

# **Biophysical and socio-economic monitoring and assessment of desertification & land degradation, to support decision-making in land and water management**

UNCCD First Scientific Conference

Hilton Hotel, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
22-24 September 2009

*Programme as of 20 September 2009*

## **22 September afternoon 3-6pm**

**Opening session** - Opening statement by the CST chair

Introduction and announcements (Dr Mark Winslow, DSD Coordinator) (10 minutes)

Opening statement by Dr William Dar (15 minutes)

Opening statement by the UNCCD Executive Secretary (Mr Luc Gnacadja) (15 minutes)

### **Keynote Addresses**

Dr Mahmoud Solh, DSD Chair (30 minutes + 15 minutes discussion)

Prof Elena Abraham, Director, CONICET –IADIZA (30 minutes + 15 minutes discussion)

### **Brief announcements by Global Initiatives (2 minutes each)**

Dr Mariam Akhtar-Schuster, DesertNet International

Prof Michael Mortimore, IUCN Dryland Opportunities Paradigm

Prof Uriel Safriel, Global Network of Dryland Research Institutes

Mr Tristan Tyrrell, 2010-Biodiversity Indicators Partnership

### **Opening of Poster Session and Review of Posters (30 minutes)**

Dr Mahmoud Solh and Prof Elena Abraham

## **23 September morning 10am- 1pm** (Working Group 1 Session)

### **Integrated methods for monitoring and assessment of desertification/land degradation processes and drivers**

Moderator: Prof. Charles Hutchinson

Introductory statement from the chair (10 minutes)

### **Keynote speeches**

Dr Youba Sonoka - **Highlights from policy-relevant aspects of WG1** (30 minutes + 20 minutes discussion)

Prof James Reynolds – **Integrated monitoring & assessment of desertification- key concepts & recommendations from WG1** (40 minutes + 30 minutes discussion)

General discussion of recommendations (40 minutes)

Wrap-up and conclusions (session moderator – 10 minutes)

## **23 September afternoon 3-6pm** (Working Group 2 Session)

### **Monitoring and Assessment of Sustainable Land Management**

Moderator: Dr Ephraim Nkonya

Introductory statement from the chair (10 minutes)

#### **Keynote speeches**

Dr Hanspeter Liniger – **Key concepts and issues in sustainable land management monitoring/assessment** (30 minutes + 30 minutes discussion)

Dr Pedro Machado – **Overview of working group deliberations to date** (30 minutes + 30 minutes discussion)

General discussion of recommendations (40 minutes)

Wrap-up and conclusions (session moderator – 10 minutes)

## **24 September morning 10am- 1pm** (Working Group 3 Session)

### **Monitoring and assessment of desertification & land degradation: knowledge management & economic and social drivers**

Moderator: Dr Martin Bwalya

Introductory statement from the chair (10 minutes)

#### **Keynote speech**

Dr Mary Seely – **Vertical and horizontal knowledge management: implications at the local, national, regional and global levels** (30 minutes + 30 minutes discussion)

Presentations of key scientific aspects by chapter lead authors (total 45 minutes)

Dr Mark Reed

Dr Pam Chasek

Prof Stefan Sperlich

General discussion of recommendations (55 minutes)

Wrap-up and conclusions (session moderator – 10 minutes)

## **24 September afternoon 3-6pm**

### **Synthesis and wrap-up session**

Moderator: Dr Mahmoud Solh

Introductory statement from the chair (10 minutes)

Summary of working group sessions:

Working Group 1 session conclusions (20 minutes)

Working Group 2 session conclusions (20 minutes)

Working Group 3 session conclusions (20 minutes)

Overview of the draft Synthesis and recommendations (20 minutes)

Discussion of the draft Synthesis and recommendations (70 minutes)

Concluding remarks: CST chair (15 minutes)