

# FAO's Forestry and Wildlife related activities in the Near East Region

recent activities

new developments

what else?



# recent activities – normative

- Statutory bodies & networks

- Near East Forestry Commission (NEFC)
  - meets every two years
  - intersessional meetings of Steering Committee inbetween
  - 18th session in Khartoum, Sudan (Feb 2008)
  - forests cover only 6% of total land area
  - 80% of its countries are low forest cover countries (<10% of land covered by forests)
- Near East Network on Forest Health and Invasive Species (NENFHIS)
  - website
  - newsletter



# recent activities – normative (ct)

- Technical meetings & assessments
  - Regional expert consultations on rangeland management (Egypt, Nov & Dec 2007)
  - Regional workshop for National Correspondents of Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (Alexandria, Oct 2008)
  - Regional symposium on oil tree / shrub species for energy production & valorization of marginal land and water resources
  - Workshops on forest policies, arid zones forestry, bioenergy plantations, forest fires etc.



# recent activities – normative (ct)

- Publications, case studies and newsletters
  - Best practices in forestry and rangeland management in arid and semi-arid zones
  - Integrated management of forest & water resources for desertification control in the Near East
  - Achievements and lessons learnt from the NEFC half a century later
  - „NENFHIS News“ on forest health and invasive species in the Near East region
  - Forest pest and diseases
  - Forest fires



# recent activities – normative (ct)

- Forests Outlook Studies (FOS)
  - FOS for West & Central Asia (FOWECA)
  - FOS for Africa (FOSA) – North Africa Region
- Capacity building & training
  - National Forest Programmes
    - participatory forest policy formulation, implementation and follow-up



# recent activities – field projects

- Forest policies, legislation & institutions
  - Support to implementation of national forest policy (UTF, [Morocco](#))
  - Support to co-management of Tunisian forestry resources (TCP, [Tunisia](#))
  - Support to forest policy & strategy for sector development (TCP, [Jordan](#))
  - Support to forest policy & programme for sustainable development / achievement of Millenium Development Goals (UTF, [Lebanon](#))
  - Support to forest policy formulation, legislation and institutional reorganization (TCP, [Egypt](#))
  - Forest sector policy & institutional development in Arab Republic of Syria (TCP, [Syria](#))



# recent activities – field projects (ct)

- Forest management

- National strategy for sustainable management and development of forestry (TCP, [Algeria](#))
- Strategy for sustainable development of Tunisian cork tree forests (UTF, [Tunisia](#))

- Forest health & protection

- Monitoring & rehabilitation of Juniper ecosystem in Sarawat Mountains of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (UTF, [Saudi Arabia](#))
- Support to implementation of national strategy for the control and monitoring of forest health – pilot case of the Middle Atlas (TCP, [Morocco](#))
- Participatory and integrated forest fires management plan project (GCP, [Syria](#))



# recent activities – field projects (ct)

- Wildlife & protected area management
  - Gestion cynégétique durable pour une meilleure conservation et valorisation des ressources naturelles au Maroc (GCP, [Morocco](#))
  - Rangeland rehabilitation and establishment of a wildlife reserve in the Syrian steppe (GCP, [Syria](#))
- Emergency assistance
  - Assessment of damage and needs in agriculture, fisheries and forestry following hostilities in Lebanon (TCP, [Lebanon](#))



# new developments

- Regional workshop on wildlife conservation & protected area management in the Near East (Damascus, 25-28 May 2009)
  - Review and complement survey on institutions, NGOs and the private sector involved in wildlife and protected area issues
  - Update information and knowledge on wildlife conservation and protected area management
  - Promote networking and strengthen local and regional cooperation
  - Discuss and promote new strategies to enhance wildlife conservation and protected area management
  - Develop priority areas and a regional project for FAO assistance (TCP) in wildlife & protected area management



# new developments (ct)

## • Results of the Damascus Workshop

- Active participation and lively exchange among 27 participants from 11 countries (Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen) incl. 1 NGO (CADPET)
- **Directory of institutions** dealing with wildlife & protected areas in regional FAO member countries
- Establishment of a regional **Working Group on Wildlife & Protected Area Management** (NEWPAM; affiliated to NEFC) to promote networking / knowledge sharing and strengthen regional cooperation
  - interim Secretariat led by Jordan
  - creation of a newsletter
  - creation of a website



# new developments (ct)

## • Results of the Damascus Workshop (ct)

- Agreement on a proposal for a **TCP project** on the enhancement of regional capacities for the sustainable management of wildlife & protected areas in the Near East region
  - strengthen national and regional capacities
  - promote awareness raising and public participation
  - ensure that wildlife & biodiversity conservation and its diverse problems are no longer neglected, but addressed through a comprehensive, consistent and strategic approach
  - further develop the knowledge base through data collection & storage, and scientific research
  - create an enabling environment for further reaching activities and projects in the future
- **Proceedings** of the regional workshop on wildlife conservation & protected area management (soon available)



# what else?

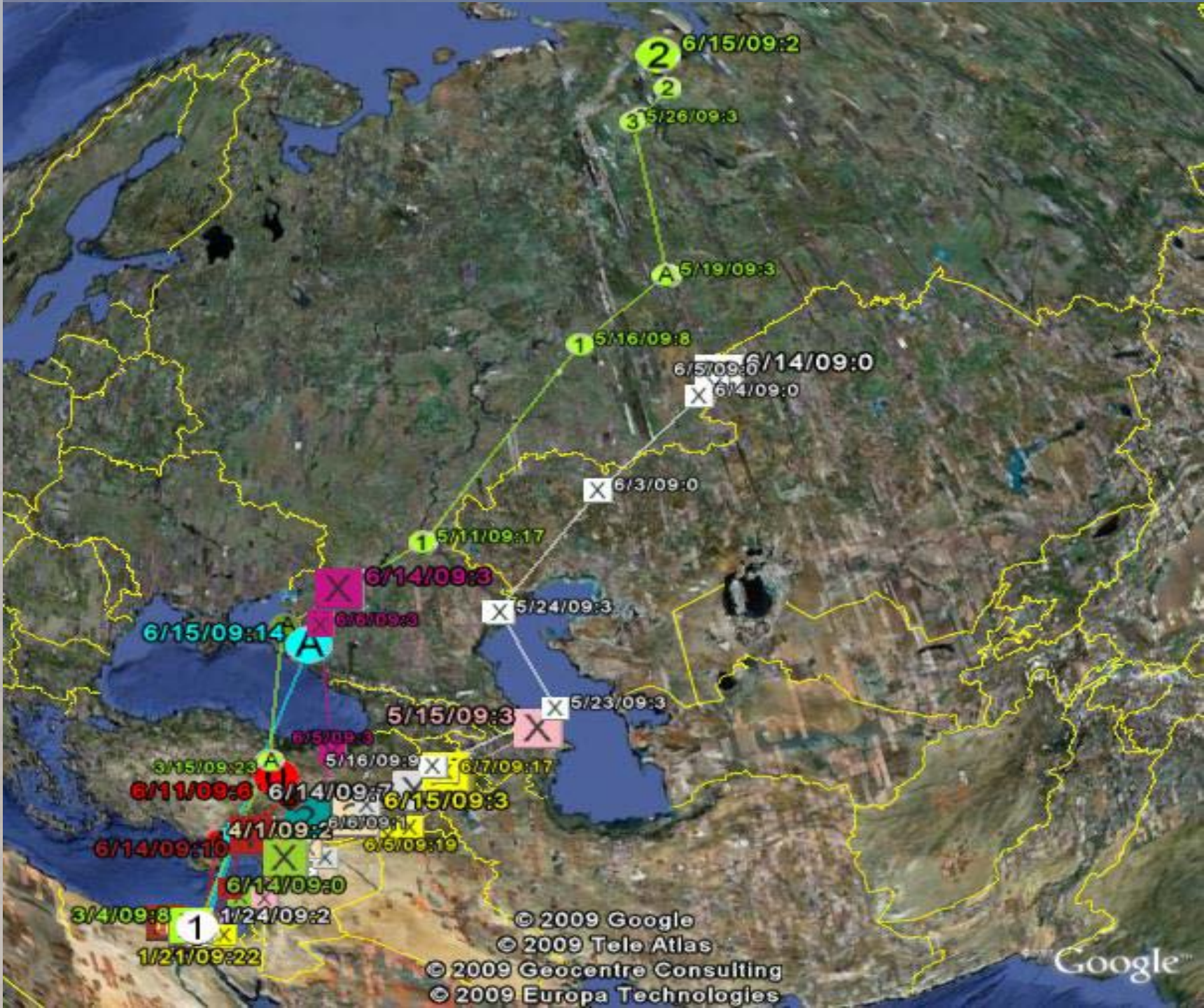
- Wildlife related activities of the Animal Health Service (AHS)
  - Scientific research and guidelines for FAO member countries on diseases transmitted through human-wildlife-livestock interfaces
  - support to Egypt's national avian influenza (HPAI) surveillance programme
    - recent HPAI outbreaks in poultry and humans
    - wintering waterfowl marked with satellite transmitters in January 2009 in Lake Manzala
      - most important Egyptian wetland for wintering waterbirds attracting annually up to 234,000 birds
    - study of bird movements & potential interaction with poultry in Egypt and along migration routes



# what else (ct)?

- support to Egypt's national **avian influenza (HPAI)** surveillance programme (ct)
  - 84 ducks captured and tested for HPAI (*Anas clypeata*, *Anas crecca*, *Tadorna tadorna*, *Anas acuta*, *Anas platyrhynchos*).
  - 35 ducks marked with satellite transmitters
  - further work in Egypt and along Africa-Eurasian flyway needed to better understand local, regional and intercontinental movement of HPAI virus between Africa and Europe, and improve understanding of the role of wild birds in the spread

Workshop  
on Wildlife &  
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# Thank you for your attention!

