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Interfacing science and policy, and sharing knowledge

Information on modalities for reporting on the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework

Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Improving the procedures for communication of information as well as the quality and formats of reports to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties

Information on modalities for reporting on the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework

Note by the secretariat

Summary

By its decision 11/COP.14, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the secretariat to further improve methodological guidelines and tools for the next reporting process, as well as align the reporting process for strategic objectives 1–5 with gender-responsive indicators and guidelines emerging from the Gender Action Plan.

This document contains a description of methodological improvements for calculating the indicators adopted to track progress in the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification 2018–2030 Strategic Framework. It also summarizes the guidance put in place for national reporting on strategic objective 3 and the associated monitoring framework that was adopted in decision 11/COP.14. Finally, it proposes new indicators and methodologies for consideration by Parties.

Pursuant to decision 11/COP.14, which welcomed the good collaboration between the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on methodological issues relating to reporting, it is proposed that this document and ensuing draft decision will become subject to joint negotiations during COP 15.



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I. Introduction

1. By its decision 11/COP.14, the Conference of the Parties (COP) expressed its appreciation for the good collaboration between the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and the Committee for the Review of the implementation of the Convention (CRIC) on methodological issues relating to reporting.
2. In paragraph 7 and 8 of the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to further improve methodological guidelines and tools for the next reporting process as well as align the reporting process for strategic objectives (SOs) 1–5 with gender-responsive indicators and guidelines emerging from the Gender Action Plan.
3. Based on this decision and in preparation for the 2022 reporting process, the Convention institutions produced methodological documents/guidelines for indicators used to track progress on SOs 1–5. These methodological documents constituted the basis for the revision of the reporting forms in the upgraded reporting platform, the performance review and assessment implementation system (PRAIS).¹
4. This document provides a detailed description of methodological changes or amendments made to existing indicators. It also describes the methodology put in place for reporting on indicators that were adopted at the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 14) and proposes new indicators and methodologies for consideration and possible adoption by Parties. The annex to this document contains a list of all indicators used for reporting on SOs 1–5 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, including newly proposed indicators.
5. In line with decision 32/COP.14, the conclusion and recommendation section of this document should be read together with the relevant section in document ICCD/CRIC(20)/10 entitled “Draft decisions for consideration at the twentieth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. Note by the secretariat”. Responding to the request for continuing the good collaboration between CST and CRIC, it is proposed that a joint CST–CRIC contact group be established that will consider and agree on draft decision text relating to chapters II.A–D of this document with the aim of formulating text to be integrated into a draft decision on reporting to be adopted by the CRIC and forwarded for consideration and possible adoption by the COP.

II. Reporting on progress towards the strategic objectives

A. Strategic objective 1

6. Indicators used for reporting on progress towards strategic objective 1 are those adopted in decision 7/COP.13 as part of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, namely Trends in land cover (indicator SO 1-1), Trends in land productivity or functioning of the land (indicator SO 1-2), and Trends in carbon stocks above and below ground (indicator SO 1-3, represented by soil organic carbon (SOC) stocks). Furthermore, under strategic objective 1, Parties will also report information on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 15.3.1, the proportion of land that is degraded over total land area (indicator SO 1-4). As requested by decision 15/COP.13, the secretariat, in its capacity as the custodian agency for SDG indicator 15.3.1, will use this information to contribute to the overall follow-up and review by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
7. In line with its latest metadata description,² the estimation of SDG indicator 15.3.1 should be based on analyses of available data for the three above-mentioned land-based indicators (i.e. land cover, land productivity and carbon stocks) while employing the ‘one

¹ For more information on the upgrades to the reporting platform, see document ICCD/CRIC(20)/9.

² <<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-15-03-01.pdf>>.

out, all out’ principle in which a significant reduction or negative change in any one of the three subindicators is considered to include land degradation.

8. The methodology for estimating SDG indicator 15.3.1 and its three subindicators is fully documented in the Good Practice Guidance for SDG Indicator 15.3.1.³ In line with decision 11/COP.14, which requested the secretariat to further improve methodological guidelines and tools for the next reporting process, the Good Practice Guidance for SDG Indicator 15.3.1 has been revised in 2021. The new version is more advanced in the analytical methods for calculating SDG indicator 15.3.1, and reflects current best practice, data and knowledge. Major revisions implemented in version 2 of the Good Practice Guidance for SDG Indicator 15.3.1 include: a greater focus on the identification of important degradation processes and the use of an appropriate land cover legend to monitor them; an improvement of the statistical methods for assessment of the land productivity metrics (trends, state and performance) and their interpretation in terms of the severity of degradation; and a revision of the SOC subindicator in light of updates and new guidance from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

9. Based on this revised guidance, the PRAIS platform has been upgraded (now PRAIS 4) to offer Parties the option to:

(a) State the key degradation processes that should be included in the country’s assessment of land degradation, define a country-specific land cover legend that allows for their monitoring, and generate a transition matrix that specifies land cover changes as being either degradation, improvement or neutral transitions;

(b) In addition to the binary assessment of degradation provided by SDG indicator 15.3.1, report the total area of improved land (gains) and degraded land (losses), and estimate the net gain or loss as an indication of progress towards land degradation neutrality;

(c) Identify and delineate areas of ‘false positive’ or of ‘false negative’ processes in the identification of land degradation;

(d) Delineate the location and extent of the country’s voluntary targets and related areas of implemented action to support the tracking of progress, quantification of gaps and development of scenarios for closing gaps towards the achievement of national targets.

10. The sources of default data for the 2022 reporting process remain the same that were used in 2018:

(a) European Space Agency Climate Change Initiative Land Cover (ESA CCI-LC);⁴

(b) Land Productivity Dynamics (LPD) of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission;⁵

(c) SoilGrids250m of the International Soil Reference and Information Centre.⁶

11. Default data up to the year 2019 will be made available to Parties through PRAIS 4. The ESA CCI-LC product has been extended to include the most recent years in the framework of the Copernicus Climate Change Service, while ensuring consistency with global annual land cover map series from 1992 to 2015 (used during the 2018 reporting process). The LPD product and the SoilGrids250m have undergone numerous improvements since the publication of the previous version, making them completely new products.

³ <<https://www.unccd.int/publications/good-practice-guidance-sdg-indicator-1531-proportion-land-degraded-over-total-land>>.

⁴ <<https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/cdsapp#!/dataset/satellite-land-cover?tab=overview>>.

⁵ EC-JRC, 2021, based on Xavier Rotllan-Puig, Eva Ivits, Michael Cherlet, LPDyNR: A new tool to calculate the land productivity dynamics indicator, Ecological Indicators, Volume 133, 2021, 108386, ISSN 1470-160X, <<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2021.108386>>.

⁶ <<https://www.isric.org/explore/soilgrids>>.

12. The Good Practice Guidance for SDG Indicator 15.3.1 provides decision trees to help Parties determine the suitability of national datasets for calculating SDG indicator 15.3.1 and its subindicators. These decision trees were developed by the Group on Earth Observations Land Degradation Neutrality Initiative through a consultative process, which involved data providers as well as data users, and which resulted in a report describing a series of minimum data quality standards for a range of data attributes.⁷

13. Given the evolution of the calculation methods presented in version 2 of the Good Practice Guidance for SDG indicator 15.3.1 and the improvements to the default datasets, it is recommended that previously submitted baseline estimates of all SO-1 indicators, including SDG indicator 15.3.1, be recalculated and included in the national report to be submitted in 2022. Default national estimates provided through PRAIS 4 have already been recalculated for country Parties.

14. While new higher spatial resolution products, such as the Copernicus Global Land Cover at 100m resolution and the European Space Agency WorldCover 2020 (global land cover product at 10m resolution), have become available, they do not fulfil the reporting requirements in terms of time series length.

B. Strategic objective 2

15. Indicators used for reporting on progress towards achieving SO-2 are those adopted in decision 7/COP.13 as part of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, namely Trends in population living below the relative poverty line and/or income inequality in affected areas (indicator SO 2-1), and Trends in access to safe drinking water in affected areas (indicator SO 2-2).

16. Reporting on these indicators and their metrics, namely the proportion of the population below the international poverty line or income inequality and the proportion of the population using safely managed drinking water services, remains largely unchanged compared to the 2018 reporting process. However, the reporting is facilitated through the provision of default data in PRAIS 4. The sources of default data for the 2022 reporting process are:

(a) The SDG global database for the proportion of the population living below the international poverty line and the proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services, which are SDG indicator 1.1.1 and 6.1.1 respectively;⁸ and

(b) The World Bank database for income inequality (estimated through the Gini index).⁹

17. Additionally, a new indicator aimed at tracking trends in the proportion of population exposed to land degradation disaggregated by sex (indicator SO 2-3) will be tested during the 2022 reporting process. This new indicator aims at providing information about the proportion of the male and female population exposed to land degradation as a first step towards addressing the gender data gap on land degradation issues within the UNCCD reporting framework, as requested in decision 11/COP.14. The methodology uses the spatial distribution of the population or subpopulation group (i.e. by sex) to establish its exposure to land degradation, as determined by SDG indicator 15.3.1.¹⁰ Reporting on this indicator is optional and is facilitated through the provision of default data derived from:

(a) The WorldPop global dataset on population distributions, demographics and dynamics;¹¹ and

(b) The default SDG indicator 15.3.1 estimates.

⁷ <https://earthobservations.org/documents/ldn/20200703_GEOLDN_TechnicalNote_FINAL_SINGLE.pdf>.

⁸ <<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>>.

⁹ <<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?end=2015&start=1979&view=map>>.

¹⁰ <https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/inline-files/MethodologicalNote_PopExposureToLD.pdf>.

¹¹ <<https://www.worldpop.org/geodata/listing?id=29>>.

18. The new indicator, namely trends in the proportion of the population exposed to land degradation, disaggregated by sex, is proposed for adoption by the COP at its fifteenth session.

C. Strategic objective 3

19. Indicators used for reporting on progress towards SO 3 are those adopted in decision 11/COP.14, namely Trends in the proportion of land under drought over the total land area (indicator SO 3-1), Trends in the proportion of the total population exposed to drought (indicator SO 3-2), and Trends in the degree of drought vulnerability (indicator SO 3-3).

20. As requested in decision 11/COP.14, the methodology for estimating progress towards strategic objective 3 using the above-mentioned indicators is documented in the Good Practice Guidance for National Reporting on UNCCD Strategic Objective 3,¹² which was published in 2021.

21. The Good Practice Guidance for National Reporting on UNCCD Strategic Objective 3 recommends using:

(a) A globally accepted drought index, the Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI), to estimate the proportion of land under drought over the total land area, given that it has been endorsed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for monitoring meteorological drought hazards. The trends in the occurrence of drought is reported according to the proportion of land in four drought intensity classes (i.e. mild, moderate, severe and extreme drought), which are based on the SPI values for a 12-month accumulation period. The SPI drought intensity classes are listed in table 1. While still valid, these classes may need to be revised in future reporting processes to ensure alignment with the Global Drought Classification System (formerly Global Drought Indicator) that is being developed by the WMO as a way to harmonize national drought indices produced by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services;

Table 1
Standard Precipitation Index drought intensity classes

<i>Standard Precipitation Index values</i>	<i>Drought intensity class</i>
0 to -0.99	Mild drought
-1.0 to -1.49	Moderate drought
-1.5 to -1.99	Severe drought
-2 and less	Extreme drought

Note: Standard Precipitation Index values greater than 0 indicate that it was wetter than normal for the given period and that there was no drought.

Source: Adapted from the Standardized Precipitation Index User Guide by the World Meteorological Organization (2012).

(b) The spatial distribution of the population or subpopulation group (i.e. by sex) to establish its exposure to drought based on the location and extent of the drought intensity classes as determined using the SPI;

(c) The Drought Vulnerability Index (DVI) to estimate the degree of drought vulnerability. The DVI combines a set of vulnerability factors characterizing the inherent social, economic and infrastructural components of drought vulnerability (see table 2). In order to address variability and limitations in data availability, Parties may opt to report

¹² <<https://www.unccd.int/publications/good-practice-guidance-national-reporting-unccd-strategic-objective-3-mitigate-adapt>>.

using three tiers of vulnerability assessment requiring increasing numbers of datasets, higher spatial resolutions and sex-disaggregated data (see table 3). All efforts should be made over successive reporting processes to progress up the tiers of vulnerability assessment (from Tier 1 to Tier 3) to increase the sensitivity of the DVI and improve the granularity of the assessment.

Table 2
Social, economic and infrastructural components and their associated factors recommended for calculating the Drought Vulnerability Index

<i>Social</i>	<i>Economic</i>	<i>Infrastructural</i>
Literacy rate (% of people aged 15+)	Proportion of population below the international poverty line	Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
Rural population (%)	Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita	Total renewable water resources per capita
Life expectancy at birth (in years)	Agriculture % of GDP	Cultivated area equipped for irrigation (%)
Population aged 15–64 (%)	Energy consumption per capita	
Government effectiveness		
Refugee population (%)		

Note: Factors highlighted in bold are the three factors recommended for a minimum Tier 1 vulnerability assessment.

Table 3
Tiers of vulnerability assessment recommended for the calculation of the Drought Vulnerability Index

<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>
Country level data	Country level data	Subnational level data
At least 1 factor per vulnerability component	More than 1 factor per vulnerability component	More than 1 factor per vulnerability component
	Disaggregated by sex (where applicable)	Disaggregated by sex (where applicable)

22. The sources of default data for the 2022 reporting process are:

- (a) The Global Precipitation Climatology Centre Monitoring Product;¹³
- (b) The WorldPop global dataset on population distributions, demographics and dynamics;¹⁴ and
- (c) The global DVI dataset of the JRC of the European Commission.¹⁵

¹³ <https://opendata.dwd.de/climate_environment/GPCC/html/gpcc_monitoring_v6_doi_download.html>.

¹⁴ <<https://www.worldpop.org/geodata/listing?id=29>>.

¹⁵ The JRC global DVI dataset can be viewed in the UNCCD Drought Toolbox at: <<https://maps.unccd.int/drought/>>.

23. The Good Practice Guidance for National Reporting on UNCCD Strategic Objective 3 provides decision trees to help Parties in assessing when in-country or regional data products may be more appropriate to derive the indicators over the globally available default data products.

24. Since country Parties will report on progress towards SO 3 for the first time during the 2022 reporting process, they will be requested to estimate the indicators also for the baseline period (from the year 2000 onwards).

25. Based on this new guidance, PRAIS 4 offers Parties all the functionality required to report the new indicators. Specifically, for the DVI, Parties can indicate at what tier they have opted to report, specify the factors used per vulnerability component at national level and select all the factors for which data was available at subnational level, using the check boxes provided in the reporting form.

D. Strategic objective 4

26. Indicators used for reporting on progress towards SO 4 are those identified by Parties in decision 22/COP.11, namely Trends in carbon stocks above and below ground (indicator SO 4-1) and Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species (indicator SO 4-2).

27. Trends in carbon stock above and below ground is a multi-purpose indicator used to measure progress towards both SO 1 and SO 4. Quantitative data and a qualitative assessment of trends in this indicator are reported under SO 1 (indicator SO 1-3).

28. A re-evaluation of the biodiversity indicator, namely Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species, and its associated metric, the Red List Index, was carried out in line with the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, which states that indicators for SOs should be reviewed and fine-tuned, as necessary and appropriate, in consideration of the reporting system/indicators for the SDGs and with reference to the follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Rio conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements in order to improve their synergetic implementation and avoid duplication. This re-evaluation is also in line with decision 22/COP.11, which states that the indicator trends in abundance and distribution of selected species is potentially to be replaced by an indicator measuring trends in ecosystem functional diversity once system understanding and data production allow. Furthermore, the high variability in reporting approaches used for this indicator during the 2018 reporting process prompted some Parties at the seventeenth session of the CRIC to request the secretariat to re-evaluate the use of the Red List Index and explore ways to enhance its utility to the UNCCD while considering alternative metrics that might be more appropriate.

29. In line with the conclusions of this re-evaluation:¹⁶

(a) The Red List Index remains one of the metrics to be reported by Parties to track progress on SO 4. In fact, since the 2018 reporting process, significant advancements have been made to the Red List Index, including: improved disaggregation capabilities both spatially and thematically; increased functionality on the Red List Index website that allows advanced searches and downloads of disaggregated data; open source code for automating national disaggregation; more species groups; improved guidance for the use of the Red List Index by countries; and timelines of Red List Index updates that align with SDG reporting needs. These advancements are expected to make it easier and more efficient for country Parties to interpret and report on the Red List Index. Reporting on the Red List Index remains largely unchanged compared to the 2018 reporting process. However, the reporting is facilitated through the provision of default data in PRAIS 4 pre-filled from the United Nations Statistics Division SDG database for indicator 15.5.1;

¹⁶ For more information on the evaluation approach and findings see the evaluation report, which is available at: <https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/inline-files/Reevaluation%20Biodiversity%20Indicator%20SO4%20UNCCD%202021_0.pdf>.

(b) Following a rigorous application of objective selection criteria to a number of candidate biodiversity indicators, a new indicator aimed at tracking trends in protected area coverage of important biodiversity areas (indicator SO 4-3) and one of its associated metrics, namely the average proportion of terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas covered by protected areas, which is SDG indicator 15.1.2b, will be tested during the 2022 reporting process as an area-based measure of national responses to conserving biodiversity. Reporting on this indicator and metric is optional and is facilitated through the provision of default data pre-filled from the United Nations Statistics Division SDG database for indicator 15.1.2b. Ecosystem functional diversity ranked poorly on several key criteria for candidate indicator selection and will therefore be re-evaluated in the next reporting round for appropriateness.

30. The new indicator, namely trends in protected area coverage of important biodiversity areas, is proposed for adoption by the COP at its fifteenth session.

E. Strategic objective 5

31. The Global Mechanism proposes a series of improvements and new developments for reporting on SO 5, taking into consideration decision 11/COP.14, in order to improve the reporting on financial resources for the implementation of the Convention. While no change is proposed for progress indicators SO 5-1 (Trends in international bilateral and multilateral official development assistance) and SO 5-2 (Trends in domestic public resources), revisions to former progress indicators SO 5-3 (Trends in number of co-financing partners) and SO 5-4 (Resources mobilized from innovative sources of finance, including from the private sector) are proposed. Former indicators SO 5-3 and SO 5-4 are merged into a broader indicator covering international and domestic private resources (current indicator SO 5-3), while new indicators on technology transfer (SO 5-4) and future support for activities related to the implementation of the Convention (SO 5-5) are introduced. The new indicators (SO 5-3, SO 5-4 and SO 5-5) are introduced as optional for the 2022 reporting cycle.

32. Modifications proposed in the former indicators SO 5-3 and SO 5-4 include changing the focus towards the measurement of “international and domestic private financial resources” that contributed to the efforts to combat desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD). At its core, this progress indicator offers the possibility to monitor complementary flows to those tracked in SO 5-1 and SO 5-2 that cover international and domestic public resources, respectively. Within the proposed new progress indicator, the possibility of reporting on innovative sources of finance resulting from the private sector and the trends in the number of co-financing partners is still offered. Overall, it is found to be more relevant to track financial resources across different type of entities (i.e. public and private) rather than features related to the perceived innovative aspects of the monitored flows. The new indicator additionally allows for reporting both qualitative and quantitative data from the private sector as optional. Therefore, under this new indicator it will be possible to report on all the private sector resources mobilized, including those deemed innovative, broadening the scope of the indicator.

33. A new progress indicator entitled “technology transfer” (SO 5-4) is proposed, as requested in decision 11/COP.14. This new indicator tracks activities relevant to the support for the transfer of technology for the implementation of the Convention. The indicator aims to collect information on support provided, received or required for technology transfer measures or activities. These activities include science and technology cooperation agreements between countries, policies and strategies implemented or planned to support technology transfer in recipient countries and efforts to involve the private sector in transferring technologies to combat DLDD.

34. A new progress indicator SO 5-5 entitled “Future support for activities related to the implementation of the Convention” is proposed. This is a newly introduced qualitative indicator with three questions that encourage country Parties to reflect on future planning in view of anticipated financial flows for the implementation of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework. Of the three questions, one is dedicated to reporting on resources

needed by Parties for the implementation of the Convention, including capacity-building, technology transfer and financial needs. Key information is linked to needs anchored in national strategies and planning documents.¹⁷

35. A methodological note and a new reporting template¹⁸ were posted online for peer review in early 2021, and online information sessions were organized in July 2021. In response to the feedback received, the new indicators (SO 5-3, SO 5-4 and SO 5-5) are introduced as optional in the 2022 reporting cycle. The official development assistance default data acquired from Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development was provided for developed and affected country Parties under the indicator SO 5-1.

III. Reporting on the implementation framework

36. Following the request by the COP to further fine-tune reporting tools, the secretariat and the Global Mechanism also revisited the narrative reporting section related to the implementation framework of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework. Comments received from Parties during the previous reporting process mainly focused on the user-friendliness of this reporting section and technical glitches that made an easy revision of text entered into the system difficult.

37. While addressing those technical difficulties identified by Parties, the Convention institutions also used the fine-tuning process to insert, where appropriate, gender-responsive questions that would help in gathering more detailed information on how combating DLDD activities implemented at national level impact and/or aim to engage different stakeholders.

38. Since reporting on the implementation framework remains voluntary, it is important to note that only if Parties choose to report on activities and good practices implemented at national level will information on gender-responsive activities be captured. Furthermore, Parties may choose to provide, in addition to the entries in the national report, more detailed information on sustainable land management good practices to the designated database of the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT).

39. In terms of who can or is encouraged to report on the implementation framework, it is also important to note that the previous principle was maintained that Parties that directly implement activities at national level and those supporting Parties to do so can provide narratives as part of their 2022 national report.

40. Furthermore, in terms of enhancing the usability of reported narratives under the UNCCD, it is foreseen to make available to the Convention institutions a specific technology that may screen narrative text submitted under the implementation framework. This will extract key messages/topics that could help in identifying practices that are popular or very suitable in combating DLDD for further discussion at the CRIC.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

41. Based on the mandates granted to the secretariat and the Global Mechanism as contained in the various decisions referenced in the preceding sections and the progress made on improving methodologies for tracking progress on the implementation of the Convention, the following general conclusions can be made.

42. As requested in decision 11/COP.14, the secretariat has further improved methodological guidelines and tools for the next reporting process. More specifically the secretariat has:

¹⁷ For further details, please refer to the methodological note on the accounting framework to report on SO 5: <<https://support.unccd.int/knowledgebase.php?article=6>>.

¹⁸ The methodological note, including a new reporting template, are available at <<https://support.unccd.int/knowledgebase.php?article=6>>.

(a) Revised the Good Practice Guidance for SDG Indicator 15.3.1 and published a new and improved version in 2021;

(b) Proposed as optional for reporting on progress towards SO 2 during the 2022 reporting process a new indicator aimed at tracking trends in the proportion of population exposed to land degradation disaggregated by sex.¹⁹ Parties may consider adopting the newly introduced indicator;

(c) This new indicator (indicator SO 2-3), together with “trends in the proportion of the total population exposed to drought” (indicator SO 3-2) and “trends in the degree of drought vulnerability” (indicator SO 3-3), which were previously adopted in decision 11/COP.14, have the potential to be disaggregated by sex, which constitutes a first step towards addressing the gender data gap within the UNCCD reporting framework;

(d) Developed and published in 2021 a new Good Practice Guidance for National Reporting on UNCCD Strategic Objective 3;

(e) Re-evaluated the biodiversity-related indicator, namely “Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species”, and its associated metric, the Red List Index, and proposed as optional for reporting on progress towards SO 4 during the 2022 reporting process a new and complementary area-based indicator aimed at tracking trends in protected area coverage of important biodiversity areas. The new indicator uses the average proportion of terrestrial key biodiversity areas covered by protected areas, which is also SDG indicator 15.1.2b, as a metric. Similar to the newly introduced indicator SO 2-3, this indicator (indicator SO 4-3) will be proposed for adoption by the COP at its fifteenth session;

(f) Proposed new indicators and associated reporting templates for reporting on SO 5, based on decision 11/COP.14. The new indicator framework for SO 5 makes the reporting on financial flows more relevant and comprehensive. The reporting against the newly proposed progress indicators on SO 5 (i.e. SO 5-3, SO 5-4 and SO 5-5) is optional during the 2022 reporting process;²⁰

(g) Upgraded the PRAIS platform to accommodate the newly proposed indicators and advancement in methodologies;²¹

(h) Extended the provision of default national estimates to all the SOs through the PRAIS platform, based on the best available data sources. The sources of default data for SO 1 remain the same that were used in the 2018 reporting process, even though improvements to some of these datasets since the publication of the previous version make them completely new products. While new higher spatial resolution products have become available, they do not fulfil reporting requirements in terms of time series length;

(i) Revised the implementation framework with a view to addressing technical problems previously experienced by Parties and including gender-related questions to increase opportunities for gender-responsive reporting.

43. Parties may wish to consider these conclusions when addressing/negotiating/engaging in consultations on a draft decision for the COP based on the draft text for negotiations that can be found in document ICCD/CRIC(20)/10 prepared in line with the request by the COP in its decision 32/COP.14, paragraph 5 .

¹⁹ See annex, table, SO 2-3.

²⁰ See annex, table, SO 2-3.

²¹ More information on PRAIS upgrades are contained in document ICCD/CRIC(20)/9.

Annex

List of indicators

Table
List of indicators to be used to report on strategic objectives 1–5 of the UNCCD 2018–2030 Strategic Framework

<i>Indicator code</i>	<i>Progress indicator</i>	<i>Metrics/proxies</i>
Strategic objective (SO) 1: To improve the condition of affected ecosystems		
SO 1-1	Trends in land cover	Land cover change
SO 1-2	Trends in land productivity or functioning of the land	Land productivity dynamics
SO 1-3	Trends in carbon stocks above and below ground	Soil organic carbon stock
SO1-4	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area	-
Strategic objective 2: To improve the living conditions of affected populations		
SO 2-1	Trends in population living below the relative poverty line and/or income inequality in affected areas	Proportion of the population below the international poverty line OR Income inequality
SO 2-2	Trends in access to safe drinking water in affected areas	Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services
SO 2-3	<i>Trends in the proportion of the population exposed to land degradation, disaggregated by sex</i>	<i>Proportion of the population exposed to land degradation, disaggregated by sex</i>
Strategic objective 3: To mitigate, adapt to, and manage the effects of drought in order to enhance resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems		
SO 3-1	Trends in the proportion of land under drought over the total land area	Proportion of land in each drought intensity class as defined by the Standardized Precipitation Index
SO 3-2	Trends in the proportion of the total population exposed to drought	Proportion of the population exposed to drought, disaggregated by sex
SO 3-3	Trends in the degree of drought vulnerability	Drought Vulnerability Index
Strategic objective 4: To generate global environmental benefits through effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification		
SO 4-1	Trends in carbon stocks above and below ground	Soil organic carbon stock
SO 4-2	Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species	Red List Index
SO 4-3	<i>Trends in protected area coverage of important biodiversity areas</i>	<i>Average proportion of Terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas covered by protected areas</i>
Strategic objective 5: To mobilize substantial and additional financial and non-financial resources to support the implementation of the Convention by building effective partnerships at global and national level		
SO 5-1	Bilateral and multilateral public resources	-
SO 5-2	Domestic public resources	-
SO 5-3	<i>International and domestic private resources</i>	-
SO 5-4	<i>Technology transfer</i>	-
SO 5-5	<i>Future support for activities related to the implementation of the Convention</i>	-

^a Indicators in italics are new and optional for reporting during the 2022 reporting process. They are proposed for adoption by Parties at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. All the other indicators have already been adopted in decisions 7/COP.13, 15/COP.13 and 11/COP.14.
