<u>International Webinar on Desertification and Drought Day 2024 by LCWU:</u> "United for Land: Our Legacy, Our Future"

On June 13, 2024, the Geography Department at Lahore College for Women University (LCWU) organized a webinar titled "United for Land: Our Legacy, Our Future" to commemorate Desertification and Drought Day 2024. The event was held under the supervision of Dr. Nausheen Mazhar, Chairperson and Associate Professor of the Geography Department, and Head of the International Research Collaboration (IRC) at the Directorate of Faculty Development and Internationalization (DFDI), LCWU. Dr. Nausheen moderated the webinar.

The webinar featured distinguished keynote speakers who presented on various aspects of desertification and sustainable land management:



Dr. Troy Sternberg, Doctor of Philosophy, Geography, University of Oxford, U.K. Senior Researcher, University of Oxford, School of Geography.

Dr. Sternberg explored the critical roles and rights of women herders in Mongolia, emphasizing their contributions to sustainable land management and future challenges.



Dr. Zheng Hong Kong, Ph. D. Human Geography and Environment, University of York, Ph. D. in Restoration Ecology.

Dr. Zheng provided insights into the efforts to combat desertification in China, highlighting community-based approaches and the perspectives of local populations.



Mr. Muhammad Farooq, Forest Officer GOP, Masters in Forestry, University of Missouri, Columbia USA. Former advisor NESPAK, Ex-National Consultant World Bank Group, Provincial Coordinator UNDP for Punjab.

Mr. Farooq shared successful case studies of rainwater harvesting initiatives in Pakistan, showcasing their impact on forestry and rangeland activities in arid regions.

Talk 4:

Ms. Sana Arshad Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, IUB discussed innovative approaches for assessing droughts and desertification using remote sensing and artificial intelligence, emphasizing advancements towards enhancing the resilience of arable lands.

This informative webinar provided valuable insights into the conditions and challenges of desertification across different regions, utilizing diverse methodologies and perspectives. The event aimed to foster greater understanding and collaboration in addressing the critical issue of desertification and promoting sustainable land management.

Recording link:

https://www.youtube.com/live/a-bfN6C4-t8

Acknowledgement on UNCCD website:

The Webinar has been acknowledged by UNCCD as one of the significant events held in Asia, on Desertification and Drought Day 2024. This webinar can be seen as a part of events around the world, Asia, Pakistan:

https://www.unccd.int/events/desertification-drought-day/2024/events-around-world



