

Translated from French

**FOREST INVESTMENT PROGRAM
(FIP/IP – Tunisia)**



**FIRST JOINT MISSION AIDE MEMOIRE
Tunis - 20 – 24 JUNE 2016**



Aide-Mémoire
First Joint Mission for preparing the Investment Plan for the Forest Investment Program in Tunisia

20 – 24 June 2016

I. INTRODUCTION

1. As part of preparing the Investment Plan for the Forest Investment Program (FIP/IP) and the Readiness Preparation Plan (R-PP), Tunisia arranged its first joint mission from 20 to 24 June 2016. Its overall aim was to present the FIP/IP and R-PP documents and discuss them with the relevant stakeholders.
2. **Brief background.** Tunisia was selected in May 2015 by the FIP Sub-Committee from among the pilot countries in the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and received a subsidy of USD 250,000 to draft its Investment Plan (IP) with the support of the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), which cooperate with all the relevant stakeholders (UN organisations, bilateral partners, private sector and civil society organisations), in order to provide the necessary technical assistance to the Tunisian Government.
3. The MDBs arranged a scoping mission for the FIP/IP (28-30 September 2015) under the supervision of the Tunisian Government. The aim of this mission was to officially launch the process of preparing the programme with the stakeholders and plan the FIP preparation activities with the national officials involved.
4. In line with the action plan set out during the scoping mission and after recruiting a consortium to prepare the FIP/IP and R-PP, a first technical mission of experts was organised (7-23 March 2016), followed by a mission of MDBs (21-24 March 2016), with the aim of (i) exchanging ideas with the operators in Tunisia's forestry sector, in particular representatives of the administrative institutions, private sector, civil society, as well as forest producers and operators; (ii) collecting data through field visits; (iii) agreeing on the method to be used for drafting the FIP and its main strategic guidelines; (iv) setting out, with consultation among the MDBs, the consortium and the FIP focal point at the General Forestry Department (DGF), an action plan for producing the documents (Appendix 1).
5. Therefore, the consortium submitted to the MDBs and the FIP focal point an initial draft of Tunisia's FIP/IP, which was presented and discussed during a conference call (4 May 2016). On the other hand, an initial draft of the R-PP in French was discussed with a team of representatives from the consortium.
6. After the second draft of the documents was received (13 June 2016), the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing invited the World Bank (WB), African Development Bank (AfDB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to the first joint mission held from 20 to 24 June 2016 (Appendix 2).
7. This mission was overseen by senior officials from the Tunisian Government in the person of Mr Ameur MOKHTAR, Tunisia's focal point for the FIP and Director of Sylvo-Pastoral Development, General Forestry Department (DGF), Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing. On behalf of the MDBs, the mission was led by Mr Taoufiq BENNOUNA, chief expert in natural resources management at the World Bank (WB) and included: Mr Jalel EL FALEH, irrigation engineer at the African Development Bank (AfDB), Mr Ananie Cyrille Ekoumou ABANDA, PIF/REDD+ consultant at the AfDB, Mrs Marianna Wiedenbeck, Associate Civil Society Manager the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and Mr Ryan Alexander, climate analyst at the EBRD. The complete list of participants features in Appendix 3.
8. The mission wishes to express its sincere thanks to the national authorities and all the relevant parties (national and local institutions, civil society organisations, representatives from the private sector,

technical and financial partners) for the interest they have shown in this programme and for the quality of the exchanges of views. The mission wishes to thank in particular the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing, the consortium and the Bureaux of the MDBs in Tunis for the facilities it was provided with.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

9. The main purpose of the joint mission was to share the investment plan document with all the stakeholders and gather their proposals and positive comments on the document. The mission's specific objectives were to:
- Ensure that the FIP/IP follows the FIP guidelines;
 - Ensure that the co-benefits of the FIP/IP are linked together, such as poverty, biodiversity and adaptation;
 - Agree with stakeholders on the investment priorities and projects identified;
 - Ensure wider consultation with all stakeholders;
 - Ensure complementarity and synergy from the FIP/IP with other institutions, opportunities and activities contributing to the REDD+ programme;
 - Agree on the strategy for mobilising funds to finance the FIP/IP;
 - Make recommendations for finalising the FIP/IP's investment strategy and projects' concept notes for submission to the FIP Sub-Committee in November 2016.
 - On the fringes of the mission, an information briefing will be held by the consortium, targeted at representatives of the stakeholders: national institutions, private sector and civil society. This will help raise further awareness of the REDD+ programme and allow an overview to be presented of the work going on in drafting the R-PP (REDD+ preparation plan) for Tunisia.

III. CONSULTATIONS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

10. In line with the mission's terms of reference (Appendix 4), several consultation meetings were held with the stakeholders (national institutions, private sector, civil society, technical and financial partners and the FIP Steering Committee). The various stakeholders gave a positive assessment of the quality of the document and expressed some recommendations aimed at improving it, including the following in particular: (i) refer to more information about the Tunisian economy (GDP, share of agriculture in GDP, growth rate etc.) and to socio-economic and demographic data (Human Development Index, general rates of poverty and unemployment and their wide variation and in particular for forest areas, urban and rural populations etc.); (ii) provide more information about biodiversity and protected areas (importance, quality and management); (iii) give details about the link between the FIP/IP and REDD+ mechanism, as well as its implementation timetable; (iv) conduct a coherent analysis, highlighting the gains/assets and identifying gaps/weaknesses in the forest and pastoral sector; (v) highlight the references in the context of land, in relation to taking gender into account (women, young people and vulnerable groups), to the involvement of the local authorities and to non-forest activities helping to ease the pressure on forests; (vi) highlight more clearly the link between the FIP and other strategies used for managing natural resources in Tunisia; (vii) analyse the projects proposed by the regions as part of the five-year plan and select those, to be included in the FIP/IP, which meet the requirements of the FIP; (viii) indicate more clearly the complementarity between the investment projects proposed and the current projects being supported by several lenders and (ix) establish explicitly the link between the assessment made, the strategic options selected and the choice of projects.

❖ Report on the meeting with the national institutions (20 June 2016)

11. The main comments and recommendations made by the representatives of the national institutions related to the following elements:
- Justifying the choice of the statistics adopted in the document;

- Explaining the assessment in a way that highlights the weaknesses as well as the strengths and benefits of the sector;
- Incorporating into the document an analysis of the “Tunisian exception”, which justifies its selection in this programme;
- Developing a better way of analysing the vulnerability of the forests and rangelands to climate change;
- Indicating the link missing between the analytical part and selection of projects;
- The innovative aspect and transformational approach do not feature in the proposal being submitted;
- Mapping the other projects and showing the areas of complementarity with them;
- Explaining more clearly that the projects submitted are geared towards development, while helping improve resilience and carbon absorption capacity;
- Clarifying the approach adopted to reducing the risks linked to implementing the FIP/IP;
- Project no. 3 relating to preserving and improving the resilience of rangelands needs to be developed further;
- Ensuring that the three projects are complementary and follow a consistent logic, which is not the case at the moment.

❖ **Report on the meeting with the representatives from the private sector (21 June 2016)**

12. The main recommendations from the private sector are as follows:

- Relevance of carrying out both a review of the regulatory framework and restructuring the institutional framework for managing forests and rangelands as an activity prior to making any investment;
- Exploring further the potential offered by the sector in terms of creating jobs and improving the living conditions of the local populations;
- Highlighting more the role of the private sector in promoting the sylvo-pastoral sector;
- Need to develop the social benefits and added value offered by the projects, especially for the local population;
- Verifying that the FIP/IP document is in line with the strategic guidelines set out in the 2016-2020 five-year plan.

❖ **Report on the meeting with the technical and financial partners (21 June 2016)**

13. The main recommendations from the technical and financial partners on the FIP/IP are as follows:

- The summary and analysis carried out in sections 1 to 3 seem relevant, but disconnected from the remainder of the document;
- The investment projects proposed indicate duplication with projects currently being prepared. Project no. 1 is currently being prepared by the World Bank, project no. 2 is very similar to the one currently being prepared by the AFD (French Development Agency), while project no. 3 is a continuation of IFAD’s PRODESUD programme. This highlights the risks of duplication and inconsistency;
- Extending further the decentralisation and devolution process and analysing the extent to which it takes into account the local management of natural resources;
- The international set-up proposed for implementing the FIP/IP needs to be described in more detail;
- It is appropriate to assess properly all the activities and elements in the three FIP projects in order to achieve realistic, justifiable budgets;
- It is recommended to avoid the use of terms like “making aware” and “outreach” which have a very “vertical” connotation when conveying a message. It is preferable to use terms like “territorial promotion” in order to avoid any misinterpretation;
- Providing details of the method used to estimate the amount of sequestered carbon in the projects being proposed;

- Identifying for each MDB the areas of intervention/funding which will be assigned to them, based on their interests and priorities and incorporating proposals for other technical and financial partners, in particular the Green Climate Fund, which has been approached about the possibility of cooperation as part of the FIP/IP;
- The steering committee in the process of being set up is a joint committee formed by REDD+ and FIP/IP, which is beneficial since the institutional anchoring of the FIP/IP must be coordinated and harmonised with that of the REDD+, even though the REDD+ process has only been launched recently in Tunisia.

14. The technical and financial partners made the following main comments regarding the R-PP:

- The relevance should be examined of launching an REDD+ process which seems to be demanding, complex, extensive and costly for a country like Tunisia which seems to be limited in terms of offering the specific criteria for the REDD+. The question is whether the process should not be simplified so as to keep only those aspects which could obviously benefit Tunisia, such as setting up consultation committees and the MRV system;
- The link with the R-PP and consistency with the FIP/IP must be improved;
- The document is too complex in its current form and must be revised to make its content clearer.

❖ **Report on the meeting with the representatives of civil society (22 June 2016)**

15. The main comments and recommendations made by the representatives of civil society related to the following elements:

- The analysis fails to take into account the history of the forest sector's development, the attempts made and policies adopted by the General Forestry Department (DGF) to get civil society involved and the lessons which can be learnt from this;
- The analysis fails to develop the potential of civil society in terms of using and protecting natural resources;
- The analysis should describe more the concerns which civil society has;
- Dealing with communication problems or the lack of communication between the forest sector's administration and the associations;
- Highlighting the history of the status of the associations and a critical analysis of the development of local grassroots institutions (development of general interest forestry associations and groups (AFIC & GFIC), agricultural development groups (GDA));
- Analysing and learning the lessons from projects (PGRN1, PGRN2, Japanese project etc.) and the main lessons to be learnt in terms of involving local grassroots groups (GDA) and civil society (participatory, integrated approach);
- The analytical section of the document does not include the analysis of national parks, protected areas and wetlands;
- No socio-economic and demographic analysis of the sylvo-pastoral areas, which would help establish a coherent link with the recommendations of the investment plan at regional and local level;
- Integrating the gender and youth aspects;
- Providing a better explanation of the method which has been adopted for choosing the areas for the projects and how their costs are calculated;
- Presenting specific examples of the opportunities for civil society to be involved in jointly managing forest/pastoral/agricultural resources and in using ecosystem services;
- Developing investment projects and projects enhancing innovative capacity through using a "bottom-up" participatory approach to ensure their relevance and sustainability;
- It would be important to analyse the governance mechanisms in greater depth;
- Demonstrating better how the implementation of the projects proposed under the FIP will be carried out in a participatory manner, focusing on generating value for the local population.
- The projects being proposed are ambitious and pose a major challenge, which will require effort to boost capacity, particularly at a local level.

- There is a risk associated with the lack of resources, particularly human resources, in terms of implementing these projects. NGOs and civil society could, in this respect, play a vital role in implementing these projects.

❖ Report on the meeting with the FIP Steering Committee (23 June 2016)

16. The members of the Steering Committee held very in-depth discussions following the presentation of the FIP/IP, with the following main points emerging from them:

- The analytical section needs to highlight the gains for the sector;
- The method for selecting the projects should be clarified further;
- It would be preferable for the FIP/IP projects to cover the maximum number of governorates in the country (particularly in the north-east region). It is also necessary to avoid geographical overlaps both between the three projects being proposed and with the projects of the other lenders;
- The innovative approach of project no. 2 should be highlighted, with the private sector being involved in developing degraded private farm land;
- Project no. 2 seems to be similar to the AFD project;
- Institutional anchoring mechanisms need to be found which will reduce the risks associated with the lack of involvement by the population in project no. 2, given that previous experience shows that it is difficult to get private land owners involved in forest projects;
- Given the specific climate features of the regions covered by projects no. 2 and 3, some consideration should be given to supplying water resources and to the costs which it would incur. For this reason, it would be worthwhile thinking about sustainable water treatment methods;
- With the aim of monitoring these projects, it would be helpful to create a technical committee made up of the representatives of the departments involved and of regional representatives. This committee will provide feedback to the Steering Committee;
- Providing details of the operational procedures for implementing the projects;
- The unit responsible for technical execution (Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing) must be decentralised;
- The FIP/IP identifies the country's investment priorities in terms of reducing the degradation of the forests and is no replacement for the sylvo-pastoral development plan;
- At this stage, the document presents concept note ideas, with details of the projects' design being given in later versions;
- FIP/IPs must be refined by highlighting the potential for sustainable development to arouse the interest of lenders;
- The task of mobilising donor funds is the responsibility of the administration, which must proactively seek funds for implementing the FIP/IP. Nevertheless, officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing (MARHP) ought to be trained in drafting funding requests.

IV. RESULTS OF THE JOINT MISSION

❖ Overall assessment of the FIP/IP document

17. The stakeholders, including the MDBs and FIP/IP Steering Committee, carried out an overall assessment of the first draft of the project investment document. The comments and suggestions expressed for improving it may be grouped as follows:

- ✓ **Draft an Executive summary** which is well thought-out and would make it possible to follow clearly the “narrative” of the whole document.
- ✓ **Consolidate the analytical section linked to the expectations of the FIP:** The whole part from Sections 1 to 5 is fairly descriptive and focuses on the negative aspects. Based on existing

studies and analyses, this part should emphasise the constraints, dynamics, potential opportunities and challenges.

- ✓ ***There is a considerable discrepancy between the large number of pages in Sections 1 to 5 and the brevity of Section 6:*** This section should take a more in-depth look at vital transversal themes relating to the comparative benefits of the FIP in relation to other approaches: a means of enabling funds to be mobilised; an approach facilitating national ownership and better governance; role of the FIP in sustainable development; inter-sectoral ownership etc.
- ✓ ***Biodiversity and other ecological services:*** A fairly general assessment is provided of these aspects, which would merit being looked at in greater depth with regard to all the factors contributing to the loss of biodiversity and other ecosystem services. The document does not go into detail about what the FIP/IP will actually be able to do to help reduce or prevent the loss of biodiversity, including about specific activities aimed at improving environmental services and any initiatives for boosting the capabilities of the country's main operators in this area.
- ✓ ***Governance:*** The subject of governance is discussed in a fairly general way. The key principles of good governance – transparency, participation, quality of decision-making, vertical and horizontal process of accountability – should be analysed, with much more specific recommendations being made. The document does not indicate how processes, legal provisions and enforcement measures might actually improve governance. It is recommended to focus the analysis and, above all, the action on: (i) consistency between forestry and other policies regulating natural resources and agriculture; (ii) the effective contribution of the FIP to improving legal and regulatory frameworks (who will do what and how); (iii) a transparent model for sharing forestry revenues and fairness which the FIP can support; (iv) incentive measures which the FIP can advocate; (v) the mechanisms and procedures which the FIP could promote to encourage the stakeholders' involvement;
- ✓ ***Need for a consistent and broader way of thinking about the rights of the various operators in relation to how they access the resources and use them.*** While identifying at an analytical level “*the complexity of the land, the lack of regulation, the institutions' complex structure and the lack of Administration resources for managing rangelands...*”, in terms of action to take, the document only suggests small measures (rangeland management plans, establishing pastoral fodder plantations and protecting certain degraded rangelands to encourage their restoration), which fall far short in terms of what needs to be done. In fact, it is important to provide exact guidelines as to the way in which the FIP can help: (i) improve the legal frameworks established for protecting ownership rights and access to the forests by all the forest stakeholders (including women); (ii) strengthen the processes and mechanisms for settling disputes and conflicts over land and other rights, particularly over access and profit-sharing; (iii) introduce mechanisms for safeguarding the land rights of forest owners and right-holders and (iv) provide stakeholders with comprehensive, accurate information about land rights and forest-related rights.
- ✓ ***Boosting capabilities:*** In the context of an FIP, boosting capabilities means any activity aimed at improving the ability/skills which the stakeholders have in order to tackle the direct and indirect consequences of deforestation and forest degradation. This should be done across the board, irrespective of the specific investment projects, where the boosting of capabilities is mainly mentioned in project no.1. The entire issue of boosting capabilities should be handled in a general, consistent manner, in terms of those of State and non-State institutions or those of local operators, those involving coordination and networking etc.
- ✓ ***Population:*** In its current version, the document presents few arguments about population trends, including in relation to rural-urban migration, the pressure exerted by populations on land and resources. The document should go into greater detail on local population and socio-economic dynamics, which obviously vary from one region to another. What is the impact of the scourge of migration to coastal areas? What are the changes affecting smallholders who are greatly reliant upon natural resources? What is the number of people living in geographical areas where the forests/rangelands are economically important? It is vital to have more detailed information on rural poverty (including in terms of numbers). The rural population in most areas

is currently ageing and dwindling; is this having an impact and what is the impact on resources? Lastly, it would be useful to have a brief discussion about the economy in these population areas.

- ✓ ***Gender and vulnerable groups:*** The document has not devoted the required attention to the gender aspects or to the role of women in forest areas and the potential opportunities for development advocated for improving the living conditions of vulnerable groups, with the main ones being women, young people and the neediest households.
- ✓ ***Sequestration and arboriculture capacity:*** The role of arboriculture in carbon sequestration is mentioned in the first part of the document, especially olive trees, but also potentially other fruit trees. This valuable feature is not given sufficient consideration in the subsequent strategic discussions. Given their importance in terms of employment and contribution to the GDP, it is recommended to discuss their contribution in greater detail and the role of the FIP in this regard. Furthermore, the document should discuss in an appropriate manner the synergies generated by the potential of sequestration and improved agricultural production (particularly arboriculture, including olive trees). This is in contrast to the more limited approach adopted at the moment of focusing on trees, pasture and agriculture in areas adjacent to forests.
- ✓ ***Energy:*** The document does not provide sufficient details about the contribution made by forests and rangelands to primary energy consumption and the potential opportunities to increase their yield.
- ✓ ***Recreational value of forests:*** This document makes little mention of the amenity/recreational value of forests in relation to leisure pursuits and local tourism (as opposed to international tourists) and would benefit from discussing the potential opportunities in this area.
- ✓ ***Institutional analysis:*** The analyses mainly stress the negative aspects rather than the positive ones. It would be useful also to develop a discussion on the strengths and not only the weaknesses. The fact that forestry is combined with agriculture in the same ministry is definitely a factor which will help improve an integrated approach to NRM (national resources management). It would also be important to discuss the state budget allocated to the sector, including the positive and negative aspects.
- ✓ ***Decentralisation/devolution:*** How will the FIP process support the devolution process currently in progress and how will it be able to accelerate the process of decentralising the management of natural resources?
- ✓ ***What lessons have been learnt from previous NRM operations and how have these lessons been taken into account?*** With regard to the assistance provided by partners in the development process, the document fails to mention the lessons learnt and the value gained from their support (in terms of impact on the development) for Tunisia.
- ✓ ***Bringing the FIP/IP into line with the 2016-2020 strategic guidelines for Tunisia:*** It would be useful to highlight consistency in the issues being handled and solutions being proposed with the country's development agenda (in particular on the subject of food security, which is one of the four areas featuring in the 2016-2020 strategic guideline document for Tunisia).
- ✓ ***Establishing interactive links between analysis results and investment projects being proposed:*** The shift from analysis to identification of investment projects is too abrupt. A preliminary reflection needs to be developed about the actual logic of having the FIP in Tunisia, its justification and vision. Section 6 should have a much more important role, something which cannot be achieved by the few bullet points or graphics.
- ✓ ***There is considerable overlap between projects no. 2 and 3 and project no. 1*** in terms of geographical area and themes dealt with. There are also several similarities with projects currently being prepared by the AFD (French Development Agency) and IFAD. It is recommended to review these projects and propose ideas for projects which take into account the constraints identified in the analytical section and complement the current initiatives. In the

case of project no. 1, no mention or suggestion has been made to place it in the context of the FIP, given that this project is being developed separately by the World Bank. The section on the justification for project no. 2 gives a very negative picture of the “current situation”, even if the government and its partners have supported NRM for several decades. There have been many good things, but if this is not the case, figures should be provided to quantify the losses. As with project no. 1, project no. 3 entails participatory NRM, institutional reform and support for the diversification of revenues. What previous experience has been gained from operations of this kind? The project involves managing rangelands, but does not mention the productivity of stock farming/reducing the size of flocks.... However, managing flock size should be a key element in the operation’s success. The current structure presents three investment projects produced independently. There is a real risk that they will end up operating in isolation. As requested by the guidelines, it is important to have a means of intervention, with a federating role focused on actually coordinating the three projects, sharing all the knowledge available, communicating and raising awareness, introducing a coherent M&E system etc.

- ✓ ***Interaction between forests, water abstraction and sedimentation/erosion.*** The document should incorporate the situation of dams and the consequences in terms of the availability of water resources in the context of agro-forestry resources. In addition, a more in-depth analysis should be included of the issue of soil erosion, the sedimentation rate – especially in light of adapting to climate change, accompanied by the analysis of the political/governance processes, as well as by the institutional loopholes and funding gaps.
- ✓ ***Stressing the ability of project no. 2 to encourage private investment*** and integrate innovative technologies for adapting to climate change.
- ✓ Project no. 2 is intended for degraded private lands in the mountainous areas of north-east Tunisia, based on an approach of supporting and offering incentives to owners to invest in the forest sector, arboriculture or agro-forestry. It is important to demonstrate the way in which this project is innovative in Tunisia and to stress how it can encourage private investment and the integration of innovative technologies for adapting to climate change (promotion of private/farming entrepreneurship based on an approach supporting integrated land management through agro-sylvo-pastoral activities with significant co-benefits in terms of carbon fixation (PES), improving the fertility and conservation of the soil and implementing IGAs. It is also important to indicate how this project differs from the AFD project (an innovative financing model, more private financing, more carbon sequestration, integrated management which takes into account the potential of the target areas etc.)).
- ✓ Taking into account the projects ahead in the five-year plan in order to select the priority projects in the FIP/IP.

V. MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

18. The exchanges held during the joint mission have enabled the following main recommendations to be reached:

- ✓ Take into account all the comments made above aimed at improving the FIP/IP;
- ✓ Organise urgently a meeting with the GCF as the focal point, aimed at launching the process for making priority investments identified in the FIP/IP.
- ✓ Improve the cohesion within the consortium and ensure that all the members have read the FIP/IP and are familiar with it in its entirety, but only the paragraphs which they have written.
- ✓ Justify the choice of projects submitted and establish a link with the analytical part;
- ✓ Between now and the production date of the next version (end of July 2016), meetings will be held remotely at the consortium’s suggestion to discuss (i) improvements made to the document; (ii) justification of the projects proposed;
- ✓ Avoid replication with existing projects and propose relevant projects with the ability to transform;
- ✓ Improve the publication of the document and harmonise the editing style between its various sections;

- ✓ More active involvement and participation from the FIP/IP focal point.

VI. FUTURE STAGES

19. The tables below in Appendix 1 indicate the future stages up until the FIP/IP is submitted to the FIP Sub-Committee.

Appendix 1: Action plan for producing documents
Action plan for drafting FIP/IP

Activities ¹ / Year, months and weeks	2016																																				2017
	Feb.			March				April				May				June				July			August			September			Jun.						
	...	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	26	
1	Start of the consultancy																																				
2	Preparation of the mission																																				
3	Mission in Tunisia : meetings and consultation workshops																																				
4	Kick-off meeting																																				
5	Mission technique (MDBs)																																				
FIP/IP and R-PP																																					
6	Document writing																																				
7	First draft of R-PP and FIP/IP (-> WB)																																				
8	MDB and national team comments																																				
9	Revision (according to MDB and national team comments)																																				
10	Preliminary versions of conceptual notes of investments projects																																				
11	v2 - Revised versions of R-PP and FIP/IP																																				
12	Consultative workshop with key stakeholders																																				
13	1 st MDBs Joint Mission																																				
14	MDBs internal meetings																																				
15	Revision (according to consultative workshop and MDBs internal meetings)																																				
16	v3 - Revised versions of R-PP and FIP/IP																																				
17	National workshop (during MDBs 2 nd joint mission)																																				
18	Revision (according to national workshop)																																				
19	v4 - Revised versions of R-PP and FIP/IP																																				
20	Other amendments (other joint missions, internal MDBs quality meetings, independent international expert, FCFP, UNREDD, etc.)																																				
21	v5 - Final versions of R-PP and FIP/IP																																				
WB and AfDB investment project under GCF guidelines																																					
22	Project Concept Note writing																																				
23	Project Concept Note																																				
24	MDB and national team comments																																				
25	Revision of PCN																																				
26	Revised version of PCN																																				
27	Project document writing (funding proposal)																																				
28	WB investment project document																																				

 Outputs	 Mission in Tunisia by International Expert(s)	 Conference all (MDBs, FRMi and FIP focal point)
 Meeting, workshops and consultative actions	 Report writing and amending	

Version number	Document description	Date of delivery
FIP/IP and R-PP		
v1	Preliminary versions of the FIP/IP and R-PP	29 April 2016
v2	Revised versions, according to MDBs and national team comments, including preliminary versions of the concept notes of investment projects	15 June 2016
v3	Revised versions, according to MDBs internal meetings and workshop with key stakeholders comment, including investment projects concept notes	30 July 2016
v4	Final versions, taking into account comments of the joint mission and national workshop participants, including investment projects concept notes	30 September 2016
v5	Definitive version, taking into account last amendments, including those asked by the FIP Sub-Committee	30 June 2017
WB and AfDB investment project documents under GCF guidelines		
v1	Project concept notes (PCN) of WB and AfDB investment projects	15 May 2016
v2	WB investment project PCN revised according to WB comments	31 May 2016
	AfDB investment project PCN revised according to AfDB comments	15 June 2016
Project document (funding proposal)	WB investment project document funding proposal	30 June 2016
	AfDB investment project document funding proposal	15 September 2016

Appendix 2: Letters of invitation from the Government

**REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
WATER RESOURCES AND
FISHING**

**Ministry of Agriculture, Water
Resources and Fishing
To Madam Representative
of the World Bank
in Tunisia**

Subject: Organisation of first joint mission of the Forest Investment Plan (FIP/IP)
of Tunisia
Re.: Your letter to the Minister of Development, Investment and International Cooperation of 24
May 2016

Madam Representative,

The scoping mission of the FIP/IP, organised from 28 to 30 September 2015 by the MDBs and under the supervision of the Tunisian Government, ended with the drafting of an action plan.

This action plan has been executed according to the agreed deadlines, allowing a first version of the FIP/IP to be drafted. This version should now be submitted for consultations with the stakeholders in order to validate the content and guidelines set out in the FIP/IP.

In light of this, it gives us pleasure to confirm our agreement to organising the first joint mission of the MDBs from 20 to 24 June 2016.

Please accept, Madam Representative, my gratitude again for your constant support.

Yours sincerely

Signed: Saâd Seddik
Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
WATER RESOURCES AND
FISHING**

**Ministry of Agriculture, Water
Resources and Fishing
To the Honourable Representative
of the African Development Bank
in Tunisia**

Subject: Organisation of first joint mission of the Forest Investment Plan (FIP/IP)
of Tunisia
Re.: Letter from the World Bank to the Minister of Development, Investment and International
Cooperation of 24 May 2016

Honourable Representative,

The scoping mission of the FIP/IP, organised from 28 to 30 September 2015 by the MDBs and under the supervision of the Tunisian Government, ended with the drafting of an action plan.

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Please accept, Honourable Representative, my gratitude again for your constant support.

Yours sincerely

Signed: Saâd Seddik
Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
WATER RESOURCES AND
FISHING**

**Ministry of Agriculture, Water
Resources and Fishing
To the Honourable Representative
of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
in Tunisia**

Subject: Organisation of first joint mission of the Forest Investment Plan (FIP/IP)
of Tunisia

Re.: Letter from the World Bank to the Minister of Development, Investment and International
Cooperation of 24 May 2016

Honourable Representative,

The scoping mission of the FIP/IP, organised from 28 to 30 September 2015 by the MDBs and under the supervision of the Tunisian Government, ended with the drafting of an action plan.

This action plan has been executed according to the agreed deadlines, allowing a first version of the FIP/IP to be drafted. This version should now be submitted for consultations with the stakeholders in order to validate the content and guidelines set out in the FIP/IP.

In light of this, it gives us pleasure to confirm our agreement to organising the first joint mission of the MDBs from 20 to 24 June 2016.

Please accept, Honourable Representative, my gratitude again for your constant support.

Yours sincerely

Signed: Saâd Seddik
Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing

Appendix 3: List of participants

**List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting involving MDB – Consortium – DGF
20 June 2016
(10 am – 12 pm)**

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion BMD – Consortium - DGF
20 juin 2016
(10h à 12h)

Nom et prénom	Fonction	Institution	Téléphone - fax	E-mail	Signature
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Souad KLIBI	Consultant	PAI		kl.souad@yahoo.fr	
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Slim Jarradi	DGF	DSP/DGF	98 801 245	slim.jarradi@gmail.com	

**List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting with the national institutions
20 June 2016
(12 pm – 2 pm)**

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion avec les institutions nationales
20 juin 2016
(12h à 14h)

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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting with the national institutions
20 June 2016
(12 pm – 2 pm)

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion avec les institutions nationales
20 juin 2016
(12h à 14h)

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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting with the private sector
21 June 2016
(10 am – 12 pm)

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion avec le secteur privé
21 juin 2016
(10h à 12h)

Nom et prénom	Fonction	Institution	Téléphone - fax	E-mail	Signature
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List of attendees

at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting with the private sector
21 June 2016
(10 am – 12 pm)

LISTEDE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion avec le secteur privé
21 juin 2016
(10h à 12h)

Nom et prénom	Fonction	Institution	Téléphone - fax	E-mail	Signature
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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting with civil society representatives
22 June 2016
(10 am – 12 pm)

LISTEDE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion avec les représentants de la société civile
22 juin 2016
(10h à 12h)

Nom et prénom	Fonction	Institution	Téléphone - fax	E-mail	Signature
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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan

Meeting with civil society representatives
22 June 2016
(10 am – 12 pm)

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion avec les représentants de la société civile
22 juin 2016
(10h à 12h)

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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting involving FIP focal point – Consortium - MDB
22 June 2016
(12 pm – 2 pm)

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Réunion Point Focal PIF – Consortium – BMD
22 juin 2016
(12h à 14h)

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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Information briefing on REDD+

23 June 2016
(12 pm – 2 pm)

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
Séance d'information sur la REDD+
23 juin 2016
(12h à 14h)

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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting involving FIP focal point – Consortium - MDB
23 June 2016

(9 am – 12 pm) FIP Steering Committee

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
 Réunion Point Focal PIF – Consortium - BMD
 23 juin 2016
 (9h à 12h) Comité de Pilotage_PIF

Nom et prénom	Fonction	Institution	Téléphone - fax	E-mail	Signature
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List of attendees
at 1st joint mission of the Tunisia Forest Investment Plan
Meeting involving FIP focal point – Consortium - MDB
 23 June 2016
 (9 am – 12 pm)

LISTE DE PRESENCE
1ère MISSION CONJOINTE DU PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT FORESTIER DE LA TUNISIE
 Réunion Point Focal PIF – Consortium - BMD
 23 juin 2016
 (9h à 12h)

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Appendix 4
Terms of Reference for the joint mission
of the Forest Investment Program (FIP) in Tunisia
20 – 24 June 2016

Background to the mission

The purpose of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) is to promote international cooperation on climate change and support the efforts of developing countries to mitigate the rise in greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. Two funds specially for allocating resources have been set up as part of the CIF: (i) the Clean Technology Fund (CTF), which supports projects and programmes contributing to the demonstration, deployment and transfer of low carbon technologies; (ii) the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF) whose aim is to finance programmes and projects fostering the promotion of innovative approaches to climate change. The SCF includes three programmes: the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR), the Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program in Low Income Countries (SREP) and the Forest Investment Program (FIP), whose basic objective is to support the developing countries' REDD efforts through public and private investments identified as part of the efforts under the national plan for devising a REDD preparation strategy.

Tunisia was selected in May 2015 by the FIP Sub-Committee from among the pilot countries in the programme and received a subsidy of USD 250,000 to draft its forest investment plan with the support of the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), which cooperate with all the relevant stakeholders (UN organisations, bilateral partners, private sector and civil society organisations), in order to provide the necessary technical assistance to the Tunisian Government. As the "lead MDB" of the FIP, the World Bank coordinates the work of the various stakeholders.

Against this background, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development organised from 28 to 30 September 2015 a FIP scoping mission under the supervision of the Tunisian Government. The aim of this mission was to officially launch the process of preparing the programme with the stakeholders and plan the FIP preparation activities with the national officials involved. This mission had as its main results (i) an agreed understanding of the programme; (ii) confirmation of the institutional anchoring of the FIP to the General Forestry Department (DGF) with the support of a national committee and a group of experts; (iii) identification of the main challenges facing the forestry sector to be considered in the preparation of the FIP; (iv) consultation on an action plan and (v) identification of the programme's priority activities following discussions with the government and private sector representatives and civil society. The activities were aiming in particular at the involvement of civil society and private entities, determining the economic value and environmental services of forests and rangelands and promoting the role of scientific research. The scoping mission has also devised an agreed action plan for the preparation of the joint mission, which envisages the following activities:

- Drafting the ToRs for consultants to be recruited to support the technical team in preparing the FIP investment plan;
- Recruitment of consultants by WB;
- Preparation of a first draft of the FIP;
- Organisation of progress review meetings (VC/AC).

Activities implemented since the scoping mission

To implement the action plan devised during the scoping mission, the following actions have been taken:

1. Drafting ToRs for the MDBs and the FIP focal point;
2. Publication of the ToRs on the World Bank procurement site;
3. Selection of the technical and financial bid from the FRM Engineering - AED Consult – APEX Consortium and contract signature on 17/02/2016;
4. Implementation of the consortium's first mission from 7 to 23 March 2016 and the MDBs' first technical mission from 21 to 24 March 2016.

The consortium's expert mission, which took place from 7 to 23 March 2016, organised exchanges with forest sector operators in Tunisia, including representatives of administrative institutions, the private sector, civil society and forest producers and operators. In addition, field visits were made to the governorates of Sidi Bouzid and Beja, in particular to meet local operators (forest districts, agricultural development groups (GDA), microenterprises, ODESYANO (Office for Sylvo-Pastoral Development in the North-West) and others) and to gain a better understanding of the realities in the field.

The technical mission also served to discuss the approach to drafting the FIP, to refine the main directions of the investment plan with the experts and to agree on an action plan for producing the expected documents (Appendix 1).

Objectives of the joint mission

In agreement with the Tunisian Government, the participating MDBs (World Bank, African Development Bank, International Finance Cooperation and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) will carry out the first joint mission for the FIP in Tunisia with the following objectives:

- ✓ Ensure that the FIP/IP follows the FIP guidelines;
- ✓ Ensure that the co-benefits of the FIP/IP are linked together, such as poverty, biodiversity and adaptation;
- ✓ Agree with stakeholders on the investment priorities and projects identified;
- ✓ Ensure wider consultation with all stakeholders;
- ✓ Ensure complementarity and synergy from the FIP/IP with other institutions, opportunities and activities contributing to the REDD+ programme;
- ✓ Agree on the strategy for mobilising funds to finance the FIP/IP;
- ✓ Make recommendations for finalising the FIP/IP's investment strategy and projects' concept notes for submission to the FIP Sub-Committee in November 2016.
- ✓ On the fringes of the mission, an information briefing will be held by the consortium, targeted at representatives of the stakeholders: national institutions, private sector and civil society. This will help raise awareness further of the REDD+ programme and allow an overview to be presented of the work going on in drafting the R-PP (REDD+ preparation plan) for Tunisia.

This joint mission will be overseen by senior officials from the Tunisian Government in the person of Mr Aneur MOKHTAR, Tunisia's focal point for the FIP and Director of Sylvo-Pastoral Development, General Forestry Department (DGF), Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing. On behalf of the MDBs, the mission will be led by Mr Taoufiq BENNOUNA, chief expert in natural resources management at the World Bank (WB) and will include: Mr Adnen Bezzaouia (environment expert, World Bank), Mr Jalel EL FALEH, irrigation engineer at the African Development Bank (AfDB), Mr Thomas Legrand, PIF/REDD+ expert at the AfDB and Mrs Marianna Wiedenbeck, Associate Civil Society Manager the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Expected results

The FIP/IP will be designed to achieve four specific objectives:

- ✓ Initiate and facilitate steps towards transformational change in developing countries in relation to forestry policies and practices;
- ✓ Pilot replicable models to generate understanding and knowledge of the links between implementing investment, forestry policies and long-term emission reduction measures and conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries. By committing to apply *a priori* and *a posteriori* evaluation of programmes and impact projects, the FIP/IP will ensure that the results and effectiveness of supported intervention in reducing deforestation and forest degradation can be measured;
- ✓ Facilitate the mobilisation of additional financial resources for REDD+ to enable effective and sustainable reduction of deforestation and forest degradation, thereby enhancing sustainable forest management, and
- ✓ Provide valuable experience and feedback in the context of the UNFCCC deliberations on REDD+.

In pursuit of the above objectives, the FIP will support and promote, among various actions, investments in the following areas:

- ✓ Consolidating institutional capacity, governance and forestry information, such as: implementation of forest monitoring systems, information and inventory management, support for legal, financial and institutional development, including enforcement of forestry regulations, mapping and land tenure reform; removing counterproductive incentives encouraging deforestation and forest degradation, intersectoral and landscape planning exercises, transfer of environmentally sound technologies, boosting the capacity of local communities and consultation with (local) civil society organisations;
- ✓ Investments in forest mitigation measures, including services such as forest ecosystems: forest conservation, promotion of payments for environmental services and other equitable benefit-sharing arrangements; restoration and sustainable management of degraded forests and landscapes, afforestation and reforestation of deforested land, restructuring of forest industries and promotion of partnerships between community enterprises, on the one hand, and between civil society and the private sector, on the other; forest protection measures; improving land management practices and promoting forest certification and sustainability;
- ✓ Investments outside the forestry sector required to ease pressure on forests, such as promoting alternative means of livelihood and poverty reduction, alternative energy programmes, agricultural investments in the context of streamlining land planning and agricultural intensification, including agro-forestry.

The following results are expected from the joint mission:

- ✓ Confirming that the guidelines and development focus of the FIP/IP in Tunisia are in line with the specific objectives mentioned above;
- ✓ Ensuring that the main operators (national institutions, non-governmental organisations and civil society, private sector, local communities and other technical and financial

partners) have been involved in the process of drafting the FIP/IP and have been consulted on the directions proposed by the FIP/IP;

- ✓ The proposed investment priorities are consistent and complement on-going projects;
- ✓ The logical framework of the FIP/IP is set up;
- ✓ The funds mobilisation strategy for investment projects is established;
- ✓ An action plan for the completion and submission of the FIP/IP is agreed and implemented.

Implementation timeframe

Date	Time	Activity	Location
20 06	8:30 - 9:30	MDB internal meeting	WB
	10:00 - 12:00	Meeting involving MDB – Consortium – DGF – FIP Steering Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalisation of the mission’s agenda and its objectives - Review of FIP/IP and R-PP presentations - Discussion of the FIP Steering Committee’s operation. 	MARHP
	13:00 - 15:30	Presentation of FIP/IP and discussions with national institutions: discussions on guidelines, gathering of feedback.	MARHP
21 06	8:30 - 9:30	MDB internal meeting	WB
	10:00 - 12:30	Presentation of FIP/IP and discussions with private sector representatives: discussions on guidelines, gathering of feedback.	MARHP
	13:30 - 15:30	Presentation of FIP/IP and R-PP and discussions with technical and financial partners: discussions on guidelines, gathering of feedback.	MARHP
22 06	8:30 - 9:30	MDB internal meeting	WB
	10:00 - 12:00	Meeting with civil society representatives	MARHP
	13:00 - 15:30	Meeting involving FIP focal point – Consortium – MDB for a summary and discussion of the recommendations gathered from the stakeholders.	MARHP
23 06	9:00 - 12:00	Meeting involving FIP Steering Committee – Consortium – MDB to agree the strategic guidelines for the FIP/IP and validate them	MARHP
	13:00 - 15:30	Information briefing on REDD+ targeted at representatives of national institutions, the private sector and civil society.	Finalisation of the aide memoire MARHP
24 06	8:30 - 9:30	MDB internal meeting	WB
	10:00 - 12:00	Handover of aide memoire to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishing (MARHP)	MARHP
	13:30 - 14:30	Handover of aide memoire to the Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation (MDCI)	