

This is indeed a challenge that merits the attention and action of us all. A crucial ingredient for sustainable development is a well-informed public. All actions that impact the environment come ultimately from individuals. It is public opinion that stimulates governments, corporations and other sectors of society to appropriate action.

The present book, more like an atlas of Lebanon's plants, authored by Professors Georges and Henriette Tohmé and published by the National Council for Scientific Research–CNRS, is the product of personal initiatives taken by the authors. It assembles 2600 plants from various parts and different ecosystems of Lebanon and required 12 years of continuous efforts and intense daily research. It is an entirely original work aiming at valorizing the natural cultural heritage of Lebanon as well as its biodiversity.

Forward by Mouin Hamzé