



UNDERSTANDING DESERTIFICATION AND LAND DEGRADATION TRENDS

Bio-physical and socio-economic monitoring and assessment of desertification and land degradation, to support decision-making in land and water management

LATE 2009 – VENUE TO BE DETERMINED

PURPOSE

To analyze and summarize leading scientific knowledge on the Conference topic, in ways that generate practical, actionable recommendations for deliberation by the UNCCD Conference of Parties (COP) to more effectively combat desertification in affected States, regions and globally.

FORMAT

During the months leading up to the Conference, a consultation phase will be organised through three globally-constituted Working Groups. They will develop analyses that reflect prevailing scientific consensus on three facets of the Conference topic:

1. WG I. Integrated methods for monitoring and assessment of land degradation processes and drivers (*Land Quality Assessment*)
2. WG II. Monitoring and assessing land rehabilitation and sustainable land management (*Sustainable Land Management Assessment*)
3. WG III. Impacts of economic and social drivers and knowledge management on monitoring and evaluation of land degradation (*Socio-Economic and Knowledge Assessment*)

The Working Groups will prepare written analyses and an overall synthesis, and draft recommendations for consideration at the Conference. The Scientific Conference event will take place during the CST Session of the Ninth Conference of Parties of the UNCCD in late 2009. Each Working Group topic will be reviewed and discussed in half-day sessions opened by prominent keynote speakers, followed by synthesis sessions to finalize the recommendations for the CST.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Several avenues of participation are available to interested scientists:

- Working Groups (by invitation)
- E-dialogue (open to all interested scientists globally; request participation via email address below)
- Participation in the Conference during COP-9
- Competitive poster session side event

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information is available on the websites of the UNCCD (www.unccd.int) and of the DSD (www.drylandscience.org). Email inquiries should be sent to: secretariat@drylandscience.org