

Enhanced work on vegetation fires

FORESTS:
A GREEN PATHWAY
FOR HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT

COFO 21
WORLD FOREST WEEK



COFO session 2010

The 20th COFO Session invited countries to:

- include forest fire management in REDD+
- incorporate fire management in landscape policies, planning and practices;
- cooperate in wildfire prevention
- promote community involvement;
- contribute to the voluntary trust fund

COFO Session 2010

COFO encouraged FAO to promote:

- regional and international cooperation in fire management
- exchange of experiences among countries on all aspects of vegetation fires.

Regional Forestry Commissions 2011-2012

FAO to assist members to:

- increase knowledge of fire impacts
- develop national fire management strategies, policies and action plans
- develop infrastructure, early warning programmes
- improve fire management and training
- establish a multi donor trust fund in FAO

Since COFO 2010

Global Mega Fire Assessment

- Megafires exceed the suppression capacities of most advanced countries in fire suppression
- Contributing factors:
 - Climate change
 - Land management (or omissions of)
- Need to integrate fire-related considerations across landuses at the landscape scale.

Vth International Wildland Fire Conference (2011)

- Auspices of FAO and UNISDR
- FAO part of organizing Committee
- FAO promoted 3 sessions:
 - Community Based Fire Management
 - Fire Management and Poverty Alleviation
 - Traditional Fire Management and Knowledge
- FAO supported 15 presentations

Community-Based Fire Management (CBFiM)

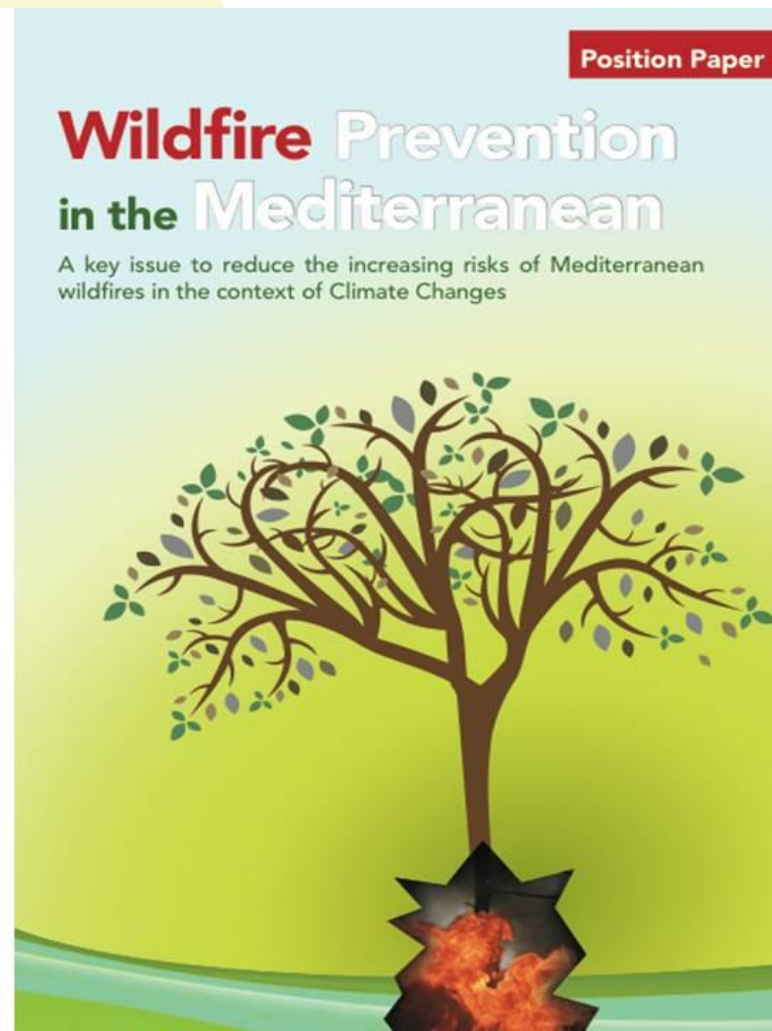
- Review of CBFiM (2011)
- FAO-Finnish programme in Tanzania
- Meeting in Rome
November 2012: Way ahead



Since COFO 2010

Mediterranean Region

- Position paper on fire prevention in the Mediterranean Region (Silva Mediterranea)
- Inclusion of north African and Near East Countries in the European Forest Fire System (FAO, GIZ, JRC/EC, CFE, Silva Mediterranea)



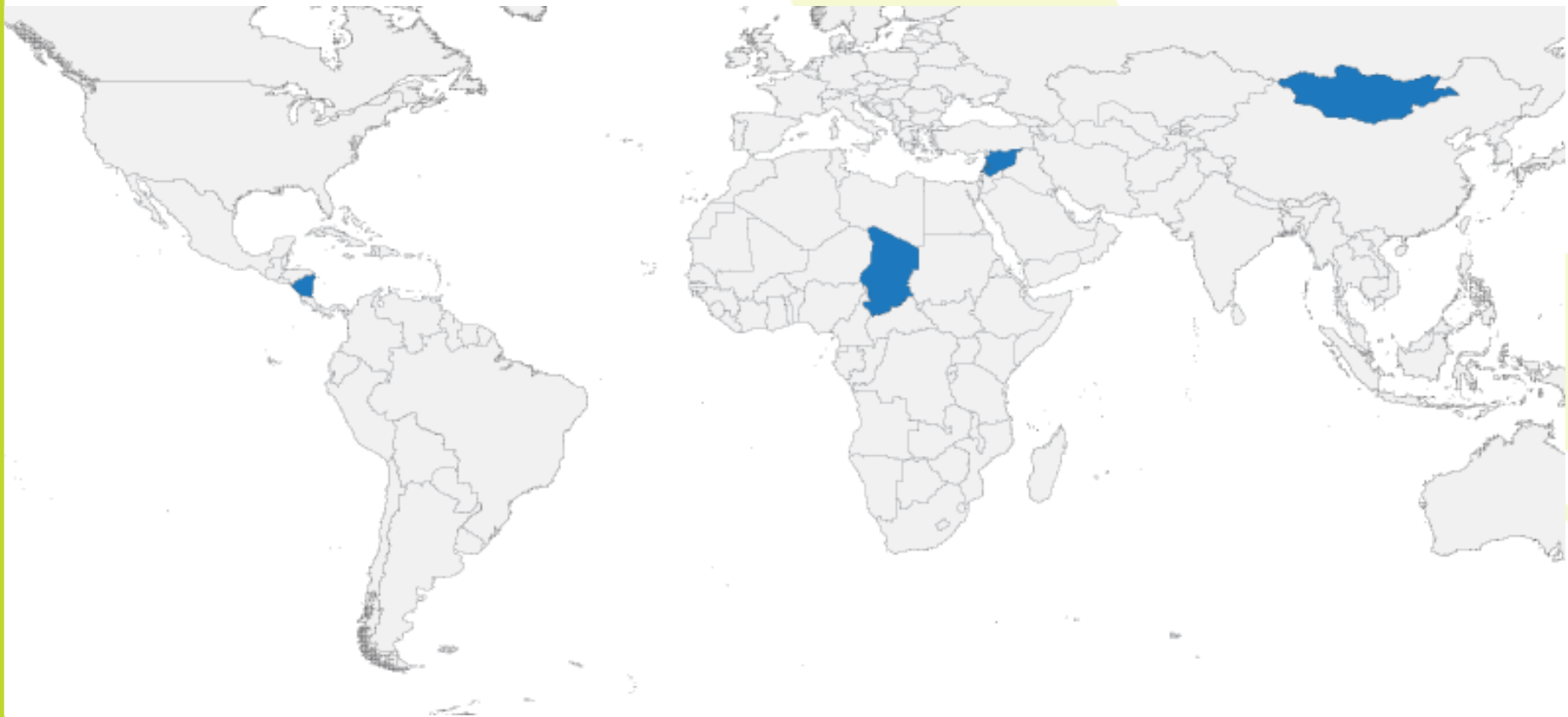
Projects



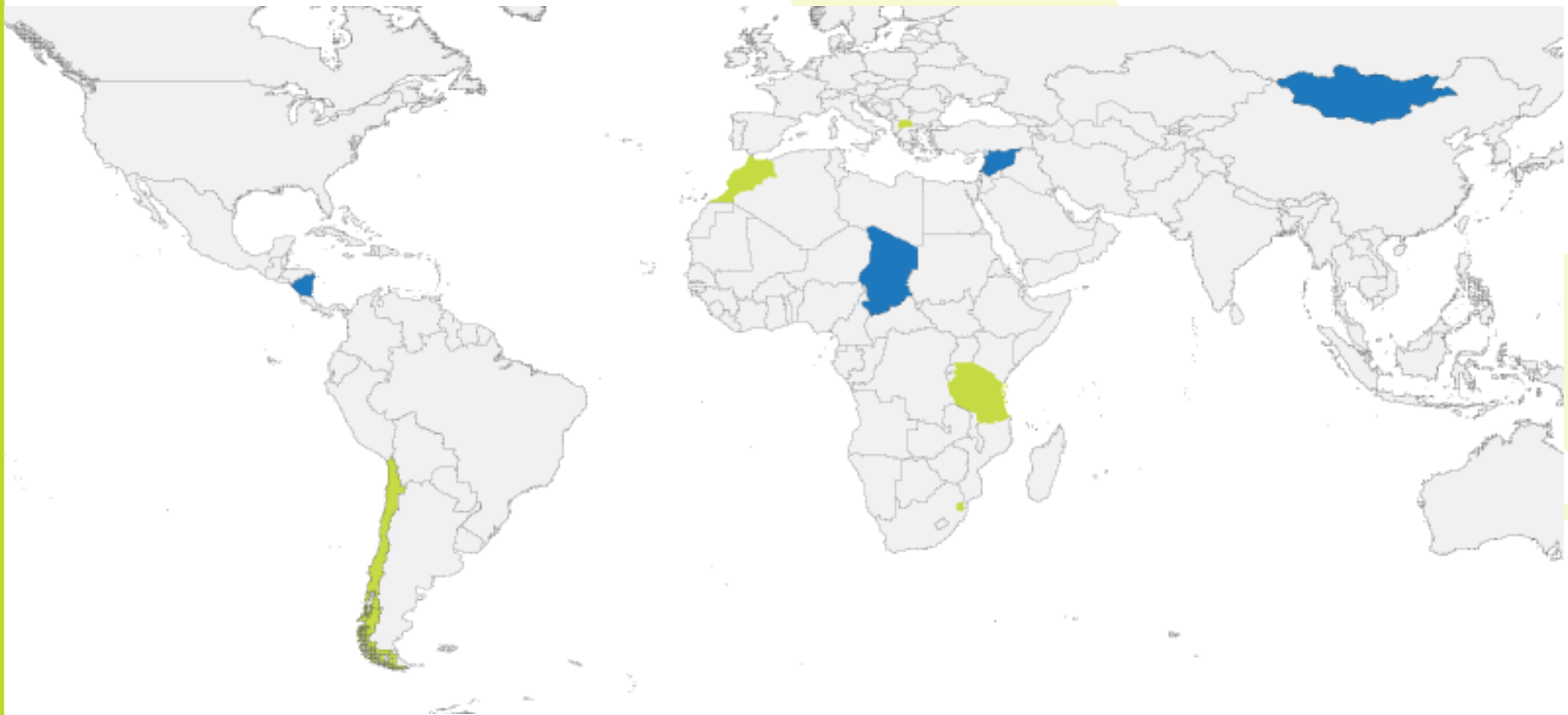
Projects



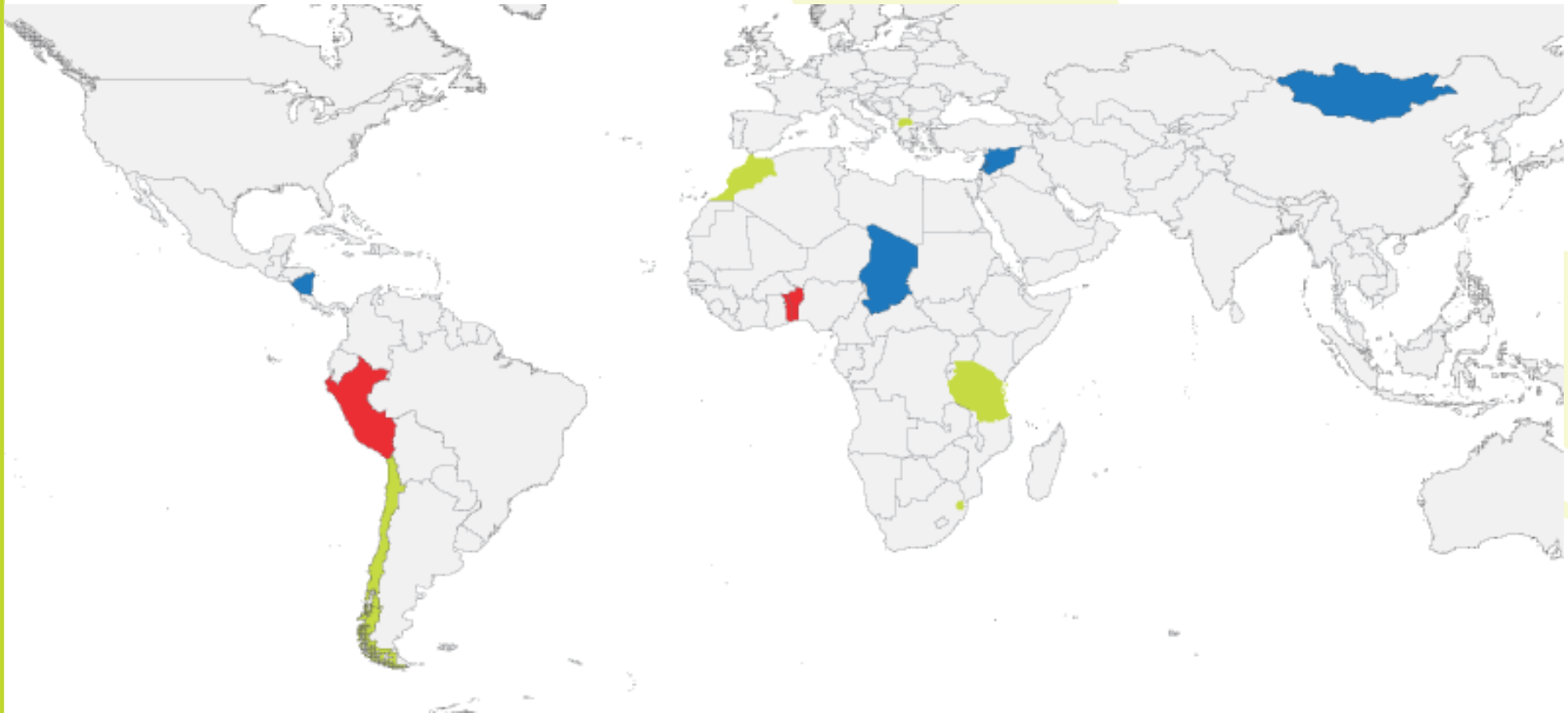
Projects



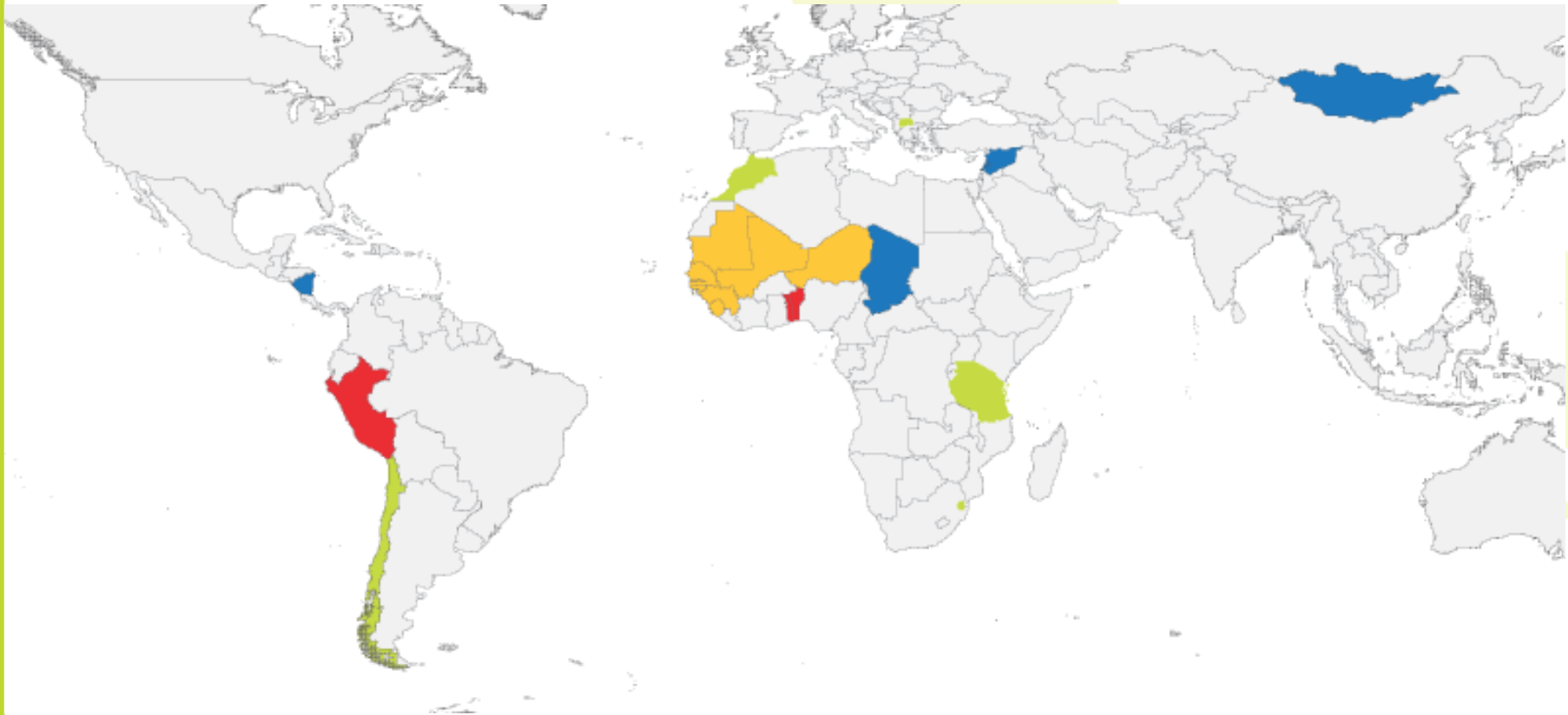
Projects



Projects



Since COFO 2010 Projects



Involvement of other FAO departments

- Natural Resources Department:
 - Global Fire Information Management System
 - Climate Smart Agriculture
- Legal Office: Legal framework revisions
- Emergency Unit: Post emergency projects
- Agriculture Department:
 - Conservation agriculture
 - Rangeland management

Multi Donor Trust Fund proposal

- Request for support by member countries increasing
- Resources limited
- Multi Donor Trust Fund Proposal to strengthen the current programme

“Smart Fire” – Proposed MDTF

- FAO seeks to take a **Programmatic Approach** to Fire Management
- The **MDTF “Smart Fire”** is the Instrument FAO proposes
- **Specific projects** will be developed for countries as they request and means are provided to the fund

Integrated approach to Fire - 5Rs

- Addressing underlying causes and long-term, sustainable solutions:
 - 1. REVIEW
 - 2. RISK REDUCTION
 - 3. READINESS
 - 4. RESPONSE
 - 5. RECOVERY

Fire Impacts

- Up to **500 million** hectares per year
 - People, homes, livelihoods, biodiversity, water resources, air quality and balance of GHG
- Often lack of coherent data at national level
- Often no structured **fire management framework** in place
- General view - all fire is negative –
 - **this NOT the case**

Understanding Fire Management

- Need for a body of “Smart Fire” expertise within institutions and agencies and among individuals
- A better understanding of fires to improve policies and Stakeholder decision making

Stakeholder Participation

- **All stakeholders**, particularly local communities need to be involved
- Local communities are **crucial actors** who take daily decisions on fire use
- **Community-Based Fire Management**, which is a manifestation of integrated fire management, is a critical focus



Emerging Issues & Climate Change

- Wildfires are a significant source of **direct greenhouse gas emissions** bringing
 - Changes to Wildfire Risk, Degrading forests, damaging carbon stocks
- Fire management must be core for programmes such as REDD+ to **reduce impacts and secure permanence**

MDTF-proposal

To apply the 5Rs for **Five Years** as the instrument to strengthen the existing FAO programmatic response to fires

Points for Consideration

COFO may wish to invite countries to:

- Integrate fire management in land management policies
- Contribute to the Multi Donor Trust Fund

Points for Consideration

COFO may request FAO to:

- Strengthen current programme by seeking financial support for MDTF proposal
- Propose a UN coordination mechanism
- Develop international guidance tool for managing wildfire risk at landscape level

Thank you!

