

Tue 17 Sep	Day for Indigenous and Local Community Sustainable Land Managers <i>(UNDP/Equator Initiative and other partners) (See detailed programme @ riopavilion.org)</i>
08:00 – 10:00	Reviving Drylands: Sustainable Use of Water in Sub-Saharan Africa We will discuss successful strategies to sustainably manage water as part of land management plans, through use of traditional practices, technologies, and better crop and soil management. Local-based perspectives will provide a community-focused action plan that can be replicated and scaled up.
10:00 – 11:00	Civil Society – Communications Workshop (UNDP): Open to indigenous and local communities
11:15 – 12:45	Beyond the MDGs: Combating desertification, climate change and biodiversity loss post-2015 Land degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change are central issues facing the international community as it aims to meet the MDGs and create Sustainable Development Goals. These issues are directly linked with poverty, hunger and environmental degradation, and hence addressed by the work of the three Rio Conventions. Local and indigenous communities will discuss the Rio Conventions, the post-2015 process, and linkages between biodiversity, climate change, and land degradation.
13:15 – 14:45	Engaging with Extractive Industries: Can it work? Extractive industries can provide much needed state income in many countries, but present unique challenges for communities living in drylands – including land grabs. We will share effective strategies for managing extractive industries in dryland regions, so communities can take advantage of their natural wealth in environmentally sustainable ways and protect their livelihoods.
15:15 – 16:30	Overcoming the challenges of desertification, land degradation and drought: best practices for SLM and the strengthening of alternative livelihoods Interventions to prevent and reverse desertification should be implemented at local and global scales, with the active engagement of local communities and stakeholders. This interactive workshop will serve to share local best practices, strengthen SLM, and promote alternative livelihoods.
16:45 – 18:00	Knowledge Exchange for Capacity Building: Networks and Learning Platforms Representatives of local and indigenous communities will learn about and join existing networks and platforms, created to build capacities through exchange of practical experience and knowledge, and to address the triple environmental threat of desertification; biodiversity loss and climate change.
18:15 – 19:30	World Indigenous Network (WIN) Reception with Equator Initiative Book Launch “Sustainable Land Management: Learning from Indigenous and Local Communities” This reception is an introduction to WIN: a network that brings together indigenous peoples and local communities (ILCs), land and sea managers. The reception will include the launch of a case study compendium detailing best practices learned from 20 ILCs. UNDP and the Equator Initiative (EI) have supported community based efforts towards sustainable development for over 10 years, amassing substantial knowledge of best practices from over 152 Equator Prize winning organizations in 59 countries.
Wed 18 Sep	Target Setting Approach
10:00 – 11:00	Civil Society - Sustainable Land Management Networking Session (UNDP): Open to indigenous and local communities
11:15 – 12:45	Monitoring DLDD from the bottom up: measuring what matters (Desert Research Foundation of Namibia) Local level monitoring is essential for decision making on SLM, but decisions must be connected to the economics of the farming systems. By embedding the monitoring process in a communication platform, locally-derived information can support national, global and local decision making, and contribute to national and global assessments.
13:15 – 14:45	SPECIAL EVENT: A Stronger UNCCD for a Land-Degradation-Neutral World Calls for a Target-Setting Approach (Korea Forest Service and UNCCD) (See detailed programme @ riopavilion.org) <i>Moderator: Jon Davies/IUCN, Rep. of KFS, Luc Gnacadja/UNCCD, Melchiade Bukuru/UNCCD, Jia XiaoXia/China, Country NFPs</i> The Consultative Meeting on a Land Degradation Neutral World, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea and facilitated by the UNCCD Secretariat, was held in June 2013 in Seoul. Government representatives, scientists and CSOs discussed ways to implement the outcome of Rio+20 on LDNW. We will present major outcomes and discuss a way forward with Parties.
15:15 – 16:30	Practical Tools for Monitoring and Assessment of DLDD: Overview (USDA) We will provide a series of brief introductions to a suite of practical tools that are being applied by land managers throughout the world. We will provide hands-on demonstrations of selected methods in the desert immediately outside the venue.
16:45 – 18:00	Drylands biodiversity: bridging the gap with conventions and national legislation (IUCN) The biodiversity of drylands is an important part of the world's biodiversity, and anti-desertification strategies rely strongly on biodiversity for key ecosystem services. We identify complementarities between dryland- and biodiversity-specific strategies and an analysis of gaps, lessons learned and best practices.



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18:15 – 19:30	Best practices for pursuing land degradation neutrality at the national and sub-national level: policy options and lessons learned from 75 years of US experience (USDA) We will demonstrate how aspirational national and sub-national efforts to achieve land degradation neutrality have worked in the United States, explore policy options used to support such approaches, and provide insights into the lessons learned during 75 years of on-the-ground experience in the U.S.A.
Thu 19 Sep	Land Degradation Neutrality
10:00 – 11:00	Civil Society - Sustainable Land Management Networking Session (UNDP): Open to indigenous and local communities
11:15 – 12:45	Community-based natural resource management for sustainable livelihoods (WIN/UNDP) The World Indigenous Network (WIN) and UNDP will share best practices on community-based natural resource management (CBNRM) based on their work in Tanzania, Egypt and Zimbabwe. Integrated “bottom-up” approaches which encourage the participation of local people in combating desertification and land degradation will be shared with COP attendees.
13:15 – 14:45	The Role of Biodiversity in Disaster Risk Reduction (Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity - CBD) <i>Veronica Lo/CBD, Qu Haihua/State Forestry Administration-China, Emmanuel Chinyamakobvu/UNCCD, Charles Nyandiga/UNDP, Bokayo Sora/PISP, Robert Stefanski/World Meteorological Organization, Walter Knausenberger/USAID</i> We will highlight the role that biodiversity plays in providing ecosystem services and recovery from extreme weather events. Speakers and participants are invited to identify avenues for integrating biodiversity, SLM and ecological restoration considerations in disaster reduction and risk management plans.
15:15 – 16:30	Soils and Law: the Legal Aspects of Land Degradation Neutrality (IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law) <i>Luc Gnacadja/UNCCD, Prof Ben Boer/IUCN WCEL, Dr. Ian Hannam/IUCN WCEL, Harald Ginzky/UBA, Sergio Zelaya/UNCCD, Dr. Jonathan Davies/IUCN</i> This event will outline various options for an additional legal international instrument to achieve zero net land degradation. Speakers will discuss how an additional Annex or Protocol to the UNCCD could incorporate emerging economic instruments, as well as support restoration efforts. (See full programme @ riopavilion.org)
16:45 – 18:00	Understanding land degradation: towards a SDG on land degradation (World Agroforestry Centre - ICRAF/UNCCD) <i>Luc Gnacadja/UNCCD, Phil Dobie/ICRAF, Miyuki Iiyama/ICRAF, Jon Davies/IUCN, Melchiade Bukuru/UNCCD</i> This event will assist the process of defining a Sustainable Development Goal on land degradation, and measurable, reportable and monitorable indicators based on the best available science, including presentations on the importance of land management in controlling degradation with case studies; the importance of policy and investment, and an interactive session on goal and indicators. We will use the outputs from this special session to inform negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
18:15 – 19:30	Reception – Celebrating Two Decades of GEF in Africa (GEF) The GEF Secretariat recently completed a detailed analysis of two decades (1991 – 2012) of investments in Africa. Please join us at this special reception as we launch the analysis, represented in an illustrated map with charts of focal area investments for all countries.
Fri 20 Sep	Ecosystem Restoration (See detailed programme @ riopavilion.org)
10:00 – 11:00	Landcare International Networking Forum (World Agroforestry Centre - ICRAF)
11:15 – 12:45	Landcare: Providing pragmatic solutions to address land degradation (ICRAF) <i>Dr Dennis Garrity/UNCCD Drylands Ambassador; Lydia Bosoga/African Landcare Network, Gov't of South Africa; Joseph Tanui/African Landcare Network, ICRAF; Emily Mutoa/Landcare Namibia, Gov't of Namibia</i> We will present the opportunities offered through the Landcare movement to towards achieving a land-degradation neutral world through empowering collective action from the grassroots level - an opportunity to connect with the global Landcare movement to aid in the successful implementation of the UNCCD.
13:15 – 14:45	GEF Experiences Investing in Ecosystem Restoration through SLM and SFM/REDD+ (GEF) <i>Ulrich Apel, GEF Program Manager, Michel Tankoano, CPP Coordinator for Burkina Faso, Sally Bunning, FAO, Jean-Marc Sinnassamy, GEF Program Manager</i> The session will include presentations on GEF experiences from investment in SLM and SFM/REDD+ to support ecosystem restoration, not only for global environmental benefits but also to renew economic opportunities, rejuvenate traditional cultural practices and refocus the aspirations of local communities. We will discuss the potential for a focus on ecosystem restoration during the next GEF replenishment phase.
15:00 – 16:30	The Potential Contribution of Ecosystem Restoration to Zero Net Land Degradation (CBD and UNCCD) <i>Keynote: Uriel Safriel/Co-Chair of the Israel National Ecosystem Assessment Project, Moderator David Ainsworth/CBD, Panel: Veronica Lo/CBD, Sasha Alexander/UNCCD, Jonathan Davies/IUCN, Nora Berrahmouni/FAO, Malta Qwathekana/Ramsar, Helen Coles de Negret/ UNDP (See detailed programme @ riopavilion.org)</i> <i>The Hyderabad Call for a Concerted Effort on Ecosystem Restoration was launched at CBD COP11 in the RCP, and was endorsed by</i>

	a panel of high-level representatives. It sets the stage for collaborative work on implementing ecosystem restoration programmes, noting that effective implementation of ecosystem restoration will aid in achieving CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets. We will discuss building on the Hyderabad Call to facilitate the implementation of restoration activities for multiple benefits.
16:45 – 18:00	The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative, an African Alliance contributing to a land-degradation neutral world (<i>The African Union Commission, CILSS, IUCN, OSS, FAO, World Bank, GM, GEF, EC</i>) <i>Almami Dampha/African Union Commission, Edwige Botoni/CILSS, Ines Chaalala/GM, Nora Berrahmouni/FAO, Reps. of partners</i> The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) is an African flagship programme contributing towards “a land degradation neutral world”. This event will showcase how the activities implemented in the framework of the GGWSSI are contributing to a degradation-neutral world, in particular to building resilience of rural communities and ecosystems affected by desertification, land degradation and drought through sustainable land management.
18:15 – 19:30	Communication for sustainable development: Biodiversity Days, the climate change and land degradation agendas (<i>German Development Cooperation, SCBD</i>) This special event will focus on the Namibian Biodiversity Action Day held in June 2013 at the Gobabeb Desert Research Station, located at the juncture of the gravel plains, the periodical river Kuiseb and the Namib. The GEO magazine supplement with portraits of all biodiversity action day 2013 will also be presented. Dr. Konrad Uebelhör, GIZ-Teamleader, (BMCC), Namibia <i>David Ainsworth/SCBD, Suhel al-Janabi/GeoMedia Consulting, Juliane Zeidler/ IUCN Commission on Education and Communication Jens Schröder/GEO Magazine, Germany, Dr. Mary Seely/Gobabeb Research & Training Centre, Annegret al-Janabi, Councilor for Cooperation, German Embassy, Namibia, Hon. Uahekua Herung, Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia</i> Finger foods and drinks provided.
Mon 23 Sep	Resource Mobilization (<i>Global Environment Facility and partners</i>)
10:00 – 11:00	Partners Networking Session (closed)
11:15 – 13:00	Overview of GEF-6 Replenishment The GEF is current engaged in strategic planning for the Sixth Replenishment Phase of the GEF Trust Fund. Efforts are underway to establish a Vision 2020 that will embody new directions for GEF’s role as financial mechanism of the Rio Conventions. This session will present the underlying principles for proposed programming in GEF-6 and rationale for the new vision, including updates from the Replenishment meetings.
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Event: Two Decades of Experience: Investing in Ecosystem Services and Adaptation for Food Security This special session will showcase a landmark GEF publication: Two Decades of Experience: Investing in Ecosystem Services and Adaptation for Food Security . It will include a brief summary of the publication, including case studies illustrating how GEF investments support goals and aspirations for food security. Copies of the publication will be available for distribution.
14:30 – 15:45	GEF-6 Strategies for the Land Degradation Focal and Incentive Mechanism on SFM/REDD+ Building on the overview presentation and discussions, this session will outline detailed strategic direction for programming under the Land Degradation Focal Area and SFM/REDD+ incentive Mechanism . The presentations will include highlights of experiences from focal area activities during the last replenishment phases, and relevant considerations for programming in GEF-6. <i>Followed by a break from 15:45 – 16:00</i>
16:00 – 18:00	GEF-6 Signature Programs An important innovation under consideration for GEF-6 is a set of signature programs designed to address major drivers of global environmental change. One of these focuses on addressing sustainability and resilience for food security in Africa, which is intended to integrate environmental priorities into the new wave of green revolution underway on the continent. The session will include presentations on the proposed approach and partnership with the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).
Tue 24 Sep	Landscapes Approach
10:00 – 11:00	A Networking Forum for the Partnership to Create an EverGreen Agriculture (ICRAF)
11:15 – 12:45	The Partnership Creating an EverGreen Agriculture (ICRAF) See detailed programme @ riopavilion.org EverGreen Agriculture is emerging as a critical solution to regenerate the land and increase resilience to climate change by integrating trees into crop and livestock production systems at the field, farm and landscape scale. It is already practiced by millions of women and men in Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Malawi, Zambia, and its spread is accelerating. We will update participants on developments on EverGreen Agriculture and foster discussion on new partnership opportunities.
13:15 – 14:45	Sustainable wood energy production – innovative approaches to combat land degradation and strengthen the resilience of rural people (GIZ) <i>Nora Berrahmouni/FAO, Steve Sepp/ECO, Mrs Balamong/Cameroon, M. Onchieku/Kenya, Mrs Wallenoegger/GIZ.</i> Non-regulated access to wood is a key-driver of depletion of natural resources and land degradation/desertification. We will discuss the problems /potential of wood energy production in drylands, sustainable wood energy production, and recommendations for the

	promotion of sustainable wood energy production and their regulatory framework to combat land degradation.
15:15– 16:30	A Southern African Development Community (SADC) operational platform to enhance synergies between the biodiversity, land management and climate change pursuits of the three Rio Conventions <i>(DGCS - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNCCD)</i> We will discuss the establishment of a regional platform to enhance synergies between biodiversity, land management and climate change pursuits of the three Rio Conventions – specifically, the first set of the platform's technical tools on the Limpopo River Basin (shared by Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe), sharing lessons learned and a way forward.
16:45 – 18:00	Ecosystem Based Adaptation (South Africa Department of Environmental Affairs, UNFCCC) <i>Speakers: Vhalinavho Khavhagali/South Africa DEA, Rojina Manandhar/UNFCCC.</i> We will discuss climate change adaptation from a South African perspective, the adaptation process in the UNFCCC context, and synergies with the sister Rio Conventions.
18:15 – 19:30	Valuing the Biodiversity of Dry and Sub-humid Lands (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD & Global Mechanism) <i>Luc Gnacadja/UNCCD, Sakhile Koketso/CBD, Simone Quatrini/Global Mechanism</i> Join us for the launch of the publication Valuing the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands . The study highlights the value of dryland biodiversity and ecosystem services and provides information on valuation methods in the drylands context, and the importance of valuing drylands for policy-makers/practitioners and how it can contribute to biodiversity conservation and SLM.
Wed 25 Sep	Gender Policy Forum (See detailed programme @ riopavilion.org) <i>(University of Namibia, UNCCD, UNDP, and partners, in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Task Force on the UN Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification)</i>
09:30 – 10:00	<i>08:30 – 09:30: Registration</i> Opening session: Welcome and Overview <i>Wagaki Mwangi/UNCCD, Prof Lazarus Hangula/UNAM, Luc Gnacadja/UNCCD, Veerle Vandeweerd/UNDP</i> The Gender Policy Forum will examine progress made and emerging issues in mainstreaming gender in building the resilience of drylands women to drought and desertification, drawing on the experiences and lessons learned in Namibia.
10:00 – 10:30	Keynote Address by Hon Margaret Mensah Williams, Deputy Speaker of the National Council, Namibia <i>Followed by coffee break from 10:30 – 10:50</i>
10:50 – 12:15	Advances in Women's Empowerment Over Two Decades <i>H.E. Rejoice Mabudafhasi/South Africa DEA, Esther Lusepani/Namibia, Silvia Freiler/Argentina, Sergio Zelaya/UNCCD</i> This session will highlight the best policy practices in institutionalizing affirmative gender policies at local, national and regional levels, including progress made in Namibia and the UNCCD secretariat's proposed gender policy framework.
12:15 – 13:30	Emerging Challenges and Opportunities for Drylands Women <i>Margaret Angula/UNAM, Rogina Manandhar/UNFCCC, Sakhile Koketso/CBD, Representatives from UN Women and India</i> We will identify current or imminent global transformations that are re-shaping the power relations between men and women on the political, material resources and knowledge levels, specifically on rural drylands women.
13:30 – 14:15	Lunch
14:15 – 15:15	Empowerment for Improving Livelihoods at Household and Community Levels: Community Level Perspectives <i>Janet Matota and Lina Kaisuma/IRDNC Namibia, Martha Kangandjo/Eudafano Cooperative, Marcela Ortiz/Mexico Land for Life Winner, Deborah Fraser/South Africa UNCCD Drylands Ambassador</i> This session will identify the practices delivering the greatest gains at the household level, such as access to water, food and energy, with a view to inform policy. <i>Followed by coffee break from 15:15 – 15:45</i>
15:45 – 16:45	Empowerment for Improving Livelihoods: Development Partners' Perspectives <i>Elie Kodsi/UNDP, Paola Agostini/GEF, TerraAfrica &FCPF, World Bank, Vesa Kaarakka/Finland</i>
16:45 – 17:45	Marching Towards Gender Equality and Equity The three sessions above provide a snap-shot of progress to date at the global and institutional levels, highlighting potential gender gaps in material, knowledge and policy, emerging issues and the reality on the ground among communities. Moving forward, we will discuss advancing the agenda on gender equity. <i>Moderated by Mr. Elie Kodsi/UNDP</i>
17:45 – 18:05	Conclusion and Closing <i>Dr. Nelago Indogo/UNAM, Veerle Vandeweerd/UNDP, Luc Gnacadja/UNCCD, Moderated by Wagaki Mwangi/UNCCD</i>
18:00 – 20:00	Reception hosted by UNCCD and UNDP <i>Special Performance by Namibian dance group</i> <i>Launch of Land for Life Magazine</i> <i>UNCCD Third Photo Contest Awards</i>



Thu 26 Sep	Sustainable Land Management (SLM)
10:00 – 11:00	Partners Networking Session (closed)
11:15 – 12:45	Implementing, documenting and sharing proven SLM approaches and practices: closing the loop between the field and policy (<i>Drynet and WOCAT</i>) Drynet and WOCAT will share lessons and learnings from their practice in many parts of the world. Recent video material and a round table discussion will illustrate how an approach that combines participatory methodologies and tested SLM technologies has contributed to disseminating and documenting sound SLM practices.
13:15 – 14:45	SLM Strategic Investment Frameworks: Country experiences and success stories (<i>NEPAD</i>) The TerrAfrica partnership supports governments of Sub-Saharan Africa, the international development community and stakeholders to coordinate efforts to up-scale the financing and mainstreaming of country-driven SLM initiatives. Countries will share experiences and success stories on the development of strategic investment frameworks to guide the design, funding and implementation of identified priorities on SLM.
15:15 – 16:30	Land, Lives and Peace Dialogue (<i>Initiatives of Change</i>) 8 out of 10 conflicts over the last 40 years have occurred in the drylands. We will highlight the role of land management in securing peace and avoiding forced migration in regions under stress and at risk of conflict. Building on the outcomes of the 1 st Caux dialogue, we will explore how UNCCD and SLM can play a role in securing peace and supporting efforts at reconciliation across national, ethnic and religious boundaries.
16:45 – 18:00	The importance of accurate soil data: Isotope studies supporting evidence for combating desertification <i>International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Project Counterparts from National Agricultural Research Laboratories</i> <i>Dr. Susanne Nebel/TCPC, Mr. Isaya Vincent Sijali/Kenya, Mr. Crammer Kayuki Kaizzi/Uganda</i> Policy makers require data on rates of soil degradation for evidence-based soil and land decision making. We will discuss how isotope studies provide the necessary evidence for SLM, with particular emphasis on Kenya and Uganda and their use of stable and radioisotopes for accurate and fast track soil and water assessments.
18:15 – 19:30	Reception hosted by IAEA

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