



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY



**VI MFW**  
**Mediterranean**  
**Forest Week**

## **Progress Report**

### **WORKING GROUP 6**

## **DESERTIFICATION AND RESTORATION IN MEDITERRANEAN DRYLANDS**

### **COORDINATION:**

**GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND EROSION,  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY OF TURKEY**

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March 2019

## **Content**

- **Background**
- **Projects and National level Activities**
- **Global Products and Initiatives**
- **Follow up**

**Working Group on “Desertification and Restoration of Mediterranean Drylands” was established in 2012 at the 21st session of the Committee, in Antalya, Turkey with aim of promoting and sharing best practices and lessons learned at the regional and international level through projects, programs and other initiatives on combating desertification, drought and restoration of forest and landscapes in Mediterranean Region.**



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REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND WATER AFFAIRS

Mr. Abdelahim LHAFI

16. 03. 2017

The High Commissioner for Water,  
Forests and the Fight against  
Desertification of the Kingdom of Morocco

Dear Mr. LHAFI,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to your kind invitation to the Fifth Mediterranean Forest Week (5th MFW) to take place in Agadir, Morocco from 20th to 24th March. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that I will not be able to attend the 5th MFW due to my pre-determined programs and tight schedule during the Conference.

However, Mr. İsmail Belen, who acts as the head of Silva Mediterranea, will represent our Ministry during the said Conference.

I avail myself of this opportunity to state my pleasure that our Ministry will support "Regional Mediterranean Initiative on Forest and Land Restoration" by contributing to the studies for 100.000 hectares of land annually from 2017 to 2021 which means totally 500.000 hectares for 5 years.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Prof. Dr.  EROĞLU  
Minister

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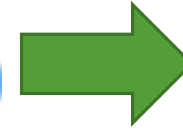
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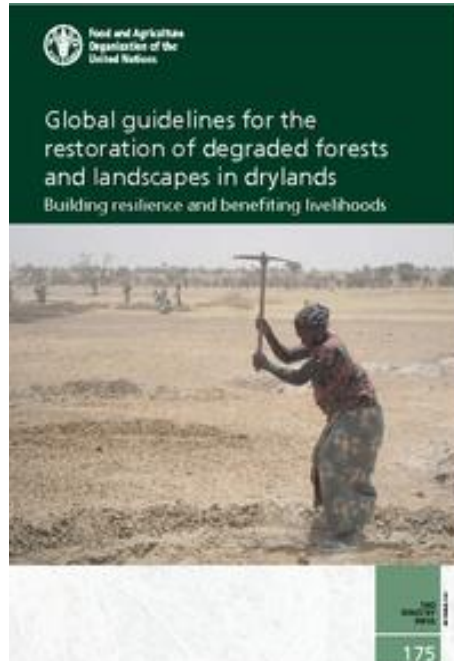
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Decision Support for  
Mainstreaming and Scaling out  
Sustainable Land Management  
(DS-SLM) is being implemented in  
15 countries including **Turkey,**  
**Morocco and Tunisia**

The GEF Project on Sustainable Land  
Management and Climate-Friendly  
Agricultural Practices, 2016-2020



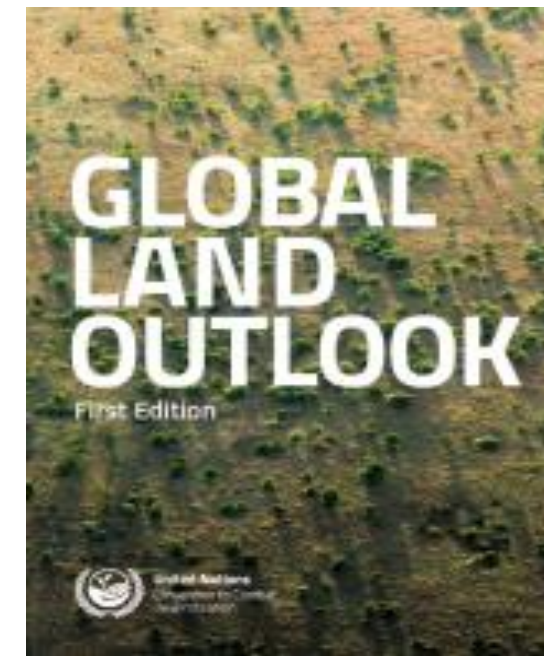
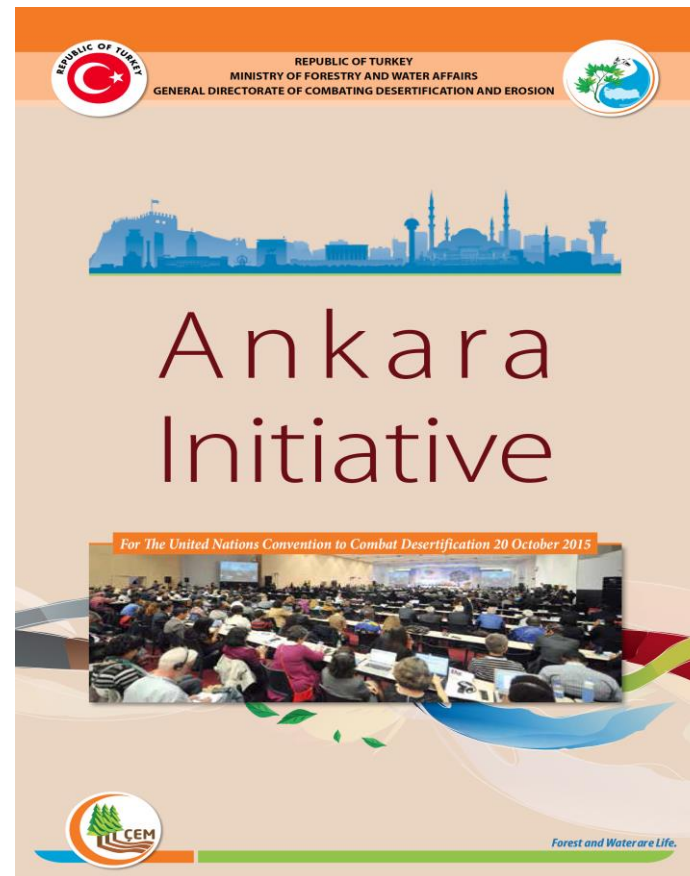
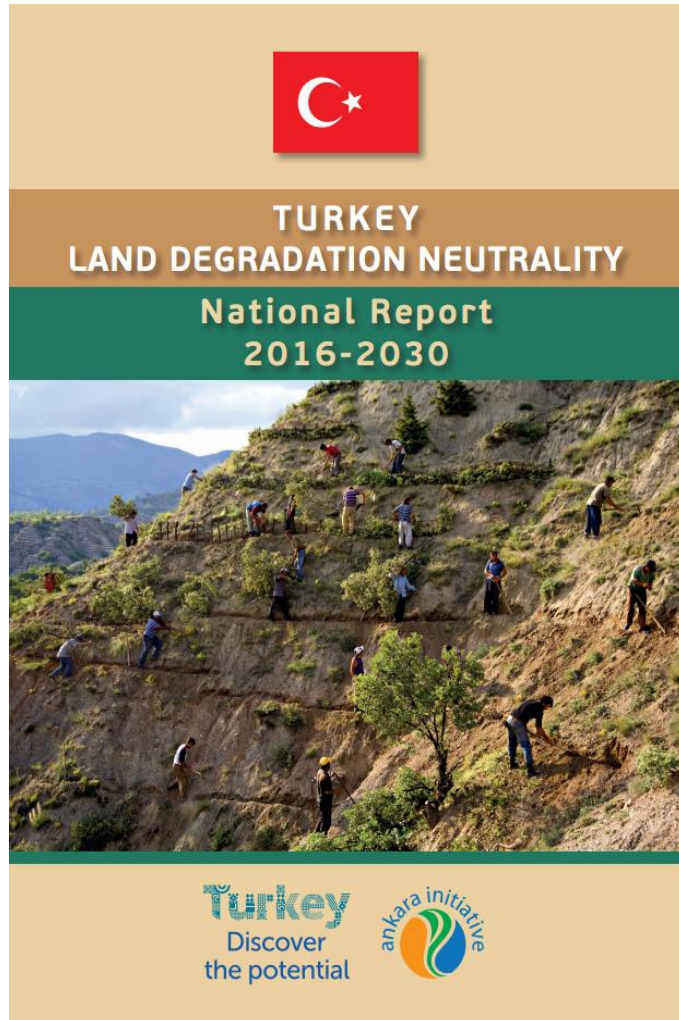




Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM) in the Central Asian countries and Turkey.



**12<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) held in Ankara, in 2015**  
**the UNCCD COP12 endorsed SDG target 15.3 and the concept of land degradation neutrality (LDN) as a strong vehicle for driving the implementation of the Convention**



## UNCCD Northern Mediterranean Regional Coordination Office

- The UNCCD Northern Mediterranean Regional Coordination Unit office was inaugurated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry 1st Regional Directorate in accordance with the agreement signed on 23/09/2015 between the Republic of Turkey and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
- The UNCCD Northern Mediterranean Regional Coordination Office will serve the following countries: Albania, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia and Turkey.





**-More than 15 international trainings/workshops on combating desertification and related topics in last decade.**  
**Approximately 700 experts from 79 countries from Africa, East Europe and Central Asia,**  
**-International Workshops on Sand and Dust Storm (SDS) for Middle East and North Africa was organized in Turkey so as**  
**to produce a feasible draft policy to; solve sand and dust storms (SDS) problems,**





***The World Meets  
in Ankara...***

[www.tanimorman.gov.tr/ccd](http://www.tanimorman.gov.tr/ccd)

[www.wcd2019.gov.tr](http://www.wcd2019.gov.tr)

[www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int)



**To be followed by**

- **International Soil Congress 2019**
- **High level segment with participation of Ministries particularly from Africa**
- **Special sessions for schoolkids, woman, youths and NGOs**
- **International Training on Combating Desertification with intensive field demonstrations.**



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As follow up action;

- A side event is planned to organize during UNCCD COP 14 for WG 6,
- Update WG sub objectives and associated actions in line with new strategy. At the end, announce Regional Action Plan on Combating Desertification/ Drought Management.
- Another International Training on Combating Desertification to be organized in last Quarter of 2019.



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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.