



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



UNCCD
COP17
ULAANBAATAR 2026

Finance Day

24

AUG
2026

COP17 Blue zone
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



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Finance Day in Short

Mobilizing finance at scale is essential to addressing land degradation, drought resilience and sustainable land management, yet current investment levels remain significantly below what is needed to meet global targets. Closing this financing gap requires a fundamental shift in how public, multilateral and private capital are mobilized and aligned in support of land-related priorities.

The private sector plays an increasingly important role in shaping land-related outcomes through investment decisions, value chains and innovation, while land degradation is also increasingly recognized as being closely linked to broader issues of vulnerability, displacement and instability. These interconnected challenges underscore the need for dialogue across governments, financial institutions, businesses and international organizations, and reinforce synergies across the Rio Conventions and broader sustainable development objectives.

Recognizing the scale of this challenge, Finance Day will place land and drought resilience at the centre of discussions on sustainable finance, highlighting their importance not only for environmental sustainability, but also for economic resilience, food security and long-term development.

The Finance Day thematic programme will explore financing approaches for land restoration and drought resilience, the role of land within investment frameworks, the transformation of global value chains, and the interlinkages between land, security and human mobility. Through ministerial dialogues, business forums and thematic discussions, it will highlight perspectives from across the public, private and multilateral sectors.

8:00 – 10:30

High-Level Segment Opening

PLENARY

This opening session inaugurates the High-Level Segment of COP17.

11:00 – 14:00

Ministerial Dialogue on Innovative Financial Mechanisms for Healthy Land and Drought Resilience

PLENARY

This ministerial dialogue will explore innovative approaches to financing land restoration and drought resilience, with a particular focus on the role of public finance, multilateral development banks, development finance institutions and private capital. It will examine how land can be better integrated into financial and investment frameworks, discuss opportunities to mobilize and de-risk investment at scale, and highlight the links between land, economic resilience, food security and sustainable development.

11:00 – 11:45

Business4Land: Closing the Land Financing Gap in the Triple COP Year

ACTION
DOME

This session marks the opening of the Business4Land programme and will explore the role of businesses, governments and financial institutions in accelerating investment for land restoration during the Triple COP year. It will highlight different perspectives on addressing the global land financing gap, showcase private sector engagement through the Business4Land initiative, and examine policy and financial frameworks that support investment in sustainable land management.

11:00 – 12:30

Pitching Bankable Solutions for Mongolia's Rangelands

MET23

This flagship event will showcase Mongolia's National Green Lab, its pipeline of bankable rangeland restoration projects, and the launch of the National Green Lab Investors' Network. This session will gather project developers, investors and policymakers for project pitches and investor dialogue.



11:00 – 13:00

MET24

Restoration as a Shared Solution: Delivering for Land and Biodiversity

This event will explore ecosystem restoration as a practical mechanism for strengthening synergies between the UNCCD and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Bringing together governments, international organizations, regional support centres and technical experts, it will highlight efforts to align restoration monitoring and reporting, showcase regional support mechanisms, and share country experiences in advancing coordinated approaches to restoration.

11:45 – 12:30

Action
Dome

Business4Land: Land as an Asset Class

This second session of the Business4Land programme will explore how business transformation, finance and advocacy can support large-scale land restoration through science-based targets, investor-focused soil health data and land-related reporting frameworks. It will showcase experiences from businesses, investors and national stakeholders on aligning corporate action with land restoration objectives and strengthening the information and accountability systems that underpin investment in sustainable land management.

12:00 – 14:00

MET22

Scaling the Great Green Wall through Continental Integration and the AUGGWI Strategy (2024–2034)

The session will focus on showcasing delivery at scale by highlighting concrete results and lessons from the Sahel and the emerging SADC GGW investment program under the continental framework. The event will also mobilize finance and partnerships and will strengthen policy and financing coherence by positioning the GGW as Africa’s principal platform for nature-based solutions, climate adaptation, ecosystem restoration, and green jobs.

12:30 – 14:30

ACTION
DOME

Business4Land: De-risk and Scale to Restore 1.5bn Hectares of Land

This third session of the Business4Land programme will explore how businesses, financial institutions and development partners can work together to scale investment in land restoration and drought resilience. It will highlight experiences from land-positive value chains, innovative financing instruments and risk-management approaches, while showcasing emerging frameworks, partnerships and initiatives that support the development of investable land restoration projects.



12:30 – 14:00

MET23

Mobilizing Sustainable Finance for Resilient Landscapes: MDB Leadership and Scalable Investment Solutions

This event will gather leaders from multilateral development banks, governments and partner organizations to showcase innovative financing solutions and scalable investment models for resilient landscapes. Through keynote speeches and panel discussions, it will highlight financing instruments, practical experiences and partnerships for mobilizing investment in land restoration, sustainable agriculture and drought resilience.

13:00 – 15:00

MET21

KSA COP16 Presidency Riyadh Action Agenda: Showcasing Delivery by the RAA Community

Bringing together the COP16 and COP17 Presidencies, UNCCD leadership, Riyadh Action Agenda partners and other high-level representatives, this event will showcase the momentum of the Riyadh Action Agenda to date, including the Land and Soil Breakthroughs and the Riyadh Action Agenda Platform.

14:30 – 16:00

ACTION
DOME

Leadership for a Land-Positive Future: Forum of Mining Industry Leaders

Bringing together industry leaders, governments, Indigenous representatives, and international partners, this high-level Mining Forum will explore how the mining sector can drive sustainable land management, ecosystem restoration, and resilient landscapes. The forum will examine key challenges and opportunities in balancing mineral development with the protection of land, nature, and local communities, while showcasing innovative approaches to responsible mining and post-mining landscape restoration.

15:00 – 18:00

Main
Committee
Room

Ministerial on Security and Migration

This ministerial will explore the links between land degradation, drought resilience, peace, security and human mobility, bringing together leaders from environment, foreign affairs, defense, interior and migration portfolios. It will examine how land restoration and sustainable natural resource management can contribute to resilience and stability, while highlighting experiences and perspectives on addressing vulnerability, displacement and fragility through integrated approaches and cross-sector cooperation.



15:00 – 18:00

MET22

Future of Financing Roundtable: A Targeted Dialogue with Financial Partners

This event will explore the future of financing for land restoration and drought resilience in the context of evolving international finance architecture and growing investment needs. Convened as a roundtable discussion, it will bring together multilateral development banks, development finance institutions, public development banks and other financial partners to examine innovative financing approaches, discuss challenges and opportunities in mobilizing capital at scale, and explore the application of emerging frameworks for financing sustainable land use and resilience.

15:00 – 16:30

MET23

Fashion4Land Forum (Technical Programme)

The Fashion4Land Forum will bring together stakeholders from across the fashion value chain to explore the links between innovation, natural fibers and sustainable land management. The session will feature discussions on youth-led innovation and design, followed by a session examining the role of wool and other natural fibers in building more sustainable and resilient fashion systems. Together, these sessions will highlight practical opportunities to scale sustainable solutions and strengthen climate and land stewardship across the sector.

15:00 – 16:30

MET24

Inclusive Drought Resilience: Gender, Youth and Investment

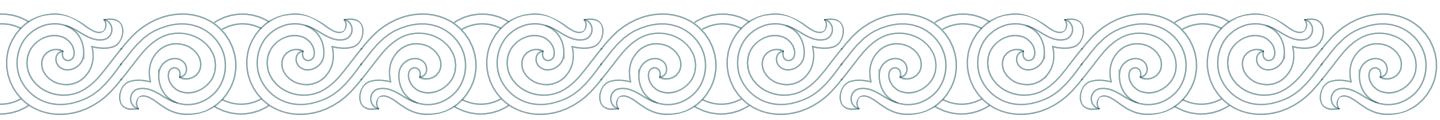
Experience shows that drought affects people very differently depending on their access to water, land, finance, information, technology, markets, services, decision-making and social protection. The event will demonstrate that inclusion is not an additional social component of drought investment; it can improve the quality, relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of investment itself. The event will highlight differentiated drought risk and how vulnerability, capacities and opportunities vary across people and communities and strengthen the investment case for inclusion by showing how local evidence, knowledge and agency can improve resilience investments and position women, youth and vulnerable groups as resilience actors and investment partners, not only beneficiaries.

16:30 – 18:00

MET23

Official Launch of the Rangelands Flagship Initiative

This event will highlight the importance of rangelands for sustainable livelihoods, food systems, biodiversity and climate resilience, with a particular focus on pastoralist communities and dryland ecosystems. It will bring together governments, financial institutions, scientific organizations and development partners to explore approaches for strengthening investment, knowledge sharing and cooperation in the sustainable management and restoration of rangelands.



17:00 – 17:45

Fashion4Land High-Level Segment

ACTION DOME

This event will convene policymakers, industry leaders, youth representatives, and other stakeholders to discuss how standards and regulations can support the sustainable transformation of the fashion sector. The policy dialogue will be followed by the Fashion4Land Fashion Show and an evening networking reception, providing opportunities to showcase sustainable fashion solutions and foster cross-sector collaboration.

18:00 – 19:30

Business4Land Champions' Council and Fashion4Land Show

ACTION DOME

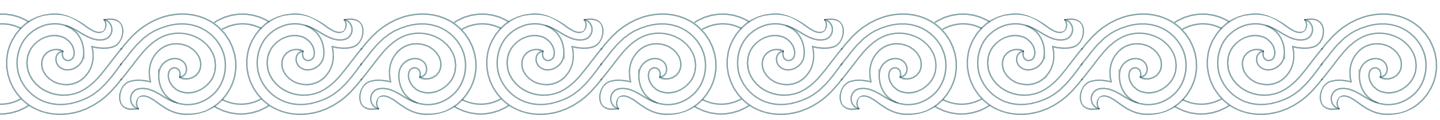
This closing event will bring together representatives from business, finance, government and the fashion sector to explore the role of partnerships, innovation and private sector leadership in supporting land restoration, sustainable land management and drought resilience. It will highlight perspectives from the Business4Land Champions' Council and showcase the links between sustainable fashion, natural fibers, responsible value chains and land stewardship through the Fashion4Land fashion show and networking reception.

18:00 – 20:00

Targeting Finance under the UNCCD

MET22

The Investment Targeting Tool is an integrated geospatial decision-support platform that builds on and connects existing datasets and tools to support evidence-led investment decisions. This meeting will bring together partners to discuss how existing efforts can contribute to the development of the tool and its roadmap towards COP18.



FINANCE DAY · 24 AUGUST 2026



MORNING TIMETABLE · Times and rooms are subject to change. Please consult the COP17 programme or UNCCD App for the latest information.

TIME	PLENARY/MAIN COMMITTEE	ACTION DOME	MET22	MET23	MET24	MET 21
8-9	High-Level Segment Opening <i>Plenary</i>					
9-9:30						
9:30-10						
10-10:30						
10:30-11						
11-11:30	Ministerial dialogue on innovative financial mechanisms for healthy land and drought resilience <i>Plenary</i>	B4L opening (until 11:45)		Pitching Bankable Solutions for Mongolia's Rangelands 24 August	Restoration as a Shared Solution: Delivering for Land and Biodiversity (with CBD & FAO)	
11:30-12		B4L - Land as an asset class				
12-12:30			Scaling the Great Green Wall through continental integration and the AUGGW Strategy (with AU, AfDB)			
12:30-13		B4L Forum De-risk and Scale to restore 1.5 Billion Ha of Land		Mobilizing Sustainable Finance for Resilient Landscapes: MDB Leadership and Scalable Investment Solutions		
13-13:30						KSA COP16 Presidency "The Riyadh Action Agenda: Showcasing Delivery by the RAA Community"

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AFTERNOON TIMETABLE · Times and rooms are subject to change. Please consult the COP17 programme or UNCCD App for the latest information.



TIME	PLENARY/MAIN COMMITTEE	ACTION DOME	MET22	MET23	MET24	MET 21
13:30-14	Ministerial dialogue on innovative financial mechanisms for healthy land and drought resilience	B4L Forum De-risk and Scale to restore 1.5 Billion Ha of Land	Scaling the Great Green Wall through continental integration and the AUGGWI Strategy (with AU, AfDB)	Mobilizing Sustainable Finance for Resilient Landscapes: MDB Leadership and Scalable Investment Solutions		KSA COP16 Presidency "The Riyadh Action Agenda: Showcasing Delivery by the RAA Community"
14-14:30						
14:30-15						
15-15:30	High-Level Ministerial event on Security and Migration <i>Main Committee Room</i>	Leadership for a Land-Positive Future: High-level Forum of Mining Industry Leaders	Future for financing roundtable (MDBs)	Fashion 4 Land Forum	Inclusive Drought Resilience: Gender, Youth and Investment	
15:30-16						
16-16:30						
16:30-17				Official Launch of the Rangelands Flagship Initiative	Senegal's Great Green Wall Integrator Programme: An Integrated Framework for Land Restoration and Community Resilience	
17-17:30		Fashion 4 Land High-Level Segment (until 17:45)				
17:30-18						
18-18:30		B4L Champions' Council & Fashion4Land Show	Targeting Finance under the UNCCD			
18:30-19						
19:00-19:30						
19:30-20:00						



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



Times and room allocations are subject to change, please
check the website (<https://www.unccd.int/cop17/programme>)
or the UNCCD App for the latest information.

