existing multidisciplinary resources available in different European forest research institutions of the Mediterranean region.



Strategic areas

1. **GENETICS AND ECOPHYSIOLOGY:** Understanding the role of genetic diversity in the adaptive response of forest tree species.
2. **ECONOMICS AND POLICY:** Valuing forest goods and services, designing financing mechanisms and income generation strategies to ensure their sustainable provision.
3. **FOREST MANAGEMENT:** Developing participatory tools for optimizing and adapting forest management in a context of multiple-use-landscapes and changes in land-use and climate.



Organised by:



EUROPEAN FOREST INSTITUTE
MEDITERRANEAN REGIONAL OFFICE – EFIMED

Co-organised by:



Partners

EFIMED - European Forest Institute, Mediterranean Regional Office (International) - coordinator

ENFI - Ecole Nationale Forestière d'Ingénieurs (Morocco)

INRA Avignon - Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (France)

INRGREF - Institut National de Recherche en Génie Rural, Eaux et Forêts (Tunisia)

ISA - Instituto Superior de Agronomia (Portugal)

KTU - Karadeniz Technical University (Turkey)

UNIPD - University of Padova (Italy)

Website

www.efimed.efi.int/portal/events/efimed_week_2012/agora_final_conference/

www.efimed.efi.int/portal/agora/



AGORA project is funded by the European Commission – FP7 Program Capacities.

Duration: 2009-2012



AGORA Project - Final Conference
Within the EFIMED week 2012

Advancing Mediterranean Forest research Capacities

12th of June 2012
Tunis, Tunisia



Scientific cooperation measures

Based on an international scientific twinning action plan between forest research “centres of excellence” in EU and Turkey with two research entities from Tunisia and Morocco, AGORA has achieved:

- Secondments of research staff
- Grants for researchers
- New recruitments at INRGREF and ENFI
- Scientific international workshops
- Research equipment for INRGREF and ENFI



Stakeholder involvement

Establishing a fluent dialogue with stakeholders has been an important activity of AGORA. Decision-makers' needs were identified in a workshop, which joined

Moroccan and Tunisian forest managers. Such needs were shared with the scientists working in the project.



Internationalisation and dissemination

Scientific workshops allowed ENFI and INRGREF participants to interact with other Mediterranean young researchers of their field.

Dissemination and promotional activities enhance locally and internationally the improved research potential at INRGREF and ENFI.



Programme of the Conference

9.00

Welcoming by Tunisian authorities, EU Officer

9.30-9.50

Advancing Mediterranean Forest Research

Capacities: AGORA approach by Marc Palahí, EFIMED

9.50-10.30

Relevance of AGORA key scientific areas

1. **Understanding the role of genetic diversity in the adaptive response of forest tree species** by François Lefevre, INRA Avignon
2. **Valuing forest goods and service and designing financing mechanisms to ensure their sustainable provision** by Davide Pettenella, University of Padova
3. **Developing participatory tools for optimizing and adapting forest management** by Emin Baskent, Black Sea University

Panel discussion: the challenge of interdisciplinary teams

10.30-11.15

New forest research capacities

AGORA impacts at ENFI by Fouad Mounir, ENFI

AGORA impacts at INRGREF by Hamed Daly, INRGREF

11.15-11.45 *Coffee break*

11.45-12.45

Science-policy-practice impacts

Panel Discussion: Director of ENFI, Director of INRGREF, Tunisian Forestry Director, Moroccan Forestry Director.

12.45-13.45 *Lunch*

13.45-15.45

Scientific session by AGORA young scientists

1. **Genetics** (two presentations 15 min. each)
2. **Economics** (two presentations 15 min. each)
3. **Forest management** (two presentations 15 min. each)

Discussion

15.45-16.45

AGORA scientific market place

Posters and demonstration desks showing scientific results of AGORA organized in three WP corners. Coffee available.

16.45-17.30

Sustainability of AGORA and closing of the meeting

