

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE RECURSOS NATURALES - INRENA  
PUNTO FOCAL PERU

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION OF COMBAT AGAINST DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD)  
National Report for the Execution of the United Nations Convention of  
Combat Against Desertification (UNCCD)

**PERU**

***SUMMARY***

**LIMA – PERU  
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## SUMMARY

Concise and compatible information about the progress and restrictions of the implementation process of the UNCCD during the period 1996 – 2000, is presented.

References for its elaboration:

1. Guidelines for the elaboration of the National Reports for the implementation of the UNCCD (Nov. 99).
2. PAN – PERU 1996, document elaborated in a participatory way, under the UNCCD conception (from “bottom to top”) and conceived as a “process plan” and not as a “document plan”. Four (4) years later, it has been evaluated, at a national level, in 3 regional workshops (North, Center and South) with participation of 150 representatives of governmental and private institutions, universities, specialists, local governments, communities and other base organisms of the population.

### ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNCCD IN PERU: 1996 – 2000

- **Strategies and Priorities set in the Context of Plans and/or Politics of Sustainable Development**

Peru has national plans that enclosed the UNCCD-Peru, like the National Strategy for Conservation and Sustainable Development (1992) elaborated by the National Commission for Environment and Development (CNUMAD), also a Focus Strategy of Combat Against the Extreme Poverty (June 96) and a Structural Frame of Environmental Management (MEGA, by its abbreviation in Spanish), formulated and in process of implementation.

The most immediate reference among the plans elaborated by Peru before the functioning of the UNCCD, is the National Plan of Action Against the Desertification (PNACD, by its abbreviation in Spanish), elaborated under the direction of the actual National Focal Point for the Combat Against the Desertification: INRENA. Nevertheless, the plans date from the 60' years, with the conformation of the National Commission of Arid Zones (CONAZA, by its abbreviation in Spanish).

- **Institutional Measurements Adopted to Implement the Convention**

In this aspect, it has to be emphasized that the National Coordination Organ (OCN, by its abbreviation in Spanish) has not been created yet. INRENA, as National Focal Point (PFN, by its abbreviation in Spanish), has assumed the actions of combat against the desertification.

Institutionally, no important actions have been realized after the firm of the UNCCD by the Peruvian State (1995); nevertheless, there is a reactivation of the Regional Associations of Combat Against the Desertification and the starting of the Regional Environmental Commissions (CAR, by its abbreviations in Spanish), which will create favorable institutional conditions for the next stage of the PAN 96.

PAN-PERU 96 is not explicitly included within the great national projects (PRONAMACHCS, FONCODES, ...); nevertheless, there are co-ordinations to join efforts.

- **Support Participatory Process to Prepare and Implement the National Action Programs (PAN, by its abbreviation in Spanish)**

In the elaboration of the PAN PERU 96 participated representatives of the North and South Regional Association (Costa and Sierra, in both cases), and of the national governmental and private institutions too. Nevertheless, between the period 96 and 2000 the mentioned associations did not functioned. In this period, some meetings have been realized at local, national and regional level (V GRULAC 1999), in which priorities in the combat against the desertification have been established, at local level still. And, with respect to information and education, there are problems of information flow (lack of a information system about desertification) and deficiency of diffusion about desertification in schools and universities in a explicit way, because now the theme is treated but like degradation of ecosystems.

The participation of the woman in this process is not identified, nor quantified; there are isolated efforts, but we cannot talk of something representative.

- **Support Process of Consulting to the Preparation and Implementation of the PAN-PERU 96 of the Agreements of Asociation with Development Countries Partners and others Entities**

The international partners have supported economic and technically to Peru, but too few directly to activities enclosed within the PAN PERU, to actions related with the combat against desertification, such as the national projects like PRONAMACHCS and FONCODES, that also count with funds of the same Peru.

But, there are entities of the international cooperation that have collaborated directly, such as the Embassy of the Netherlands, Fundación Ebert, Fundación Esquel or organisms of the same United Nations (UN), like UNSO-PNUD, FAO or another organisms more, like the BID.

- **Adopted or Planned Measures in the Context of the PAN-PERU 96**

Until today, it has not been realized a rigorous systematization of the experience accumulated by Peru in the combat against the desertification, area in which it has a historic tradition for the exemplar management of the coastal arid and mountain semiarid (Sierra) ecosystems and a contemporary course date from the 60' years, with the creation of the National Commission of Arid Zones (CONAZA) and of its active participation in the Nairobi meeting on desertification (1977).

Actually, there are contacts with the national projects to be integrated explicitly within the PAN-PERU process, for example, with PRONAMACHCS, FONCODES, NGOs, SENAMHI, CONCYTEC, as well as with inland institutions through regional workshops.

With respect to the implementation of the PAN-PERU, this information is given afterwards, under the subtitle PAN-PERU 96, there is the related with the measures realized in the conservation of natural resources, the institutional organization, the knowledge on desertification, the monitoring and evaluation of this process and the improvement of the economics environment.

With relation to the links with the sub-regional and regional action programs, whether there are not too much of them, it has to be emphasized that during the period 96-2000 it has been realized the V GRULAC in Lima, having Peru an important role.

The local governments have now, within their mandates, to protect the environment; nevertheless, it have not been developed participatory mechanisms of the municipalities in the combat against the desertification.

There are minimum agreements with the established associations (North and Center); nevertheless, these have not functioned in accordance with the expectations during the period 96-2000. Likewise, there are directories of institutions and specialists, but they are not operatives, there isn't information flow among them.

- **Funding Contributions of the National Budgets, as well as the Financing Assistance and the Technical Cooperation**

The local actors do not have yet, specifically, measures that guarantee their access to funding sources from the international cooperation. Actually, only INRENA, CONAM and RIOD-Peru are the institutions related with the possible canalization of the international cooperation.

The most frequent participatory way of participation of the international cooperation have been, up to date, through the support to seminars, forums and regional meetings.

Among the partners of the international cooperation that have supported with force the PAN up to date stand out: UNSO-PUND, The Netherlands, FAO, BID, the UNCCD Secretary, and other ones.

The Peruvian State contributes designating part of its budget to the implementation to the UNCCD through the functioning of INRENA, but it has not dedicated, in a explicit way, more resources for the combat of the desertification within the PAN-PERU 96, except through the great national projects of conservation of natural resources (water, soil, ...) and combat against the poverty.

The funding priorities will be in function of the new guidelines that will be established in the new PAN-2000 Peru.

- **Reference Points and Indicators utilized to Measure the Progress and their Evaluation**

Actually, there are efforts to centralize the information on environment, such as the National Service of Environmental Information (SINIA, by its abbreviation in Spanish); or on climatic monitoring at national level, such as the National Service of Meteorology and Hydrology (SENAMHI, by its abbreviation in Spanish); or on regional monitoring of "El Niño" event by the National Council of Science and Technology (CONCYTEC, by its abbreviation in Spanish) with the Organization of American States. All of them and another ones of regional character have improved their capacity of gathering of information; nevertheless, the mechanisms to harmonize these systems have NOT been carry out.

## **ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PAN-PERU 1996-2000**

The PAN-PERU 1996 constitutes, for the evaluation of the implementation of the UNCCD, a very special reference, because it contains the practical measures proposed to develop in the years 1996-2000.

Its content is product of a national evaluative process (3 regional workshops) and the outputs can be synthesized in the following way: There is a differentiation between the

accomplishment of the PAN-PERU 1996 proposals and the actions realized by the institutions of national and regional character. Very important actions have been realized in the combat against the desertification, but at the margin of the PAN-PERU 1996. The more important advances have been in the management of natural resources and environment, the combat against the extreme poverty, the mitigation systems and early alert of the effects of drought and “El Niño” event (97-98) and the educational area.

In a very low degree, there have been accomplishments related to the monitoring systems (indicators of desertification) and systems of experts, directories, that have not been disseminated nor implemented.

The areas of information, institutional juridical frame, regional associations and the National Fund of Combat Against the Desertification, have not almost been implemented.

With relation to the collection and use of traditional technologies and knowledges, there are great efforts of the ONGs specially, but it have not been worked from the perspective of combat against the desertification; here remains the task of a great systematization of the accomplishments reached in function of the PAN.PERU.

The private sector has participated actively through the NGOs, communities, work corporations and, in a less degree, the enterprise sector. There are different experiences about the participation of this sector, since actions with too much conservationist tradition, such the in *situ* conservation of agrobiodiversity by the farmers during several centuries, to investments in irrigation projects in arid zones, that have transformed unploughed soils in cultivated fields in the Peruvian Coast. They were present in the PAN 96 and up to date they are part of the North, Center and South associations of combat against the desertification. Similarly, the NGOs have an important role in the Coast and Sierra of Peru in the combat against the desertification.

There are minimum contacts of the UNCCD-Peru with other conventions (climate change) and agreements (Biological Diversity) yet and one of the great tasks is to overcome this situation, as well as the quantification of the losses generated by the desertification processes.

The lack of coordination and leadership to vertebrate the great number of actions that were carry out during the period 96-2000 were the more important limitations. There is the consensus of the necessity of develop the guidelines referred to the gender (participation of the woman, family and young people), the traditional technologies and knowledges, the systems of early alert and the local governments, all of them in the combat against the desertification.

Similarly, it is necessary to disseminate with more force the concept of desertification with all its implications, so it can be used explicitly by all the institutions of the Peruvian society implied in the combat against the desertification in Peru.