

**The Role of Herbal, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in Improving the Livelihood of the Rural Poor in the NENA Region: Challenges, Constraints, Prospects, and Strategic Directions**

**Regional Expert Workshop  
ICARDA, Aleppo, 10-12 July 2007**

***Tuesday 10 July 2007***

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

**Session 1: *Opening session***

**Chairperson: Dr. Mahmoud Solh**

09:00 – 09:30 Welcome and opening statements  
Dr. Mona Bishay, Director of IFAD-NENA region Division,  
Dr. Mahmoud Solh, DG of ICARDA  
Dr. Rémi Kahane, Executive Secretary Horticulture Global Initiative

09:30 – 10:00 Importance of HMAPs for the Livelihoods of Rural Persons in an International Perspective by Dr. Á. Máthé.

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

**Session 2: *Constraints and opportunities for sustainable collection, production, and marketing of HMAPs***

**Chairperson: Dr. Rémi Kahane**

**Rapporteurs: Dr. Abdalla Rahman  
Dr. Ahmed Amri**

10:30 – 10:45 Importance of HMAPs in Morocco and the National Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (NIMAP) Strategy for Promoting the Sector by Dr. M. Hmamouchi

10:45 – 11:00 A Multidisciplinary Study of Herbal, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in Southern Tunisia: a New Approach by Dr. A. Ouled Belgacem

11:00 – 11:15 Importance of Herbal, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Production in Egypt by Dr. M. H. EL-Masry

11:15 – 11:45 **Discussion on lessons learned for better livelihoods**

11:45 – 12:00 The Role of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Research Institute in Improving the Livelihoods and Reducing Poverty of Rural Sudanese Population by Dr. M. A. Galal Mohamed

12:00 – 12:15 Improving Livelihood and Income of Rural Male and Female through Natural Resource Management especially Medicinal and Herbal Aromatic plants in Jordan by Dr. K. Khairallah

12:15 – 13:00 **General discussion on lessons learned for poverty reduction**

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

**Session 3:** *Constraints and opportunities for sustainable collection, production, and marketing of HMAPs*

**Chairperson: Prof. Akos Máthé**

**Rapporteurs: Dr. Abdoulhamid Abdouli  
Dr. Mohamed El-Mourid**

14:00 – 14:15 Medicinal and Aromatic Plants of Iran: Importance, Production and Marketing by Dr. F. Sefidkon

14:15 – 14:30 Description and Analysis of Opportunities and Constraints for Integrating Small Collectors and Growers of MAP in the Palestinian Market By M. Y. Sbeih and Mr. N. Faqih.

14:30 – 14:45 Mainstreaming Conservation Considerations into Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Production Processes in Lebanon by Dr. R. Assi

14:45 – 15:30 **Discussion on lessons learned for better livelihoods**

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

**Session 4:** *Comparative advantages and market potential of HMAPs*

**Chairperson: Prof. Mohamed Al-Masry**

**Rapporteurs: Dr. Javed Rizvi  
Mr. Nasser Faqih**

16:00 – 16:15 Global Essential Oil and Aromatic Plant Industry with Case Studies in Morocco and Tunisia by Dr. R. Govindasamy

16:15 – 16:30 The Link between the Medicinal Plant Industry and the European Market: Challenges and Opportunities by Dr. E. Attard

16:30 – 16:45 Development of Supply Chain for a High Value Crop: A Case Study Involving the Cultivation of Lemon Grass by Small Farmers in the Patna District of Bihar India by Dr. K. M. Singh

16:45 – 17:00 Potentials of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in Sustainable Agriculture and Rural development: Case of SEKEM Initiative in Egypt by Dr. A. Shalaby

17:00 – 17:45 **General discussion on lessons learned for poverty reduction**

***Wednesday 11 July 2007***

**Session 5:** *Comparative advantages and market potential of HMAPs*

**Chairperson:** **Hannah Jaenicke**

**Rapporteurs:** **Mr. Tawfiq El-Zabri**  
**Mr. Ahmed Moustafa**

08:30 – 08:45 Underutilized Medicinal Plants: Promotion and Strategies to Maintain Biodiversity by Dr. H. Jaenicke

08:45 – 09:00 A Strategy for HMAPs Improving NENA Region Rural People's Livelihood by Dr. M.S.A. Safwat

09:00 – 09:15 Importance of Herbal, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (HMAP) in the research and development activities of ICARDA by A. Amri

09:15 – 10:00 **General discussion on lessons learned for better livelihoods**

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

**Session 6:** *Success stories, partnerships and on-going initiatives*

**Chairperson:** **Dr. Mohamed Galal Mohamed**

**Rapporteurs:** **Dr. Aden Aw-Hassan**  
**Dr. Raghed Assi**

10:30 – 10:45 Community-based Medicinal Plants Enterprises Development in East Africa by Dr. S.K. Raina.

10:45 – 11:00 Promoting Herbal, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants by Rural Women in Morocco: from Production to Markets by Dr. S. Zrira.

11:00 – 11:15 YMCA's Contribution to the Development of HMAPs in Lebanon by Ms. P. R. Sfeir.

11:15 – 11:30 Commercialization of HMAPs: Case of Aloe vera and Frankincense in North Somalia by Mr. M. Yonis

11:30 – 12:15 **General discussion on lessons learned for better livelihoods**

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break

**Session 7:** *Success stories, partnerships and on-going initiatives*

**Chairperson:** **Dr. Suresh Rania**

**Rapporteurs:** **Dr. Najibullah Malik**  
**Dr. Mohamed Yonis**

13:30 – 13:45 Global Horticulture Initiative to Improve the Networking Capacity of HMAPs Research and Development Community by Dr. R. Kahane

13:45 – 14:00 Aloe vera: a Wealth for Poor Farmers in Syria by Dr. M. A. Al-Hoseini

14:00 – 14:15 Mint and Its Value Added Products: Novel Source of Licit Income to Afghan Farmers by Dr. J. Rizvi

14:15 – 15:00 **General discussion on lessons learned for better livelihoods**

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 15:45 Successful Introduction of Saffron and the Potential of Licorice and Hing as Sustainable Sources of Income for Rural Communities in Afghanistan by Dr. N. Malik

15:45 – 16:00 Turning Ashes to Gold: Laurel Plant from Mythology to Our Days by Mr. S. Apelian.

16:00 – 16:15 Ugarit Pharmaceutical Co.: The First Syrian “Phytomedicine” based Pharmaceutical Company by Mr. I.Haji Mohamad

16:15 – 17:00 **General discussion on lessons learned for better livelihoods**

19:30 – 22:00 Official dinner

***Thursday 12 July 2007***

**Session 8:** *Future strategic and operational directions for the promotion of HMAPs in the NENA region*

Four concurrent groups discussing two themes (chairpersons and rapporteurs to be chosen by the groups)

08:30 – 10:30 Concurrent group discussion

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

**Session 9: General discussion and closing remarks**

**Chairperson: Dr. Mona Bishay**

**Rapporteurs: Dr. Nasri Haddad**

**Dr. Ahmed Sidahmed**

11:00 – 12:30 Presentation and discussion of the concurrent groups

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 15:00 **General discussion and closing statements**