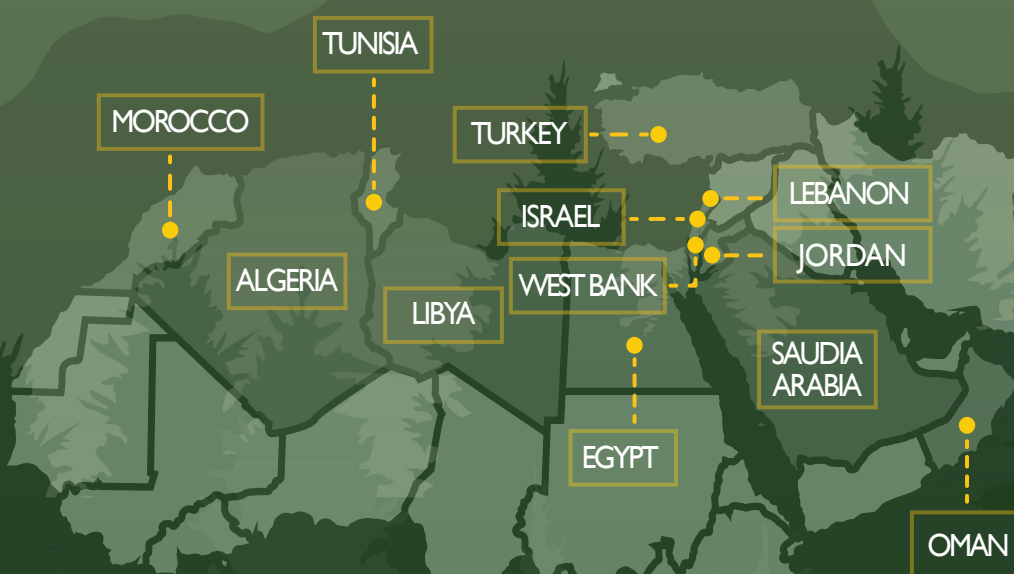




U.S. FOREST SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

U.S. Forest Service programs in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) focus on delivering high quality natural resource management programs to improve lives, landscapes, and water security in the region. Through strong partnerships with excellent organizations, the Forest Service has provided direct, on the ground technical support and exchange opportunities in countries across the region for over 35 years with support from the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the U.S. Department of Defense.



35 yrs

Experience in the Middle East and North Africa



153

Professionals from MENA attended U.S. and regionally-based seminars, study tours and training



43,2K

Kids engaged in hands-on environmental science programs



1.35M

Native seedlings propagated across the region for land restoration



800K

Native trees planted in Lebanon to benefit communities.



64K

Hectares of land under better management practices



CONSERVING RANGELANDS AND WATERSHEDS



Supporting communities, host governments and local NGOs to manage land sustainably



Highlighting the inextricable link between healthy communities, soil, vegetation, and water at a landscape scale in **Morocco, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, and the West Bank**



Drawing on over 100 years of domestic U.S. Forest Service expertise in range and watershed science



ENABLING IMPROVED FIRE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT



Enhanced wildfire prediction and suppression capabilities by training and mentoring over 150 **Moroccan** counterparts



Established first **Omani** Incident Management Team and trained over 200 Omanis in all-hazard emergency management systems to mitigate impacts of cyclones and oil spills



Trained **Israeli** and **Palestinian** partners in wildfire management and operations



INNOVATIVE URBAN PROGRAMS



Supporting dynamic urban NGOs in **Jordan, Tunisia, the West Bank, and Egypt** with innovative science education programs for underserved youth and communities



Building a practitioner network for rooftop farming and urban greening NGOs throughout the region



Partnering with communities and universities in **Egypt** to advance rooftop farming and establish community rooftop gardens



PROMOTING GREEN CAREERS THROUGH JOB CORPS AND SEASONAL PROGRAMS



Engaging 1,600 seasonal workers in paid reforestation jobs in **Lebanon** since 2011



Creating more than 1,500 jobs in native seedling nurseries in **Jordan**



Implementing Youth Conservation Corps programs with local NGOs in **Lebanon, the West Bank, and Morocco**



BUILDING REGIONAL PRACTITIONER NETWORKS



Facilitating hands-on learning exchange between USFS' Middle Eastern partners with like programs to strengthen and leverage regional expertise. Gathered practitioners from multiple countries working on watershed restoration, on urban programs, and on youth conservation corps



Sponsored over 150 professionals from the region on U.S.-based seminars and study tours to promote global learning and exchange

Kathleen Sheridan

Assistant Director for Africa and the Middle East
U.S. Forest Service International Programs
kathleen.sheridan@usda.gov

Michelle Zweede

Africa and Middle East Regional Coordinator
U.S. Forest Service International Programs
michelle.zweede@usda.gov

