



# 59<sup>th</sup> SWG Assembly Session

## Regional Expert Advisory Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management

16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April,  
Montpellier, France

# Project Assessment/Evaluation

- The project objectives has been achieved. Other forest relevant EU Strategies and Directives such as FLEGT, EUDR provide the frame for the project. The project helps the WB countries/territories to prepare for EU accession (**Relevance**).
- The project complements the endeavours of the APD between Germany and the WB countries/territories to strengthen the regional co-operation in agriculture and rural areas, which is the mission of SWG. It is in line with other international interventions in the region, currently supported by the FAO, EU, and BMZ (**Coherence**).
- The partners achieved all results and indicators within relatively short time (**Effectiveness**) and with relatively little money (**Efficiency**).
- All participants rate the role of SWG as highly effective being visible at highest levels and experienced and effective as coordinator and organizer of regional meetings.



# Project Assessment/Evaluation

- All participating countries/territories appreciate the approach of the project and the roles of SWG as coordinating body: The international consultant's (HessenForst) contributions are highly appreciated by all participants especially before the background of a State Forest Enterprise.
- In their endeavour to start or continue the EU accession discussions, WB countries/territories are aware of the importance of harmonizing national processes and legislation for the rural areas with the EU Aquis.
- The project has accelerated this process in the field of forest management and given suggestions and ideas which resulted in policy analyses that are now are discussed at the national levels (**Impact**).
- The changes initiated will lead to the adoption of a state-of-the-art Sustainable Forest Management according to EU best practices and accelerate capacity development of technical personnel in the WB countries/territories (**Sustainability**).



# Foreseen priorities and measures for possible cooperation in 2024 as seven possible forest policy actions:

1. **Integrating biodiversity** into sectoral policies and practices in order to create assessment and long-term monitoring of forest biodiversity.
2. Establishment of the **forest information system** and the creation of **forest databases**
3. The use and development of **forest management guidelines** as tool for implementation of CNFM in the forest praxis
4. Development of sustainable **lifelong learning system** for forest praxis
5. Private Forest Owners: Encouraging the **formation of forest owner associations** for future SFM challenges.
6. Establishment **Forest Land Restoration policy** as contribution towards land degradation neutrality
7. **Forest policy reform related to the climate change challenges.**



# Next steps:

- Discussion and coordination on future collaboration with GFA and BMEL as of 2024
- Possible integration of Forestry topic in Agricultural Policy Dialogue Germany – South Eastern Europe - ?

