

ENNE: A 7. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES

Extended abstract

Affected Country parties in the UNCCD Annex IV have begun defining national priorities and elaborating National Action Programmes to combat desertification in a practical manner. This booklet will provide an introduction to the UNCCD and will show how the different affected countries are trying to coordinate efforts and to define common priorities to tackle desertification. Examples of common projects and achievements will be given as well as national initiatives, while providing information about lessons learned and future goals.

A short introductory section will be provided of the UNCCD as the main framework for action and highlighting its aim, its mechanisms and the importance of the participatory approach. Emphasis will be laid on the five Regional Annexes and the related implementation of the Regional, Sub-Regional and National Action Programmes as the central elements of the strategy to combat desertification, thereby showing purposes, differences and similarities among them and how they operate and integrate each other.

The booklet will then focus on the Mediterranean region providing the history and description of the area and of the affected Countries, introducing the reader to both the Sub-Regional group of Annex IV (Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, Turkey) and the Countries entitled to both Annex IV and V (Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia).

However, since the focus of the booklets is the Sub-regional group of Annex IV, common activities carried out in these Countries and the priorities emerged will be mostly presented. In particular the Terms of Reference for the implementation of the Convention in the region and the history and results of the coordinated common activities and projects carried out will be illustrated. The results achieved by the EU Concerted Action MEDRAP will be presented in a specific separate box, since they constitute a relevant support to the elaboration of the Sub Regional Action Programme for the Annex IV Countries.

The booklet will then concentrate on the single Countries involved (Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece and Turkey) providing the following information :

- Main activities carried out (monitoring, restoration, etc.), achievements and priorities emerged;
- General information about the National Action Programme;
- One box per Country may present a significant research or demonstration project at the international or national level.

Finally, the final section will summarize the state of the art of the Sub-Regional and the National Action Programmes to combat desertification with a view to provide guidelines and recommendations for the successful elaboration and implementation of Action Programmes, also with reference to the local level.