

## Environmental sustainability algeria

Algeria has embarked on the path of sustainable development since the beginning of 2000, through several laws and regulations, as well as strategic measures such as the National Strategy for the Environment (SNE), the National Action Plan for Environment and Sustainable Development 2035 (PNAE-DD), and programs for energy transition and the development of renewable energies.

ALGIERS, November 13, 2023: The World Bank and the Algerian government, through the General Directorate of Forests and the National Delegation for Major Risks, have collaborated together to produce a first joint report entitled "Note on Algerian Forest: Sustainable Forest Management to Combat Forest Fires". The report covers critical issues for forest management in Algeria and outlines key action areas for strengthening the sustainability and climate resilience of the country's forest resources.

The report covers major issues such as forest fires, participatory management, value chain development, and the integration of climate change considerations. It further provides an in-depth analysis of the legal, institutional, and socio-economic dimensions of the forestry sector in Algeria.

Fires consume an average of 20,000 hectares of forest land in Algeria each year. Algerian forests cover approximately 4.1 million hectares and are mainly comprised of Aleppo pine (68%) and cork oak (21%). They face challenges such as forest fires, overgrazing, agricultural expansion, and climate change that contribute to deforestation and degradation over time.

Mr. Kamel Braham, World Bank Resident Representative in Algeria, stresses the importance of the report, stating: "This report provides Algeria with a roadmap for the sustainable management of its forest resources, reducing the risk of forest fires, and leveraging the potential of forests for greener growth, job creation, and enhanced climate resilience."

Mr. Djamel Touahria, Director General of Forests, also emphasizes: "We appreciate this analysis of the forestry sector, whose findings and recommendations are in perfect alignment with our vision enshrined in the forestry strategy for the 2035 horizon aimed at promoting sustainable, participatory, and climate-friendly forest management for the benefit of local livelihoods and the environment. This also aligns with the new forest law, which will accompany the economic, social, and climatic changes that have marked our country."

Within the framework of climate change, droughts and flooding have significant societal and environmental ramifications, which prompts research into management strategies, associated risks, and resulting crises.

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UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Achim Steiner, met top Algerian officials during a two-day visit to Algeria that aimed at strengthening cooperation with the North African nation.

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