

National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania Rr. Bulevardi Zogu I,Godina ZP Kati II-të, Tiranë Tiranë – Shqipëri Website: <u>www.shkpkk.org</u>

## National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania

Forests and Pastures occupy 1/2 of the total area in Albania. By the beginning of 2013, around 900 thousand of forests and pastures are transferred at Local Government Units as one of the biggest reforms developed in recent years in our country.

The transfer of the management rights and responsibilities to the Local Government Units (LGUs) and further to the users (village and rural households) is the most important aspect of the reform in forests and pastures.

Already the experience shows that the transfer of the responsibilities for the management of forests and pastures to the LGUs and further to the traditional users, based on the right and early customary tradition is very beneficial and successful, from which benefit rural households, which account the half of the country's population, and society as a whole.

# *National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania is* a non-profit (nongovernmental) organization that represents the interests of about 600 thousand users of forests and pastures of Albania. They are individuals, families or group of families who take care about 30% of the forest land in Albania.

National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania brings together 10 Regional Federations of Communal Forests and Pastures Users. It promotes the values of sustainable forests and pastures management as well as recognition of the use/ownership rights.

## Mission

NFCFPA mission is to address and convey the interests of its members to accelerate the decentralization, legalization of the ownership/user rights towards a sustainable management of forests and pastures.

#### Vision

Recognizing and ensuring the rights of ownership and use, based on the best traditions of forest and pasture management by rural communities to prevent further degradation of natural resources, for forests and pasture regeneration, conservation of biodiversity and increasing income for rural communities.

## To achieve its mission the NFCFPA realizes:

- Coordination and cooperation between local and central actors
- Protect the interests of its members at central level
- Lobbying and advocacy for the improvement of policies and strategies in forests and pastures
- Advice and support through technical assistance
- Information and awareness of local communities
- Incentive of active participation in multifunctional government of communal forests and pastures

**The activities:** Organizing the trainings for safety measures, forestry farmer model, thinning, fire prevention, advocacy and lobbying, IPARD forest governance, financial management and self-assessment. Organization of activities related to gender issues (reflection on the current status of gender issues in forestry at regional and national level).

We are member of International Land Coalition (ILC) and Regional Centre for Forestry and Rural Development (REFORD).

National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania have an ongoing collaboration with the Association of Private Forest Owners of Kosovo. Product of this collaboration is the newsletter "Green Crown" in which is reflected each month the common experiences related to private and communal forestry.

## Members:

Currently the National Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures of Albania has 10 members represented by 10 organizations at regional level. Networking and continuous collaboration bring together the below districts:

Berat	Korçë
Dibër	Kukës
Elbasan	Lezhë
Gjirokastër	Pukë

Shkodër Tiranë