

About the Library Collection



UNCCD Library Online Collections

Monographs and serials collection – The library holds collection of monographs and series that support the Organization's research and daily work in the fields of development, economics, environment, land, soils, agriculture, energy, water, climate change, biodiversity, science and technology, gender, security, migration, sand and dust storms and sustainable land management. The collection includes publications and reports, grey literature, country and regional case studies published by UN and non-UN organizations, scientists and regional commissions. **Periodicals collection** includes open access articles, references to articles, journals, reviews, bulletins and newsletters published by institutions and organizations from various regions in the world. The majority are freely available online through the [UNCCD Library catalogue](#). **Country parties collection** includes countries' national action plans and national reports available through the [UNCCD website](#). **UNCCD collection** is the grouping of [UNCCD official documents](#) and [publications](#) in electronic format, available through the [UNCCD website](#).

After the closure of the physical library in 2015, UNCCD library has been focusing on electronic collection of resources available through the [online public access catalogue](#) and the [Knowledge Hub](#).

- [How to use the UNCCD Library catalogue \(guide with examples\)](#)
- Have a look at our [Flickr UNCCD Library historical collection](#): 25 years UNCCD in photos and documents
- Join us for a [UNCCD Virtual tour](#) and [UNCCD LIBRARY online tour](#)
- **About UNCCD (web content guide, issues, actions, topics, publications etc.)**



- Follow the library [@UNCCDLibrary](#).
- Check out the [latest additions to our catalogue](#)

Bibliographic References:

 **Fact of the Month - Word of the Week page with data, references /all the information is available in our catalogue, just do a search with the title**

The Sahel: Land of Opportunities, Land with a Future

[The Sahel: Land of Opportunities, Land with a Future](#) A stable Sahel, with a population of over 300 million and a rising urbanization trend, offers immense opportunities for the global market. The Sahel, the vast semi-arid region of Africa separating the Sahara Desert to the north and tropical savannas to the south, is as much a land of opportunities as it is of challenges. Although it has abundant human and natural resources, offering tremendous potential for rapid growth, there are deep-rooted challenges—environmental, political and security— that may affect the prosperity and peace of the Sahel.

For this reason, the United Nations has come up with a unique support plan targeting 10 countries to scale up efforts to accelerate prosperity and sustainable peace in the region.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ([UNCCD](#)) policy dialogue in partnership with the Rockefeller Foundation took place at the stunning Bellagio Centre in Italy. The discussion theme was “**A Land of Opportunities: Framing Contextual and Practical Solutions for Lasting Peace and Prosperity in the Sahel.**” UNCCD introduced an exciting initiative aimed at reversing present trends in the Sahel, and restoring its economic, social and environmental capital. The initiative focuses on the large-scale mobilization of communities, social groups and networks to accelerate installation of clean energy, restore degraded lands and catalyse the development of rural enterprise across the Sahel belt, with a special focus on youth and women.

Land Food Feed Fibre with relevant data, facts, references

[Land Food Feed Fibre with relevant data, facts, references.](#)

Changing consumer and corporate behaviour, having more efficient planning and sustainable practices, could secure enough land to meet the demand for food and supplies.

Plants and animals provide most of our food, clothing and footwear. This means that food, feed (animal) and fibre (for clothing) all compete for arable land. And demand is growing due to population growth and increasing global middle classes.

Land Degradation Neutrality: Healthy Land for Healthy People

[Land Degradation Neutrality: Healthy Land for Healthy People](#) and more on this unique approach that counterbalances the expected loss of productive land with the recovery of degraded areas.

Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) is a paradigm shift in land management policies and practices. It is a unique approach that counterbalances the expected loss of productive land with the recovery of degraded areas. It strategically places the measures to conserve, sustainably manage and restore land in the context of land use planning. LDN aims to preserve land resources by ensuring no net loss of healthy and productive land through a combination of measures that avoid, reduce and reverse land degradation. Achieving neutrality requires estimating the likely impacts of land-use and land management decisions, then counterbalancing anticipated losses through strategically planned rehabilitation or restoration of degraded land within the same land type.

LDN can only be achieved through coordinated efforts to integrate its objectives with land-use planning and land management, underpinned by sound understanding of the human-environment system and effective governance mechanisms.

With the support of the [LDN Target Setting Programme](#), 123 countries have pledged to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality at the national or sub-national level, and as of May 2020, more than 100 countries have already set their voluntary national LDN targets, and many have secured high-level government commitment to achieve LDN.

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT: Creating employment opportunities and jobs

[SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT: Creating employment opportunities and jobs](#) . SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT : Creating employment opportunities and jobs (an attempt to compile some background information on SLM employment opportunities, can SLM create employment opportunities, examples of SLM jobs

created, land and labor nexus, green jobs, youth employment with a focus on SSA, projects with number of jobs created etc). **DID YOU KNOW:** ➤ Roughly 122 million young people will enter the labor force between 2010 and 2020, with slightly more than half of them from rural areas, putting immense pressure on both agriculture and non-farm sectors to generate employment opportunities. However, even under highly favorable conditions, Fine et al. (2012) estimate that nonfarm sectors can generate only • 70 million wage jobs over this same period, mainly in manufacturing, retailing, hospitality, and government. This means that farming will be called upon to provide gainful employment for at least a third of Africa's young labor force. However, for agriculture to effectively fulfill this mandate, young people growing up in densely populated areas will require access to farm technologies that are radically more productive and profitable, as well as access to new land.

The Implications of desertification, land degradation, drought, sand and dust storms on human health

[The Implications of desertification, land degradation, drought, sand and dust storms on human health](#). The Implications of desertification, land degradation, drought, sand and dust storms on human health and more... [UNCCD library research covering the period 1996 to 2020]. At the time of writing, the world is in the grips of a global pandemic the like of which has never been seen before. The COVID-19 that has swept through countries and continents has caused untold human suffering, social upheaval and economic damage. But while the spread of the current crisis is unprecedented, the new coronavirus follows a number of diseases that have emerged in recent decades, such as Ebola, AIDS, SARS, avian influenza and swine flu.

All originated in animals – and there is increasing evidence that humanity's overexploitation of nature is one of the factors behind the spread of new diseases. Human activities have significantly altered three-quarters of the land and two-thirds of the ocean, changing the planet to such an extent as to determine the birth of a new era: the "Anthropocene". Changes in land use that bring wildlife, livestock and humans into closer contact with each other facilitate the spread of diseases, including new strains of bacteria and viruses. Meanwhile, illegal and uncontrolled trade of live wild animals creates dangerous opportunities for contact between humans and the diseases these creatures carry.

Water, drought

[Water, drought](#) floods, regional assessments, water scarcity, water stress, maps, facts, figures. Over 2 billion people live in countries experiencing high water stress. Recent estimates show that 31 countries experience water stress between 25% (which is defined as the minimum threshold of water stress) and 70%. Another 22 countries are above 70% and are therefore under serious water stress (UN, 2018a).¹ Growing water stress indicates substantial use of water resources, with greater impacts on resource

sustainability, and a rising potential for conflicts among users. It has been estimated that about 4 billion people, representing nearly two-thirds of the world population, experience severe water scarcity during at least one month of the year. For the most part, dry areas will tend to become drier and wet areas wetter, such that climate change will likely exacerbate water stress in areas that are already the most affected.

About 90% of all natural disasters are water-related. Over the period 1995–2015, floods accounted for 43% of all documented natural disasters, affecting 2.3 billion people, killing 157,000 more and causing US\$662 billion in damage (CRED/UNISDR, 2015). Droughts accounted for 5% of natural disasters, affecting 1.1 billion people, killing 22,000 more, and causing US\$100 billion in damage over the same 20-year period (CRED/UNISDR, 2015). An average of 25.3 million people are displaced each year by sudden-onset disasters (IDMC, 2018).

While figures can vary greatly from year to year depending on the occurrence and magnitude of disasters, the overall risk of being displaced by disasters has doubled since the 1970s mainly due to population growth and increased exposure and vulnerability to natural hazards, a trend likely to continue with the adverse effects of climate change. Excluded from these figures are those people that move due to slow-onset events and stressors (e.g. chronic drought, sea level rise, desertification, or ecosystem loss, among others), as factors behind such movements are often complex.

Gender, land and more. The gender factor in achieving LDN (compilation of references)

[Gender, land and more. The gender factor in achieving LDN \(compilation of references\)](#) UNCCD and the issue of gender (biblio list of references)

Water-Energy-Food Nexus Literature Review. A Review of Nexus Literature and ongoing Nexus Initiatives for Policymakers

[Water-Energy-Food Nexus Literature Review A Review of Nexus Literature and ongoing Nexus Initiatives for Policymakers](#) The Nexus describes the interconnections and interdependencies between the water, energy and food (WEF) sectors. These interdependencies of the WEF securities have received growing attention in the past years by academia and policy-makers. In 2011, the World Economic Forum identified the lack of understanding of the Nexus as a major global economic challenge, and the Bonn conference in the same year put forward the Nexus approach as a fundamental necessary shift for sustainable development. To address the need to inform policy-makers and other decision makers about research concerning the WEF Nexus, the need for a literature review was identified, with the aim to provide an overview of key Nexus concepts and tools that can be applied in policy and practice. This review aims to help bridge the gap between science and policy in the implementation of Nexus thinking. Furthermore, it investigates the question: where and how are Nexus concepts currently implemented, and by whom?

Sand and Dust Storms (compilation of resources)

[Sand and Dust Storms \(compilation of resources\)](#) from our library collection

Recursos Hídricos, Servicios de Agua Potable y Cuencas Hidrográficas (ODS 6)

[Recursos Hídricos, Servicios de Agua Potable y Cuencas Hidrográficas \(ODS 6\)](#) This research guide offers users help to search for bibliographic information (almost exclusively in Spanish) on the topic of water resources, river basins and water services.

Sustainable Development Law- Research Guide

[Sustainable Development Law- Research Guide](#) Historically, sustainable development law has often focused on environmental issues in developed countries. Indeed, sustainable development was recognized long before the 1972 Stockholm UN Conference on the Human Environment (culminating in the Stockholm Declaration). Scholars, citizens, and government officials have debated the tension between the Earth's natural resources and the needs of both current and future generations.

More recently, the field of Sustainable Development Law (SDL) has shifted to an integration of international economic, social, and environmental law. Human rights advocates hope that this more integrated approach will allow SDL to respond more nimbly to chronic, complex issues like poverty. “The link between poverty and environmental degradation is well recognized and constitutes, unfortunately, a vicious cycle: poverty leads to environmental degradation which, in turn, leads to more poverty which leads to even more **environmental degradation**”

The future of work. Literature review

[The future of work. Literature review](#) An enormous amount of literature has emerged over the last few years in the context of the “Future of Work”. Academics, think tanks and policy makers have fuelled rich discussions about how the future of work might look like and how we can shape it. Indeed, labour markets in developing and developed countries are likely to undergo major transformations in the next years and decades. However, despite a growing body of research in this area, there exists no universally accepted definition of what exactly the “Future of Work” encompasses and what the most relevant drivers are.

All about soils. RECARE resources

[All about soils. RECARE resources](#). The main aim of the RECARE project is to develop and share effective solutions to prevent, remediate and restore our soils across Europe. The aim for the Hub is to provide information and guidance to help practitioners, researchers, policy-makers and the wider public to learn about the threats to our soils

and measures to prevent and remediate against soil degradation. If you are interested in learning about specific soil threats, you may find it helpful to start on the Soil Threats pages. If you are interested in more detailed guidance for assessing soil degradation or learning about management measures to prevent and remediate against soil degradation, these are provided under Tools and Resources.

Land and Climate

[Land and Climate](#) and [UNCCD COP 23 UN: CC Learn collection](#) collection of resources

Land Degradation Neutrality - investment opportunities and business cases

[Land Degradation Neutrality - investment opportunities and business cases](#). List of publications, articles, UNCCD brochures, etc. as references for a report on LDN investment opportunities/business cases The titles compiled below (books, ebooks, articles, web resources, data bases etc) are all from our library database, retrieved by searching with a combination of keywords related to land and business opportunities. There might be some duplication which is a result of the keywords selection/combination. (items 28-33 are articles, 38- 41 are databases) You may wish to explore each title and full text content by visiting the [library database](#) , see also [results for LDN from our collection](#)

Great Green Wall success stories

[Great Green Wall success stories](#) and projects. The GREAT GREEN WALL (research and compilation of news, success stories, references to projects, opinions etc)

Migration and environmental change

[Migration and environmental change](#) (updated bibliographic references) Migration and environmental change: examining the relationship Land and security

Environmental problems reflected in world's literature. Annotated Bibliography

[Environmental problems reflected in world's literature. Annotated Bibliography](#) and [Book acquisitions](#). Global environmental challenges are a unifying concern for people around the world. Climate change, loss of biodiversity, human health and welfare, land degradation, drought, some of the major environmental catastrophes from the past : the collapse of Maya civilization, the Dust Bowl, the Chernobyl disaster are just a few from a long list of global environmental challenges that cross national boundaries and require international cooperation .

Environmental problematic reflected in world's literary work can prompt more concern, provoke attitude, inspire action.. But it is also true that literature addressing

environmental degradation helps us better understand and care more deeply about damage at all scales. Sometimes creative works can even transform our values and behaviors vis-a vis the environment. Stories from fiction and literature that engage with the ambiguities of ecological problems and their impact on human life and future talked about in many more ways than the science, eco criticism or the news articles used to do and can be valuable and really engaging tools for environmental action.

From water pollution to global warming, from land and soil degradation to human security and migration, environmental issues affect every person, animal, community, and nation on the planet. As increasing evidence supports the devastating effect humans have on the environment, more people are taking steps to protect the environment and educate others about environmental problems by looking at the major environmental concerns. Today we offer you a list of literary works (among which a few nonfiction works) that have reflected environmental problems and disasters.

Can a novel or poem make a more sustainable world? The answer is with you...

What we believe is: As awareness of these problems grows, people become more involved in finding solutions. Our first choice starts with the world's classic novel

Land and Security

[Land and Security](#) LAND AND SECURITY (Bibliography of information resources)

Why societies collapse?

[Why societies collapse?](#) Throughout human history societies have prospered and collapsed leaving behind tantalizing glimpses of their magnificence in crumbling temples, ruins and statues. Why did these ancient civilisations fall apart? Why did some collapse and not others? And what lessons do they have for our civilisation? Among the list of reasons on the first place is the Environmental Damage. Environmental damage involves inadvertent damage to the environment through means such as deforestation, soil erosion, salinisation, over-hunting etc,. Societal, philosophical and cultural changes as a result of soil erosion, soil collapse etc (Dust bowl ; Nazca, Africa, Central Asia , USA, etc)

Bibliography on Drought, Desertification and Water Scarcity

[Bibliography on Drought, Desertification and Water Scarcity](#) In 1977, the United Nations Conference to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) adopted a Plan of Action to Combat Desertification. At least 179 countries have joined the convention. Drought risk reduction is also connected with another international convention, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Drought is one of the natural hazards to be considered in implementing the International Strategy for Disaster

Reduction and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in January 2005, in Kobe, Japan.

Books on food and agriculture

[Books on food and agriculture](#) ([FoodTank](#) reading list) 20 books to engage readers in topics that range from sustainable diets to empowerment of women in agriculture. From lentil farmers to food pantry activists, the unexpected food heroes who star in these stories are creating a fair and sustainable food system from farm to fork.

The following pages will lead you to more information on UNCCD Library

- [Library Online catalogue](#)
- Check out the [latest additions to our catalogue](#)
- [Highlights](#) (recent publications in the KHub eLibrary)
- [Ask the librarian](#)
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