



Republic of Turkey  
Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs  
General Directorate of Forestation and  
Combating Against Erosion



## President Abdullah GÜL



*“Turkey does not only consider Africa as the cradle of humanity and civilizations, but also as the centre of her future. We think that Africa’s success would be humanity’s success. Our understanding of Turkey-Africa collaboration is emphasizing partnership, protecting the mutual interests of our nations and people, and paying attention to local conditions. Within the bounds of possibility, we are ready to share our experiences and technology with African nations.”*

(From his speech at the Turkey-Africa Collaboration Summit Meeting)  
19 August 2008

## Prime Minister Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN



*As a nation, we take it as our duty to become the voice of those who are not able to make themselves heard at a global level. By pushing the limits of our possibilities, as the government, and together with the non-governmental organizations, we try to reach all parties without discriminating any race, language, religion, geography. By keeping in mind the needs of each of the Least Developed Countries, we shall continue to provide these countries with economic, financial, cultural and technical cooperation and educational assistance in the upcoming period. In this respect, Turkey is targeting to allocate a resource worth of \$200 million per year, starting from 2012, which shall be used under the scope of technical cooperation projects and programs, and educational scholarships, according to the needs and capacities of 48 nations.*

(From his speech at the Least Developed Countries Summit, with the participation of Heads of State, Government and Delegation Chiefs and Senior Level CEOs)  
9 May 2011



**Prof. Dr. Veysel EROĞLU**  
Minister of Forestry and  
Water Affairs

The “Turkish-African Collaboration Summit” held in Istanbul in 2008 has been a turning point in the Turkish-African relations and this was followed by the issuing of the 2010/7 numbered Prime Ministerial Notice on “African Strategy” and an “African Strategy Co-ordination Committee” has been established in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Our Ministry is one of the members of this committee. Under the scope of African Strategy, our Ministry has already started works on combating desertification and drought, forestry and water supply.

In this respect; with the joint works of the General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works and TİKA, 250 wells shall be opened and drinking and service water shall be supplied to 850.000 people by the end of 2011.

Under the scope of the regional collaboration project on “Land Rehabilitation / Combating Against Desertification and Forestry” being implemented jointly by the General Directorate of Desertification and Combating Against Erosion, UNCCD Secretariat and TİKA, a total of 160 people from 23 countries have been trained in Turkey during the period of 2007-2011.

Under the scope of the “Training and Technical Cooperation Project on Combating against Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought (ÇABUK) and Forestry for African Nations”, which was prepared under the light of these experiences, it is being targeted to train 800 people from 40 countries in Turkey, hold workshops in 10 countries, and provide consultancy services for the requesting countries, during the period of 2012-2022.

The project shall be realized by the General Directorate of Desertification and Combating Against Erosion, who has gained serious experiences about the issue, in coordination with UNCCD, State Hydraulic Works, TİKA and all other relevant parties.



## **CURRENT SITUATION**

110 countries, mostly in Africa, are being seriously affected by desertification and drought due to reasons such as drought, misuse of land, rural poverty. Turkey is among the countries suffering from desertification. However, Turkey has achieved great successes in combating against desertification and deforestation, and these achievements have been appreciated by international institutions.

Dry, semi dry and semi humid areas in the African continent are being degraded mainly by climate change and human activities, and these areas are becoming deserts. One out of every person in the world is living in dry areas. 325 million people living in dry lands in Africa are mostly affected by desertification and drought, and they make up the poorest crowd of the world. As it is the case in the whole world, there is a vicious cycle between desertification and poverty in this region too. Sand storms are destroying the fertile agricultural lands in Africa, and making it impossible to do any agricultural activities in these areas. Natural forest lands are being destroyed for human needs and for various reasons, mainly economic, they are not being replaced. Desertification, land degradation and deforestation are also threatening food safety in the continent.

One of the main solutions to these problems in Africa is to increase the capacities of the institutions and train people on how to transform degraded land into fertile land, combating against deforestation, and how the use the current forests sustainably.





## WHY ÇABUK ?

Desertification, Land Degradation, Drought (DLDD) is one of the most real problems threatening humanity. While we did not reach an exact consensus on “climate change”, which has been heavily involved in the international agenda, the phenomena which we can shortly call “DLDD” is a real problem affecting humanity and the earth.

It is being estimated that within 10 years, 50 million people, mainly from Africa and Central Asia or in other words, from Least Developed Countries, will be forced to immigrate from their countries.

According to United Nations data, annually 12 million hectares of fertile land is becoming “human made deserts” due to human effects. Without preserving soil, which is one of the main elements of human life, it is impossible to combat against rural poverty, climate change, loss of biologic diversity and food shortage.

According to BM FAO reports, it is deliberated that by using appropriate methods, it would be possible to reclaim, rehabilitate and put back into the service of humanity an area of 900 million hectares, or in other words, an area almost 12 times the size of our country.





## **DLDD PROJECT AND ITS TARGET**

Under the framework of the Prime Ministerial Notice and government program, our ministry has started working on combating against desertification, forestry and water supply for Africa. In order to increase the technical capacities of African nations in such subjects, it has launched the “Increasing the Combating Capacities Against Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD) Project”.

It is the developing of technical cooperation and increasing the capacities of these countries, through training and expert exchange, in order to combat with Desertification / Land Degradation and sustainable management of forests in Africa, in terms of planting trees on dry land wind erosion, sand dune stabilization, flood control, rehabilitation of degraded forestland, developing plantation techniques, participatory and integrated water basin management, participation of NGOs and the public, and land rehabilitation.

### **Intermediate Target**

To ensure the adequate training of the participants by sharing knowledge and experience in every training.

### **Final Target**

Following the collaboration works, to increase the regional cooperation in combating against desertification and forestry, increasing the capacities of these countries in such issues, decreasing the possible negative effects of desertification and drought and ensuring the sustainable management of forests.

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

This project; is a training and technical collaboration project aiming for Turkey to share her knowledge in the field of combating against desertification and forestry with less developed nations from the African continent, and to increase the capacities of these nations in such issues and also to develop the traditional knowledge which these nations posses.

With this project, the level of knowledge and capacities of the experts and local people from the least developed and developing nations in Africa will be increased through the training programs, workshops and consultancy services to be held.



## Training

Project implementations will be in the form of theoretical and field work implementations. Trainings to be held will be covering 5 working days and during training, national experts will lecture the subjects both theoretically and practically. Language of training will be Turkish, English and French.

## Workshop

For each country; the basis of the implementation projects will be established by determining the priorities and needs of the nations, project implementations, if any, will be evaluated and workshops will be held with the participation of interest groups.

## Consultancy Assistance

Each year, 10 countries will be provided with 30 days of expert assistance with 3 experts.





## DURATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT

It is being targeted to complete the project implementations on 31.12.2022, at the end of a 10 year implementation period starting from 01.01.2012. Training programs will be covering 5 working days. A major part of this will be spent on practical implementations, and theoretical trainings will be kept at a minimum. Training subjects will be determined in line with the targets of the project, and the subject of dry and semi dry forestation techniques will be lectured in 2012.

Participants to the training will be getting the opportunity to implement the subjects they have learned in a wide spread level in their own countries.

The increased cooperation between the relevant institutions of the nations will direct the nations towards reciprocal regional cooperation.

It will be possible to implement the successful results in other regions and nations.







## INSTITUTIONS TO BE COLLABORATED WITH

### **Institution Recommending the Project**

- Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs, General Directorate of Desertification and Combating Against Erosion (ÇEM)

### **Domestic Institutions to be Collaborated**

- Turkish Collaboration and Coordination Agency (TİKA)
- General Directorate of Forestry
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
- General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works
- Non-governmental Organizations

### **Foreign Institutions to be Collaborated**

- United Nations Combat Against Desertification Convention Secretariat
- UN Food and Agriculture Organization
- National Focus Points of the Countries on United Nations Convention on Combating Against Desertification
- African TİKA Representatives





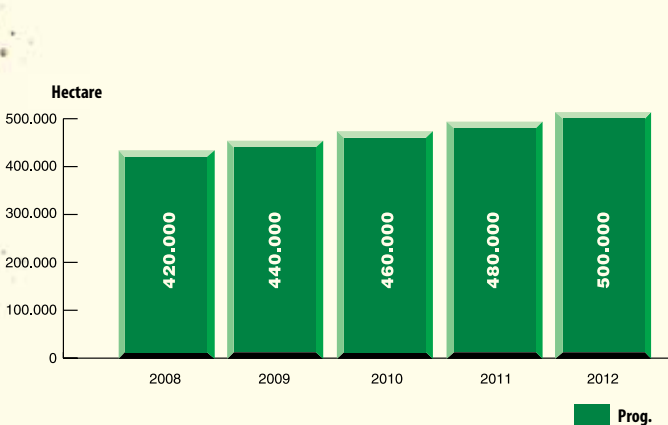
## Our Works

Turkey is one of the rare countries in the world who has increased its forest lands. Over the last 37 years our total forest area has increased by 1.3 million hectares. Turkey is aiming to increase the total forest area from %27 to 30% by 2023.

Thanks to the implementations in the fields of desertification, forestation, erosion control, recovery of degraded forest lands and integrated water basin rehabilitation, our country has an immense knowledge and experience.

It is being done through dibbling or insemination to protect soil and water resources as well as meeting the wood raw material demand and other protective functions of forests. Until the end of 2010, forestation was done in 2.060.000 hectares for wood production and in 870.000 hectares for protective purposes.

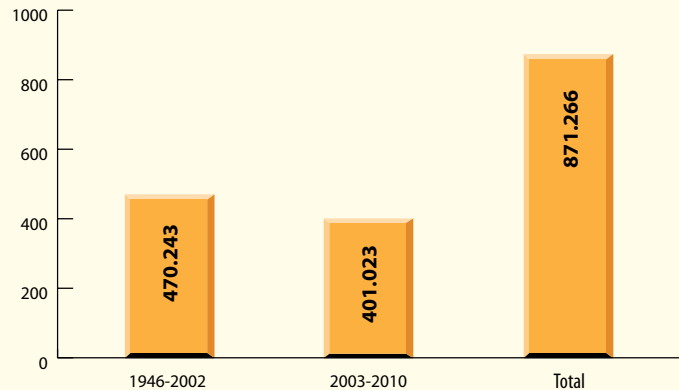
49% of our forests are characterized as degraded. Rehabilitation works are being held by forestation through dibbling or insemination while protecting the current forest cover.



By this method, the natural vegetation is being preserved individually or in groups and the biodiversity is protected. By the end of 2010, 1.453.492 hectares of degraded forestland have been rehabilitated by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in Turkey.

Under the scope of "Forestation and Erosion Control Campaign" covering 2008-2012, our country has targeted to perform forestation, anti erosion and forest recovery works in a 2.300.000 hectare area and plant 2 billion and 500 million seeds. Until the end of 2010, forestation took place in a 2.081.107 hectare area.

Over the last few years, the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs has hastened the erosion control works. While there was erosion control works for 512.285 hectares in Turkey between 1946-2003; the number for erosion control was 355.543 hectares for the 2003-2010 period. The erosion control work target for 2011 is 70.000 hectares.





- In his speech during the “United Nations Least Developed Nations Conference” hosted by our country in Istanbul during 9-13 May 2011, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey has stated “By keeping in mind the needs of each of the Least Developed Countries, we shall continue to provide these countries with economic, financial, cultural and technical cooperation and educational assistance in the upcoming period. In this respect, Turkey is targeting to allocate a resource worth of \$200 million per year, starting from 2012, which shall be used under the scope of technical cooperation projects and programs, and educational scholarships, according to the needs and capacities of 48 nations”.
- Discussions are being held with the Ministers of African Nations, senior directors NGO representatives and United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) Secretary General Luc Gnacadaja and many other relevant persons to find out what can be done in Africa.
- During September 2-14, 2011 in Bonn/Germany, our Director General and his Deputy have met with UNCCD Secretary General and his Deputy to discuss the cooperation issues in the region of Africa.
- During the UNCCD 10. (COP 10) Conference of Parties, the Turkish Delegation led by Combating with Desertification and Erosion Director General Mr. Hanefi AVCI have held exchange of views on cooperation with the delegates of Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger and Senegal, NGO representatives, African regional bureau representatives of UNEP and FAO and UNCCD Secretary General.
- During COP 10, survey forms were prepared to determine the cooperation issues and the needs of the nations in the African continent and these forms were handed out to the delegates. Following the evaluation of these surveys, it was determined that these countries were expecting assistance in terms of combating desertification, basin rehabilitation, soil protection, rural development, forestation, biodiversity, geographical information system, water collection, agriculture and food safety.



- Under the scope of “Land Rehabilitation/Combat Against Desertification and Regional Cooperation in Forestry Project” which was prepared and implemented by the “General Directorate of Forestation and Combating Against Erosion” with the assistance of TİKA, the following training programs were successfully held; “Basin Rehabilitation Techniques” in Amasya in 2009, “Forestation, Erosion Control and Degraded Forestland Rehabilitation Techniques” in Denizli in 2010, and finally “Improving Seed and Plantation Production Techniques” in Eskişehir and Manisa in 2011.
- A number of business visits will be paid to many countries during 2012 to launch project designing works.



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**Training and Technical Cooperation  
Project on Combating against Desertification,  
Land Degradation, Drought (DLDD) and  
Forestry for African Nations.**

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Project Officer  
**Özlem YAVUZ**  
Department Chief

Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs  
General Directorate of Combating Against Desertification and Erosion  
Department of Combating Against Desertification  
Söğütözü St. No: 14/E - ANKARA / TURKEY  
Phone : +90 312 207 5774  
Fax : +90 312 207 5756  
e-mail: ozlemyavuz@ormansu.gov.tr