



**Fourth Asia– Africa Forum on Combating Desertification**  
**Theme : Agroforestry and soil conservation**

**Centre International de Conférence**  
**Cotonou, Benin, 24-27 June 2003**

**Provisional Programme of Work** (as of 18/06/03)

**Sunday 22 June and Monday 23 June 2003: Arrival of participants**

**Tuesday 24 June 2003**

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration
- 9:00 - 10:00 Opening Session
- Welcoming address by a representative of Benin
  - Address by the UNDP Resident Representative
  - Address by the Executive Secretary of UNCCD
  - Opening address by the Minister of Environment, Housing and Urbanism (MEHU)
- 10:00 - 10:15 Break
- 10:15 - 10:30 Election of the Bureau and adoption of the programme of work
- 10:30 - 11:00 Introduction to the Forum
- Status of the interregional cooperation in the context of the implementation of the UNCCD (UNCCD Secretariat)
  - Africa/Asia Interregional partnership on agroforestry and soil conservation in the context of UNCCD (CILSS representative)
- 11:00 - 12:00 **Session 1** “Review of the development and implementation of regional thematic programme networks on agroforestry and soil conservation in Asia and Africa”

Introduction by the UNCCD Secretariat  
Presentation by the Agroforestry TPN2 Task Manager of Asia  
(*Central Arid Zone Research Institute, India*)  
Presentation by the Agroforestry TPN2 Task Manager of Africa  
(*Institut du Sahel (INSAH-CILSS), Mali*)  
Discussions



12:00 - 13:00 **Session 2** “Agroforestry and soil conservation practices and techniques in dry and/or degraded land”

- Presentation of an experience in Senegal by Senegal
- Presentation of ICRAF on capacity building in agroforestry
- Presentation by the representative of Sahel DEFIS (Tahirou Diao)

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 - 16:15 Continuation of the presentations

- Agroforestry in dryland areas in China by China
  - Agroforestry in dryland areas in Africa (E. Bonkougou)
  - Agroforestry in dry sub-humid area by Benin
- Discussions

16:15 - 16:40 Coffee Break

16:40 - 18:00 **Session 3** “Plantation, processing and production methods and marketing measures for agroforestry and its products”

Presentations:

- Biomass energy production through agroforestry in drylands by India
  - Medicinal aromatic plants agroforestry” by Sri Lanka
- Discussions

### **Wednesday 25 June 2003**

08:30 - 10:00 Continuation of the presentations

- Date palms production through agroforestry (ICRISAT)
  - Acacia senegal – gum arabicum by a representative of the private sector in (Mr. Boureima Wankoye , ASI, Niger)
  - Presentation by the Director of IFDC/Africa
- Discussions

10:00 - 10:30 **Session 4** “Introduction of Working Groups agenda”

Introduction by the UNCCD Secretariat

**Working Group 1** “Agroforestry and soil conservation – Palm tree plantation and dates production as measures for promoting sustainable dryland management and rehabilitating degraded land”

Group Leader: ICRISAT



**Working Group 2** “Conservation and sustainable use of dryland biomass through agroforestry – Medicinal and aromatic plant cultivation”

Group Leader: Sri Lanka

**Working Group 3** “Dryland agroforestry for producing biomass energy sources - cultivating oil content plant species”

Group Leader: India

**Working Group 4** “Development of capacity-building programmes at the national, regional and inter-regional levels”

Group Leader: ICRAF

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 - 18:00 **Session 5: Group works sessions**

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 16:30 Continuation of the group works

16 :30 - 16:45 Coffee break

16:45 -18:30 **Continuation of the group works: preparation of group reports**

#### **Thursday 26 June**

8:30 - 10:15 **Session 6** “Presentation and discussion of the working group outcomes

10:15 - 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 - 12:30 Finalisation of the working group reports

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 -16:00 **Session 7: Presentation and finalization of draft Chairman’s Summary**

16:00 - 17:00 **Concluding Session**  
Adoption of the Chairman’s Summary  
Concluding remarks

#### **Friday 27 June 2003**

**Agroforestry and soil conservation site visits**