

Ismail BELEN-April 2023

Chamber of the Forest Engineers of Türkiye (OMO)



Basic Information

For the Government

1. Chief Inspector, General Directorate of [Forests](#), Ministry of Environment and [Forest](#) of Türkiye

For UN

1. Vice Chair of the United Nations Forum on Forests ([UNFF](#)) on behalf of the Western European and Others Group-[WEOG](#)- Countries-

For NGO:

1. President of "Association of the People Caring for the Future" www.gonder.org.tr
2. President "The International Platform of the Association for Nature and Forestry-PLANFOR" <http://www.carfu.org/?p=1478>
3. Adviser for Foreign Affairs, Chamber of Forest Engineers of Türkiye, <https://ormuh.org.tr/>
4. Member of the Board of Trustees of the Turkish World Parliamentary Foundation, <https://www.tdpv.org/tr>
5. Member of the Green Türkiye Foresters Association, <https://yesilturkiye.org/>

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Webpage: <http://www.gonder.org.tr/>

Date of Birth: 01 JULY 1972
Date of Place: Ordu/Turkey
Citizenship: Turkish

Professional Background

1. **Senior Agriculture and Forests Expert**, General Directorate of Nature Protection and National Parks, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Republic of Turkey (2015-2022)
2. **Deputy Director General**, General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion, Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs, 2011-2015
3. **Deputy Director General**, General Directorate of Forests, 2007-2011
4. **Chief of the Cabinet to the Minister**, Ministry of Environment and Forests, 2005-2007
5. **Head of the Department**, General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control, 2003-2005
6. **Division Director** at the Research Planning and Coordination Department, General Directorate of Forestry, Ministry of Forests, 2002-2003
7. **Engineer**, 1999-2001
8. **Engineer** of Forest Sub-District Directorate (Forest Ranger) at different locations 1992-1998

Education

1. Special Program for Senior Managers in Government, Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Boston, the USA, 2013, <https://www.hks.harvard.edu/executive-education>
2. Master of Science in Public Management, Public Administration Institute for Turkey and The Middle East, Turkey, 2006-2010
3. Master of Science in Applied Science, Karadeniz (Black Sea) Technical University Trabzon / TURKEY, 1996-2002
4. Bachelor of Science in Forest Engineering, Karadeniz (Black Sea) Technical University Trabzon / TURKEY, 1986-1991

Languages

1. Turkish, Native
2. English, Master Level
3. *French, Very Basic Level*
4. *Arabic, Very Basic Level*

International Experience

1. Chair of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions (Silva Mediterranean, FAO, 2012-2017.
2. Member of "Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe", 2011 <http://www.forestnegotiations.org/>
3. Member of the Steering Committee of European Forestry Commission Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds <http://www.fao.org/forestry/37705/en/>
4. Vice-Chair of the European Forestry Commission, 2010-2011, <http://www.fao.org/forestry/efc/en/>
5. Vice-Chair of the UNECE Forest and Timber Committee, 2010, <http://www.unece.org/forests/welcome.html>

International Projects

1. **Forestry Specialist for Central Asia** – Team leader for the Development of the drafts of two full-fledged project documents on ‘Strengthening the collaboration between FAO and MAF through enhancing of the capacity of the International forestry training centre` and `Improving biodiversity and sustainable forestry-2021/2022
2. **Senior Agriculture and Forests Expert**, FAO/WB Cooperative Programme - Turkey Resilient Landscapes Integration Project, 2020
3. **Coordinator of the Preparation the project titled** “Restoration of Degraded Forest and other Wooded Lands in Caucasus and Central Asia: Forest Restoration Improvement for ENvironmental Development and Sustainability-FRIENDS”, 2019-2020
4. **Legal Expert** for Sustainable Land Management and Climate-Friendly Agriculture Project (Turkey) –GCP/TUR/055/GFF-**2018**
5. **National Coordinator** for Alignment of Turkey's National Action Plan with UNCCD 10-Year Strategy and reporting process” GCP/TUR/060/GFF,**2014-2015**
6. **TCDC Consultant of** Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus GCP/SEC/002/TUR, **2013-2014**
7. **Chair** of the steering committee of “Capacity Building in Sustainable Forest Management Planning and Forest Fire Management in Syria” Project, **2010-2011**
8. **Member** of the Steering committee of “Regional project” entitled “Adapting Forest Policy Conditions to Climate Change in the Mena Region” (Morocco, Algeria, Tunis, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey), **2009-2011.**
9. **Coordinator** of The Middle East Watershed Monitoring and Evaluation Project, Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Turkey and the United States, 2004
10. **Member** of Advisory Committee Enhancing FOrest REsearch in the MediTERRanean through improved coordination and integration
11. International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests,2007-2010
12. Integrating Forest Fire Protection and Sustainable Wood Pellet Production in Turkey, 2010 (Not completed)

Awards

1. 2018, Honor Award of the Federation of Forest Engineers and Technicians of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
2. 2010, Certificate of Appreciation, Given by the Minister of Environment and Forestry
3. 2007, Certificate of Appreciation, Given by the Minister of Environment and Forestry
4. 2006, Certificate of Appreciation, Given by the Minister of Environment and Forestry
5. 1996, Certificate of Appreciation, Given by the Director General of Forests

Some Publications and Reports

1. 2020, Belen, İ, Karayılmazlar, S , Topçu, P , İritaş, Ö . (2020). Use of Wood in Turkey’s Paper and Paper Products Sector. Journal of Bartın Faculty of Forestry, 22 (3) , 910-918 . DOI: 10.24011/barofd.741899, <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/barofd/issue/56860/741899>
2. 2018, Co-Authors of the “State of Mediterranean Forests 2018”
<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1171441/icode/>

3. 2018, Sustainable Land Management Legislation and Gap Analysis Report, prepared for FAOSEC under the project "Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture (GCP/TUR /055/GFF), <http://www.gonder.org.tr/?p=7478>
4. 2016, Co-Author of National Forest Funds: mechanisms adapted to today's challenges Overview of the situation of 4 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries: Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey , http://www.foret-mediterrannee.org/upload/biblio/foret_med_2016_3_237-246.pdf
5. 2015, Contributors to Global Guidelines for the Restoration of Degraded Forests and Landscapes in Drylands. Building Resilience and Benefitting Livelihoods. FAO Forestry Paper 175, <http://www.fao.org/policy-support/resources/resources-details/en/c/449353/>
6. 2015, Co-Author of "A Study on perception of Turks and Turkey by the attendees in Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government", <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/download/article-file/183411>
7. 2013, Foreword Writes of "Contributions of Forests to a Green Economy in the Middle East North Africa"
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/269992265_Contributions_of_Forests_to_a_Green_Economy_in_the_Middle_East_North_Africa
8. 2012, Newsletter of Silva Mediterranea, <http://www.fao.org/forestry/44192-093c15cc88e5e71c526a9a30eb1531069.pdf>