



The Workshop on Forest Financing in Low Forest Cover Countries

12-17 November, 2011
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

کارگاه تجمیع منابع مالی در کشور های با پوشش کم جنگل

۲۷-۲۱ آبان
تهران - جمهوری اسلامی ایران



Information Leaflet

Workshop of

“Forest Financing in LFCCs in Tehran, I.R. of Iran,
12-18 November 2011”

By: Head of TPS for LFCCs
October 2011





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Excursion to Ramsar (Field trip 12-13 Nov. 2011):



Saturday 12 November 2011

Tehran – Homa Hotel

06:00-07:00	Breakfast
07:00	Move for Ramsar (Challus)
12:30	Arriving in Challus
12:30-13:30	Opening ceremony of TPS Northern (second) office
13:30-14:30	Lunch - Klarabad Educational Centre
14:30-15:00	Visit of Klarabad Educational Centre
15:00	Move for Ramsar
16:30	Arriving in Ramsar/ Ramsar Hotel Check in
17:00	Move for Tele Cabin
18:30	Return for Ramsar Hotel
19:00	Arriving in Ramsar Hotel

Sunday 13 November 2011

Ramsar – Ramsar Hotel

06:00-07:00	Breakfast
07:00	Move for forest “ Beneshki Co-operative Forest ”
07:30	Arriving in the forest
07:30-11:00	Visit of forest “ Beneshki Co-operative Forest ”
11:00	Move for Ramsar Hotel
11:30	Arriving in Ramsar/ Ramsar Hotel
11:30-12:30	Lunch - Ramsar Hotel
12:30	Move for Tehran
16:00	Arriving in Tehran – Homa Hotel
16:00-19:00	Registration – Homa Hotel

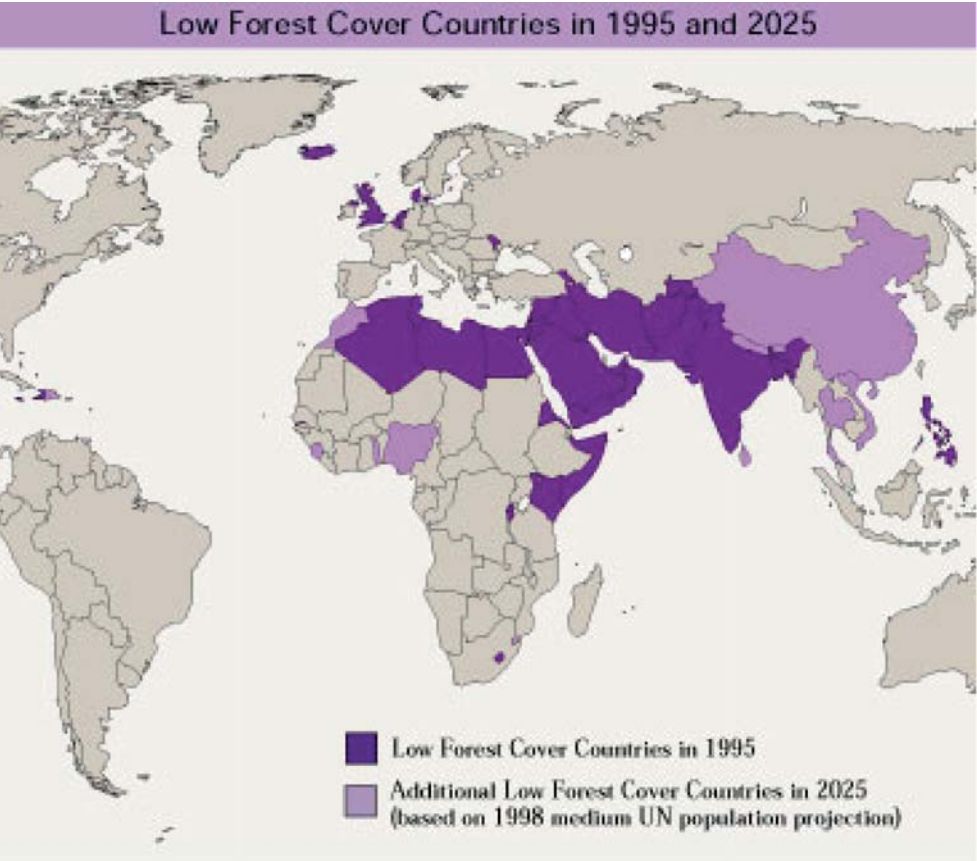
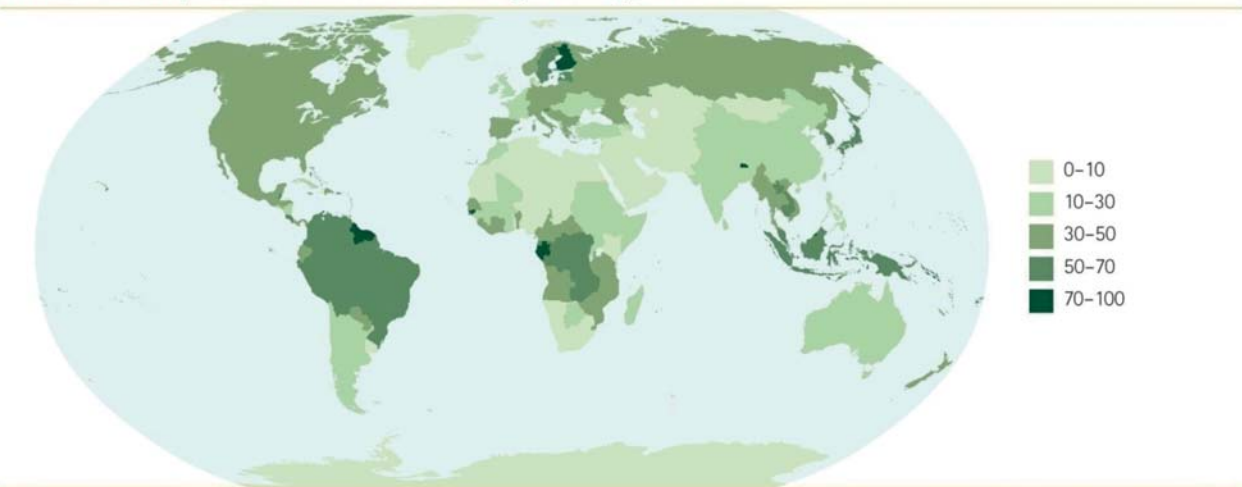
Background to LFCCs:



Since UNSED, the international debate on forest issues has captured the world's attention and has focused international political interest on the state of the world forests. While particular concerns of the well-forested countries have been in the forefront of deliberations in international fora, the concerns of low forest cover countries, the overwhelming majority of which are developing countries, have been inadequately addressed so far. In these countries, the lack of forests and wooded lands is negatively impacting the welfare of rural populations relating to economic, social, cultural, and environmental aspects of rural life.

Yet, in the Near East Region, which is mostly arid with low forest cover, forests are disappearing faster than in most parts of the world. The Tehran Process (1999), which emanated from the initiative of Islamic Republic of Iran, identified the needs of Low Forest Cover Countries (LFCCs) and those with unique types of forests.

Forest area as percent of total land area by country, 2010



The international meeting of experts on Special Needs and Requirements of Developing Countries with Low Forest Cover and Unique Types of Forest, a government-led initiative in support of the programme of work of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), was held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, from 4 to 8 October 1999. The meeting was sponsored by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the support of the governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany and Norway. It was organized with the collaboration of the governments of Egypt and Sudan, and in cooperation with international organizations, including FAO, the UNEP, the UNDP and the IFAD. Attendance of this meeting was made open for whoever was interested to participate. Seventy-seven participants from 39 countries and 6 international and bilateral organizations and NGOs attended the meeting.

12:30			Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	13:00-14:00 Lunch hosted by the Government of the I.R. of Iran
14:00-15:30 pm			Presentation * Introduction to LFCCs by Head of TPS for LFCCs (Dr Jafari) * UNFF Facilitative Process and the SIDS-LFCC Project Followed by discussion session (Q+A)	Presentation Innovative Financing: * UNCBD * UNCCD * FAO (tbc) Followed by discussion session (Q+A)	2 Parallel Working Groups Learning from national experiences: Addressing challenges, opportunities, actions to be taken, expected results. * What are the obstacles to increasing forest financing? * How may they be overcome?	Conclusion of the Workshop 14:00-15:30 Closing Ceremony * H.E. Eng. Orangi Deputy Minister and Head of FRWO closing speech * Submit feedback form
15:30			Afternoon break	Afternoon break	Afternoon break	
16:00-17:30 pm		Registration Homa Hotel 4-7 PM *Passport or other valid IDs required	Panel discussion * Forest financing related activities by national and organizations (FAO/ UNEP/ UNCCD/ TPS for LFCCs + Yemen.) Followed by discussion session (Q+A) 17:15: Brief co-chair summary of day 1	Presentation Non-public finding and civil society perspectives: * UNFF Major Groups * Iran's NGO * Iran's Research and Academia 17:15: Brief co-chair summary of day 2	2 Parallel Working Groups Learning from national experiences: Addressing challenges, opportunities, actions to be taken, expected results. * What new opportunities exist in increasing financing? * How may they be harnessed? Plenary (5:00-5:30 PM) Summary of WG1 discussion Summary WG2 discussionmn	Visit to Milad Tower
Evening			19:30- 21:30 Reception hosted by the Government of I.R. of Iran			

The meeting was the first of its kind to address issues specifically concerning developing countries with low forest cover (LFCCs) and unique types of forest, including the special needs and requirements of more than 400 millions of people that live in and around them.

Agenda of the workshop:

Provisional Organization of Work for the Tehran Workshop on Forest Financing
(12-18 November 2011) – Quick View

Saturday 12 November	Sunday 13 November	Monday 14 November	Tuesday 15 November	Wednesday 16 November	Thursday 17 November
Field trip Day 1	Field trip Day 2	Plenary	Plenary	Working groups	Plenary
Hotel Homa - Tehran/ Visit to Ramsar Forest	Ramsar Hotel/ Return to Homa Hotel/ Registration	Opening Ceremony/ Presentation/ Panel discussion/ Reception	Presentation	Parallel Working Groups	Expert panel/ General discussion/ Conclusion of the workshop/ Visit Milad Tower

Provisional Organization of Work for the Tehran Workshop on Forest Financing
(12-18 November 2011) - Detailed

Day ►	Saturday 12 November	Sunday 13 November	Monday 14 November	Tuesday 15 November	Wednesday 16 November	Thursday 17 November
Time ▼	Field trip	Field trip	Plenary	Plenary	Working groups	Plenary
9:00- 10:30 am	Depart from Homa Hotel (workshop venue) to Ramsar 7 AM	Ramsar visit	8:00-9:00 Registration Opening Ceremony * UNFF- Welcome address * Election of Co- chairs (1 from Iran, 1 from an African country) * Keynote Speaker (H.E. Dr. Khalilian Minster of Agriculture - Iran) * Welcome address by: * UNCCD (tbc) * UNEP	Presentation * UNDP –Iran (tbc) * Forest Financing across LFCCs: Feedback from project finding - Component I (Indufor) Followed by discussion session (Q+A)	2 Parallel Working Groups Learning from national experiences: Addressing challenges, opportunities, actions to be taken, expected results. * Who are forest financing stakeholders? * Which sectors are linked to forest financing?	Expert Panel * Scaling up national experiences: Forest financing issues common to LFCCs (UNFF/ Indufor/ Uzbekistan/ forest financing expert) Followed by discussion session (Q+A)
10:30		Return from Ramsar to Tehran	Morning Break	Morning Break	Morning Break	Morning Break
11:00- 12:30 am	Field trip Day 1 Ramsar and surroundings	Field trip Day 2 Ramsar and surroundings	Presentation * Introduction to UNFF process on Forest Financing Followed by discussion session (Q+A)	Presentation * Country case studies of forest financing in LFCCs: * Jordan * Kyrgyzstan * Tajikistan + GIZ * Iran Followed by discussion session (Q+A)	2 Parallel Working Groups Learning from national experiences: Addressing challenges, opportunities, actions to be taken, expected results. * Where do funds currently come from? National, international, innovative mechanisms	Presentation The way forward Recommendatio ns for increasing forest financing in LFCCs

Introduction to the workshop:

The Workshop of “Forest Financing in Low Forest Cove Countries” will take place in Tehran, I.R. of Iran, 12-18 November 2011. The workshop has jointly been organized by the UNFF and the Secretariat of the Tehran Process for Low Forest Cover Countries (TPS for LFCCs) and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This workshop will bring together representatives from 23 LFCCs as well as major donors and experts in sustainable forest management. The primary objective is to discuss preliminary finding on forest financ- ing and exchange views and experiences on the issue. This will contribute towards setting up a forest financing strategy for all LFCCs so as to mobilize funds more effectively for sustainable forest management. This workshop is part of a project funded by the Global Environmental Facility to identify gaps, obstacles and opportunities in forest financing in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Low Forest Cover Countries (LFCCs), which kick-started the Facilitative Process following the adoption of the Resolution on the Means of Implementation of Sustainable Forest Management by the Special Session of the Ninth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in October 2009. One of the main func- tions of the Facilitative Process is to assist in mobilizing and supporting new and additional financing resources from all sources for sustainable forest management.

However, even when these funds are available, whether at the national or international levels, they are not used by developing countries for a number of reasons, notably because (i) administrations often lack the technical expertise to fulfill the conditions to access these funds; and (ii) generally, sustainable forest management stands fairly low on the political agenda of many developing countries, which means that funds, when available, are allocated elsewhere. This is especially the case in low forest cover countries (LFCCs) and small island developing states (SIDS), where forests by definition cover a very limited area of land and often do not generate significant amounts of cash income.

The above mentioned Project, entitled, “Facilitating Financing for Sustainable Forest Manage- ment in SIDS and LFCCs”, focuses on these two categories of countries as they have witnessed a particularly steep decline in funding for SFM in the past 20 years. The project is being imple- mented over a period of three years with the following three components: Component I: Analy- sis of current financial flows, gaps, and needs, as well as governance structures for financing SFM in SIDS and LFCCs. Component II: Establishment of National Ownership, Review of Thematic Papers and Consultations on the Way Forward. Component III: Communications Strategy for facilitation of SFM Financing of SIDS and LFCC countries.

The Iranian Workshop “Forest Financing in Low Forest Cover Countries” to be held in Tehran- Iran from 12 to 18 November 2011 will be the first of four workshops of Component II. It shall be run jointly by the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, in collaboration with the Govern- ment of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Secretariat of the Tehran Process for Low Forest Cover Countries, and with financial support from the Global Environmental Facility.

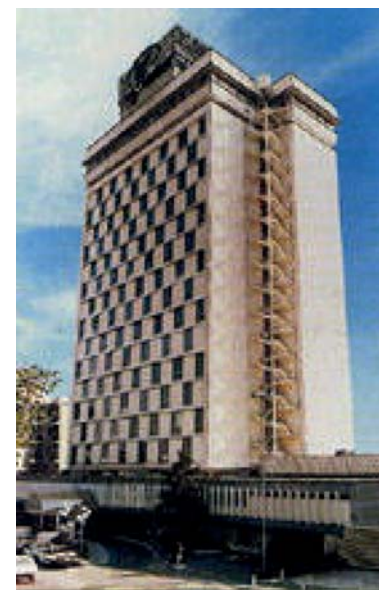


Workshop objectives:

The objective of the workshop is twofold: first, discussions between participants based on the data produced during Component I and presentations given during the workshop will contribute to validating existing data and producing additional information on forest financing specific to low forest cover countries. This will form the basis for a forest financing strategy for SIDS and LFCCs which will be the primary output of Component III, and which will lay the basis for forest financing strategies at the national level.

Secondly, the workshop will initiate a network of forest financing stakeholders at the international level and common to all LFCCs which will lay the basis for ensuring sustainability of the project and the implementation of its findings, but also contribute to raising awareness about forest financing – one of the main factors currently hampering the allocation of funds to sustainable forest management.

Workshop venue: Tehran - Homa Hotel



Tehran Homa Hotel ★★★★★

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P.O. Box: 14155/1685

Participants:

This workshop will bring together all low forest cover countries which do not have an established forest policy, namely the following: 1. Afghanistan, 2. Chad, 3. Djibouti, 4. Iceland, 5. Iran (Islamic Republic of), 6. Iraq, 7. Jordan, 8. Kazakhstan, 9. Kuwait, 10. Kyrgyzstan, 11. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 12. Malta, 13. Mauritania, 14. Oman, 15. Pakistan, 16. Qatar, 17. Saudi Arabia, 18. Tajikistan, 19. Togo, 20. Turkmenistan, 21. United Arab Emirates, 22. Uzbekistan and 23. Yemen.

Each country will be represented by two participants, both of which should be representative of forest financing stakeholder organizations, with at least one participant from outside the forest/environment sector (e.g., financial, agricultural, transport or tourism). Attention shall be given to ensure gender parity. In addition, each participating country will come with a standardized questionnaire duly filled out on the situation of forest financing in their national context. Finally, relevant self-funded donors will be invited to attend the workshop, along with additional host country participants, numbers permitting.