

Tool VI.

Proposition of assistance of the
Model Forests Network in the
local processes of setting up a
Model Forest

Terms of Reference

1. Context
2. Methodology
3. Modalities
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1. Context

In winter 2009, the Secretariat of the International Model Forests Network (IMFN) has performed a program to support the development of Model Forests in the French-speaking countries of North Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia). This program, which ensues from commitments taken by Canada at the Summit of the Francophony in autumn 2008, is led in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Model Forests Network (MMFN) and the partners of the Maghreb Regions.

The work realized in the Maghreb helped the Secretariats of the IMFN and the Mediterranean Network (MMFN) to develop a methodological approach to support the local processes of development of Model Forests.

So, in order to perform their mandate to help the members of the network to reach their commitments "to support the establishment of at least one Model Forest in its field of competence" (as plans it the MoU signed between each part), the Secretariats of the IMFN and the MMFN suggest to offer, to the members of the Network wishing it, a technical support on the basis of a methodology similar to the one developed in the Maghreb.

2. Methodology

The proposed approach declines in 4 steps

- A. "Diagnostic mission" on the planned site, including a pre-workshop
- B. Groups of preparatory work
- C. Strategic workshop with the partners
- D. The Elaboration of a strategic plan and an action plan of the Model Forest

A visit of a representative delegation of the local partnership in a Model Forest as a concrete example of the application of the concept (to make at the moment wished by the Region).

A. Diagnostic Mission

The target of the diagnostic mission is:

- To estimate the potentialities and the difficulties of the development of the process of Model Forest on the place pre-retained, by meeting in particular a representative sample of local actors (administrations and local public authorities, inhabitants, producers, industrialists, associations, centre of trainings, education and research, technical institutes or development agencies, etc.),
- To hold a pre-workshop of awareness of a significant group of local actors prefiguring the future partnership of Model Forest on the site,
- To expose the results of the mission to the competent authorities with the aim of the preparatory work and for the holding of a strategic workshop with the partners.

The results waited at the end of this first mission are:

- The deepening of the knowledge of the local context on the site retained in order to launch the first process of Model Forest in the aimed region (territory, local actors, institutions, important problems in debate),
- The awareness of significant group of local actors and the acquisition of abstract tools in order that they could be able themselves to contribute to the construction of the partnership of the Model Forest,
- The realization of an analysis of the strengths, the weaknesses, the stakes and the opportunities, for the retained site,
- Recommendations for the establishment of a Model Forest on the retained site,
- A definition of the continuation of the program with the authorities and the local actors engaged until the end of the mission and the strategic workshop.

B. Groups of preparatory work

The formation of the working groups aims to:

- Advance the reflection of the partners in anticipation of the strategic workshop
- Begin the discussion about key elements of the Model Forest: its vision, the composition of its partnership, its structure of governance, the priority stakes in term of natural resources and use of the territory, etc.
- Mobilize more the partners and facilitate the local appropriation of the process of Model Forest

The expected results are:

- Summary reports of the discussions for each working groups, to present in workshop
- Propositions on the key elements of the Model Forest, to bring as base of discussion to the workshop

C. The strategic workshop

The strategic workshop aims to:

- reinforce the partnership of the Model Forest and to offer to the newcomers the opportunity to get familiarized with the concept,
- give off a vision and shared objectives, a structure of governance, the actions to boost, and a programming draft of the Model Forest,
- identify clearly the roles and the responsibilities of each partner, as well as the subsequent steps to be exceeded.

The results waited at the end of the workshop are:

- A greater familiarity of the partners with the concept of Model Forest,
- A commitment of the participants to take part in the partnership in mind of the principles of the Model Forest,
- Clear orientations concerning the vision, the objectives, of the structure of governance, and the priorities of action of the Model Forest.

D. Elaboration of a strategic plan and of an action plan of the Model Forest

The orientations generated in workshop have to succeed on:

- A strategic multiannual plan at medium-term (five year) of the new Model Forest
- A first annual plan of action
- The strategic plan developed in this way will be the essential element of the application file o transmit to the IMFN / MMFN for the ratification of the odel Forest.



3. Modalities

It is specified that the plan above is a working proposition, which has to adapt itself to the requirements of each local context (dynamics of creation of the partnership M.F., consideration of needs of the promoter of the process, etc...), and which may require changes.

More specifically, a team made up of experienced experts (of Canada and of others Model Forests of the Network) and of representatives of the Secretariats of the International and Mediterranean Networks, in accord with the Region, will be indicated at first time o execute the diagnostic mission, and then the holding of the workshop.

The management of the groups of preparatory work and the elaboration of the strategic plan and of the action plan are the responsibility of competent authorities and of the other partners of the new Model Forest.

The interested Regions are invited to get in touch with the Secretariat of the MMFN for the set off of the calendar of execution and of the other modalities.

4. Costs

We expect that the regions of the developed countries, in particular those who have a financial commitment associated with the MoU, pay a part of the expenses connected with experts' missions on their territory.

The expenses of organization of the meetings are chargeable to the Region which wishes the assistance of the experts.