



# Union of Comoros



The study Tour and the 4th EWG Meeting for FEM/FIS in Bostwana  
24th-27th February 2020



# General Context of Comoros

- ❑ **Geography:** Comoros Islands are a group of four volcanic islands located in the Mozambique Channel in the Western Indian Ocean, halfway between the east coast of the African continent and the northern tip of Madagascar. These four volcanic islands cover an area of 2,236 km<sup>2</sup>.
- ❑ **Independence:** July 06, 1975 ( France),
- ❑ **Religion:** Muslim Sunni
- ❑ **languages:** Arabic (Official), French (official) and Shikomori (mixture of Kiswahili and Arabic)
- ❑ **Geographical coordinates:** 12 10 S, 44 15 E
- ❑ **Demography:** estimated 800,000 inhabitants,
- ❑ **Climates:** Tropical maritime climate. There is a hot and humid season in a northwest stream from November to April and a dry season from May to October.
- ❑ **Natural risks:** Cyclones possible during the rainy season (December to April), the Kartala (Grande Comore) is an active volcano

# Forest information

Comoros with technical and financial support from FAO had implemented between 2008 and 2011, a project to support the national forestry program.

**Results of the project:** (1) Realization of the national forest inventory, (2) Establishment of a forest policy , (3) the forest development strategy and (4) led to the elaboration of a preliminary draft of a forest law. These results have contributed to strengthening and improving the government's capacities on integrated management of forest ecosystems, their monitoring including the assessment of institutions.

## **IFN results contributed to:**

- (1) the estimation of the areas of forests and other lands,
- (2) the implementation of forest management policy,
- (3) estimation of the volume of standing wood,
- (4) estimation of biomass and carbon stock,
- (5) the evaluation of flora biodiversity within forest land, other wooded land and other land,
- and (6) provide information on community forest use.

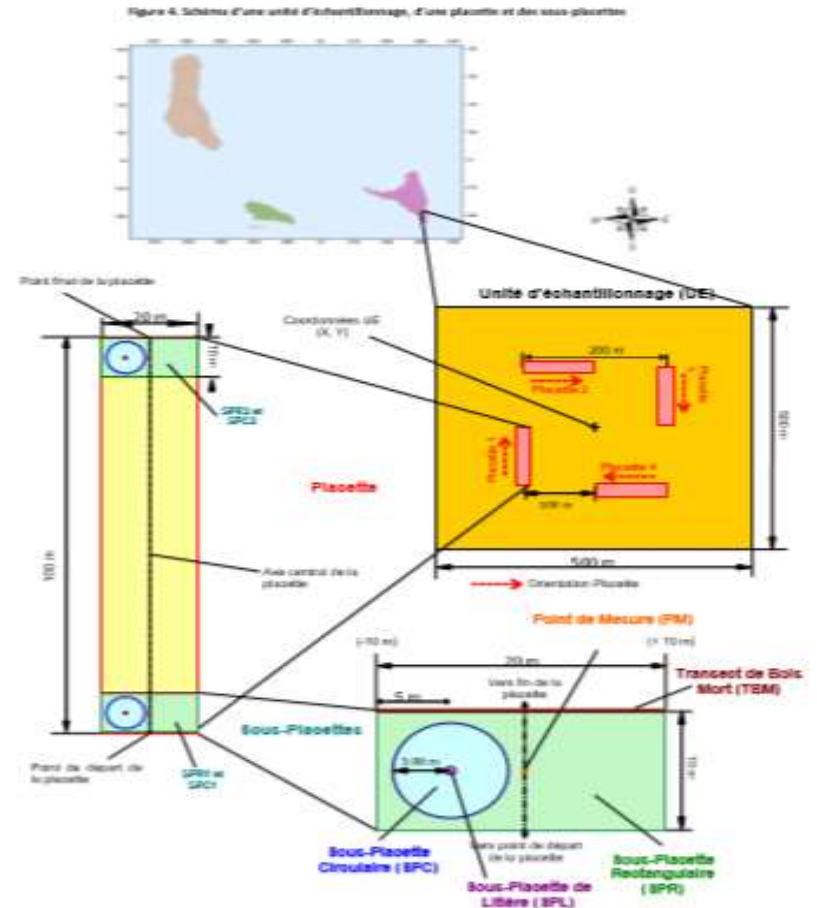
# IFN methodology

Figure 11. Personnel des équipes de terrain de l'IFN

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Figure 10. Equipements de terrain de l'inventaire





**Figure 11. Personnel des équipes de terrain de l'IFN**



## Diagnosis of available information

Strengths	weaknesses
Availability of information on specific biodiversity within forest land, other wooded land and other land	Lack of information on geolocation on inventoried species
Availability of forest area and other land uses	Complexity of spatialization of statistical estimates
Existence of National Forest Inventory information for 2010	Lack of baseline and future national forest inventory data to observe forest dynamics
Reinforcement of technical and material capacities of the national divisions of the DGEF in charge of managing climatic, environmental and socio-economic data	Limited numbers of trained experts

# Forest fire management

- ❑ In Comoros, a total disappearance of the forest is to be feared within ten years, due to increased human activities, including bush fires or excessive cutting of trees.
- ❑ To protect these forests, consultation workshops on issues related to bush fires brought together ulemas and magistrates. The objective was to find an adequate solution to fight the voluntary forest fires which ravage food crops and vegetation in the regions of Ngazidja. Sanctions are reserved for arsonists in the act.
- ❑ Several tens of hectares of forest have gone up in smoke in the Oichili region, in the center of Grande-Comore,
- ❑ the Directorate-General for the Environment and Forests is responsible for the overall management of the forests.
- ❑ In the event of a forest fire, informs the Directorate General of Civil Protection to intervene.

**Exemple type : Région de Oichili, dans le centre de la Grande-Comore**





## Zone de karthala dans le dimani



# FIS / GEF future action plan

sectors	Actions to take	How?
Institutional frame	Make effective the establishment of a national forest office	DGF/FAO/JICA
	Integrate forest fire issues into the concerns of the national disaster management platforms	
Data available	Update IFN data	Gov/FAO/JICA
Legal and political framework	Popularize the forestry law	CRDE
	Integrate forest fire management into policies	
strategies	Improve the capacities of stakeholders on the use of the Guide (SADC / JICA)	DGEF
	Analyze the forest fire management capacities of the country (HR, Materials and c .....)	