

# Forest Institutions

**Directorate General of Forests and Pastures:** Primary responsibility for the administration and development of the forestry and pasture sector rests with the General Directorate of Forests and Pastures (DGFP) that is directly under the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Until 1990, the forest and pastures sector had over 1,600 employees.

The Government has already embarked on a further effort to streamline and strengthen the capabilities of the DGFP and its territorial staff as well as facilitate implementation of the strategy. The Minister has approved a plan for an interim re-organisation of the DGFP. It has transformed the DGFP at headquarters into a series of 3 Directorates: Forest Police, Forests and pastures, and Finance and marketing, the latter two each with several specialised sections and an overall increase in staffing to 43. Furthermore, DGFP district offices are in charge of managing national parks and other protected areas, which coincide with specific forest sectors. In 1999, DGFP field offices at the district level and below had a staff of 1307, of whom 425 were university graduates and 882 technicians. Additionally, in order to improve the decentralisation of the organisation, a series of 7 regional directorates, grouping similar and adjacent district forest services is also foreseen. In the framework of the forestry project, the final result of the re-organisation process of the forestry sector will be the establishment of the Forestry Corporate that means splitting commercial functions from policy makers and forest protection authority.