



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

Press Kit for Journalists and Media Organizations

Media Participation

**Fourteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties
to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and
Mitigate the Effects of Drought, in those Countries Experiencing
Serious Drought and Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

(UNCCD COP14)

**2 – 13 September 2019
India Expo Mart Ltd, Greater Noida
New Delhi, India**

#UNCCDCOP14, @unccd



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COP14 Venue

Plot Nos. 23–25 & 27–29
Knowledge Park -II
Gautam Budh Nagar
Greater Noida –201306
Tel.:91-120-2328011
E-mail: Info@Indiaexpocentre.com

Media Accreditation

To attend the Conference, all media representatives are required to register for the Conference and get accreditation to cover the event as a media organization. Early online registration and accreditation will reduce the time needed for on-site registration. The online accreditation can be done at this site <<https://reg.unog.ch/event/30186/>>, which is accessible via the UNCCD COP14 webpage: <https://www.unccd.int/conventionconference-parties-cop/unccd-cop14-new-delhi-india>

All journalists are also required to submit an online application for registration for COP14. Online registration for media representatives is available from 1 June to 13 September 2019 through the following webpage: <https://reg.unog.ch/event/30186/>.

Onsite registration is highly discouraged. Be aware that you will be required to open an online account and then upload all your data before you are registered. If you don't have a laptop or mobile phone to do this, expect your registration to be long.

The following documentation is required to obtain the letter once you register via the online-portal:

- One recent passport-size photograph
- A valid press card
- A copy (picture and signature pages) of the passport (for foreign journalists) or national identity card (for local applicants)
- A letter of introduction on official stationery from the bureau chief, media house or publisher that the journalist represents. For freelance journalists, a letter is required from the media organization assigning them to cover the Conference;
- Duly filled online accreditation form accessible through the Conference registration portal.

Visa Requirements for India

All foreign journalists intending to cover the conference must apply online for a **Conference Visa** via the Government of India online visa application portal at: <www.indianvisaonline.gov.in>.

When applying for a visa application to the local Embassy three letters will be required: (i) an invitation letter to the Conference issued by the secretariat; (ii) a copy of a letter issued by the

Ministry of Home Affairs relating to the visa application; and (iii) a clearance letter issued by the Ministry of External Affairs.

The Conference invitation letter will be issued automatically and sent via email to each applicant on completion of the online registration for the conference and after the application is approved by the secretariat. The two additional government letters will also be emailed by the secretariat to each foreign applicant whose application is approved.



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For journalists from Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan (including foreigners of Pakistani origin), Sudan and Stateless persons the visa application must be made at least 60 days in advance. First apply online for accreditation. Next apply online for the visa. Finally, email your online visa application number to the UNCCD press office. The secretariat will submit your application to the Ministry of Home Affairs for the special visa clearance letter to be issued.

Press Centre

A dedicated press and media working space will be available at the conference venue. A working room equipped with a fax and printer will also be available. Interview cubicles and editing rooms will also be provided.

Internet and Computers

Free wireless Internet will be available throughout the conference venue. The agenda of the meetings are available via the links included in this document.

Press Releases

The Secretariat will issue press releases after each of the official press conferences. They will be distributed electronically to the media registered with the UNCCD. If you are covering the event remotely and wish to be on the list, please contact press@unccd.int and copy wwischnewski@unccd.int.

Press releases will also be posted on: https://www.unccd.int/news-events?f%5B0%5D=news_type%3Apress_release

Daily Journal

The events taking place each day will also be announced in the *Daily Journal*. Consult the *Daily Journal*, which will be issued electronically, via a link on the UNCCD COP14 website: <https://www.unccd.int/conventionconference-parties-cop/unccd-cop14-new-delhi-india>. Also consult the Daily Journal and electronic boards for information about the meetings that are closed, and not open to the media.

Conference App

The UNCCD News App is available for download from any App store. The Conference App will keep you up to date on the schedule of meetings, press conferences, latest news, press releases, and a lot more relevant conference information.

COP Agenda

Outlines below is an overview of the major COP meetings that journalists and media representatives have access. The full agenda of the meeting, including the breakdown of side events held during each segment, is available online. Rooms and times are sometimes updated. Re-confirm the venue and meetings times in the Daily Journal that is posted online everyday by 6am. Also consult the monitors and screens at the conference venue. Details, including the expected outcomes of these events and ideas of potential stories for journalists are provided further below.



Follow the links below to find the detailed agenda and descriptions of the outcomes of the official meetings.

COP14: <https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cop-14-new-delhi-india-2019>

CRIC18: <https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cric-18-new-delhi-india-2019>

CST 14: <https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cst-14-new-delhi-india-2019>

Snapshot of COP14 agenda

Date	Time				
	08:00-10:00	10:00-13:00	13:00-15:00	15:00-18:00	18:00-20:00
2 Sep		Informal Consultations	Press Conf Side Events	Opening of COP 14	UNCCD Reception
3 Sep	Side Events	Committee of the Whole (COW) CST Rio Conventions Pavilion (RCP)	Side Events RCP	CST CRIC Opening RCP (16:30-18:30)	Side Events
4 Sep	Side Events	Joint CST/CRIC Session RCP	Side events	CST CRIC RCP Gender Caucus	Side Events
5 Sept	Side Events	CST CRIC Science Day (RCP)	Side Events Science Day	COP Plenary (with CSOs) Science Day	Side Events
6 Sept	Side Events	COW Sand and Dust Storms (RCP)	Sand and Dust storms Side Events	COP Plenary (Adoption of CST Report) Sand and Dust Storms (RCP)	Side Events
7 Sept	Side Events	Business Day	Business Day	Business Day	Business Day
8 Sept	Side Events	Local Governments Day	Local Gov. Day	Local Governments Day	Local Gov Day
9 Sept	Side Events	COP Plenary - Opening of High-Level Segment	Min. Luncheon Press Conf GEF Day (RCP) Side Events	COP - Ministerial Round Tables GEF Day (RCP)	Host Country Reception UNCCD Land Ambassadors Cultural Events
10 Sept	Side Events	Interactive Dialogue 1 RCP	RCP Side Events	Interactive Dialogue 2 Interactive Dialogue 3 RCP	Side Events
11 Sept	Side Events	COP Plenary (with CSOs) Drought Day	Side Events Drought Day	CRIC Drought Day	Side Events
12 Sept	Side Events	COW CRIC	Side Events	COW	Side Events
13 Sept		COP Plenary	Press Conf	COP Plenary	

Access to Meetings

Accredited journalists may attend all meetings open to them, which include the opening plenary, the opening of the High-level segment, plenaries of the committees on science and technology (CST) and on the review implementation of the Convention (CRIC). They also have access to side events and events organized in the Rio Conventions Pavilion, the exhibition and technology fair as well as product launches, cultural events and performances that are open to other delegates. Where demand may exceed capacity, access to these sessions could be restricted to meet UN safety and security requirements. In these cases, entry is often granted on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Journalists are strictly prohibited from attending or covering any of the informal meetings, such as contact groups meetings, regional, interest group or closed-door meetings of stakeholder groups.

COP14 Documents

Provisional agenda: <https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/sessions/documents/2019-06/cop1%20-%20advance.pdf>



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The COP's Official Documents are posted here: <<https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cop-14-new-delhi-india-2019>>

The **High Level (ministerial) Segment** will take place on Monday and Tuesday, 9-10 September.

CRIC 18 Documents

CRIC, the Committee that reviews the progress being made in implementing the Convention, will meet in the first week of the Conference. See the CRIC 18 provisional agenda here: <<https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/sessions/documents/2019-06/CRIC1%20-%20advance.pdf>>

The CRIC's official documentation can be downloaded here: <<https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cric-18-new-delhi-india-2019>>

CST 14 Documents

The Committee that provides scientific guidance and advice to the Parties will also meet during the first week of COP14.

Provisional agenda: <https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/sessions/documents/2019-06/CST1%20-%20advance.pdf>

To access CST14 official documentation, follow this link: <<https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cst-14-new-delhi-india-2019>>

COP14 Outputs and Outcomes

At the end of COP14, the decisions taken by the Parties and the COP14 report will be posted on the UNCCD official website under this link: <https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cop-14-new-delhi-india-2019>

Pre-Scheduled Press Conferences

Press conferences will take place in the Press Conference Room, MET10. Only COP14 accredited journalists may attend these press events, however, the pre-scheduled press events below will be streamed live. (Check online for the weblink closer to these dates). Press conferences will be conducted in English, French, Spanish and Hindi, and webcast live. The Web link will be posted on the UNCCD COP14 website, when the information is made available.

When	What	Who
Monday, 2 September 13:15- 13:45hrs	Expected Outcomes of COP14	Hon. Prakash Javadekar, Minister, MOEFCC Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary, UNCCD
Monday, 9 September 14:30-15:00hrs	Expected Results of Ministerial Dialogue	UN Deputy Secretary General Amina Mohammed Hon. Prakash Javadekar, Minister, MOEFCC



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When

Friday, 13
September
13:15-13:45hrs
(TBC)

What

Outcomes of COP1

Who

Prakash Javadekar, Minister,
MoEFCC
Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive
Secretary, UNCCD

Other Press Events

Partners accredited to UNCCD may be convening press conferences or organize media engagements independent of the UNCCD. All notifications of these events when received fby the media team will be shared with the accredited media.

Distribution of Press Materials

The UNCCD, on behalf of partner organizations accredited to COP14, will facilitate, as appropriate, the dissemination of press releases to all COP14 accredited journalists. A few copies of the press releases will be made available at the information desk in the media center.

Media Briefings

Media Briefings with experts attending the conference will take place in the Media Working Room [406] every lunch-hour from 13:00-13:30 hrs, except on the days when the press conferences are taking place.

Technology Fair

COP14 will feature a “Technology for Sustainable Land Management” fair, which will run for the duration of the Conference and will showcase the latest and most effective technology and innovation in action.

Social Media

COP14 will have an active, virtual presence via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNCCD>

<https://twitter.com/UNCCD>

<https://www.facebook.com/unccd.cso>

<https://twitter.com/UNCCDcso>

<https://www.facebook.com/UNCCD.Marketplace>

<https://twitter.com/UNCCDcbm>

<http://www.youtube.com/theunccd>

Follow us on Twitter via #UNCCDCOP14.

Live tweeting @UNCCD, @globalmechanism and @RioPavilion

Press Contacts

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Frequently Asked Questions

What is the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification?

The *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa* (UNCCD), was adopted on 17 June 1994 in Paris, France, and entered into force in 1996. The Convention has 197 parties; that is, 196 country Parties and the European Union. The Convention is implemented based on the five regional implementation annexes: Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Northern Mediterranean. For more information on the convention and regional annexes see <https://www.unccd.int/convention/about-convention>

What is the mandate of the Convention?

The purpose of the Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought to achieve sustainable development in the affected areas by taking effective action at all levels through international cooperation and partnership agreements. In 2017, the Parties adopted the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework, which has five strategic objectives: (i) improve conditions of affected populations; (ii) improve conditions of affected ecosystems; (iii) mitigate the impacts of drought; (iv) work through partnerships; and (v) generate global benefits. For more information see: https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/relevant-links/2018-08/cop21add1_SF_EN.pdf

Why do desertification, land degradation and drought matter?

Land degradation refers to decline in the net primary productivity the land due the combination of human actions and climatic variations. Desertification refers to the degradation of the land in the drylands (arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas) only.

Globally, over 2 billion hectares of land are degraded – an area more than three times the size of India. Overall, 75 per cent of all the land systems have been transformed from their original state and 23 percent of the land has lost almost all its net primary productivity, largely on account of food production. As a result, 1.3 billion people directly depend on degraded land; that is one-in-every-3-people. But more than 3.2 billion people are impacted by it – close to half of the global population. During the last century, more people died from droughts than all the other disasters combined, yet people do not have to die of drought. About 1 million species are threatened by extinction due to the transformation the Earth's natural ecosystems. Emissions from the land are the second largest source of the gasses warming the Earth, leading to climate change.



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What is the Conference of the Parties?

The 197 Parties to the Convention meet every two years in a Conference, known as the Conference of the Parties (COP), to find solutions and agree on the actions to take to address global threats and challenges linked to desertification and land degradation, and to mitigate the impacts of drought.

The last (thirteenth) session of this Conference of Parties (COP 13) took place in Ordos, China, in September 2009. The next session will take place from 2-13 September in Greater Noida, close to New Delhi, India. Information about COP14 is available here: <https://www.unccd.int/conventionconference-parties-cop/unccd-cop13-ordos-china>

How does the Conference of the Parties Work?

The secretariat of the Convention organizes these Conferences but the agenda and substance of the Conference is defined by its two Committees; the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the Convention (CRIC). The Global Mechanism, which is under the secretariat, was established to support countries in finding innovative sources of financing to support the implementation of the Convention.

CST is made up of independent scientists selected by each country to provide scientific guidance to the Parties on matters that require scientific guidance. CRIC, is the political body that carries out all the background work before the Conference meets, for example, reviewing, analysing and assessing the progress in the challenges faced or actions agreed at previous COPs.

CST and CRIC help the COP to identify the most pressing issues that require action, and prepare the recommendations to be considered by the Parties during the Conference. During the Conference, when the COP plenary wishes to negotiate, in an informal format without breaking into smaller negotiating groups, it meets as the Committee of the Whole (COW).

Who can participate in the Conference?

All stakeholders to the Convention can participate in Conference of the Parties, but they must attend as representatives of very specific constituencies: governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society (non-governmental organizations and the private sector) or press and media. But to attend, each participant must be specifically and officially assigned by his or her organization to represent them at the COP. An organization may assign as many people as it wishes. Each participant designated to attend the Conference must also apply to the



secretariat of the Convention for accreditation to participate in the Conference. After verifying each application, the secretariat issues an access badges to the Conference.

What are the requirements for participation of press and media?

Media participants must meet two accreditation criteria and possess a government-issued photo identity card. Details of the required documentation is listed above. Freelance journalists and digital press lacking press cards can submit at least two, verifiable, articles published in the last six months by a legal and active media organization.

How do I get to the conference venue from New Delhi city center?

On 2 September, 9 September and 13 September, a shuttle service, exclusively for journalists, will run from the National Media centre to the conference venue. The address is: Raisina Road, Windsor Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India.

On all other days, the shuttle service will run from the Ministry of Environment to the Conference venue. The Ministry address is: Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi 110 003. All media accredited with a conference badge may use these services for free.

When can I pick up my access badge?

The registration of the media and other participants will take place from Wednesday, 28 September 2019 to Friday, 13 September 2019 at the registration tent at the Indo Expo Mart in Greater Noida.

Are there Stories I can write about?

The table shows the subjects that you can write about from the meetings.

Date	Event/Location	Why it matters or What is new	Potential Interviewees & background documentation or information	Comments
02-Sep	Press Conference 13:15-15:45hrs MET 02 Web streaming	Minister and Executive Secretary Ibrahim Thiaw will hold a press conference to present their expectations for COP14. UNCCD will issue a press release at the end of the press conference.	Minister Prakash Javadekar Executive Secretary Ibrahim Thiaw during the Press Conference	No exclusive interviews for this event. Q&A event following brief introductions by each of the speakers Web streamed
	COP 14 Opening 15:00-18:00hrs Plenary Hall	During the opening session all regions will highlight the expected outcomes	Regional and Interest Group Representatives	Regional groups lay out the expectations from the COP
03-Sep	Soil Organic Carbon 10:00-13:00hrs Main Committee Room	Sequestering soil organic carbon (SOC) is a key motivation for land restoration today. But scientists argue that the putting carbon in the soil, it is about more, much more than that.	Ms. Annette Cowie Mr. Ermias Betemariam Mr. Jean-Luc Chotte Mr. Nell Campbell	Background document available <i>SPI Report and Policy Brief, social video</i> Find potential interviews from list of CST members and Roster of Experts
	LDN Enabling Environment 10:00-13:00hrs Main Committee Room	122 countries are setting their targets but, initial assessment by scientists reveal that they may still fail to achieve LDN. Why and how can they avoid it?	Ms. Mariam Akhter-Schuster, SPI Chair Mr. Barron Orr, UNCCD Lead Scientist	Background document available <i>SPI Report on Creating an Enabling Environment</i>

Date	Event/Location	Why it matters or What is new	Potential Interviewees & background documentation or information	Comments
	CST Plenary 15:00-18:00hrs Main Committee Room	Scientists will highlight new and emerging new issues that require policy action, such as consumption and production patterns. What are the urgent actions under consideration?	Any National Focal Points or members of U	<i>Document ICCD/CST14/...18)</i>
	GEF DAY 16:30-18:00hrs Rio Conventions Pavilion	Panel Discussion led by Global Environment Facility on growing evidence of direct and indirect benefits of synergies in implementation of the among the biodiversity and climate change conventions.	Mr. Ulrich Apel, GEF Secretariat Ms. Catalina Santamaria, CBD Mr. Daniele Violetti, UNFCCC	Coordinated by Mr. Chris Hofer, Global Environment Facility
04-Sep	CRIC Drought Indicator (linked to item below) 10:00-13:00hrs Plenary Hall	Drought has a human face. Its mitigation a strategic goal for UNCCD for 2018-2030. But often the trigger for action on drought is lack of rainfall. Scientists have proposed an indicator to monitor it for consideration by negotiators. Is there ambition for stronger action beyond the drought initiative? What measures can be taken to help anticipate water needs better?	Mr. Robert Stefanski, World Meteorological Office Mr. Mark Svoboda, SPI Member Lady Bora Mr. Jonathan Davies, IUCN	<i>Background document: ICCD/COP(14)/CST/7 – ICCD/CRIC(18)/4</i>
	Bio indicators (CRIC 18) 10:00-13:00hrs Plenary Hall	For the first time, countries used a standardized method and biophysical indicators to assess land degradation. The reports, submitted to COP14, provide a baseline of indicators that countries can use to assess future progress. Will they agree to make this data the baseline for assessing future progress consisting of 4-year reporting cycles next due in 2022?	Mr. Contreras, CRIC Bureau Member Ms. Anna Louise, Italy, CST member	<i>Background document: ICCD/CRIC(17)/9</i>
	GM Side Event to Launch of Technical Guide on LDN 13:00-15:00 hrs MET10	The pot of funds for land restoration is large but not being tapped into. Lessons learned. How to get more funds.	Mr. Juan Carlos Mendoza, Managing Director, GM Mr. Ulrich Arpel, GEF Ms. Ann Juepner, UNDP	<i>Background document is a Technical Guide on LDN Transformative Projects</i>
05-Sep	Science Day 09:00hrs-18:00hrs Rio Conventions Pavilion	Scientists recently issued critical global land assessments on biodiversity, climate change and land degradation (IPBES, IPCC, WAD). The Reports' leaders will present and discuss these assessments and, together, identify the most critical policy actions requiring action at COP14.	Ms. Marioldy Sanchez, CSO member in the SPI Mr. Mark Svoboda, SPI Member Ms. Nicole Berger, SPI Member Mr. Jim Skea, UK, Co-Chair, IPCC Working Group II Mr. Minal Pathak, India, IPCC, Working Group III Ms. Fatima Denton, IPCC, Special Report on Climate Change and Land Mr. Jagdish Krishnaswamy, India, Special Report on Climate Change and Land	Background Documents <i>The Global Land Outlook</i> First Edition, UNCCD, 2017 <i>IPBES Land Degradation and Assessment,</i> <i>World Atlas on Desertification, EU/JRC, 2018</i> <i>IPBES Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, IPBES, 2019.</i> <i>IPCC Special Report on Land and Climate Change, IPCC, 2019</i>
	Press briefing on land as driver of migration	IOM is launching the study "Addressing the land degradation-migration nexus". The study explains how migration is driven by land degradation and underlines the role played by UNCCD. https://knowledge.unccd.int/topics/land-degradation-migration-nexus	Mrs Mariam Traore Chazalnoel, IOM Migration, Environment and Climate Change Policy Officer Mohamed Doubi Kadmiri, Diplomatic Advisor of the Head of Government of Morocco, 3S Sherpa Mrs. Leticia Boukouro	Background Documents IPCC_Report: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/srccl/ Changes in climate can amplify environmentally induced migration both within countries and across borders. Global Land Outlook (2017)

Date	Event/Location	Why it matters or What is new	Potential Interviewees & background documentation or information	Comments
		To address migration driven by land degradation, 14 African countries have launched the Initiative of Sustainability, Stability and Security (3S) which aims at restoring land and creating green jobs for migrants and vulnerable groups. The 3S Initiative is starting its implementation phase engaging countries at the highest political level.	Amphy-Wang, Minister, Deputy Chief of Cabinet of the Prime Minister of RCA, Sherpa 3S Mr. Mahamat Gueillet Hemchi, President's Advisor on agriculture of Chad, Sherpa 3S Mr. Issifi BOUREIMA, Advisor to the President on Climate Change of Niger, Sherpa 3S	Over 1.3 billion people trapped on degrading agricultural land. Global Land Outlook (2018) Africa and Asia projected to lose 80% of the global cropland due to urban area expansion. Over 1.7 billion people live in river basins with water use higher than natural rate of replenishment; if Business As Usual follows, 2/3 of the world's population will live in water-stressed countries by 2025
06-Sep	Sand and Dust storms 09:00-18:00hrs Rio Conventions Pavilion	Where are the new sources of sand and dust storms. To help evaluate impacts and the damage of sand and dust storms, the first base map of the sources of sand dust storms has been developed and will be presented at this event. A technical guide on best practices to prevent sand and dust storms will also be presented.	Ms. Claudio Zucca, ICARDA	Source base map is available online.
	Side event on Launch of <i>Global Land Outlook</i> Regional Reports 13:00-15:00hrs MET 15	<p>Northeast Asia report on <i>Partnerships to Achieve Land Degradation Neutrality</i> shows how land restoration projects can succeed when there is regional cooperation on transboundary issues like sand and dust storms.</p> <p>East Africa report on <i>Responsible Land Governance to Achieve Land Degradation Neutrality</i> highlights case studies that illustrate the critical role of tenure security in scaling up sustainable land management practices. Also, use of blockchain technology to register land</p> <p>West Africa report on <i>Human Security Benefits of Land Degradation Neutrality</i> focuses on how to take advantage of human capital, natural wealth and technological achievements foster inclusive and sustainable economic, social and environmental transformation.</p> <p>Latin America and the Caribbean report on <i>Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Adaptation</i> shows how timely action to prevent, reduce and reverse land degradation can improve food and water security while at the same time contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.</p>	<p>Mr. Byungki Ahn, Korea Forest Service, Email: co2down@korea.kr, jungyolee@korea.kr</p> <p>Ms. Naomi Stewart, Independent Expert, Email: naomi.m.stewart@gmail.com</p> <p>Mr. Alfari Issifou, CILSS, Email: issifou.alfari@cilss.int</p> <p>Mr. Jose Miguel Torrico, Email: jmtorrico@unccd.int</p>	<p><i>GLO Report and Background papers</i></p> <p>https://knowledge.unccd.int/global-land-outlook-regional-reports</p>
07-Sep	Business Day	The role of private enterprise in landscape regeneration, agricultural innovation and creating sustainable value chains is vital, but highly constrained currently. What can private enterprise do? Journalists may cover either the opening and	Mr. Tony Siantonas, Director, WBCSD	Organizers to confirm session that journalists can cover (either opening or closing). Potential to private sector interviewees

Date	Event/Location	Why it matters or What is new	Potential Interviewees & background documentation or information	Comments
		closing of the event organized by World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).		
	Local & Regional Governments Day 09:30-17:30hrs MET 13 (inaugural) MET 17 Panels	Cities are in crises, but they are growing. Growing developing country cities are aping the western model, and based on which Africa and Asia risk losing up to 80% of their land. Urbanization in developed countries has led to the loss of valuable services – schools, hospitals, jobs and infrastructure – in the rural areas. Many emerging economies are burdened by ever-expanding slums. What should cities of the future look like, and how can the rural-urban nexus be bridged? The outputs from this session will feed into the closed door ministerial roundtable title, <i>Rural and Urban communities: failing or flourishing together</i> , to be held Monday, 9 September.	Pamoussa Oued, Director General for Green Economy and Climate Change, Burkina Faso) Aziz Diallo (Mayor of Dori, Burkina Faso) Maria Isabel Ortiz Mantilla (Secretary of Environment of the State of Guanajuato, Mexico) Marco Jonathan Lainez Ordonez, Director of Climate Change of Distrito Central Tegucigalpa, Honduras	Working Paper https://www.unccd.int/news-events/cop14-local-and-regional-governments-day
09-Sep	High Level Segment Opening Ceremony 10:00-13:00hrs Plenary Hall	Cultural presentation, statements from dignitaries, high-level delegates: Prime Minister Modi; Ibrahim Thiaw, UNCCD Executive Secretary; Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General; Ratan Tata, Chairman, Tata Group	Plenary Statements; requests for interviews	Host Country Initiatives and other major partner initiatives tend to be announced during this session. Possibility of a Delhi declaration to be issued.
Ministerial Segment	Ministerial luncheon 13:00-14:30hrs MET 14	Land can support nature-based solutions for climate. UNCCD can contribute to the Paris Agreement. A working event that might result in a communique on why land is important for nature-based climate solutions. Meeting on Nature-based solutions takes place immediately after COP14.	Ministers responsible for Climate Action Press Conference with Deputy Secretary General after the luncheon	Initiative of the UN Deputy Secretary General that may serve as the curtain raiser for the Climate Action Summit taking place in New York at the UN General Assembly, immediately after COP14
	Press Conference 14:30-15:00hrs MET 02	Close to 100 Ministers are coming to India or two full days of meeting. What are the expected outcomes from the ministerial discussions and interactive dialogues, and what progress have we made towards the Climate Action Summit?	Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, UN Minister Prakash Javadekar, MoEFCC, India	Minister and DSG will be available for interview only during the Q&A segment of the press conference. Ministers responsible from climate action attending COP may also be willing to be interviewed
	Round Table 1: Land Climate and Renewable Energy 15:00-18:00hrs MET 16	Closed meeting Land tenure remains a major stumbling block for land restoration and rehabilitation. For the first time, governments will consider this issue in the context of land management. Where is progress made?	CSO representatives	These parallel ministerial round tables are closed to the media and other delegates. Chair's summaries issued at the end, thematic experts and stakeholder representatives who speak at these sessions may be the best interview candidates.
	Round Table 2: Rural and Urban Communities 15:00-18:00hrs MET 17	Closed meeting How to plan land use for the future, given demographic and climate changes and loss of ecosystem functions. 3m ha of land is lost to urbanization every year. 2020 Urban Forum will be in Abu Dhabi. Many cities, mostly in developing world and emerging economies, struggle with slums. How can we plan cities and rural areas together to avoid	Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary General of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability; Executive Director, ICLEI South Asia	

Date	Event/Location	Why it matters or What is new	Potential Interviewees & background documentation or information	Comments
		slums?		
	Round Table 3: Fostering a global movement for ecosystem restoration 15:00-18:00hrs MET 19	Closed meeting Ecosystem restoration will run from 2021-2030. Actions to transform our world's ecosystems. How can LDN be done so that it counts for the climate change Nationally Determined Commitments (NDCS) and biodiversity Post 2020 Framework?	Heads of Agencies or Senior Representatives (UNDP, FAO, UNEP, IPBES, CBD)	
	Celebrities, reception and cultural show 19:00-21:00hrs Restaurant Area	A cultural and musical show featuring international artists, including, Inna Moja, Baaba Maal and Ricky Kej who will release an anthem on land. UNCCD will announce its new the land ambassadors during the event.	Ms. Inna Moja, Malian musician Mr. Baaba Maal, Senegalese musician Mr Ricky Kej, Indian musician	Photo and interview opportunities for entertainment, lifestyle and related media.
	GEF Day 09:00-18:00hrs Rio Conventions Pavilion	What does transformational change mean for programs, projects, agencies and partners who fight against land degradation? Presenters involved in GEF6 Integrated Approach Pilot on Food Security, GEF7 Impact Program on Food Systems Land-Use and Restoration, and the GEF7 Dryland Impact Program will deliver messages in an innovative engaging format.	Barron Orr, Annette Cowie, Juan Carlos Mendoza from UNCCD, Chiz Aoki for the GEF Secretariat	The event organizer is Christian Hofer (GEF)
10 Sept	A Values Based Approach 10:00-13:00hrs Plenary Hall	Dialogue on a value-based approach to land stewardship. Public demand and mobilization for action and repair of damaged environments has never been greater. Foundations are working with people's movements and building coalitions to restore degraded land. Foundations will speak about their experiences, announce new initiatives, etc.	Mr. Isha Sadhguru, Mystic and Environmentalist Ms. Hindou Oumarou, Representative Indigenous Peoples Baaba Maal, Musician	Background document: <i>Working Paper</i> .
Interactive Dialogues	Healthy Land, Healthy People 15:00-16:30hrs Plenary Hall	Impact of land degradation on health underestimated, but the issue is growing in importance due to issues such as land and water pollution, rise of invasive species and spread of disease to new areas, etc. 80% of children in Africa get meningitis because of DLDD. Expected outcome is to develop the presented paper further.	Minister of Health Harsh Vardhan Louise Baker, UNCCD Harsh Vardhan Indian Minister of Health WHO rep + Union for TB and lung disease	<i>A background Working Paper is available.</i> On 4-5 September, WHO is holding a session on Health and the Environment at their meeting on 4-5 September. Link UNCCD and WHO event and pitch a journalist to write an entire piece from these two sessions.
	Boosting sustainable value chains for land-based business 16:30-18:00hrs Plenary Hall	Linking Value Chains to achievement of LDN. Rights come with responsibility and the right to source food anywhere demands taking responsibility for sustainable management of the land from which foods are sourced. The dialogue will focus on the challenge of sourcing and possibly launch a creative from private sector initiative for creating products such as Mars bar from moringa and creating markets for sustainably sourced drylands products such as shea.	Wang Wenbiao, China, Elion Resources Group Akanush, Minister Morocco Aduna Representative Ratan Tata, Chairman, Tata Group	Ratan Tata, Chairman, Tata Group could assume the Chairmanship of the UNCCD Business Forum for the next two years, taking over from Wang Wenbiao of Elion Resources Group
	Peace-Forest Initiative 13:00-15:00hrs	Launch of cross-border peace initiative on land rehabilitation and LDN in post-conflict areas; improve	Representatives, Republic of Korea (TBD)	A brochure on this initiative is under preparation.

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	Venue TBD	North-South Korea relations by planting trees together. North Korea comes to the COP. Other places Haiti/DR (?), 3S countries and Ethiopia/Eritrea (?) Delhi Declaration will outline this.		
	Press Conference/One-on-one interviews (TBC) Time (TBD) Venue (TBD)	After speaking at the Roundtable on value chains, Isha Sadhguru will participate in a press conference about the launch of a people's movement for land degradation neutrality	Isha Sadhguru	Press Conference or one-on-one interview if PC is not feasible.
	Land for Life Day 14:00-18:00hrs Rio Conventions Pavilion	We recognize the importance of promoting good practices and the power of good examples to scale-up inspirational projects. This year is focused on "Decades of Impact", highlighting projects implemented for 25 years and longer. The two winners of 2019 Land for Life Award will be giving a short presentation of their work, (presentation by winner of China Award to be confirmed). The Land for Life day will also feature presentations by former winners of the Award, like WOTR (2017) and ELION (2015), giving them the opportunity to share the progress and new aims of their projects since they received recognition in the past years. Interview opportunities with the winners.	Mathieu Ouédraogo	Background materials and resources for media use with this event include: <i>One-minute videos, PowerPoint presentations, brochure, photos</i> . Contact point is yhori@unccd.int
11-Sep	Drought Day 09:30-17:00hrs Rio Conventions Pavilion 12:00-12:30pm Press Conference	Droughts aren't caused by the shortage of rainfall. This high-level event will highlight the different causes of drought and launch of a toolbox -- a one-stop shop for all actions on drought. The toolbox contains tools that strengthen the ability of countries to anticipate and prepare for drought effectively and mitigate their impacts as well as tools that enable communities to anticipate and find the land management tools that help them to build resilience to drought. A press conference is envisioned as part of the session.	Ms. Samia Nkrumah, President of Kwame Nkrumah Pan-African Center, Ghana Ms. Lorena Aguilar, Vice Minister, Foreign Affairs, Costa Rica	This topic has national significance in India and some South Asian countries. One of the sessions is designed for engagement with the press. A media briefing with journalists may be held if there is a demand for it.
12-Sep	COP14 Decisions	One-on-one Interviews about COP14 outcomes		Media briefing Day of informal negotiations and preparation of closing press release Schedule interviews for journalists to prepare for closing statements
13-Sep	Press Conference 13:15-13:45 hrs MET 02	COP14 outcomes COP14 President and the Executive Secretary will highlight the outcomes of COP14	Minister Executive Secretary Ibrahim Thiaw	The tentative outcomes will be presented and pending issues explained. A press release will not be issued until after the closing for the COP, however, journalists can write the bulk of the story based on this outcome.