



**Fifth Near East Forestry Week**

**Near East Network on Forest Health and Invasive Species (NENFHIS)  
*Strengthening Regional Collaboration for Healthy Forests***

**Date:** 10 to 13 September 2023 - from 16.00 to 17.30 UTC+3

**Room:** Mars

**Regional Priority 4:** Building Resilience to Multiple Shocks

**Background:** Forests in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) have faced significant impacts from various invasive species and diebacks, including the Western conifer seed bug, insect defoliators, pine diebacks due to climate change, bark beetles (*Tomicus* sp.), and invasive insect pests affecting cactus pear plantations.

The Near East Network on Forest Health and Invasive Species (NENFHIS) serves as a collaborative platform for national institutions, scientists, professional organizations, and stakeholders to address forest health and invasive species challenges in the region.

Through this workshop the NENFHIS will foster knowledge exchange, collaboration, and expertise sharing among stakeholders dedicated to safeguarding forest health and combatting invasive species in the Near East region. Through dedicated efforts, the Near East Network on Forest Health and Invasive Species aims to contribute to the preservation of healthy forests and the mitigation of invasive species impacts.

**Agenda:**

	September 10 (Day 1)	September 11 (Day 2)	September 12 (Day 3)	September 13 (Day 4) Departure day
<b>Morning</b>	Opening ceremony NEFRC	NENFHIS session: Member countries forest health status & discussion	Field visit	NENFHIS focal point meeting & work plan for 2024-2025. NERFC SESSION: closing ceremony and adoption of report.
<b>Lunch break</b>				
<b>Afternoon</b>	NENFHIS' welcoming session Technical session: Forest health surveillance - Lessons from Morocco.	NENFHIS technical session: Tree diebacks (Saudi Arabia) Technical session: Cactus pest management (Tunisia)	Field visit	COFO WG - Closing ceremony

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