



4th August 1999

The Executive Secretary
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
Haus Carstanjen
P.O.Box 260129
D-53175 BONN
Germany

fax (49-228) 8152899

Subject: National report by Finland to the 3rd COP

Dear Mr Hama Arba Diallo,

Please receive my best compliments and also my appreciation for your visit to Helsinki and for our discussions on the 2nd February. Your presence in Helsinki and the media coverage your message received surely raised a lot of increased awareness of the need to combat desertification and to mitigate the effects of drought.

Let me refer to earlier communications between the Secretariat and the Department on the submission of Finland's national report. A preliminary version was submitted on 29th June under ref. HELD448-79 and we are pleased to note that the Secretariat has incorporated its content into the documentation for COP 3. This is to inform that the comprehensive report is now ready for submission and it should replace the preliminary version.

The report covers 16 pages including 2 annexes. The text will be submitted today in electronic version to the e.mail address of the Secretariat.

With highest consideration,

Glen Lindholm
Director General

Erillinen sivu elektronisen version käsittelyyn:

Kehitysyhteistyöosasto
KYO-01 Anne Toivonen

04.8.1999

Asia

YK-SOPIMUS AAVIKOITUMISEN VASTUSTAMISESTA; SUOMEN KANSALLINEN RAPORTTI

Asiasanat AAVIKOITUMISSOPIMUS

Hoitaa UM KYO-03

Hoitaa UE BER

Koordinoi

Tiedoksi

AVS-KYO; KYO-01; KYO-10; KYO-12; KYO-20; KYO-21; KYO-22; OIK-10; POL-13; YMI
NAI; ROO; WAS; YKE
YM/KVY

**COUNTRY REPORT OF FINLAND UNDER THE UNCCD
1999**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
2. FINLAND'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION POLICY AND DESERTIFICATION	4
2.1 THE IMPORTANCE OF DESERTIFICATION ISSUES IN THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA	4
2.2 FINLAND'S ODA AND DESERTIFICATION.....	5
3. ACTION PROGRAMMES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNCCD	6
3.1 THE CONCEPT OF ACTION PROGRAMMES IN RELATION TO SECTORS.....	6
3.2 REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL APS AND SECTORAL APPROACH	7
4. CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES AND PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS IN WHICH FINLAND IS INVOLVED	8
4.1 APPROACH.....	8
4.2 PROCESSES GEARED DIRECTLY TOWARDS COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT	8
4.3 RELEVANT SECTORAL ASSISTANCE PROCESSES WITH PARTNERSHIP ELEMENTS.....	8
4.3.1 Sectoral programmes.....	8
4.3.2 Forestry.....	8
4.3.3 Agriculture.....	9
4.3.4 Water.....	10
4.4 PROCESSES TOWARDS AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION	11
5. MEASURES TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF APS.....	11
5.1 NATIONAL LEVEL.....	11
5.2 SUBREGIONAL LEVEL.....	11
5.3 REGIONAL LEVEL.....	12
5.4 OTHER SUPPORT TO UNCCD BY FINLAND	12
6. FURTHER INFORMATION	12

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Desertification and drought are complex environmental and social phenomena, which have all the potential to be among the major problems hindering human survival on earth. For this reason Finland considers desertification and drought issues *among the major concerns in the global environmental agenda* and is a firm supporter of the UNCCD.

In Finland's official development assistance (ODA) two important strategic guidelines have been adopted lately. These guidelines install poverty reduction, environmental sustainability and sustainable development as the central elements of Finnish ODA. Also the guidelines stress the importance of equality, good governance, democracy and respect for human rights. During the recent years these guidelines have mainstreamed Finnish ODA, including also desertification and drought problems.

Desertification and drought must be understood as crosscutting issues. Combating desertification and drought should not be understood as something that can be internalised as separate sectoral activities and policies, but as overall concerns. They can only be tackled through both internalisation of the issues within each sector and through cross-sectoral co-operation. Finland considers this to be the role of the Action Programmes (APs) in combating desertification and mitigating drought effects.

APs should not be a top-down co-ordinator of the sectors but an actor *in between* and *inside* them. The importance of this is that the APs should not actually implement *anything*, but facilitate and co-ordinate the work of different sectoral programmes and activities within the sectors to combat desertification. This is important, because desertification and drought is not a sector in itself but an issue arising from and affecting various sectors. Any activities directly implemented within the framework of an AP may automatically have the impact of creating a "pseudosector". This might result in the neglect by other sectors to address the issue effectively.

Finland is currently in the process of developing contacts to regional organisations and enhancing bilateral relations with affected countries. Good foundations for this work has been created by previous Finnish involvement in *desertification and drought related consultative processes and partnerships* in the 1990s. In chapter 4 some processes and partnerships with the potential to contribute to the establishment of APs to combat desertification and drought are reported.

Finland has contributed an estimated EUR 64 million during the 1980's and 1990's through its bilateral ODA towards consultative processes and partnership agreements related to desertification and drought. Finland is at present supporting a project in Namibia which aims to understand the mechanisms leading to bush encroachment and permanent drop in the production capacity of soils. Sectoral programmes form an important part of Finnish ODA. They often demonstrate important sectoral processes with partnership elements. Notable contributions have been given in the development of forest sector programmes in Kenya, Namibia and Tanzania.

An agricultural sector programme is being supported in Mozambique. More specifically in the forest sector various initiatives have been supported by Finland. These include projects in forest fire management (Burkina Faso, Namibia) and community forestry (Senegal, Namibia). In the agriculture sector, projects of rural credit, rural livelihood, rural development and livestock development have been supported in the Sudan, Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya, respectively. In the water sector two projects with a holistic approach to watershed management are supported, one in Ethiopia and another in the Republic of South Africa.

To facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the UNCCD, Finland is supporting the establishment of an information service for monitoring sustainable development in Namibia. In the SADC countries a project for the strengthening of national meteorological services was carried out (1987-1993) and produced improved systems for

early warning on drought. A similar regional project was carried out in Central America in 1990's as well as in the Sudan in the late 1980's.

So far Finland cannot report on any specific support provided for the elaboration or implementation of National Action Programmes (NAPs) as defined in the UNCCD. However, Finland has provided financial support, through the UNCCD Secretariat, for the elaboration of national reports in 1999 by the countries of the IGAD sub-region.

Finland has been an active supporter of UNDP/UNSO. Some EUR 0,7 million for core funding has been provided during 1996-99. In 1997 another EUR 0,7 million of funds for specific activities of UNSO was donated. In 1998 and 1999 Finland contributed financially, through the CCD Secretariat, a total of EUR 111 000 to the preparatory process for a Regional AP for Africa. The funding was used to support the organisation of three thematic workshops related to the process.

A recent decision has been taken to provide funding through UNDP/UNSO for a multi-year programme of *Catalytic support to the Implementation of the UNCCD in the Arab region*, encompassing also support for the launching of the NAP processes in two or more individual African countries and for a regional component covering all the countries of North Africa and Middle East. Finland is also supporting the IPALAC (International Programme for Arid Land Crops) programme, implemented by Ben Gurion University in Israel.

2. FINLAND'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION POLICY AND DESERTIFICATION

2.1 The importance of desertification issues in the global environmental agenda

Desertification is a slow physical process of soil degradation and consequent lowering of soil production potential. Soil degradation arises from immediate physical causes and has direct environmental consequences. However, underlying these immediate causes and impacts we can find a complex network of human and social causes and impacts. The importance of desertification and drought becomes clear when analysing these two sides, as presented in Figure 1 below.

The *causes* of desertification and drought arise from unsustainable use of land and other natural resources, energy consumption patterns and the related global climatic change. There are three major physical causes of soil degradation - overgrazing, unsustainable cultivation practices and deforestation.

However, deeper in the causal relations can be found issues like poverty, underdevelopment, violent conflicts and even wars. Therefore, it encompasses almost all possible aspects of development at all possible levels. The problem tree of desertification is a complex one and demonstrates that there is no simple solution to this problem.

The *impacts* of desertification show its importance even more clearly. As land productivity deteriorates and strongly fluctuates, the basis for global food security is severely affected. Increasing global population growth combined with falling food production has the potential to become one of the most crucial factors influencing human survival on earth. Decreasing relative food production combined with the unsustainable use of scarce water resources will in the very near future cause problems of international dimensions in the form of hunger, environmental refugees, violent conflicts and even wars over water.

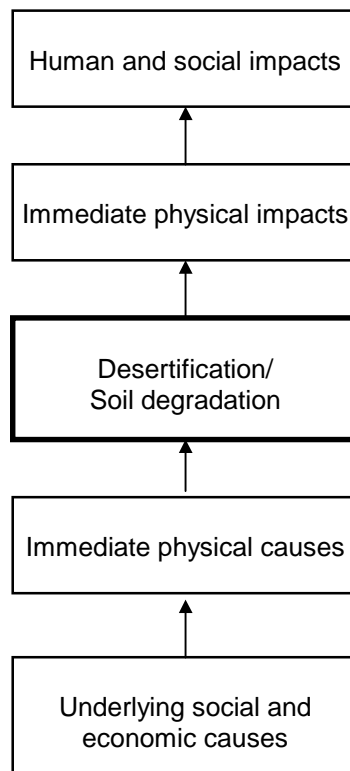


Figure 1. Simplified problem tree for desertification.

For some time now, the world community has been aware of the serious economic, social and environmental implications of desertification. The 1977 UN Desertification Conference approved an action plan aimed at combating the phenomenon and the issue was also on the agenda of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, which agreed to launch negotiations about a Desertification Convention. The eventual Convention to Combat Desertification was signed in Paris in 1994 by more than a hundred states and entered into force two years later.

The aims and purposes of the Desertification Convention coincide with those of international forestry-related activities and with the UN Framework Conventions on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. As an increase in vegetation is one of the aims of the Desertification Convention, its implementation would help to increase the carbon sinks essential to combating climate change.

Finland considers desertification and drought issues *a major concern in the global environmental agenda*. For many years, Finland has provided funding for both bilateral and multilateral action aimed at achieving the targets of the Desertification Convention. Finland is committed to provide continuous support for measures to combat desertification, for instance by promoting sustainable forestry.

2.2 Finland's ODA and desertification

In Finland's official development assistance two important strategic guidelines have been adopted lately. In 1996 the Government made a policy decision with the following principles for Finnish ODA:

- Development co-operation is a part of foreign policy.
- Poverty reduction is a central objective.
- Environmental sustainability is another major objective.
- Sustainable development is promoted as the main strategic theme.
- Promotion of equality, good governance, democracy and respect for human rights are additional focal areas.

In 1998 the Government adopted specific guidelines for Finland's overall relations with the developing countries. The policy guidelines are:

- Promotion of global security.
- Reduction of widespread poverty.
- Promotion of good governance, equality, respect to human rights and democracy.
- Prevention of global environmental problems.
- Promotion of increasing economic integration.

These guidelines demonstrate that Finland has made efforts to mainstream development co-operation policies to match with the problem field of desertification and drought. The strategic guidelines are still rather recent and the accompanying organisational restructuring has just been completed. This preparatory work has created a sound basis for Finland to be able to support implementation of the UNCCD.

3. ACTION PROGRAMMES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNCCD

3.1 *The concept of Action Programmes in relation to sectors*

The UNCCD launches the Action Programmes (APs) at different levels as the main entry to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought. Experiences on the APs at different levels yet remain limited. The role and forms of APs are not yet understood in all relevant circles. In order to facilitate this discussion, Figure 2 depicts Finland's views on the position of APs:

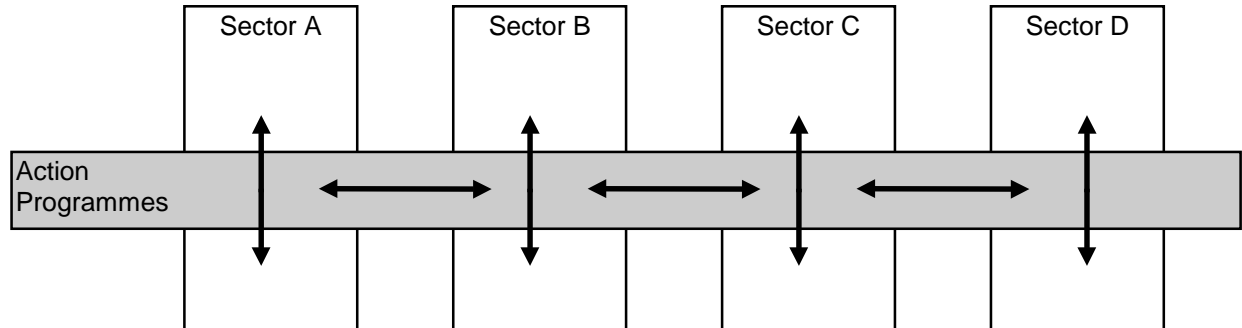


Figure 2. *Action Programmes in relation to sectoral programmes and activities.*

The crosscutting issues of participation, gender, environmental protection, sustainable use, poverty eradication etc. have been mainstreamed into the different sectors (energy, water, forestry, agriculture, transport etc.) fairly well, as a result of the discussions of the past years. In many cases, sectoral programmes are being used for this integration. As an integrated environmental problem, desertification and drought must be considered as a crosscutting issue.

However, desertification and drought should not be understood as something that can be dealt with as a separate sectoral programme, but as an overall concern, which can only be tackled through both internalisation of the issue within each sector and through cross-sectoral co-operation.

This is the space where the APs come in at different levels. The framework of APs includes various elements which are relevant for the internalisation of desertification in the sectoral activities. The notable policy elements in APs are apparently sustainable management of natural resources, poverty eradication, food security, demography, sustainable energy etc.

Thematically these relate to the sectors of forestry, agriculture, water resources management, meteorology, nature conservation and rural development. In addition the AP framework stresses the importance of co-operation, appropriate technology, participation and partnerships.

It is obvious that the APs form an appropriate instrument for internalisation of desertification and drought issues into the sectoral activities. Also, they provide a channel to promote the intersectoral co-operation. APs should be conceptualised as an effort to co-ordinate the activities of various different sectors and direct their combined efforts into a spearheaded attack against the underlying factors causing desertification and worsening the effects of drought.

Finland is of the opinion that the APs should not be a top-down co-ordinator of the sectors, but an actor *in between* and *inside* them. The importance of this is that the APs should not actually implement *anything*, but facilitate and co-ordinate the work of different sectoral programmes and activities within the sectors to combat desertification. This is important, because desertification and drought is not a sector in itself but an issue arising from and affecting various sectors. Any activities directly implemented within the framework of an AP automatically may have the impact of creating a "pseudosector". This might result in the neglect by other sectors to address the issue effectively. The above description of the role of APs is very much in line with the spirit and letter of the UNCCD, specifically articles 4 and 5.

Finland considers the APs at different levels as the correct type of activity for addressing the desertification and drought issues. National APs in Finland's view should be processes encompassing a wide participation among the national stakeholder groups. Also, they should be thematically wide, concentrating on strategic planning and co-ordinated action plans and programmes, where the responsibility of implementation is shared among the stakeholders concerned. The National APs should not be technically oriented, but these details can and must be addressed at appropriate levels in the implementation of the programme.

3.2 Regional and subregional APs and sectoral approach

Problems in our physical environment are seldom confined to administrative boundaries laid out by modern societies. This applies to all levels, from international to local. Desertification and drought are good examples of this. Addressing such issues within only one administrative unit of the affected area, be it a district, province or a state will not be effective, if the problem is of transboundary origin and character. It is currently an incipient but well established phenomenon that transboundary problems are being combated by countries from both sides of a borderline or in the case of larger areas, by several countries encompassing the region. E.g. in the environmental sector good examples of this are the work in progress to formulate the Nile River Basin Action Plan by the ten riparian countries of the Nile. Other example can be found in southern Africa, where complicated transboundary river management schemes are implemented.

Desertification and drought are clearly a problem of transboundary character, both in causes and impacts. This is the reason why the UNCCD considers the regional and subregional APs as one of the tools in addressing the problem. Applying the idea of APs as an intersectoral agent at these levels requires, however, that there exists sectoral transboundary co-operation in several sectors where desertification and drought are involved.

At subregional and regional levels the APs can specifically promote activities which enable exchange of experiences of combating desertification and relieving the effects of drought. Also regional and subregional meteorological monitoring systems and networks can be promoted through APs. In general, APs should at this level be geared towards creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the Convention.

4. CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES AND PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS IN WHICH FINLAND IS INVOLVED

4.1 Approach

Finland is currently in the process of developing contacts to regional organisations and enhancing bilateral relations with affected countries. Good foundations for this work has been created by the Finnish involvement in *desertification and drought related consultative processes and partnerships* in the 1990s. In the following section some processes and partnerships with potential to contribute to the establishment of APs to combat desertification and drought are reported, and summarised in Annex 1.

4.2 Processes geared directly towards combating desertification and drought

In Namibia Finland is currently supporting a project aiming at understanding the mechanisms leading to bush encroachment and consequent permanent drop in the production capacity of soils in central Namibia, i.e. desertification. This project will focus on research on this phenomenon and later action planning to address the problem, which is threatening large areas used for livestock raising. The project is implemented in the framework of the Namibia National Programme to Combat Desertification (NAPCOD).

4.3 Relevant sectoral assistance processes with partnership elements

4.3.1 Sectoral programmes

The most important contribution in sectoral assistance processes has been the support to forestry sector programmes. In recent years Finland has been involved in developing the Kenya Forestry Master Plan, which has a special strategy for dryland forests. In Tanzania Finland supported the development of the successful Tanzania Tropical Forest Action Plan.

A similar exercise has been carried out in Namibia, where the formulation of Namibia Forestry Strategic Plan was effectively supported by Finland. As a consequence, Finland is currently funding a large forestry sector co-operation programme in Namibia, as the main entry to implement the Strategic Plan. This programme includes components relevant to combating desertification, such as integrated forest fire management and community forestry in the dryland forests of northern Namibia.

In Mozambique the PROAGRI sectoral programme is currently being supported by Finland through a national forest inventory project. Finland has also been actively involved in the development of the programme.

4.3.2 Forestry

In Africa deforestation is often caused either by forest fires or by over-intensive forest use in the form of fuel wood collection or overgrazing. This is the reason why Finland has actively promoted partnerships for the development of preventive actions against fires and towards rationalising the use of wood as energy. There are several good examples of this:

- In Burkina Faso Finland is funding a pilot project on prevention of forest fires. The project aims at establishing the basis for preventing forest and bush fires which are a considerable factor causing desertification in Burkina Faso. The activities are directed towards establishing institutional capacity, infrastructure and awareness raising. Further information can be found at: http://www.finnagro.fi/burkina_faso.html

- A similar kind of project is being implemented in Namibia as a part of the forestry sector co-operation programme. This project has been going on for three years and has achieved considerable success in reducing forest fires in north-eastern Namibia through community participation and awareness building. Further information can be found at: http://www.ftpinter.fi/projects/namibia_forest.html
- In Kenya, the Bura Fuelwood Project in the Coast Province made considerable achievements in establishing rain-fed fuel wood plantation in dryland conditions. This project worked for a decade, integrating participative approach, research and practical applications. Alternative sources of energy and more efficient use of wood fuel were also included in the project work. Further information can be found at: <http://honeybee.helsinki.fi/tropic/text/Kenya.htm>
- Outside Africa there are several other examples of community forestry projects, which contribute towards combating desertification. One example of this is the Vietnam-Finland Forestry Programme, which at field level uses community forestry practices to address erosion in communal forests situated in mountainous areas.

The above problems are often addressed in community forestry projects, where the emphasis is in the communal management and authority over the forest resources. These projects are directly linked with rural livelihood and emphasise the sustainable use of natural resources. Forest management provides rural populations with alternative income which can ensure survival during severe drought years, when agricultural production is limited. On the other hand, the sustainable, community based management of arid and semi-arid area forests is a feasible strategy to prevent desertification in the long run. Examples of this type of projects with Finnish funding are the following:

- The Community forestry project in Senegal's so called groundnut basin, which worked for 15 years in the 1980's and 1990's, promoted the use and management of dryland forest plantations. The strategy was to integrate community forestry into the everyday life of the rural populations. The project achieved considerable success in raising awareness on the possibilities of forest plantations and forestry, it improved participation and self sufficiency.
- The on-going Namibia forest sector co-operation programme includes a strong component on community forestry. It operates in the northern part of the country, where the population pressure on the forests and trees has during this century caused considerable damage to the production potential of land and deforestation. Further information can be found at: http://www.ftpinter.fi/projects/namibia_forest.html
- The largest implemented forestry project including community involvement has been the Sudan-Finland Forestry Programme which operated throughout the 1980's. This project increased the production and availability of fuel wood and integrated forests and trees into the everyday life of rural people.

There are also several important examples of forestry co-operation which have enhanced partnership elements and addressed issues related to desertification. One example can be found in Indonesia, where Finland has been funding a Reforestation and Tropical Forest Management Project, which have achieved considerable success in reforesting the "alang-alang" grasslands. These grasslands are former natural forests, which after logging and other utilisation have been invaded by the alang-alang grass, which has no environmental nor economic value and permits no other plants to occupy the land.

4.3.3 Agriculture

Agricultural production, both crop and livestock husbandry is greatly dependent on the production capacity of the agricultural and pastoral land. However, in the countries affected by desertification and drought it is often the case that practices of grazing and cultivation are

unsustainable and are the main reason for the gradual process of exhaustion of the soil production capacity. Land degradation often leads to increased drought vulnerability of rural populations.

This is the reason why Finland emphasises the importance of processes towards sustainable agriculture. Projects geared towards initiating local processes and partnerships in agriculture are strongly present. In the following a few important ones are reported:

- In the Sudan the En Nahud Rural Credit programme, financed through IFAD, has emphasised the importance of increasing the creditworthiness of small rural farmers as a strategy to reduce their drought vulnerability. Credits to co-operatives have improved the farming practices and water harvesting facilities.
- In Zambia, The Luapula Livelihood and Food Security Programme had an integral approach to the improvement of rural livelihood. Aspects of sustainable use of natural resources, increased variety in food production and improving access of rural people to credits were important components, among other matters. Further information can be found at: <http://www.finnagro.fi/zambia.html>
- In Tanzania the Rural Integrated Project Support Programme in Mtwara and Lindi Regions has made important advances in developing participatory and locally-driven approaches towards rural development. The project aims at improving the livelihood of rural people through their own initiatives. Often the local projects have important impacts on the sustainability of agricultural practices and land use. Further information can be found at: <http://www.finnagro.fi/tanzania.html>
- The ongoing Kenya-Finland Livestock Development Programme in Kenya's Nyanza and Western Provinces, is concentrating on increased yield of milk and zero grazing practices, promoting sustainable land use practices by applying agroforestry principles in cooperation with ICRAF. Further information can be found at: <http://www.pellervo.fi/fcc/projectsset.htm>

4.3.4 Water

Watershed management is an important strategy in local and subnational activities to combat desertification and drought. Finland can report on two projects which consider a holistic approach to the water and land use:

- In Ethiopia the Rural Water Supply and Environment Programme addressed sustained water supply in rural areas, taking into account the maintenance of the upstream catchment areas. Further information can be found at: <http://www.finnconsult.fi/> (references by countries - Africa - Ethiopia Rural Water Supply and Environment Programme in Region 3).
- A similar project, with respect to approach and achievements was the Rural Water Supply Project in Tanzania, which operated in the *Mtwara and Lindi Regions for over 20 years in the 1970's, 1980's and 1990's*.
- In the Republic of South Africa a project for river catchment area management studies is being implemented in the catchments of Apies, Pienaars and Limpopo rivers
- Finland is also supporting the present revision of the Nile River Basin Action Plan, which cover ten riparian countries. Strategies and action plans to combat desertification and mitigate the impacts of drought should be central components.

4.4 Processes towards an enabling environment to combat desertification

One essential element in supporting the implementation of the UNCCD is creating an enabling environment for combating desertification. Finland is contributing to this in various areas:

- In Namibia Finland is currently supporting the establishment of an information service for monitoring sustainable development. This project creates the structure and institutional arrangements for the production of annual *State of the Environment Reports*. Also, through improved information sharing the project promotes inter-institutional co-operation and collaboration in addressing environmental issues. This initiative has a good potential for launching a monitoring system for desertification and drought. Further information can be found at: <http://www.dea.met.gov.na/Programmes/EnvInfo/SOER.html>
- Strengthened capacity of the national meteorological services is an important area in an enabling environment. Finland has been funding three major projects which have achieved improved monitoring and early warning systems of drought throughout the participant countries.
 - In the SADC countries support has been given to Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zimbabwe in strengthening their National Meteorological Services. This project was implemented between 1987 and 1993, with a total budget of EUR 11.1 million. A high portion of the budget, some 42% was used in capacity building and 54% in equipment procurement and services.
 - A similar regional project has also been carried out in Central America.
 - At country level such a project has also been carried out with Finnish support in the Sudan
- Further information on all the above meteorological projects can be found at: <http://www.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/ENG/development.html>

5. MEASURES TAKEN TO SUPPORT THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF APS

5.1 National level

So far Finland cannot report on any specific support provided for the elaboration or implementation of National APs. Reference is made to Finnish policies concerning NAPs, as presented in chapter 3 of this report.

5.2 Subregional level

Finland has provided financial support, through the CCD Secretariat, for the elaboration of national reports for 1999 to the UNCCD by the countries of the IGAD sub-region. The support amounts to EUR 52 000.

Finland has also been an active supporter of UNSO. Core funding has been provided during the past years as follows:

Year	Amount, EUR
1996	168 000
1997	252 000
1998	278 000

In addition, in 1997 EUR 336 000 was given to UNSO to enable the participation of women and EUR 336 000 for the development of APs in central Asia.

5.3 Regional level

In 1998 and 1999 Finland contributed financially, through the CCD Secretariat, with a total of EUR 111 000 to the preparatory process for a Regional AP for Africa. The funding was used to support:

- The Thematic Workshop on Networks for the Promotion of Agroforestry and Soil Conservation, held in Bamako from 30th June to 3rd July 1998, and
- The Regional Workshop for Rangelands and Fodder Crops, held in Addis Abeba from 4th to 7th August 1998, and for
- The Workshop on Network for Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Farming Systems in the Context of the Regional AP to Combat Desertification, held in Niamey from 23rd to 26th March 1999.

A recent decision has been taken to provide funding through UNDP/UNSO for a multi-year programme of *Catalytic support to the Implementation of the UNCCD in the Arab region*, encompassing also support for the launching of the NAP processes in two or more individual African countries and for a regional component covering all the countries of North Africa and Middle East. An agreement and action plans are being worked out during the latter part of 1999. The programme as a whole may amount to the equivalent of about EUR 1.75 million during a period of 3-4 years.

5.4 Other support to UNCCD by Finland

Finland is also supporting the IPALAC (International Programme for Arid Land Crops) programme, implemented by Ben Gurion University in Israel. The programme aims at improving the standard of living and combating desertification in arid Africa. The main lines of activities are research on crop plants for specifically arid areas and promotion of the use of new, potential crops in arid countries. Involved countries include Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Tshad, Kamerun and Senegal.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

In Finland the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, specifically its Department for International Development Co-operation is responsible for the implementing and monitoring of the UNCCD. Contact persons in the MFA/DIDC are:

- Mr. David Johansson, Ambassador
Phone: int. +358 9 1341 6318
Telefax: int. +358 9 1341 6314
David.Johansson formin.fi
- Mr. Tomi Tuomasjukka, Forestry Adviser
Phone: int. +358 9 1341 6102
Telefax: int. +358 9 1341 6100
Tomi.Tuomasjukka formin.fi
- Dr. Matti Nummelin, Environmental Adviser
Phone: int. +358 9 1341 6108
Telefax: int. +358 9 1341 6100

Matti.Nummelin formin.fi

In the MFA there are three units responsible for all relations with the the countries of the African region, including the administration of Finland's ODA, namely:

- The Unit for North Africa and Middle East
Phone: int. +358 9 1341 6538
Telefax: int. +358 9 1341 6420
Chief of Unit: Mr. Kari Veijalainen
- The Unit for East and West Africa
Phone: int. +358 9 1341 6260
Telefax: int. +358 9 1341 6293
Chief of Unit: Mr. Kari Toiviainen
- The Unit for Southern Africa
Phone: int. +358 9 1341 6235
Telefax: int. +358 9 1341 6293
Chief of Unit: Mr. Kari Alanko

In individual African countries Finland's representations participate in the administration of ODA. A list of Finland's representations in Africa is provided in Annex 2. General information on Finland's ODA can be found at <http://global.finland.fi>.

Liaison unit with the UNCCD Secretariat in Bonn is the Embassy of Finland in Berlin.

Also, the Ministry of the Environment is involved in the work related to the UNCCD. Further information can be obtained from:

- Mr. Heikki Korpelainen, Senior Adviser
Phone: int. +358 9 1991 9827
Telefax: int. +358 9 1991 9603
Heikki.Korpelainen vyh.fi

The relevant web address for the Ministry of the Environment is:
<http://www.vyh.fi/eng/intcoop/global/index.htm>

**SUMMARY OF PROJECTS REPORTED IN CONNECTION WITH CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES AND PARTNERSHIPS
IN WHICH FINLAND IS INVOLVED**

Project	Geographical location	Years of implementation	Finnish Contribution, EUR million
Management of Bush Fires in Burkina Faso, Pilot Phase	Burkina Faso	1998-2000	0,5
Rural Water Supply and Environment Programme	Ethiopia, Bahir Dhar	1998-2002	6,1
Bura Fuelwood Project	Kenya, Coast Province	1984-1993	2,4
Kenya-Finland Livestock Development Programme	Kenya, Nyanza and Western Provinces	1998-2002	3,4
Kenya Forestry Master Plan	Kenia	1990-1994	4,0
PROAGRI (through National Forest Inventory Project)	Mozambique	1999-	n/a
Integrated Forest Fire Management	Namibia	1996-2001	Part of Namibia-Finland Forestry Programme
Community Level Forest Management	Namibia	1997-2001	Part of Namibia-Finland Forestry Programme
Information and Communication Service for Sustainable Development	Namibia	1997-2001	0,9
Combating bush encroachment	Namibia	1999-2001	0,3
Namibia-Finland Forestry Programme, Namibia forest sector cooperation	Namibia	1991-2001	7,5
River Catchment Area Management Studies	Republic of South Africa, catchments of Apies, Pienaars and Limpopo rivers	1997-1999	0,8
Finland/SATCC/WMO Meteorology Project	SADC countries	1987-1993	11,1
Community Forestry	Senegal, Groundnut Basin, Fatick area	1982-1997	4,7
Institutional strengthening of Sudan Meteorological Department	Sudan	1989-1994	1,8
En Nahud Rural Credit Project	Sudan	1989-1998	1,8
Sudan-Finland Forestry Programme	Sudan	1979-1991	13,1
Luapula Livelihood and Food Security Programme, Phase II	Zambia, Luapula Province	1995-1998	5,8
APPROXIMATE TOTAL			64,2

FINNISH REPRESENTATIONS IN AFRICA RELEVANT TO THE UNCCD

EGYPT, Cairo

Embassy: 3, Abu El Feda Street, 13th floor, 11511 Zamalek, Cairo
Tel: (02) 341 3722, 340 2801, 341 1487, 342 0217,
Telefax: (02) 340 5170
E-mail: fincairo@link.com.eg
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Aapo PÖLHÖ

ETHIOPIA, Addis Ababa

Embassy: Higher 17, Kebele 19, House No. 163,
Addis Ababa, Postal address: P.O.Box 1017, Addis Ababa
Tel: (01) 611 575
Telefax: (01) 610 123
E-mail: finland.embassy@telecom.net.et
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Lauri KANGAS (see Kenya, Nairobi)
Chargé d'affaires a.i., Counsellor (Development Co-operation):
Heli SIRVE

KENYA, Nairobi

Embassy: International House, 2nd floor, Mama Ngina Street, Nairobi
Postal address: P.O. Box 30379, Nairobi
Tel: (2) 334 777/8, 336 717, 336 740,
Telefax: (2) 335 986
Telex: 22010 finamb ke
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary: Lauri KANGAS

MOZAMBIQUE, Maputo

Embassy: Avenida Julius Nyerere 1128, Maputo
Postal address: P.O. Box 1663, Maputo
Tel: (1) 490 578, 492 300, Telefax: (1) 491 661
E-mail: finemb@virconn.com
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Tapani BROTHERUS (see Rep. of South Africa, Pretoria)
Chargé d'Affaires: Counsellor (Development Co-operation):
Juhani TOIVONEN

NAMIBIA, Windhoek

Embassy: Sanlam Centre, 5th floor, 154 Independence Avenue,
Windhoek,
Postal address: P.O. Box 3649, Windhoek 9000
Tel: (61) 221 355, Telefax: (61) 221 349,
E-mail: finland@iafrica.com.na
Home-page: <http://www.apple.com.na/finland>
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Kari KARANKO

NIGERIA, Lagos

Embassy: Plot 13, Louis Farrakhan Crescent, Victoria Island, Lagos.
Postal address: P.O.Box 4433, Lagos
Tel: (01) 261 0916, 261 0528
Telefax: (01) 261 3158, E-mail: finemb@infoweb.abs.net

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, Pretoria

Embassy: 628 Leyds Street, Muckleneuk, Pretoria 0002
Postal address: P.O.Box 443, Pretoria 0001
Tel: (12) 343 0275
Telefax: (12) 343 3095,
E-mail: sanomat.pre@formin.fi
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Tapani BROTHERUS

TANZANIA, Dar es Salaam

Embassy: Mirambo Street/Garden Avenue
Postal address: P.O.Box 2455, Dar es Salaam
Tel: (051) 119 170
Telefax: (051) 119 173
E-mail: finemb@twiga.com
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Ritva JOLKKONEN

TUNISIA, Tunis

Embassy: 61 Avenue Habib, Bourgiba, 2016 Carthage
Postal address: BP 16, 2016 Carthage
Tel: (01) 721 610, 721 700, 721 930
Telefax: (01) 721 670, 732 339,
E-mail: fin.amb@finland.intl.tn, smedslund@finland.intl.tn
Chargé d'Affaires, councillor Carl-Erik SMEDSLUND

ZAMBIA, Lusaka

Embassy: 74, Independence Avenue, 6th floor,
Postal address: P.O. Box 50819, ZA 15101, Ridgeway, Lusaka
Tel: (1) 250 201, 250 211, 250 213, 251 988, 252 026, 252 030
Telefax: (1) 254 981, 253 783,
Telex: 43460 finla za
E-mail: finemb@zamnet.zm,
Homepage:<http://www.zamnet.zm/zamnet/diplomatic/finland/finhome.htm>
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Kari KARANKO (see Namibia, Windhoek)
Chargé d'affaires a.i., Counsellor (Development Co-operation):
Leo OLASVIRTA

ZIMBABWE, Harare

Embassy: 4 Duthie Avenue, Alexandra Park, Harare
Postal address: P.O. Box A 1080, Avondale, Harare
Tel: (4) 751 654, 752 931 (comm.),
Telefax: (4) 757 743, 757 744 (comm.),
E-mail: finemb@id.co.zw, oula@id.co.zw, hasa@id.co.zw
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:
Ritva JOLKKONEN (see Tanzania, Dar es Salaam)
Chargé d'affaires a.i., Counsellor Timo OULA