Project Summary:

**Purpose:** To promote better protection and management of natural resources

**Timeline:** 2010 - 2017

**IBRD Financing:** US$41.60 million

**Project ID:** P119140

**Adaptation:** Watershed management

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**Fourth Northwest Mountainous and Forested Areas Development**

Tunisia’s mountainous and forested areas of the Northwest cover 1.2 million hectares and support watersheds supplying 75% of the water consumed in the country. It hosts half of the forests remaining in Tunisia. Land pressure from inadequate agriculture and livestock practices, naturally poor soils, and heavy winter precipitation combine to make soil erosion and forest degradation serious threats to these vital natural resources. Climate change is adding pressure as flash floods and drought exacerbate these problems.

The Fourth Northwest Mountainous and Forested Areas Development Project is designed to improve the socio-economic conditions of rural populations in the Northwest region (about 318,000 people) through access to potable water, conservation of soil and water by improving agriculture and pasture practices, and better management of forest resources. In addition, climate change awareness-building activities and the dissemination of climate-appropriate practices reinforce livelihood and agro-ecosystem resilience.