



Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

Twenty-second session

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 3–11 December 2024

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

Securing of additional investments and relations with financial mechanisms

Report by the Global Environment Facility on the financing of programmes and projects concerning to desertification/land degradation and drought

Financing of programmes and projects concerning desertification, land degradation and drought

Report by the Global Environment Facility

1. The memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) adopted in [decision 11/COP.13](#) provides that the GEF will submit a report to each regular session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) through the secretariat on the financing of programmes and projects concerning desertification, land degradation and drought.
2. In [decision 9/COP.15](#), the COP invited the GEF to continue its support for countries in programming land degradation focal area resources to combat desertification/land degradation and drought (DLDD) and achieve their voluntary land degradation neutrality targets, including in the context of land degradation neutrality transformative projects and programmes. It also requested the GEF to support Parties to meet their reporting obligations in a timely manner, and invited the GEF to further align the land degradation focal area strategy implementation with the Convention goals to enable countries to address their DLDD priorities, in particular through sustainable land management and the restoration of degraded lands. In addition, it requested the GEF, within its mandate, to support the implementation of the national drought plans and other drought-related policies, especially strengthening early warning, preparedness, mitigation and recovery, rehabilitation and monitoring systems and capacity-building. The COP also invited the GEF, within its mandate, to assess the feasibility of establishing a focal area for drought in order to increase the visibility and financial resources allocated to drought.
3. The report issued by the GEF is made available at the following link: <https://www.thegef.org/documents/gef-report-unccd-cop16> for review by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. A draft decision will be made available in document [ICCD/CRIC\(22\)/8/Add.1](#) with a view to formulating a final decision for consideration by the COP.

