

On the occasion of the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference, DesertNet International will hold a
Special Session on:

Tackling key challenges in the economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid and semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas: Perspectives from DesertNet International's Working Groups

Thursday 11 April from 15.00 until 16.30

Location: Wasserverk

Background: Enhancing understanding of the biophysical and socio-economic processes of desertification is DesertNet International's (DNI) core aim. DNI provides a platform for scientifically-based discussions, addressing knowledge gaps and identifying key research areas through its Working Groups. This session brings together presentations from across DNI's Working Groups, each of which tackles a different challenge associated with the economic assessment of desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas.

Presentations encompass the economics of sustainable land management (SLM), food security, the DNI land and soils task force and dryland observation systems.

15.00 – 15.10	Introduction, by <i>Elena ABRAHAM</i> , DNI Vice-Chair
15.10 – 15.30	Working Group on Economics of SLM, by the WG leader <i>Richard THOMAS</i> , DNI Advisory Board
15.30 – 15.50	Working Group on Food Security, by the WG co-leader <i>Lindsay C. STRINGER</i> , DNI Advisory Board
15.50 – 16.10	Task Force on Land and Soils, by the TF Co-leader <i>Richard ESCADAFAL</i> , DNI General Secretary
16.10 – 16.30	DNI Working Group on Baseline Information and Monitoring for Integrated Assessment of DLD by the WG leader <i>Michael CHERLET</i> , DNI Steering Committee
16.30	Concluding remarks by <i>Giuseppe ENNE</i> , DNI Chair