



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

**A quick view on
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
OF LFCCs**



Municipality of Tehran
Urban Services Deputy
Tehran Parks & Green
Space Organization



Tehran, Goltogoo Park, a view of center



**TEHRAN PARKS
& GREENSPACE ORGANIZATION**
2005

**A quick view on
Center of Excellence of
LFCCs**

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- 1- Introduction
- 2- Background
- 3- Summary of Workshop 2003
- 4- Workshop Resolution
- 5- Establishment of Center
- 6- Institutional Chart of Center
- 7- Work Plan
 - 7-1 Training
 - 7-2 Consultation
 - 7-3 Public Participation
 - 7-4 Information
 - 7-5 Publication

1 – Introduction

Since UNCED, the international debates on forest issues has captured world's attention and has focused international political interest on the state of the world's forests, but unfortunately the needs and requirements of low forest cover countries (LFCCs) was inadequately addressed in compared with the same of well forest cover countries.

IPF and IFF made attempts to draw attention to the particular needs and requirements of LFC countries. In this regard, the open-ended international meeting of experts on special needs and requirements of developing countries with low forest cover and unique types of forests was held in Tehran/ Islamic republic of Iran, from 4 to 8 October 1999.



(Tehran, Flowerboxes alongside Modares highway)



(Tehran, Afra Park)

The meeting endorsed the proposal to launch a process titled “Tehran Process” to pursue and implement the outcome of the Tehran meeting. The first follow up meeting of the “Tehran Process” was held as a side event at the fourth session of the IFF in early February 2000 in New York. On the other hand shortly after the Tehran meeting the LFCCs secretariat was established in November, 2000 to address LFC countries issues, challenges and follow up actions.

According to agreed definition LFCCs are considered to be those countries having forest coverage less than 10 percent of their land area. In 2000, 71 countries qualified as LFCCs, with a total land area of about 4 billion hectares and forests cover of 140 million hectares. The total areas of forests in LFCCs has been estimated at 0.1 to 0.2 ha per capita.

A variety of factors contribute to low forest cover, including severe climatic and physical conditions, and



(A planted forest in north of Tehran)

pressure on land use and historical deforestation.

Low forest cover and efforts to expand the forest cover are closely interrelated with other global environmental concerns such as desertification, biological diversity and carbon sequestration. Consequently, actions for addressing low forest cover greatly contribute to international efforts for conserving biological diversity, climate change and combating desertification.

2 – Background

The first LFCCs Near East regional workshop titled “The Role of Planted Forests, Trees Outside Forests, Urban and Pre-urban Forestry and Green Space (UPUFG) and Sustainable Forest Management in LFCCs” was held in Tehran, I.R. Iran from 28 to 31 October 2002. In which international experts from member countries as well as some experts from Tehran municipality and Tehran Parks and Green Space Organization (TPGSO) have participated.

The important objectives of this workshop were to enhance the role of afforestation and exert control over deforestation as accelerators and correct means to achieve sustainable livelihoods and observe the existing constraints from physical, legal, policy planning, institutional and technical management, as well as social and environmental points of view.

Working groups formed during the workshop were as follow:

1- Planted forest; 2- Trees outside forests; and 3- Urban and Peri-Urban Forests and Green Spaces.

Based on recommendation made during this workshop TPGSO accepted to host the next related event in 2003.

3- Summary of Workshop 2003

Workshop on “Sustainable Urban and Peri-Urban forestry and Green Spaces Development in LFCCs—UPUFGS” was



(Tehran, A planted forest)



(A planted forest in west of Tehran)

held in Tehran from 7-10th of July 2003 jointly by TPGSO, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and LFCC's Secretariat as it was suggested in the workshop, 2002, held in Tehran . It aimed at gathering experts from LFCCs and experienced research and education institutions from developed countries to share knowledge and experiences; examine the potential role of urban and peri- urban forestry to address challenges posed by sustainable urbanization and city development, particularly in developing LFCCs in Africa and Near East; increase awareness within LFCCs on the role of forests and trees to mitigate the impacts of rapid and uncontrolled urbanization; recommend appropriate policy and best trees management practices and propose priority actions with regard to national forest programs and preparation of proposals to donor countries.

4– Workshop Resolution

Following the workshop on "Sustainable Urban and Peri-urban Forestry and Green Spaces Development in LFCCs of the Near East and Africa: status and the way forward (Tehran, Iran, 7th – 10th July 2003)" which was held with cooperation of Tehran Process Secretariat for LFCCs, FAO and hosting and organizing of TPGSO, participants as one of the priority actions, adopted a resolution for establishment of "Regional Center of Excellence " in TPGSO-Tehran to undertake the role of training experts and producing champions in trees, urban and peri- urban forests, city parks and green spaces, as well as to provide services for about 71 members of low forest cover countries. This center is going to provide training courses in Islamic Republic of Iran or in other member countries as appropriate. It is also possible for LFCCs to benefit from



(Tehran, Modarres highway)



(Tehran, A plantation of Modarres highway)

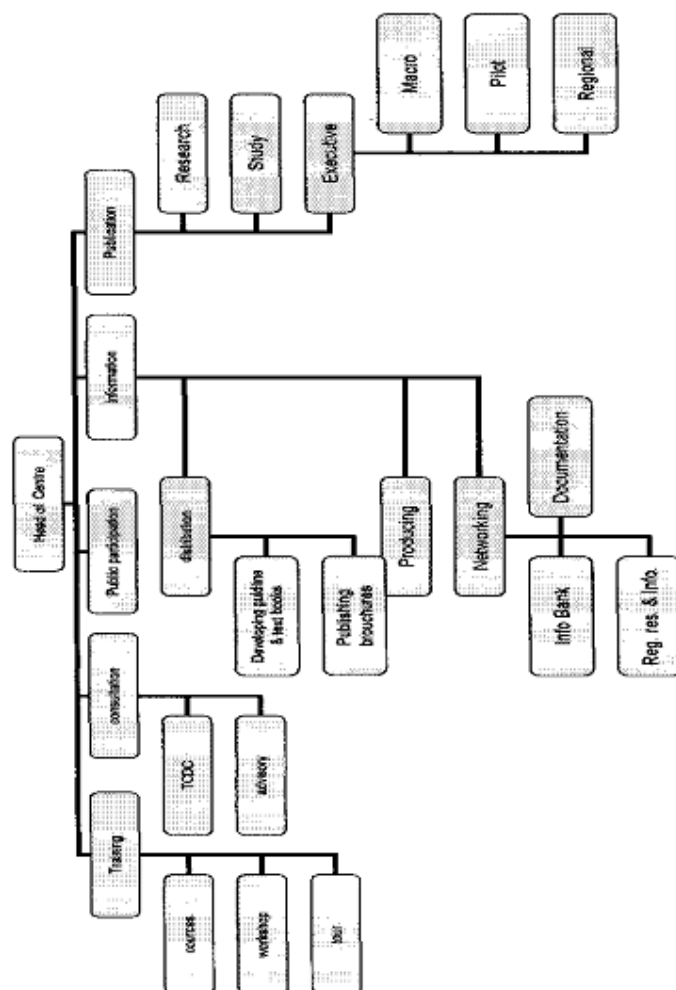
TPGSO's experiences through Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) projects.

5- Establishment of Center

Center of excellence of LFCCs was established in Goftogoo Park (Dialogue Park) in 2003 following the letter which was send to the managing director of TPGSO by the Head of TP Secretariat of LFCCs while following organizations were informed : FAO representative in IRAN; Forest and Ranges and Watershed Organization; Ministry of Agriculture- Jihad; and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The framework of cooperation among LFCCs secretariat, TPGSO and FAO for future activities are going to be identified upon a Memorandum of Understanding.

6- Institutional Chart of Center





(Tehran, Chitgar park)

7-Work Plan

7-1 Training

Organizing and holding training courses and workshops and managing study tours.

7-1-1 Courses

Organizing and holding courses in response to member countries requests through inviting experts from member or other countries while benefiting from facilities provided by FAO or other donor countries .

7-1-2 Workshop

Preparing and organizing workshops on the needs and requirements of member countries concerning urban and peri-urban and green spaces issues.

7-1-3 Study Tours

Programming study tours by TPS of LFCCs in cooperation with FAO, UNEP and donor countries as appropriate.

7-2 Consultation

Provide facilities to benefit from knowledge and expertise of members and developed countries with cooperation of related international organizations.

7-2-1 TCDC

Provide financial facilities and resource persons through Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC), the program of FAO for developing countries to have technical cooperation .

7-2-2 Advisory

Provide facilities for member countries to benefit from knowledge and expertise of developed countries without FAO catalyzing.



(Tehran, A planted forest)



(Tehran, Chitgar park)

7-3 Public Participation

Promote green culture among public people regarding maintaining urban and peri-urban forests and green spaces.

7-4 Information

Collect and produce information and establish information network.

7-4-1 Distribution

Raise public and involved people knowledge to have active participation regarding urban and peri-urban forests and green spaces issues.

- **Developing Guidelines & Textbooks**

Prepare and distribute technical guidelines and textbooks on urban and peri-urban forests and green spaces issues to raise public and involved people knowledge, promote green culture and attract public people participation.

- **Publishing Brochure**

Prepare technical brochures on urban and peri-urban forests and green spaces issues, the activities of the center and member countries as appropriate.

- 7-4-2 **Producing**

Collect information by holding workshops, seminars and similar events and inviting resource person and participants from member countries to exchange knowledge and expertise.

- 7-4-3 **Networking**

- **Information Bank**

Establish a general information bank including the information on international and national responsibilities of the center, list of books, guidelines, textbooks, papers and reports.



(Tehran, Modarres highway)



(Tehran, Chitgar Park)

- **Recording of Resources & Information**

Recording of the information from member countries and other subscribes issues.

- **Documentation**

Collecting and listing of documents discussed and approved in international meetings and all correspondents concerning seminars, workshops and similar events.

7-5 Publication

Preparing, publishing and distributing of different outcome materials.

7-5-1 Research

Collecting of research activity outcome, and distributing among member countries.

7-5-2 Study

Publication and distribution of performance actions.



(Tehran, Jamshidieh Park)

7-5-3 Executive

Implement research projects to produce information on specific topics.

- Macro-project

Sign contracts with other countries to solve their problems.

- Pilot-project

Implement research projects in a small scale.

- Regional-project

Implement regional researches in cooperation with one or more than one member countries as appropriate and requested.

Contact details:

Center of Excellence Of LFCC's

Add: Dialogue Park, Eastern Piroozi St., Nasr Ave., Tehran, I.R. Iran

Tel: +98-21-8286075

Email: CE.LFCCs@neda.net

Tehran Process Secretariat Of LFCCs

Add: No.4, Shemshad lane, Felestin St., Tehran, I.R. Iran.

Tel: +98-21-6497925

Fax: +98-21-6497926

Email: Faro_high_council@mavara

Website: <http://www.lfccc.net>

Tehran Parks & Green Space Organization

Add: No.15, Behaghhi St., Arjantin Sq. Tehran I.R.Iran

Tel: +98-21-8735010

Fax: +98-21-8735070

Email: Tehran parks @Tehranparks.org

Website: <http://www.Tehranparks.org>



