



Presentation of Noel Oettlé

Environment Monitoring Group – South Africa

I am Noel Oettlé, a practitioner in the fields of restoration, soil management and sustainable livelihoods from South Africa. My engagement in the UNCCD spans 20 years and includes serving on the UNCCD NCB, engaging in negotiations, producing policy briefs, working closely with scientists and small-scale farmers on participatory research, engaging in policy development in South Africa and networking with CSOs, academia and government officials.

What would you bring from the CSO community to the UNCCD SPI?

I will ensure that the perspectives of civil society are included in the SPI processes to ensure that the scientific work of the Convention is rooted in the realities of the people of the global drylands. I will consult the broader CSO community on contentious issues so as to ensure that the CSO perspective is put forward in ways that will be heard, understood and taken seriously by the UNCCD SPI.

What would you bring from the UNCCD SPI to the CSO community?

I will engage in all of the SPI processes (face-to-face meetings and review of minutes and official documents) as appropriate and identify any and all crucial issues that will be of interest to civil society actors and practitioners who are engaging with implementing LDN at national or local level. I will share scientific insights about the contributions of specific land use practices to sustainable land management. I will also link to other UN scientific processes such as the GEF STAP, CBD IPBES and UNFCCC IPCC,

And how would you do this?

In collaboration with the other CSO representative on the SPI:

- As relevant documents, issues and/or processes that are either of interest to CSOs or call for CSO engagement emerge from the SPI process, I will circulate the relevant information to the UNCCD CSO mailing list and respond to any queries.
- Following each meeting of the SPI, I will write a summary of the key decisions and issues and circulate it to the UNCCD CSO mailing list.
- I will engage with the UNCCD CSO Panel.