

MedForum2024

9th EDITION | THE MMFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mediterranean Model Forest Network

Canada's Global Forest Leadership Program

General Secretary : Toni Ventre



Natural Resources
Canada

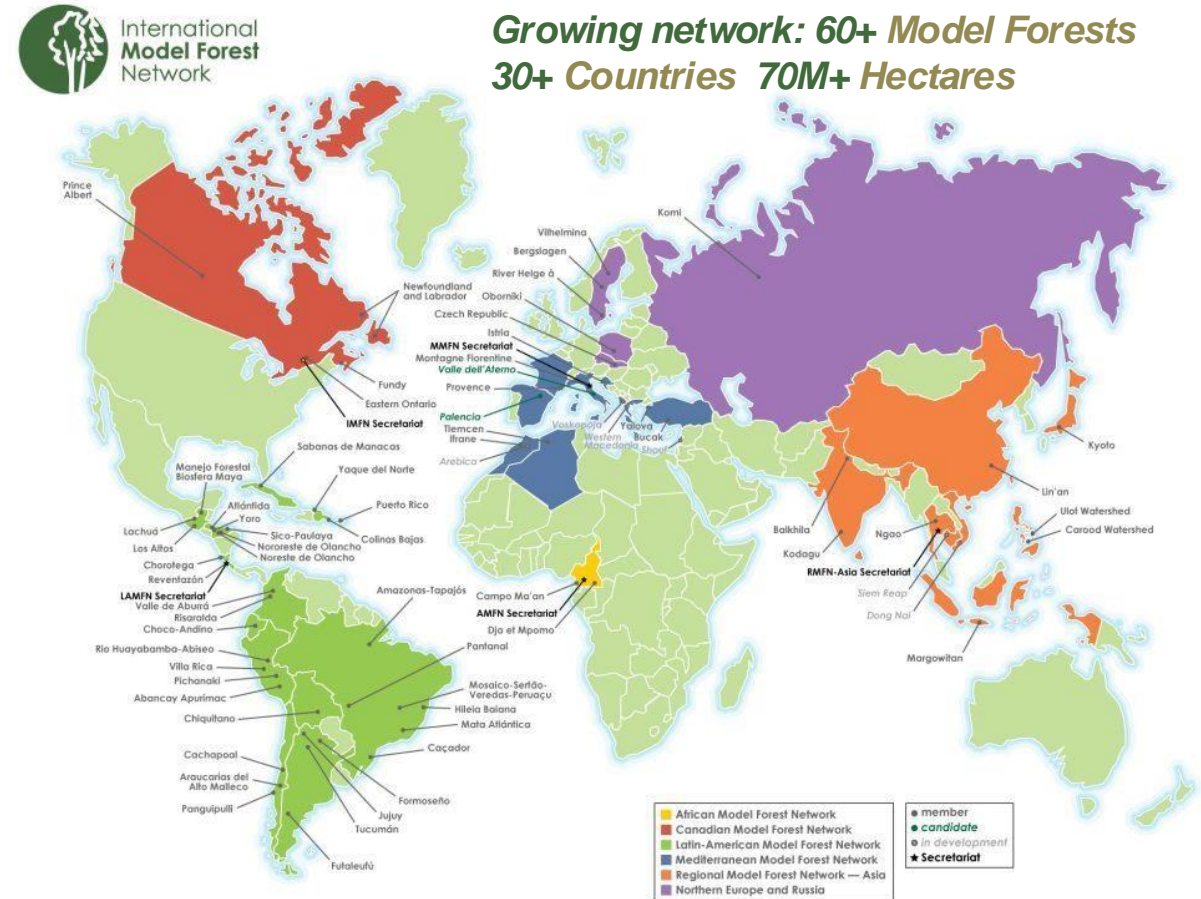
Ressources naturelles
Canada



Canada's Global Forest Leadership Program

Eligible Activities and Scale & Scope of the IMFN

- **Strengthening partnerships** with international and domestic stakeholders like the International Model Forest Network (IMFN).
- **Sharing Canadian expertise** in forest practices, products, standards, and technologies through bilateral and multilateral engagements.
- **Promoting sustainable forest products** by addressing trade barriers and advocating through multilateral fora.
- **Raising domestic awareness** of international forest policy trends and testing new forest management approaches with partners.
- **Advancing innovative forest products** as sustainable alternatives to non-renewable materials in global markets.
- **Responding to international requests** for wildland fire and forest stewardship assistance.
- **Developing tools and training** for monitoring climate and environmental metrics, such as greenhouse gas levels.



CG is investing \$18.7 million to scale up Nature-Based Leadership Platforms. Through partnerships with the IMFN in ODA-eligible countries, this investment will boost forest and landscape restoration, support inclusive governance, and prepare future forest leaders to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss.

June 22, 2023



Canada's Global Forest Leadership Program Contribution Funding – Specific Activities in Med Area

After the official presentation of program....

- IMFN Secretariat sent us the invitation letter nov 8th in 2023....with a deadline for three years project dec 10...
- we had to have a good understanding of the criteria, eligible actions and interventions, programme objectives and priorities
- We had to find, with our canadian colleagues, ways to solve a lot of burocratic issues...TR and FMMF
- Need (urgency!) to articulate a three-year project that could provide benefits as widespread as possible to all MMFN members but within the priorities determined by the programme both in terms of priority countries (ODA) and objectives....a complicated balance
- ...so short time!!!
- **And mainly for the first year....we have the deadline to finish and report next march 31 2024**

Total Budget:

750.000 can\$ (511.000 €) in 3 years (2024-26) for contributions

180.000 can\$ (122.000 €) in 2 years (2025-26) for grants

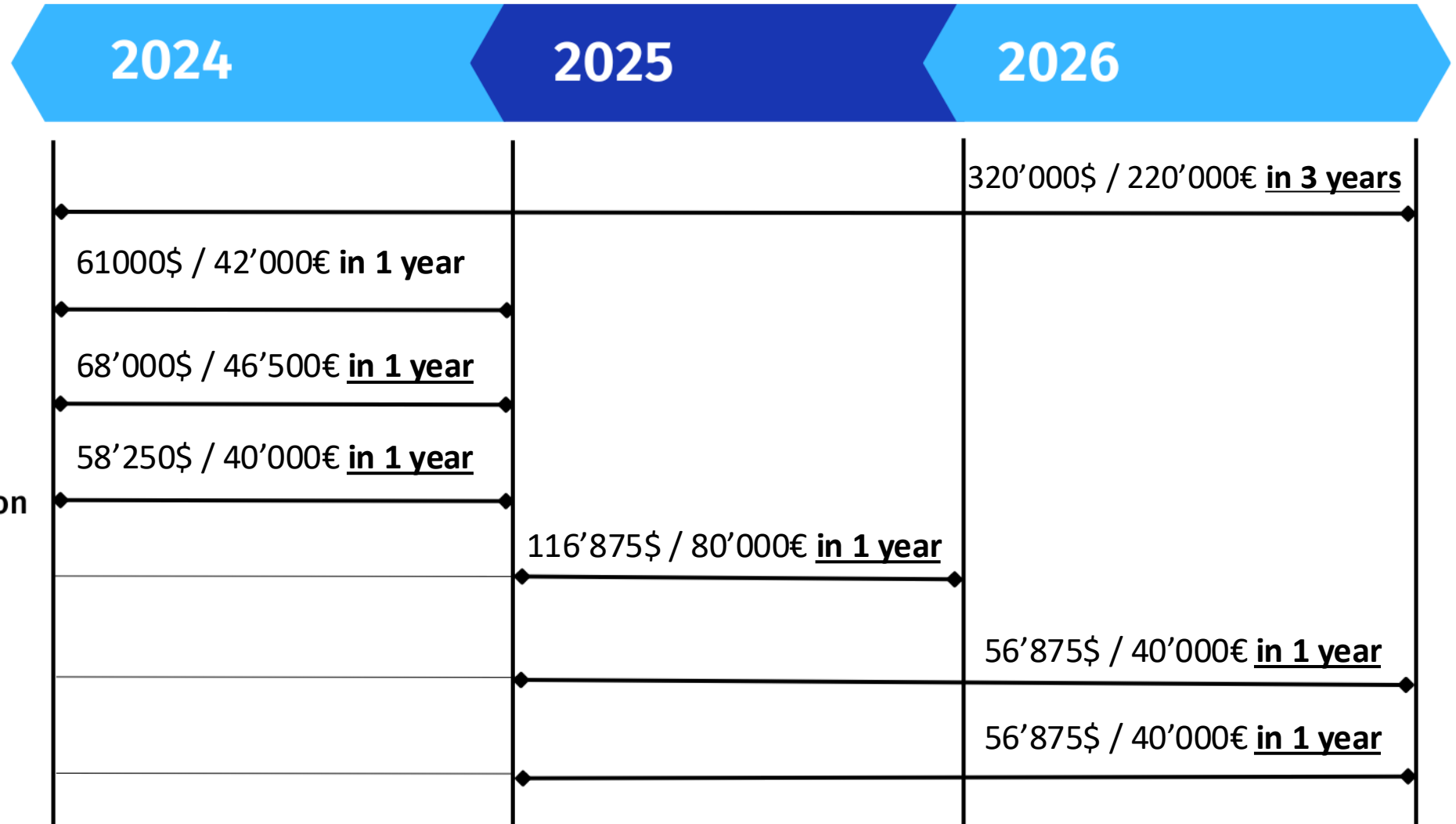
And

500.00 can \$ (350.00€) with agreements managed directly by

IMFN Secretariat with Ifrane and Tlemcen MFs

TIME LINE

Activities of period 2024-26



1. Analysis tool and Validation (2024 / 2025 / 2026)



Technical support and coordination for landscape restoration activities in ODA (Official Development Assistance) countries.

Development of a web-based tool for identifying potential areas suitable for forest restoration projects, promotion, and monitoring of land-use changes (Agadir commitment 2017).

Field validation and prioritization of identified areas (on the web platform) for landscape restoration activities in the Model Forests and Model Forest Initiative of **Ifrane** (Morocco), **Midelt** (Morocco), **Tlemcen** (Algeria), **Shouf** (Lebanon), and **Model Forests in the northern Mediterranean basin**.

Monitoring and updating to contribute data for the Agadir commitment.

in 3 years



Pending



In Progress



Complete

2. Dissemination (2024)



Brochure of the Mediterranean Forest Model Network

- Updating the original texts in English
- Translation of the text into French, Spanish, Arabic and Italian
- New layout of the English version for the part dedicated to the theme of forest restoration
- Layout of Italian, French, Spanish and Arabic versions

Business cards with QR code and updating of related web page

- Updating the content of the landing page, with the inclusion of all language versions of the brochure mentioned in the previous point and the option to choose your preferred language
- Possibility to browse the brochure directly on the computer screen or on a smartphone
- Possibility of consulting the tool kit for setting up a new Forest Model

in 1 year



Pending



In Progress



Complete

Foreseen projects and products

by March 2024

- **MMFN Brochure updating and translation**
(English, Italian, Arabic, French and Spanish), including also a new section dedicated to the FLR and the role/opportunities of the MF Approach
- **Forest pedagogy and environmental education for Forest Landscape Restoration**
this project will work on accessibility, inclusion and digital education by providing the MFs with cutting edge tools for their education and dissemination activities.

To present the tools and their potential a dedicated workshop will be organized in Italy in March 2024, inviting representatives from all the MFs of the Mediterranean Network and some experts from the IMFN and other networks

April 2024 to March 2026

- **Forest Landscape Restoration in the Model Forests: docu-serie**
Set of videos on results, stories and best practices from the FLR projects developed within the MMFN,

These short documentaries will show the MFs territories and the way the local communities are involved in projects related to FLR.

Subtitles and voice translation will be provided to give the opportunities to all the MFs to use them as tools for dissemination and engagement with local communities. This kind of product will be also very useful to engage new countries, subjects and/or territories interested in joining the Network.



3. Landscape and Forest Restoration (2024)

Forest reforestation activities in Morocco (10 ha in **Ifrane MF** and 10 ha **Midelt initiative MF**) through actions including planting of forestry planting stock, involvement of local communities addressed a sustainable management of territories and the reintroduction of traditional management of pasture ("Agdal") with the aim of accelerating the recovery of an ecosystem from a degraded condition. Reforestation and landscape restoration interventions converge on the goal of achieving a forested area capable of sustaining the socioeconomic life of the area. Integrate the ongoing restoration project (**LOA with FAO funded by IKI, for a total amount of 35 ha in Ifrane MF and 30 ha in Midelt initiative MF**).

in 1 year



Pending



In Progress



Complete

4. Environmental education 2024-EDUCASE project

Improving **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA)** through forest pedagogy and environmental education for Forest and Landscape Restoration.

- **Joëlette** (a special wheelchair to ensure accessibility to mountain trails for those with motor disabilities),
- **Photo traps**
- **PlantsPlay** (sensors that translate electrical changes in plants into sounds),
- Kit for **wolf howling** or **deer roaring**
- **Orienteering kit**
- **Time Lapse camera**
- **Digital microscope and climate station**



To present the tools and their potential we organized a dedicated workshop in Italy in March 2024, inviting representatives from MF of Ifrane (Marocco), Western Macedonia (Greece), Media Valle dell’Aterno (Italy), Provence (France), Istria (Croatia), Tlemcen (Algeria), and Voskopoja Model Forest Initiative (Albania) and as guest Juan Pablo Rodriguez Garavito from Colombia, delegate of the Latin-American Model Forest Network. It has been the perfect occasion for sharing knowledge among the MFs of the Mediterranean on the potential of education and dissemination to include the communities in the FLR projects.

Budget:

28000€ to give at all the MF involved the products they need most



5. Video Guidelines for Landscape Restoration 2025/2026

- **Design** of the narrative structure of the videos, identification of the good practices to be told and the subjects to be interviewed in the various model forests involved.
 - A **set of 6 videos** of 10-12 minutes each
 - **Missions of 3-5 days each for filming** with 2 people CdF in 5 areas (Morocco, Algeria, Lebanon,+ 2 in no ODA countries)
 - **Translation** of content into 4 languages (English, French, Spanish + Italian for interviews)
 - **Speaker involvement** for voice-over (4 voices for 4 languages - English, French, Spanish, italian)
- in 1 year**



Pending



In Progress



Complete

6. Pilot sites 2026

Providing **technical support and coordination**, also through **hiring** of a arabic and/or french speaking consultant for restoration activities in Morocco (Ifrane MF and Arebica initiative MF), Algeria (Tlemcen MF) and Lebanon (Shouf MFs Initiative) through different actions including **planting trees, assessment of the current conditions of the forest, implementation of fire management practices** with the aim of accelerating the recovery of an ecosystem from a degraded condition, by the **involvement of local communities**. Reforestation and landscape restoration interventions converge on the goal of achieving a forested area capable of sustaining the **socioeconomic life** of the area.

In the 2026, in order to have a first application of the work done and the prioritization, pilot sites will be established in each MFs of ODA Countries in areas of at least 5000 sq.m

in 1 year –by 2026



Pending



In Progress



Complete

7. Scholarship 2025/2026

This call aims to select highly qualified candidates to participate in a one-year **doctoral program** (to be repeated in 2025) focused on Landscape and Forest Restoration within the ODA countries of the Mediterranean. The program is designed to address **environmental challenges and promote sustainable development** through advanced research and practical application.

Budget:

63'875\$ / 43'500€ in 2 years

- 30000€ scholarship
- 13500€ overheads



Environmental education 2024 – EDUCASE

Coming back to EDUCASE , in these 3 days, what we did?

We shared knowledge and experiences among MedMFs within EE, FP an FLR, providing information about innovative tools to make wider and more effective our activities, making some practical activities and workshops.

We defined principles and, where it was possible, methods to design environmental education courses and forest pedagogy activities to valorize FLR projects according to MFN values and approach.



8. Hiring a New Member of the Secretariat to Support ODA Restoration Projects

- As part of a three-year commitment under the Canadian program, **Lazhari Chater** is a Tunisian Forester graduated from the **University of Padua in Italy with a Master's degree in Forest and Land Management**,
- He is ideally positioned to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange across our restoration projects in the Mediterranean region.
- Lazhari's involvement is instrumental in advancing initiatives in Model Forests in ODA countries such as Ifrane & Midelt (Morocco), Tlemcen (Algeria), and Shouf (Lebanon), where his linguistic and technical skills, support impactful restoration and community engagement, he speaks Arabic, French, English, and Italian,



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More details coming soon regarding grants and budget allocation for the next 2 years

A big challenge but a big opportunity too!

Thanks a lot

MMFN Secretariat Team

Speaker: Toni Ventre