



MedForum 2014

Monitoring and Evaluating Results, and Communicating to Broad Audiences

14-16 October 2014, Skradin (Dalmatia, Croatia)

**MMFN General Assembly and technical sessions
Field trip**

5th Technical workshop Adriatic model forest (AMF) project

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 currently includes 13 regions and countries from all sides of the Mediterranean Basin, which have joined and are in the process of developing Model Forests. Current Model Forests are: Urbión (Castilla y Leon, Spain); Yalova (Turkey); Ifrane (Morocco); Montagne Fiorentine (Tuscany, Italy) and Provence (France).

This year, in the framework of the project IPA ADRIATIC “Adriatic Model Forest”; project partners Croatian Forest Research Institute (lead partner) and the Institute for Adriatic Crops (IAC) of Split, the Sibenik-Knin County and the MMFN Secretariat are pleased to invite all interested parties to participate in the MedForum and 5th Technical workshop of AMF project that will take place in Skradin, Croatia from 14th to 16th October 2014.

The objective of the Adriatic Model Forest (AMF) project is the creation of a new Model Forest in the Croatia by implementing the “Five steps methodology” of the Mediterranean Model Forest Network. The Institute for Adriatic Crops and Sibenik-Knin County are responsible for the creation of the Model Forest pilot site in Dalmatia. All AMF partners from Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Italy and Greece benefit from the learning process and exchange of experiences so they are able to facilitate the start-up of local Model Forest initiatives in their own countries, regions and territories.

Model Forest delegates and MMFN country/region representatives are cordially invited to attend, as well as representatives from like-minded organisations, Adriatic Model Forest project (AMF) partners and IPA Adriatic representatives.

2. Content of the MedForum 2014

The Med Forum 2014 will consist of two technical sessions, the MMFN General Assembly, a field trip and the 5th Technical workshop of the AMF project. Discussion will be facilitated during the plenary.



The proposed sessions are:

- Technical sessions: New communication strategies for the MMFN / New funding opportunities for MMFNS members;
- MMFN Assembly (Board of directors of the MMFN);
- Field trip “Dalmatian Model Forest Landscape and partnership” (programme elaborated by the Institute for Adriatic Crops and the Sibenik-Knin County);
- Adriatic Model Forest Workshop: “First draft of the Strategic plan”(reserved for the AMF project partners).

Overview of Sessions:

Technical Session 1: Revision of the Communication strategy for the MMFN: a proposal by the MMFN Secretariat. The purpose of the session is:

- Pooling of different communication strategies of Model Forests in the region, and identify best practices and lessons learned,
- To adapt the MMFN Communications Plan to the new momentum about the forest communication network in the Mediterranean.

Technical Session 2: An overview of openings of new financial opportunities (immediate and short-term), especially with regards to the EU’s framework programme for 2014-2020 will be presented and discussed.

MMFN Assembly: Monitoring and evaluation is promoted as an important planning and management tool within the International Model Forest Network. The continual improvement focus of M&E is promoted by the IMFN as a tool for effective program planning and management within individual Model Forests. The International Model Forest Network Secretariat (IMFNS) has adopted the use and implementation of Impact Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks. During the MedForum 2012 a framework for monitoring and evaluation was adapted. The purpose of this session is to make a follow up of the process. The MMFN Assembly will in addition analyse the evolution of the Network from its creation, and taking into consideration the present period of transition in Europe, a revised Memorandum of Understanding for the MMFN members will be proposed.

Field Trip: The visit to the pre-selected Dalmatian Model Forest landscape and partnership will offer a perspective on local Model Forest activities.

5th IPA “Adriatic model forest” Technical workshop (reserved to the IPA “AMF” Partners): Last local workshop with the stakeholders of the “Dalmatian Model Forest initiative”. A first full draft of the Strategic Plan for the Model Forest will be presented and discussed with all the local stakeholders.

3. Location and dates

The event will take place in Skradin (Dalmatia, Croatia) on 14, 15,16 October 2014 and will include a day field trip to the proposed “Dalmatian Model Forest” landscape (open to all participants) and a workshop on October 16th (reserved to the IPA “AMF” partners).

To find out more about Skradin, visit the official website: <http://www.skradin.hr/en/>

4. Objectives

The goals of the event are:

- To consolidate the MMFN in the Balkans/Adriatic region, as a way of supporting the improvement of sustainable forest management in the whole Mediterranean,
- To strengthen networking capacities of Network members in the local Model Forest development process,
- To stimulate reflection and discussion on the way forward in research, programs and policies to support effective governance and management in the Mediterranean basin,
- To draw together representatives of like-minded and like-mandated organizations and initiatives, to catalyze opportunities for networking and collaboration in the Mediterranean basin,
- To support and achieve the procedure of creation of the second Model Forest in Croatia (in Dalmatia) as the pilot site of the IPA ADRIATIC “Adriatic Model Forest” project.

The specific objectives of the event include the following:

- a) To agree on a new version of the Communication Plan for the Network,
- b) To consolidate a MMFN monitoring and evaluation system in order to follow and support the Model Forest initiatives in the period 2014-2020,
- c) To explore new funding options for the Network and its Secretariat in the present transition period.

5. Responsibilities

The Organizers of this event are:

- Institute for Adriatic Crops (IAC),
- Sibenik - Knin County,
- MMFN Secretariat.

The Co-organizer of this event is:

- Croatian Forest Research Institute (as Lead Partner of the “AMF” Project).

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

The event is open to, among others:

- Member countries/regions and Model Forests of the MMFN and their local partners and other interested members of the IMFN,
- Partner organizations collaborating with the MMFN and countries/regions of the Mediterranean basin considering to join the MMFN,
- IPA Adriatic model forest partners and their partner organizations and IPA Adriatic program representatives.

7. Deliverables

It is expected that the event produces the following verifiable products:

- 1) A new version of the MMFN Communication Plan,
- 2) Results report of the Monitoring and Evaluation system.
- 3) A new agreed Memorandum of Understanding ready to be presented for signature to members,
- 4) Proceedings of the meeting, including summaries of presentations,
- 5) First draft of the Dalmatian model forest Strategic plan document.

8. Methodology

An organizing committee composed by the organizers and co-organizer will oversee the general layout of the MedForum 2014 and use MMFNS methodology at the Technical workshops of the AMF project.

9. Important dates

The preparation of the MedForum 2014 has the following important milestones:

- 31st July 2014: Official announcement of the event,
- 30th September 2014: Final version of the programme.

10. Documentation and Registration

The MedForum 2014 webpages are: www.mmfn.info and www.ipa-amf.eu. Practical and logistical information about the event, as well as online participation means, will also be available on these web pages.

You can register online at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1z29OAc4msYgPjgDRiKzwNj6roUZnM1cxJrg5aclBRRQ/viewform>

11. Resources

The event is cofounded by the IPA ADRIATIC “AMF” project. Mediterranean Model Forest 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

The final, detailed programme of the MedForum 2014 will be released not later than 30th September 2014.

13. Languages

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided on site in English, French and Croatian. Official documents and registration material will be available in English, French and Spanish (the official languages of the MMFN).

14. Contacts

For specific questions for the organizers, please contact:

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