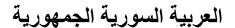
International Day for Biological Diversity 2009 May 22

Syrian Arab Republic





The celebrations of International Day for Biological Diversity will be on the activities of the project of Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area Management SYR/05/010 with the aim to ensure that Syria's globally and nationally significant biodiversity is sustainably used by, and provides benefits to, its current generation while being conserved for the benefit of present and future generations worldwide.

The project is being conducted by the two national executing agencies: the Ministry of State for Environment Affairs - MSEA and Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform MAAR and co-financed by GEF, UNDP, and the Syrian Arab Republic. The project target areas are three PA sites with total area around 47000/ha:

- Abu Qubies (Hama Governorate);
- Al Fourounloq (Lattakia Governorate);
- Jebel Abdul Aziz (Hasssakeh Governorate).

The central celebration festival of the International Day for Biological Diversity will be held at Abu Qubies PA site on May 25, 2009 to commemorate this important event. This festival comes within the project public awareness campaign activities to promote and increase awareness about the importance of PA management in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components.

The celebration will be under the auspices of HE Dr. Kawkab Dayeh Minister of State for Environment Affairs and entitled: "Risks of exotic species (introduced or invasive) on ecosystems".

Also on this occasion, Syria will implement some other activities in cooperation with the Universities and Syrian Governorates.

