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Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology
Analysis by the Group of Experts of the reports submitted by Parties to the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention

**Analysis by the Group of Experts of the reports submitted by Parties
to the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the
Implementation of the Convention**

Note by the secretariat

1. By its decision 15/COP.6, the Conference of the Parties requested the Group of Experts to focus on issues emerging from the review of the national, subregional and regional action programmes and other relevant reports and to advise the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, through the Committee on Science and Technology, of the efficacy and adequacy of these programmes for implementing the UNCCD.
2. The attached document presents the review of the national reports from Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern Mediterranean, Central and Eastern European, and other affected country Parties. This is in accordance with the terms of references included in annex I of document ICCD/COP(7)/CST/6. A total of 73 national reports have been reviewed, and they are listed in the document. The document also contains a global summary of findings, main strengths and main weaknesses that were identified in the national reports.
3. The document is reprinted as received by the secretariat, and without formal editing.

REVIEW OF ASIAN, LATIN AMERICAN, NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN,
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER AFFECTED COUNTY
PARTIES
NATIONAL REPORTS TO CRIC 5

REPORT BY THE GROUP OF EXPERTS

MARCH, 2007

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The contents of this document do not necessarily represent the views of the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

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Introduction

In decision 15/COP.6 on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee on Science and Technology, the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) requested the group of experts to focus on issues emerging from the review of the national, sub-regional and regional programmes and other relevant reports, and advise the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC), through the Committee on Science and Technology of the efficacy and adequacy of these programmes for implementing the Convention.

This report presents the review of the Asia, Latin American and Caribbean, Northern Mediterranean, Central and Eastern European, and other affected country parties and national reports according to the provided terms of references included in annex I of document ICCD/COP(7)/CST/6. A total of 73 national reports have been reviewed, and they are listed herein.

In general, reports were well written and presented comprehensive overviews of each country. There are, however, significant differences in format and content between reports from countries which are well established within the CCD programme, and those which have only recently presented their national action programmes (NAPs), or are still in the formulating and ratifying stage. As a result many of the reports discuss *plans* rather than *actions*. In some cases the categories in which this review presents the country reports do not capture the variety of activities which have taken place. As compilers of this review, we have synthesised information to the best of our ability.

List of Acronyms

ACSAD	Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands
B&I	Benchmarks and indicators
IDB	Interamerican Development Bank
CACILM	Central Asian Countries Initiative on Land Management
CADETI	National Advisory Commission on Degraded Lands in Costa Rica
CECADESU	Sustainable Development Studies and Training Center in Mexico
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEE	Central and Eastern Europe
CLEMDES	Clearing house mechanism on desertification for the northern Mediterranean region
DDC	Drylands Development Centre
DISMED	Desertification Information System to Support National Action Programmes in the Mediterranean
ECARDA	European Coherent Approach to Research and Technological Development
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency in the United States
EWS	Early warning system
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic information system
GPS	Global positioning system
GTZ	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
IABD	Inter-American Development Bank
IBGE	Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute
IDP	Integrated Development Planning
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
IO	International Organization
LADA	Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands
MEDRAP	Mediterranean Regional Action Programme to Combat Desertification
MEF	Middle East Forum
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NAP	National Action Programme
NCB	National Coordinating Body
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NLWIS	National Land and Water Information Service in Canada
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration in the United States
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
PAS PUNA	Programme of Sub-regional Action for the Sustainable Development of the American Puna

PNUD	Programme des Nations Unies pour la Développement
RAMSAR	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
RAP	Regional Action Programme
RS	Remote sensing
SRAP-WA	Sub-Regional Action Programme for West Asia
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WFP	World Food Programme

Evaluation of the National reports

Asia

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Afghanistan				
<p>No country report. These topics are not discussed in UNCCD context, although national solidarity programme has "result indicators" to measure community involvement and programme success. The lack of trend data, especially for rangelands, makes assessment difficult. Risk and vulnerability assessment targeting patterns of food insecurity, poverty and vulnerability at community level is a project funded by WFP.</p>	<p>The importance of this is acknowledged. community development councils developed as part of national solidarity programme are preparation for UNCCD work.</p>	<p>Not specifically discussed, although UNFCCC and CBD are also signed.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation is only discussed in the irrigation system context. No discussion of drought mitigation. Agro-meteorology network providing early warning systems in food security context. Established database with records back to 1942.</p>	<p>Traditional irrigation systems (e.g., karezes) are targets for rehabilitation and improvement. Otherwise this topic is not discussed.</p>
<p>Other remarks: No NAP in place. Report provides good baseline information - overgrazing, soil erosion and salinization are major issues plus population pressure. Sustainable development is a major goal.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Bangladesh				
<p>No indicators selected and this is not specifically discussed. Limited information provided in country profile. Monitoring in the context of drought is being attempted.</p>	<p>Several community-based environmental management projects being implemented at local level. Women are involved in natural resource management in rural areas. Tribal and "marginalized" people involved in development process.</p>	<p>Not specifically discussed.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation discussed, but not quantified in country profile. Mapping and classification of drought risk and severity have been undertaken, but mitigation involves population control, land use and agricultural-practice modification and is part of the wider land degradation issue. Drought as part of disaster early warning systems is in place since 1992.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge is being collected as part of environment management project. Local knowledge of horticultural systems seems strong and is well regarded.</p>
<p>Other remarks: NAP awaiting government approval. Drought and intensification of agriculture are reducing productivity and increasing poverty.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Bhutan				
Not mentioned	The sustainable land management project has demonstration sites with an emphasis on local involvement and participation. A forthcoming project will contribute to NAP with stakeholder involvement. A national land management campaign produces brochures and TV broadcasts about successful interventions against land degradation.. Importance of involving communities in issues such as forest fire management is discussed.	UNFCCC and CBD signed, but no linkages discussed.	Rehabilitation of forested land is discussed. Crop land and rangeland rehabilitation is not quantified in country profile. Early warning systems not discussed.	Traditional knowledge not discussed. National and international partner agencies listed. Legal framework for the implementation of the UNCCD is in place.
Other remarks: Acceded to UNCCD in 2003. No NAP in place. Land degradation is the concern. Report contains good baseline information. The country profile is partially complete.				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Cambodia				
<p>There is no application of benchmarks. Indicators pertaining to forestry are applied.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction is responsible for the NAP, coordinating several sector ministries (agriculture, environment, etc) along with line institutions, province / local structures and NGOs/international organisations to participate in implementation of sustainable development and natural conservation. At the planning level good experience has been gained from participatory approaches in the NEAP, created between 1996-2002 by the Ministry of Environment. Projects listed typically include participatory approaches and demand-driven strategies. At commune levels, the land law requires participatory land-use activities.</p>		<p>Training in using early warning system information is a key element in the NAP.</p>	<p>In the current post-conflict situation, much migration is still ongoing. This, in combination with a lack of clarity on land rights, has created a category of farmers with poor knowledge in marginal lands utilization. A prime aim is to establish sustainable relations to the forest cover of the country. Individual projects also stress soil fertility as a key knowledge issue. In the forestry context, the report stresses that many local communities have a very long history of traditional use of forest resources. In the uncertain situation, it is also important to boost knowledge levels within the government.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The report contains substance, but is hard to follow.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
China				
<p>Numerous local and federal agencies are involved in a spectrum of activities that involve ground truthing, remote sensing, GIS and GPS in the assessment of desertification across the country. Monitoring of indicators that illustrate the effectiveness (or lack thereof) of the implementation of the Convention has been an important part of desertification activities in China. Recent monitoring can be compared to similar efforts prior to the UNCCD to provide a long term picture of the status of desertification. The choice of indicators in this effort is based on both biophysical and socioeconomic factors. Indicators of the effectiveness of programmes are given considerable attention.</p>	<p>China actively promotes and encourages participation by multiscalar sectors of society from individual households to communities and regions in order to develop effective strategies to mitigate the problems of desertification. Numerous examples of training, incentives, and successes are given in the report.</p>	<p>China has initiated numerous ties with other international organizations and conventions including the CBD and the UNFCCC. Combating desertification provides for the establishment of protection areas to prevent desertification while at the same time protecting biodiversity. Considerable effort is made to protect agricultural and ecological resources in the face of climate change. Cooperation with other governments is part of this effort.</p>	<p>Much of China's efforts in combating desertification are focused on land rehabilitation and drought mitigation. Numerous examples are given of national policies and practices that show efforts to rehabilitate lands that have been desertified.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge has been discussed. However, the importance of developing appropriate mechanisms that allow institutions to become involved in technology transfer is of paramount importance within the country. It is carried out at many levels to strengthen the capacity of all sectors of society. This allows for the majority of successes to be transferred laterally.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
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Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Monitoring and assessment are goals of the NAP, together with managerial and technical capacity building in this context. Report states that benchmarks and indicators are "not correctly established"	Importance of local involvement in land degradation assessment and survey noted. "Turn-out" campaigns for land management in spring and autumn, but they are not completely successful.	CBD and UNFCCC also signed, but no linkages discussed.	Rehabilitation (in combination with sustainable rural development) is one of the NAP's goals. An early warning systems for flood and drought will be part of NAP.	Traditional knowledge is not discussed. The need for technology transfer and cross-sectoral dissemination is stressed throughout the report.
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Other remarks: NAP awaiting government approval. Food security is a major issue, and report stresses capacity building and need for funding assistance.

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
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Fiji

Indicators section in country profile partially completed. Awaiting NAP for full development. An erosion model is operational on one small watershed as part of a pilot project.	Participatory land-use planning has been underway since 1999. The land-care concept is being promoted and the need for a bottom-up approach recognized.	UNFCCC signed and a strategy is under development, and CBD is operative. Inter-relatedness of three conventions discussed. All three are addressed by six policies of the Environmental Management Act of 2005 to varying degrees.	Drought mitigation is one of NAP goals. An early warning systems is waiting on the NAP. However, Dept. of Meteorology is including the forecasting of cyclones as part of national natural disaster management plan.	Importance of traditional knowledge acknowledged, but no specifics provided. The national rural land use policy recognizes need to address causes and symptoms of land degradation..
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Other remarks: Formulation of draft NAP underway. Government vision/policy diagram shown in report is clearly top-down in orientation. Poverty eradication and the changing of unsuitable production and consumption are discussed in the report.

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Indonesia				
<p>Indicators in country profile mostly complete. Benchmarks not discussed. A 'critical land' GIS map generated from air photos and satellite imagery and used for prioritizing rehabilitation programmes.</p>	<p>Stakeholder participation is strong in formulating and validating NAP. This is done using field visits, community meetings and workshops. Need to increase the rural awareness of degradation and encourage rehabilitation.</p>	<p>A "coordination forum" recommended by NCSA project - to integrate objectives from the three conventions (UNCCD, UNFCCC, CBD) into a national strategic plan.</p>	<p>Agrometeorology project (1999-2003) for flood and landslide mapping. Meteorological. and Agriculture Ministries are setting up early warning systems to mitigate effect of drought and degradation – benchmarks and indicators for this have been formulated and are included in NAP - but no details given in report.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge valued and acknowledged. Study investigated using local knowledge and natural signs for drought early warning systems, but results have not been incorporated into government policy. International partners have provided funding for reporting on workshop, tree planting, and NAP activity.</p>
<p>Other remarks: NAP adopted in 2002. Deforestation is a problem. Participatory processes and understanding of synergies between conventions are both very positive factors.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Iran, Islamic Republic of				
<p>The processes and dynamics of land degradation are monitored in the form of case studies. Projects were conducted to measure benchmarks and indicators of desertification and to determine wind and soil erosion and land degradation as well as periodical assessment of sand-dune fixation. Besides using the remote sensing and GIS satellite images provide the bases for detection the soil and vegetation changes. There are some specific studies regarding the relationship of the rate of resource degradation to the drought or climate change on rangelands and croplands.</p>	<p>Participatory process has been promoted, involving civil society through the NAP. Workshops were organized to attract Civil Society support in NAP formulation, prioritizing desertification issue and to determine civil society capacities in relation to bottlenecks. In the implementation phase, civil society has participated in the rehabilitation projects in the desertified areas such as production of staples, plantation as well as conservation activities.</p>	<p>Decisions were adopted between the Forest, Range and Watershed Management Organization (FRWO) and donor countries for the conclusion of partnership agreements with little success. However, FRWO has so far concluded some partnership agreements in the form of joint international projects with GEF and UNDP.</p>	<p>FRWO is formulating and implementing integrated projects for combating desertification in various regions of the country, including groundwater recharge, transfer of national lands in the desert areas to the private sector, development of forest activity, carbon sequestration project, land and water resources management project, shrimp culture project, raising public awareness projects etc. No specific reference to early warning systems.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge was emphasised in the process of NAP formulation and implementation. Many educational centres were established to promote environmental education relating to combating desertification. Furthermore, environmental education has been incorporated in the curricula of natural resources faculties and colleges. There are strong participatory awareness campaigns in all levels. NAP is making efforts to raise public awareness of the severe consequences of desertification</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Kazakhstan				
Indicator list in country profile partially complete. Benchmarks not discussed. An established cadastre exists and an "integrated monitoring system of environment and natural resources" has been initiated, but indicators, assessment and analysis are not coordinated and are poorly developed.	Local mayors are key players in the participatory process and a recent increase in local decision-making is reported. However, civilians do not consider desertification to be a serious issue; there is a general lack of information and no systematic approach to media coverage.	Other conventions not mentioned.	Hydrological forecasting monitoring system, but no information on benchmarks and indicators.	Not discussed.
Other remarks: NAPs first stage is 2005-2007. UNCCD is functioning under the CACILM umbrella. Land degradation is identified as cause of severe economic and social problems.				

Kyrgyzstan				
No discussion of benchmarks. CACILM proposed a common set of indicators for each country.	Recently, there has been a considerable increase in stakeholder involvement. Report reflects a thorough awareness that community-driven projects are those that work, plus the need for more participation by women.	Other conventions not discussed.	No discussion of early warning systems.	Not discussed.
Other remarks: NAP approved in 2000. Kyrgyzstan is part of CACILM. The report has a strong sustainable land-management focus.				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Laos People's Democratic Republic				
<p>The three fundamental benchmarks are land use, land degradation and poverty. These are broad and not specifically tied to the NAP. Since there are no significant activities / projects under the NAP, there are also no developed systematic benchmarks and indicators. Reference is instead made to the yearly national statistical centre reporting. Specific indicators are applied, though for environmental and natural resource monitoring by the Environment Research Institute and by the Department of Environment.</p>	<p>A comprehensive participatory and consultative process was used to prepare the NAP. The same approach is used for implementation of it. National forums are held to set priorities. This means at ministry level targeting socio-economic development within the UNCCD framework and at province level focussing on land use, land degradation and poverty. For projects, focus has been placed on prioritizing existing projects with a UNCCD orientation. Farmers and water user groups have also been invited to show their interest. Participatory natural resource management is an applied concept in Laos. It leads to sustainable land management not least from the legal standpoint.</p>		<p>Early warning objectives are found at project level in examples given in the report. No umbrella early warning strategy is accounted for.</p>	<p>Thanks to long lasting forestry reporting on land use in the country, significant information has been built up, reflecting socio-economic development. This information base provides knowledge to most sectors, not just forestry. Overall, the significance of scientific knowledge is stressed for the policy to combat natural resource degradation. Building local knowledge and coping mechanisms are key issues in existing sensitization programmes. Locally, youth and women unions organize farmers groups and encourage the application of indigenous knowledge also in government programmes at community levels.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The report does not quite follow the outline provided from the secretariat. Instead it is careful to show how the NAP is integrated into other sectors of policy strategies.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Lebanon				
<p>Development of benchmarks and indicators were identified as priority areas for NAP. A monitoring system of land degradation model has been created by the Ministry of Agriculture/GTZ/AC SAD. However, mechanisms for combating desertification were inefficient due to lack of coordination. More capacity building is needed in order to improve on cooperation implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects for combating desertification. Remote sensing is used to monitor and evaluate the process and dynamics of land degradation.</p>	<p>NAP was developed in a participatory process. The public sector, research institutions, municipalities, NGOs and cooperatives have participated through workshops, consultation meetings and a national forum in the mainstreaming of NAP initiatives. Some of various technology activities related to desertification and drought control as identified within the NAP are under implementation. A master land-use plan was drawn up in a participatory process and a land cover map has been developed using satellite imagery to facilitate review and the harmonization of land-use legislation.</p>	<p>The sub-regional programmes such as SRAP –WA to combat desertification and LADA, were reported as beneficial international partners. They have been involved in the NAP elaboration and its implementation through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms. The Ministry of Agriculture has continued cooperation with DDC, UNDP, UNEP and GTZ.</p>	<p>The NAP, within its mandate to formulate the "national resources mobilization strategy" is preparing an inventory of all projects in the country addressing issues of combating desertification. The inventory will provide information on activities done or plans under implementation, actors, sources of funds, technologies under implementation. No indication on early warning systems.</p>	<p>Initiatives and activities were launched to attract media attention to specific issues of national and global importance. Funds and techniques are required to strengthen the awareness raising activities. No mention of traditional knowledge.</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
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Malaysia

Not discussed in context of UNCCD				
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Other remarks: No discussion of NAP or UNCCD. Soil erosion, and its effects, are the major causes of land degradation.

Mongolia

<p>A meteorology network is in operation since 1961. It is now integrated into pasture monitoring. Plant cover assessment and monitoring using remote sensing has been done in many areas, but is project-related and no long-term system is in place. Mongolia is part of a regional (NE Asia) monitoring network for dust and sand storms.</p>	<p>Herder groups have been established and in general stakeholder participation and involvement has increased. Public awareness programmes target women, children, herders and farmers, but more is needed.</p>	<p>Communication and cooperation are “progressing year by year”.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation of water facilities is a part of the national water programme and includes traditional knowledge of water management. A satellite network for drought early warning system is being tested.</p>	<p>Report states that traditional knowledge does not play “an adequate role” although it is part of educational programmes. Good progress on developing international partnerships.</p>
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Other remarks: NAP gained government approval in 1996 and was ratified in 2003. This comprehensive report answers most of the questions provided. Tabular information is largely complete.

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Myanmar				
<p>Forestry Dept. and Dry Zone Greening Dept. have indicators and criteria. Assessment of forest cover has been carried out four times in the last 50 years – quantification on this included in report.</p>	<p>Environmental education provided at all levels. TV broadcasts used for environmental education. Participatory approach not specifically discussed.</p>	<p>Biodiversity and climate change discussed (CBD adopted in 1992), but linkages not specifically discussed.</p>	<p>Two planned NAP projects address mitigation of drought and degradation. Rehabilitation of dry zone ongoing since the 1950s, quantification included in report. early warning systems were not discussed.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge not discussed, but NGOs play a significant role in promoting know-how including a programme specifically targeting women and girls. Five NAP projects planned – including capacity building.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Acceded to UNCCD in 1997, NAP received government approval in 2005. The country profile is partially complete. Good efforts to deal with fuelwood “issues” with provision of fuel-efficient cooking stoves, fuel briquettes and use of agricultural residues as fuel.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Philippines				
<p>A GEF project includes development of indicators and criteria for monitoring, as well as mapping of vulnerable areas. Database development is one of five NAP programmes.</p>	<p>Development of local government and community initiatives is one of five NAP programmes.</p>	<p>Strong coordinating programme under GEF due for implementation in late 2006.</p>	<p>Areas vulnerable to drought will be mapped as part of a GEF project. No discussion of rehabilitation or early warning systems.</p>	<p>Topics not specifically discussed.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The report contains a lot of information of the NAP process. The NAP it was validated in 2004, and the country profile is mostly complete.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
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Samoa

No information provided.	The NAP and other legislations have been prepared using broad- base participatory processes.	The National adaptation programme of action (NAPA) is aimed at reforestation and rehabilitating coastal lowlands and inland forest resources.	The NAPA will also upgrade the early warning systems for drought mitigation and flooding.	Farmers have been encouraged to adopt organic farming practices. Farmers apply their knowledge on agroforestry and mixed cropping. There is also a “community forestry programme.” Samoan farmers are well aware of the need of using local knowledge to attain sustainable agriculture and forestry.
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Other remarks: No NAP has yet been adopted. The plan, however, has been recently prepared.

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
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Saudi Arabia

A monitoring system and indicators are in operation to assess the rangeland, land degradation, level of desertification, groundwater levels and wind erosion. A set of maps was established to identify degradation locations and causes.	Partially used, but needs a framework of partnership between the administration, the local communities and NGOs.	A set of cooperation programmes and studies were reported with some UN organizations including FAO and some UNCCD committees.	Rehabilitation of degraded dry forests and other agricultural lands is taking place. Desertification control activities are specified including sand-dune fixation. An early warning system for natural disasters has been set up.	No indications on promotion of traditional knowledge. Some awareness activities were made on forest fires, sand-dune fixation and combating desertification.
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Other remarks:

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Solomon Islands				
No assessment of land degradation has been carried out. Meteorological data is collected; some water monitoring and assessment, including water quality, is carried out. Storage and management of information suffers from lack of capacity and resources.	Ecoforestry and food security programmes have community focus.	CBD and UNFCCC NFPs work together. Therefore there is potential for good linkage once the CCD NFP is in place.	Despite focus on cyclones, the national disaster management office recognizes the risk of drought. New initiatives include development of an early warning system.	Efforts being made to mainstream UNCCD issues into planning process. Very few institutions are involved in UNCCD-relevant research. Traditional knowledge was not discussed.
Other remarks: The NAP process has been hindered by lack of a NFP and institutional capacity problems. Deforestation is the major problem. The country profile is mostly complete.				

Sri Lanka				
No system of benchmarks and indicators has been developed yet.	The NAP and synergies with other conventions have been sought through several meetings/workshops attended by both national and international experts. Involvement of stakeholders (e.g., farmers, NGOs) is still poor, in spite of efforts of public agencies.		Several projects funded by international donors have been implemented and are aimed at mitigating land degradation and soil erosion and are seen as related to UNCCD activities, but no evaluation of the effectiveness of these plans and policies is presented. A series of committees are supposed to deal with different issues, but no indication of their effectiveness is provided.	Research is developed by the Tea Research Institute and the Rubber Research Institute.
Other remarks: The NAP was adopted in 2002, and in 2004 the Ministry of the Environment was created. It is the agency in charge of implementing the NAP. There are, however no specific programmes associated to the NAP but several that address the issue of environmental degradation.				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Syrian Arab Republic				
Implementation of drought and desertification monitoring and assessment are practised using remote sensing. Indicators for desertification and control activities were reported.	NAP was established to follow up plans for combating desertification. There is an active participation of the local unions (farmers, women and youth) and NGOs.	No indications	Some projects to rehabilitate degraded lands areas have been carried out. An early warning system is reported as in preparation.	Some progress was made on traditional knowledge. There are ongoing programmes aimed at improving conditions of use of environment resources for restoration of ecosystems including forests, rangelands and water resources by rainwater harvesting.
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Tajikistan				
<p>A system for the monitoring of desertification processes and for assessment of land degradation has been established. There is insufficient coordination between governmental authorities involved in drought and desertification issues. There is insufficient assistance by provision of a national budget and from targeted international investment for UNCCD implementation measures. No progress for reporting of benchmarks and indicators for the use of lands on sloping terrain, and for the banning of their unjustified use.</p>	<p>The NAP was discussed at a national forum. National seminars on desertification have been held in various regions with various population layers, including women. UNCCD implementation activities have been implemented aided by the local communities and NGOs. Low awareness of the general public of the main UNCCD priorities in the country.</p>	<p>Insufficient local-level capacity to implement the three nature-conservation Conventions from Rio.</p>	<p>Restoration of irrigation systems is under way. No conservation, restoration and expansion of forest areas and no high-mountain pasture maintenance. No access for the population from disadvantaged areas to alternative (renewable) energy sources. early warning system is not yet established.</p>	<p>No consideration of the traditional land-erosion control methods. Poorly developed technical facilities for utilisation of knowledge and for use of new technologies for UNCCD implementation. National experience of scientific justification of the desertification control measures and implementation of the Convention exists. Insufficient literature in the country's national language on the main UNCCD issues. A technical and scientific capacity problem exists at local level.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Several projects are being undertaken as part of the implementation of the Convention. Financial resources are a severe limitation</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Thailand				
<p>The dynamics of land degradation are used as benchmarks in general terms, with the reservation that priority attention is to peoples' livelihoods. Drought monitoring is straight forward, and benchmarks relating to soils are given (salinization, and moisture). These are also seen as indicators and the coordinating body, based at the Ministry of Agriculture and cooperatives, are satisfied with the effects. It feels that the current policy and approach are successful and in line with the Convention.</p>	<p>Public participation in access to land holdings is a constitutional issue in Thailand. This brings local populations and local institutions close to project level so that knowledge and competence can be delivered. The NAP is based on four policy plans. Only government bodies are represented in three of them, while also local NGOs and communities participate in the fourth (dealing with environmental conservation). In the implementation of the NAP, many success reports demonstrate that the policy of involving local communities is effective. Private sector is getting increasingly involved. There is no visible trend in gender-balance changes.. No awareness campaigns are ongoing or planned.</p>		<p>Three types of early warning system have been set up: floods, drought and land slide. These systems are not effective, however, since new technology is needed.</p>	<p>There is no interest in traditional knowledge. Instead, international knowledge is much in demand for the report and special reference is made to computerized information and the internet. Soil doctors provide knowledge to sub-district level by extension and demonstration.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The text in the report is brief, suggesting that more could have been said.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Turkmenistan				
<p>The country is participating in international projects to monitor desertification in Central Asia. Insufficient interaction between various economic sectors in the country during the implementation of the NAP. Monitoring and evaluation of joint pilot projects are performed. Indicators have not been set as yet, but some data is available. The country is actively developing a national desertification monitoring system using remote operational assessment methods and mapping of the desertification processes.</p>	<p>Very good experience. Sustainable land management has been introduced at the municipal level and the capacity of the local population to cooperate with NGOs is increasing. More stakeholders are being involved in NAP implementation. More attention is paid to interagency cooperation and to consultancies with foreign partners. The involvement of the general public in priority areas of the Convention is increasing.</p>	<p>Collaboration with several development partners on projects that address crosscutting issues on the Rio Conventions.</p>	<p>The concept of early warning systems is not well recognized. Efforts are being made to establish data base for long-term climate data to fill the data gaps. Measures for the rehabilitation of degraded land aim to ensure sustainable land-use management, conservation of mountain ecosystems and the sustainable use of mountain pastures. Innovative methods are tested at the local level for example the forestation with tree species on mountain slopes with water accumulation trenches in watersheds. Early drought-warning issues are presented in brochures and nearly warning systemsletters.</p>	<p>Seminars promoting the positive experience of completed pilot projects in rural areas through the use of traditional desertification-control measures are carried out. The resources of the private sector to develop new processes for plant growing, animal breeding, biohumus etc. are being developed. Inventory preparation of traditional knowledge is carried out within the framework of the developed projects.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Progress made by Turkmenistan is significant in terms of institutions and programmes. It seems that articulation between national programmes is starting to work. The country shows good progress in implementing the Convention.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
United Arab Emirates				
<p>Progress has been made on selecting indicators to assess and monitor land degradation. Indicators were documented.</p>	<p>Ministry of environment has a good database on natural resources. Workshops and meetings were held to discuss desertification issues and their impacts. The attendance represented the relevant ministries, institutions, authorities and NGOs. Several mechanisms of consultation and participation were set up. The NGO's had an active participation.</p>	<p>Limited efforts with the European coherent approach to research and technological development (ECARDA). Linkages between UN conventions are scarce and not very active. As part of NAP, the protection and restoration of biodiversity is mentioned. Some actions of biodiversity conservation have been made and had a positive impact on land degradation.</p>	<p>Efforts are being made in relation to biodiversity protection and rehabilitation. Measures for rehabilitation of degraded lands were reported and centred on constructing dams, tree planting and sand dune fixation. An early warning system is recognized, but only for climatic change through national weather stations. Grazing and rangeland cover are also monitored through the Ministry of Agriculture. Some programmes were planned for aquifer recharge and rangeland rehabilitation, but capacity building and international participation are lacking.</p>	<p>Some activities on traditional knowledge were mentioned, but no indication of its use to control desertification. Cooperation with regional and UN organizations is lacking, as a result there is a limited use of networking at various levels.</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Uzbekistan				
<p>The report focuses on the fact that certain aspects of monitoring and evaluation of the different initiatives, related to the NAP implementation are not coordinated in any formal way. Insufficient human and financial resources obstruct the introduction of new control and monitoring approaches and tools. The country has adopted 15 legal documents in aid of implementation of the Convention.</p>	<p>The NAP implementation processes are carried out with the active involvement of all major stakeholders. A particular role is played by NGOs acting as a link between governmental institutions and the local communities.</p>	<p>A project assessing the country's capacity to meet the responsibilities under the three environmental conventions (biodiversity, climate change, combating of desertification) has been carried out.</p>	<p>Initiatives for rehabilitation and conservation of forests in rural communities are under way within the scope of a GEF funded project. A concept for sustainable development and protection of desert pastures and irrigation of agricultural lands has been prepared. Measures for rehabilitation and forest improvement and for creation of stable ecosystems on the dry bottom of the Aral Sea and in the Kazalkum desert are underway.</p>	<p>Pertinent research activities are being carried out by over 17 institutions and centres. The areas of co-operation include evaluation of genetic material, collaborative research, experience sharing, information exchange, etc. Very limited significance is given to traditional knowledge in this report.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The report reflects the varied components required for a comprehensive national report. However, information and data of operational mechanisms, monitoring, scientific and technical desertification control activities, are very limited or not available.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Viet Nam				
<p>Viet Nam has already a set of benchmarks and indicators that are updated annually by the central statistics office. They target infrastructures, especially water management and forest plantations. Socio-economic indicators are adequate while natural resource management indicators can not be updated annually due to lack of funding.</p>	<p>Participation is interpreted as the participation of various government institutions in policy formation and implementation. Also other national institutions are mentioned, such as private enterprise. The participation of local people is stressed for NAP implementation in general terms. There is a recommendation that local NGOs and populations should become involved in the science and technology advisory group, but this is not yet implemented. The level of stakeholding has not increased since the last reporting except for more scientific community involvement.</p>		<p>There are early warning systems in place for drought, flood, storms and forest fires. However, they are not reliable.. It is claimed, but not substantiated, that there are outdated early warning mechanisms suitable for mitigating drought and desertification.</p>	<p>There is little explicit reference to knowledge and know-how</p>
<p>Other remarks: The NAP foci are on the key issues in the development plan; poverty reduction, sustainable development, environmental action plans, national Agenda 21, national conservation strategy, and some other country strategies and frameworks. Institutional arrangements around the NAP are presented well. Much information is presented in condensed tabular form.</p>				

Latin America and the Caribbean

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning Systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know- how and technology transfer
Argentina				
A national assessment and monitoring system is in the process of implementation. Indicators have been selected by mean of a participatory process, but none have been adopted by the corresponding organizations. Some specific environments such as the Chaco are monitored, but specific action is taken only when there is drought or fires. A national atlas has been published. International cooperation with LADA project.	Several institutions are involved in the process. This network includes national and local agencies, universities, research institutes and NGO's. There is good integration of the scientific world and users of the knowledge. The NAP has been developed with ample participation.	No specific mention, but several integration projects on wetlands (RAMSAR), forest conservation, and species conservation are ongoing.	The report mentions several "bright spots" where rehabilitation was successful. An ongoing institutional network is working in the implementation of an early warning system at national level, and some provinces have drought monitoring systems.	No specific mention on traditional knowledge. There are research programmes carried out by different organizations and provinces, but results have never been implemented in the field. Lack of extension. However, This country is participating in several international programmes with the help of UNDP, GEF, GTZ.
Other remarks: The 1994 Constitution ensures the protection of the environment, and Law 24.701 specifically addresses the UNCCD. The NAP lacks a specific budget.				
Bahamas				
A national GIS centre is in existence, but otherwise this topic is not discussed.	The first participatory process focused on land degradation was the national awareness seminar in Nov. 04.	Both CBD and UNFCCC signed. Importance of linkages recognized during national awareness seminar, but no specific plans or actions discussed.	No discussion. Country profile states that "no quantified rehabilitation data exist" which suggests some activity has been undertaken.	The country has a strong oral history tradition, but these topics were not specifically discussed.
Other remarks: The NAP was adopted in April 2006. Land degradation is caused by improper farming, farming in poorly suited locations, excavation, mining and storm surges, although development is also mentioned. Multi-party commissions have been appointed to address issues related to land degradation. The "land use policy and administration project" resulted from their recommendations. Environmental impact assessments are now mandatory for large scale projects. Also, the "national development strategy" addresses land management issues.				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Bolivia				
<p>Little progress on this matter. However there are several national and regional organizations that monitor environmental variables and processes, land use changes and implementation of projects of land rehabilitation. The country is participating in a regional project to define and validate indicators for desertification assessment.</p>	<p>Good progresses on the implementation of participatory mechanisms. The NAP has succeeded in promoting the involvement of actors from the government to end-users. Participatory processes were considered in the organization of two workshops to establish, standardize and validate a set of indicators. A network of NGOs that work on desertification was set up to coordinate actions to be taken.</p>	<p>Important concern in creating synergies is declared. Not many examples of integrated projects.</p>	<p>Good progresses on this issue. The country has several successful examples of ecosystem rehabilitation. There is an important effort promoted by central government in establishing rehabilitation programmes. Activities concerning the development of environmentally sound technology for the sustainable use of the land are reported. These activities are conducted by public and private institutions. Several projects concerning soil conservation and rehabilitation in the framework of national plan for watershed management are envisaged. No activities related to early warning systems are reported</p>	<p>Important results on rescuing and promoting traditional knowledge and native genetic resources. This country has an important capital of traditional knowledge. Several institutions are, at present, charged with technology transfer, the NAP has played an important role in this. Some projects in cooperation with GTZ and UNEP.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Neither country profile nor maps and tables containing data are provided in the report</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and Early Warning Systems	Traditional knowledge - Promoting know-how and technology transfer
Brazil				
<p>Some work has been done on selection of relevant indicators. The Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute (IBGE) is implementing a national desertification indicator management system (SIGINDES). Initial activities have been undertaken to implement the SIGINDES.</p>	<p>A participatory approach was undertaken by the federal government. This approach is being promoted in all policy making processes. The country has organized an important number of workshops both, at national and local levels. The importance of an effort is appreciated in order to involve local authorities in the establishment of strategies and priorities.</p>	<p>Articulation among conventions is at least declared as one of the priorities. There is not much concrete action that promotes synergies</p>	<p>Several institutions have established a common programme to improve their capacity to predict climatic conditions, especially in the NE region. This country has a good capacity and experience for these kinds of technological systems. Not many examples of ecosystem rehabilitation are provided.</p>	<p>Little progresses on traditional knowledge. Several ongoing projects in cooperation with the GTZ, GEF, UNDP, IICA and IDB are mentioned. Also the country is involved in regional programmes (IDB/IICA /JAPAN).</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Chile				
<p>Significant contribution has been made in methodologies to manage indicators systems. On the basis of a national programme on land use monitoring, the country is implementing a monitoring system for land degradation. No set of indicators provided. One workshop organized by ECLAC on socio-economic indicators.</p>	<p>Important progresses in incorporating and enlarging participation of new actors. A national consultative committee included new participants from civil society. Local participation has been promoted by means of local focal point (regional focal points).</p>	<p>Modest progresses in articulating UN conventions.</p>	<p>Important action on rehabilitation has been carried out by means of government programmes on afforestation, irrigation and soil reclamation. In figures, 1.92 millions hectares and 298,930 end users have benefited from these subsidies. The country has focussed actions on 8 biomes of global significance.</p>	<p>Little progress on traditional knowledge. Several ongoing projects in cooperation with the Global Mechanism, GEF, IFAD, UNDP, IICA and IDB are mentioned. Also the country is involved in regional programmes such as the Subregional action for the sustainable development of the American Puna.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Colombia				
<p>Some work has been done on soil conservation and other variables using large scale satellite images. The country has installed a good network of hydrometeorological stations. There is not a set of indicators to monitor desertification. The country should make a further effort in this direction.</p>	<p>Local and national workshops were organized. The National environmental system was charged to guarantee wide participation. The country has recently created an institutional network devoted to desertification issues. Participation is seen as important and essential for the success of the strategies forming the NAP. Additional efforts should be undertaken to implement participatory mechanisms to guarantee the involvement of end users.</p>	<p>Some efforts have been made. A specific programme of biodiversity conservation was incorporated to the NAP. Analogous concern was present in relation with climate change. More concrete actions are recommended.</p>	<p>There are ongoing projects on rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems. The first steps toward an early warning system devoted to extreme climatic events, forest fires, flooding, land slides, have been made. The country has made good progress in systematizing environmental information.</p>	<p>Little progress on traditional knowledge, but the concept is included in the NAP.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Costa Rica				
<p>There is very good progress on the establishment of a set of national indicators, although a nationwide, indicator to monitor and assess land degradation is lacking.</p> <p>A series of indicators defined locally in a participatory process will be used for validating the NAP strategies, but they have not been defined yet. The national indicator set includes environmental, socio-economic, agricultural and institutional indicators.</p> <p>Institutions seem to be well prepared to cooperate and interact. Information with good access is available.</p>	<p>Costa Rica has a good experience in participatory mechanisms. Scientists, government agencies, private sector and end-users have interacted in the establishment of the NAP and associated projects.</p> <p>In a pilot project in a selected watershed, local participation has been promoted through local workshops for participatory diagnostics, local capacity creation, accompanying of local project proposals and the establishment of a local practice of monitoring, evaluation and adaptation of the pilot project.</p>	<p>Good capacity and experience in elaborating integrated projects, including desertification, climate change and biodiversity.</p> <p>A process to coordinate strategies and priorities among UN conventions has been carried out in the framework of the NCSA project.</p>	<p>Several projects strongly oriented to rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems are ongoing. No early warning systems, but there is a good capacity to carry out projects oriented to this objective, especially in cooperation with a sub regional network (probably El Salvador, Panama and Nicaragua). The most important initiative being implemented in concordance with UNCCD principles is the system of payment for environmental services to promote the expansion of forest cover in the country.</p> <p>Other initiatives are: encouragement of the use of conservation agriculture practices, and the adoption of certification practice for forestry.</p>	<p>No specific reference to traditional knowledge is made. However, local knowledge is used in implementing the pilot project by participatory process. There is a very high level of international cooperation and promotion of technology leading to sustainable use of natural resources.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Once NAP was approved in May 2004, the national advisory commission on degraded lands (CADETI) concentrated the efforts in carrying out the commitment established in the NAP of implementing a pilot project in a demonstrative watershed. Detailed information on biophysical and socio-economic data is provided</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Cuba				
<p>Significant effort has been made in implementing a national system of indicators. A network of central institutions is organized to collaborate and provide information to potentially affected provinces. The system includes biophysical and socio-economic indicators and was created through the participation of numerous experts. The results were confirmed in a workshop. The indicators identified will be incorporated in the environmental monitoring system that is being developed. The National Agency for Statistics is the main information source. The use of remote sensing methodologies is gradually increasing and improving.</p>	<p>Cuba has defined participation as a central principle for designing policies and the participation of NGOs in the implementation of NAP has increased. Some workshops were organized to define priorities to be incorporated in the NAP. Important progress on public concern is reported at all levels.</p>	<p>Programmes to protect and restore biodiversity, forest policies and climate change are articulated. No specific examples are provided on how this translates into concrete action. The national system of protected areas acts as a link between UNCCD and CBD</p>	<p>Figures are provided to demonstrate the extent of the rehabilitation programme (about 30 000 hectares per year). Great effort has been made to implement soil conservation measures, increase forest areas, and mitigate the effects of drought by means of hydraulic infrastructures. Other efforts are addressing land capacity mapping and the use of biotechnology in agriculture. An early warning system for preventing drought and reducing its effects has been set up.</p>	<p>This issue is highlighted in the report. Action is being taken to recuperate local varieties and traditional techniques and knowledge. A coordination group of the NGOs working on drought and desertification has been created to promote project and transfer knowledge. Programmes to transfer technology “from farmer to farmer” and increase awareness were set up. Dissemination of the results in the activities to combat desertification has been made through mass media. Several ongoing projects in cooperation with UNEP, UNDP, GEF, IFAD are mentioned. Also the country is involved in collaboration programmes with the sub region.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Dominica				
<p>Although the NAP notes the importance of monitoring, assessment and indicators there is neither a clear implementation plan within the NAP nor an indication within the report of how monitoring will occur.</p>	<p>The list of individuals participating is large and encompasses a great diversity of stakeholders and interests. There is not a clear indication of how the participatory approach will continue.</p>	<p>Linkage to a few other conventions is mentioned within the report focusing on two.</p>	<p>The need for early warning systems is expressed, but no plan for implementation nor is there one in place. Mention of mitigation, rehabilitation, or drought is not made.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge is not noted within the report nor is there an acknowledgement of how technology transfer will or is occurring among the participatory agencies.</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Ecuador				
<p>No monitoring and indicator system in operation at present in place. A set of 22 indicators has been proposed to be used in the implementation of NAP. The selection of these indicators is the result of a regional project called “regional programme to fight desertification in South America”</p>	<p>A series of workshops at regional (13) and national level (2) with the participation of different actors was set up for preparing and reviewing draft documents before NAP was approved. Two courses aimed at local communities were given. One of the objectives of the NAP mentions the necessity of public awareness, although the participatory process has been very restricted due to the recent political and socio-economic situation. Further efforts will be needed to create participation channels.</p>	<p>An environmental authority to promote synergies among Conventions has been established. Preliminary efforts through joint actions and capacity building have been undertaken. An integrated project including objectives of the three conventions is recommended</p>	<p>A project to support the implementation of UN conventions at local levels through mechanisms of payment for environmental services was carried out. A portfolio of projects on sustainable watershed management in arid and semiarid regions has been presented to obtain funds. No activities related to early warning systems are reported.</p>	<p>A training programme has been developed. It focuses on increasing awareness of land degradation and capacity building. It is aimed at land owners, community leaders, academics and technicians and decision makers. The workshops carried out follows a bottom-up approach, combining traditional and contemporary knowledge. Institutional capacities are dispersed and not well linked with the NAP. Lack of articulation among institutions coping with land degradation.</p>
<p>Other remarks: NAP was approved in September 2004, but the national coordinating body has not been established yet. The process of implementation has suffered from serious drawbacks due to political and socio-economic context. Ecuador needs to establish more cooperation links to reinforce national capacities.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
El Salvador				
<p>Significant progress on the establishment of a set of indicators is reported. Indicators include those related to economic development. An important level of inter-institutional cooperation is seen as positive. There is a good availability of information on different dimensions of land degradation, including drivers.</p>	<p>A good level of involvement of scientists, government agencies, private sector and end-users. The initial involvement of the private sector is especially worth noting.</p>	<p>Special attention has been placed on creating convergence between four global conventions: desertification, climate change, biodiversity and wetlands. What is remarkable is the orientation of some projects to an integrated approach to the concept of sustainable development.</p>	<p>Important progress in rehabilitating degraded lands. The concept of rehabilitation is present in many parts of the NAP. There is not a functional early warning system, but an important effort has been made in drought prevention.</p>	<p>There is much concern on the importance of this subject, but no concrete results are reported. Good level of interaction with international agencies and other countries in the region. Good level of technology transfer and international cooperation.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Good links of the NAP with educational entities and local population. El Salvador is probably one of the best examples of interaction between NAP and formal education. This report is one of the few containing a high level of criticism on problems encountered in implementing the NAP.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Grenada				
<p>The lack of monitoring is specifically noted and the focus is on creating adequate benchmarks from which a monitoring protocol can be developed. The report frequently presents the idea of indicators through the use of the word benchmark. Although of the required data exists, how the information will be utilized is still unknown.</p>	<p>There appear to be attempts to include as many people as possible in the NAP planning process. A list of participants and their affiliation would have helped an assessment of the participatory process. Currently, just a single sentence notes the professions or affiliations of participants.</p>	<p>There is no specific mention of how the report links to other conventions, but there are clear indications of links with other agencies. Also a few international linkages are mentioned.</p>	<p>Only drought is specifically noted, however, the report highlights that climatic variables are being assessed. This would indicate a kind of early warning system, although its application is not specific to desertification and emphasis is placed on hurricanes.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge is noted and although the specifics are not mentioned the report does acknowledge its importance. Technology transfer is well emphasized throughout the document using cutting edge technology in the development of benchmarks. Any extension of this attitude into monitoring would greatly enhance the ability effectively to transfer information to those affected by drought or various weather conditions.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Guatemala				
<p>The report uses a series of indicators collected from several institutions and related with hydrometeorological observations and natural resources management, as well as indicators coming from the conclusions of workshops. There is not a systematic procedure to measure benchmarks and indicators that allows assessment of progress in implementing NAP.</p>	<p>The NAP preparation involved a variety of participants, and the report gives high importance to this concept. The intention to promote participation exists, but it is not yet reality. Guatemala has created an environmental education programme that includes desertification issues.</p>	<p>There is limited experience in this integrative approach. Probably the country will need some technical assistance on this matter.</p>	<p>A project to restore degraded soils and to promote sustainable forestry was submitted to GEF. Financial mechanisms for payment of environmental services are being implemented. An early warning system for drought and food security is being implemented, which includes crop production forecasting.</p>	<p>No progress on traditional knowledge reported. There are some local capacities that should be strengthened by international cooperation. Recently two research funds were established: the Competitive Development Fund for Food and Agriculture (AGROCYT) and the National Fund for Science and Technology (FONACYT). Some initial links with international funds from Holland and the GEF have been made.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The NAP is already finished, but little progress is declared in implementing it. The first isolated actions are now ongoing. There is a lack of institutional coordination.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Guyana				
<p>Land degradation is s increasing throughout the country. The country profile contains much assessment information related to the degree of country wide degradation. As remote sensing is used in the assessment process (through the use of NDVI) it is likely that a monitoring capability is in place.</p>	<p>A national awareness seminar was held with broad stakeholder participation and input. It set the basis for the development of the NAP. The goal of sustainable development also involves broad-based political and participatory support.</p>	<p>The need to strengthen the framework with other conventions exists and is stated.</p>	<p>Critical, long-term plans for the NAP involve the development of early warning systems for land degradation.</p>	<p>These and related areas are expressly recognized and stated as being important. Funding is a major constraint.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Haiti				
Five automatic hydro-meteorological stations and two early warning systems on drought are under construction.	Several mechanisms were implemented to guarantee participation of both men and women. Decentralised and participative approach is used but needs re-enforcement of the local communities. The country is developing a NAP, with combating poverty as the key issue. An inter-institutional committee was created, including ministries and NGOs technicians.	The country has succeeded in developing a project to identify what is needed to build capacities for fulfilment of the nature conservation conventions (climate changes, biodiversity, combating of desertification).	Restoration of degraded lands by forestation is carried out in 30 watershed areas. More than 60% of the planted trees are -fruit bearing forest or orchard trees. The irrigation systems and rural area infrastructures are being restored. An early warning system based on the geographic information system has been developed. Satellite imagery will allow adequate monitoring.	The country is developing new technologies for growing of produce currently demanded on the market. Agricultural production at the local (municipal) level has been increased and diversified.
<p>Other remarks: This report includes an ample base of information on natural resources, social data related to the state of desertification. The implementation strategy is coherent and well oriented to the principles of the Convention. Haiti has made important efforts to implement and articulate several programmes at national and international levels. Several international partnerships have been signed in order to improve the implementation of the UNCCD.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Honduras				
Little progresses in this matter. Some preliminary and isolated efforts.	During the process of preparation of the NAP, active participation was promoted. Despite this, a permanent participation mechanism does not exist.	No significant progresses in this matter.	No significant progresses in this matter.	Little progresses on this matter. Several institutional arrangements and coordination activities have been implemented to promote synergies between scientific bodies. More international cooperation will be needed to overcome institutional weaknesses.
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Mexico				
<p>Important progress on implementation of information and monitoring systems are reported. A good level of inter-institutional cooperation is evident. Mexico has good experience in working with indicators on the impact as well as implementation of the Convention. Important progresses are reported on early warning systems for drought.</p>	<p>There are good results in promoting participation, with a high level of involvement of scientists, government agencies, private sector and end-users. All these actors are organized in a national system to combat desertification and land degradation. This example can serve other countries. Good linkages of the NAP with educational entities and local population.</p>	<p>There is some awareness about the necessity of developing synergy between the Conventions. Despite this, no successful examples are available.</p>	<p>Little progress on rehabilitation cases. Good capacities have been created to implement early warning systems . Drought monitoring and early warning of climatic extreme events is a central preoccupation. First steps have been made in this direction.</p>	<p>One particular example for this is the sustainable development Studies and training centre (CECADESU). In the case of traditional knowledge, there are mechanisms in place to safeguard and apply this knowledge such as the service for rural national training and technical support (SENACATRI) located in the Secretariat for agriculture, livestock, fisheries and Food and the national commission for the development of Indigenous people. The federal government promotes the use of the Internet in regions with greater marginalization through 7,200 digital community centers of the e-Mexico project. Good level of technology transfer and international cooperation.</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Nicaragua				
Nicaragua has a well-structured environmental information system. It includes a set of indicators selected by several institutions during national workshops. The system has advanced well..	Participation has been a principle well adopted during the NAP. Several of the actions guarantee participation of various kinds of actors.	The NAP is part of the national environmental policy, which has ben integrated with other UN Conventions from the beginning.	The report presents several examples of rehabilitation cases.	Little emphasis on traditional knowledge. Nicaragua has established technical cooperation with a number of other countries in the region. Cooperation with developed countries should be reinforced.
Other remarks:				

Panama				
Good development has taken place. The environmental information system has much information on natural resources. Some work has been carried out to establish a set of indicators.	Public participation has been promoted. Meetings on this matter have taken place with iinstitutions from both the public and private sectors.	This is one of the objectives of the NAP. Several actions have been focused on promoting synergies. Ongoing, integrated projects have incorporated this principle.	The report provides several examples of ecosystem rehabilitation in important ecological areas. A system to forecast droughts is in place.	Good level of technology transfer and international cooperation exists.
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning Systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Peru				
<p>Some efforts have been made but with no significant progresses on this matter. Some local studies are available. A set of national indicators is provided.</p>	<p>Several workshops at national and local level have taken place. Special emphasis has been put on gender equality. A national network was established to promote the use of electronic technologies.</p>	<p>Important effort has been made to promote linkages between the three Conventions. A national coordination body has been created. As was a national fund to promote integration projects and sustainable development.</p>	<p>Some pilot projects have been carried out, mainly in degraded coastal areas. An important initiative focused on the improvement of a local capacity to forecast droughts.</p>	<p>There are ongoing projects to preserve traditional knowledge and original genetic resources. There is good integration between biophysical and social sciences. Several ongoing cooperation projects with Spain, The Netherlands and Global Mechanism are mentioned. Also Peru is involved in regional programmes such as the Subregional Action for the Sustainable Development of the American Puna (PAS PUNA) and transboundary projects with Ecuador.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Saint Lucia				
<p>The monitoring and assessment indicators relate mainly to formulating planning documents with little or no focus on measurements of the natural environment. The types of land degradation are noted, but no attempt is made at describing how this will be measured.</p>	<p>The report notes a lot of cooperation among government agencies in formulating plans. Local land owners or other stakeholders are not mentioned to the same degree leading to the belief that there is little cooperation among government entities and local populations.</p>	<p>A lot of linkage with other programmes is noted with little mention of other conventions although the programmes may be encased within some conventions.</p>	<p>No mention of early warning systems, mitigation or rehabilitation is made. Documents cited within the report are likely to mention something about these items, however, the report does not focus specifically on any kind of early warning systems.</p>	<p>No mention of traditional knowledge is made. A database is mentioned, but there is little indication of technology transfer. The mentioning of many other programmes and the proposed leveraging of information from these programmes is promising. How this will be done is not clear.</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines				
<p>There are reports about indicators . What is lacking, however, is a clear understanding of the selection and choice of indicators. Without this knowledge monitoring and assessment, protocols cannot be put into place.</p>	<p>The desire to include stakeholders is described and reported. Furthermore, it appears that attempts have been made in some programmes to include stakeholders in a participatory process though there is an acknowledgement of little participation on their part in the discussions. There does appear to be more open communication where forestry practices are involved.</p>	<p>Remarks about potential linkages with other conventions are made within the report. In most cases, it is neither known how the linkage occurs nor whether there is active communication between conventions..</p>	<p>Mitigation and early warning systems are mentioned within the report as being worked on. The framework of an early warning system or mitigation structure is not given, thus an evaluation of potential activities associated with either a system or structure cannot be made.</p>	<p>The desire to promote technology transfer exists. No mention of incorporating traditional knowledge is made, but the desire to work with stakeholders may alter this opinion in the distant future. The report does not clearly identify how technology transfer will occur, although various programmes are clearly exchanging data, albeit not at the stakeholder level.</p>
<p>Other remarks:</p>				

Northern Mediterranean and Central and Eastern Europe

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know- how and technology transfer
Albania				
<p>The NCB is responsible for coordinating work on specialised structures for updating national data systems, but it is not active. Independent research institutions provide ministries with information. Components identified at national level are soil, water and air. Indicator criteria are available for soil. Existing major and emerging problems have been identified. Requirements of the Convention have been considered. Many scientists have participated in establishing the indicators.</p>	<p>Participation is mainly through local councils. Participation of NGOs and the public is crucial. Movement of people from the rural mountains to the urban plains has reduced participation in natural resource management. Participation in decision making is ensured through the council of communes. The NCSA process contributed to awareness raising and participation. However, the genders are not equally represented.</p>	<p>In 2002-2003, a land use project involving several institutions analysed the capacity to implement the three environmental conventions and the related linkages.</p>	<p>The NCB is responsible for rehabilitating degraded areas, but it is not active. Forests, pastures and natural resources are the subjects of a recent strategy and as a result, reforestation and rehabilitation of the natural water systems are taking place. Regional activities are undertaken through the stability pact with focus on shared lakes and the Mediterranean Sea.</p>	<p>A system of consultative services at central and local levels is responsible for transfer of traditional knowledge, sharing information between regions and general distribution of information.</p>
<p>Other remarks: In Albania legislation has been put in place recently concerning land distribution, registration, transactions, administration and protection with a focus on agricultural land. In 2002 a law for the protection of the environment was enacted.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Armenia				
<p>A list of ecological benchmarks has been developed for information on desertification processes and awaits government approval. The technical and knowledge basis for monitoring has been enhanced through a natural resources management and poverty-reduction project.</p>	<p>Several papers were developed with the involvement of public, NGO and scientists. The government and NGOs have signed an agreement and the NGOs are implementing a poverty-reduction strategy. A tree planting project involving people from all layers of society has taken place. Collaboration amongst NGOs and between NGOs and the government is extensive.</p>	<p>The application of unified approaches for the conventions is being addressed. A NCSA was undertaken addressing the three conventions. An institutional and legal capacity for monitoring the three conventions is being developed.</p>	<p>A proper drought early warning system does not exist, but activities to establish a system are being taken. Cooperation on early warning takes place with neighbouring countries. 370 ha of agricultural land are being rehabilitated and several other rehabilitation projects are underway.</p>	<p>Publications have been prepared for dissemination and numerous TV programmes prepared and broadcasted. Teachers and pupils have participated in sustainable use of water and energy in schools and have received numerous brochures and participated in various activities.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The report was prepared by the Ministry of Nature Protection. Sub-regional cooperation is being undertaken. 14 scientific institutions are involved in desertification-related activities.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Azerbaijan				
<p>Establishment of a uniform environmental monitoring system and unification of the methodologies used has begun. Poor coordination between various ministries in desertification monitoring and control has been observed.</p>	<p>The stakeholders are involved in the preparation and discussions of the NAP, the national report, and in the extension of international cooperation. A working group, under the national coordinator, assists the work at the local level and work among women and young men.</p>	<p>Increased and coordinated actions to implement the three environmental conventions (biodiversity, climate change, and combating of desertification) are noted.</p>	<p>Proactive NGOs carry out degraded land and forestation projects. The development of an early warning system jointly with scientific organisations is a priority for this country. Its aim is to ensure provision safety and predict droughts. Irrigation systems restoration work is under way in order to curtail the processes of degradation (irrigation erosion, secondary salinization)</p>	<p>A national programme on sustainable use of winter and summer pastures and prevention of desertification has been prepared. There is no reporting on systematic work on traditional knowledge. Existing forests are restored and new forests are established on degraded and abandoned lands. Technologies for biogas generation from plant and animal waste are being developed.</p>
<p>Other remarks: This country shows important progress in the implementation of the Convention. The report presents a good set of data on the state of social and environmental resources. Many programmes have been launched and surveys carried out. There are intensive efforts to restore highly damaged ecosystems to sustainable minimum condition.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Belarus				
<p>A national system for monitoring of degraded lands, monitoring of vegetation and a local environmental monitoring network for evaluation and forecasting have been established. A national system of benchmarks and indicators has been established for the analysis of the processes of degradation by type and to prove and assess the extent of land degradation. A cadastral land survey and a soil-erosion map of arable lands have been prepared.</p>	<p>There is insufficient coordination between the agencies, the scientific community, the local government and the land users for implementation of the UNCCD. No consultation with the general public and with the NGOs takes place. NAP development and setting of national priorities are being carried out. A public environmental council coordinating the work of land-protection NGOs has been established.</p>	<p>A national programme has been established for joint work on the three environmental conventions (UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD). Development of regional and local level projects for the GEF small grants programme has been initiated. A project for capacity building in sustainable land use has been started with UNDP/GEF funding.</p>	<p>Methodological guidelines for prediction of water erosion and deflation processes on arable lands exist in this country. The recommendations for designing of erosion-control complexes on arable lands, and for use of erosion-prone lands in various landscape areas are being implemented. A UNDP/GEF aided project for re-naturalisation and sustainable management of peat bogs is being implemented.</p>	<p>No specific or significant efforts are reported on traditional knowledge, but some degree of local knowledge exists, mainly in the area of land-resource preservation. The theoretical foundations for forecasting of erosion processes, and methods for diagnostics and classification of anthropogenically altered soils have been prepared. Technologies for production of organic based soil improvement materials restoring the fertility of degraded soils have been implemented.</p>
<p>Other remarks: This report is very comprehensive and well documented more specifically by information on natural resources, agriculture and the state of desertification. It seems that the country has made important progresses in several aspects.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Bulgaria				
<p>The implementation of drought and desertification monitoring and assessment are practiced by several institutions (including the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the National Centre for Agrarian Sciences, the Executive Environmental Agency, and the Executive Agency for Soil Resources). The country is participating in the construction of the South Eastern Europe drought management centre. Indicators of scientific and technical desertification and control activities are reported.</p>	<p>More than six workshops have been carried out with relevant stakeholders to identify the types and causes of land degradation within the context of the UNDP/GEF project "Capacity building for sustainable land management". The NAP was discussed at a national forum. Its main conclusions and recommendations were endorsed and used for defining national priorities. NGOs are insufficiently involved in UNCCD related work.</p>	<p>Linkages between UN conventions exist. An analysis and evaluation of the country's capability to implement the three Rio Conventions within a UNDP/GEF project have been carried out.</p>	<p>Measures for restoration (rehabilitation) of degraded lands in the Balkan countries involving the local population through the use of good practices for sustainable land management, livelihood and welfare improvement have been prepared within the scope of a UNEP/GEF project. No specific activities are reported on early warning systems.</p>	<p>A regional training centre for the EU countries has been established in Bulgaria for training of experts in protection of soil against degradation. The country is working to integrate the principles of sustainable land management into the curricula of specialised, higher education schools. Pertinent research activities are carried out as reported by over 40 institutions and centres. The main source referred to is UNDP small grants programme.</p>
<p>Other remarks: This country shows important progress in the implementation of the Convention. There is a good network of institutions that have established mechanisms of collaboration. A good degree of international cooperation is taking place. Legal adjustments were made to facilitate actions to control degradation and desertification.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Georgia				
<p>Legislation, methods and procedures for environmental monitoring do not exist. Land monitoring is the least developed field, most records are in hard copies only and cooperation is limited.</p>	<p>Public discussion on draft environmental laws is widespread, but the communication between NGOs and the government is poor with few active NGOs. The NCB was established without NGO representation and is not functioning. Partnership agreements have not been initiated and the consultation process has not been carried out.</p>	<p>NCSA carried out, but not within the framework of the NAP.</p>	<p>Nine institutions are carrying out research on various aspects of desertification. Weather data from the centre of monitoring and forecast is updated daily in the web.</p>	<p>Campaigns for education and raising of awareness are focused and short term. Local media play a restricted role, but individual journalists have had a major impact.</p>
<p>Other remarks: Short and medium-term development priorities for have mainly focused on self-defence, education, energy, transport and poverty reduction. Environmental issues are not part of these priorities.</p>				
Hungary				
<p>A nationwide monitoring system for drought analysis and forecasting is partially operative, based on drought severity, precipitation, and aridity indices.</p>	<p>Participation at the NGO, science-based institutions and at university level seems strong and organized. Otherwise this topic is not specifically discussed.</p>	<p>Potential for synergy between conventions is mentioned. The Ministry of Environment and Water is the coordinating body for UNCCD, CBD and UNFCCC.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation not specifically discussed. The report acknowledges that so far drought mitigation has been reactive rather than proactive, but that a shift to risk management is planned including regional/international mapping of drought sensitivity - upon which an early warning system can be based.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge is not discussed. There appears to be good collaboration at national level in sciences related to drought, water management and agriculture. Drought-tolerant plant species are being developed.</p>
<p>Other remarks: A national drought strategy (in final stages of Government approval when the report was written) is the basis for NAP. Drought is the major risk factor for desertification in Hungary.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Italy				
<p>The national committee mandate includes development of specific parameters and indicators for monitoring desertification. Eight indicators are applied in five regions most on the risk of desertification. Establishing monitoring networks for climate change and biodiversity fall under the request from regions and authorities to undertake scientific and technical activities.</p>	<p>The national committee is supported by a commission of experts open to participation by interested institutions. A variety of experts participated in numerous national and international activities.</p>	<p>Biodiversity and climate change are part of the strategies and priorities within the framework of sustainable development plans or policies. Addressing climate change falls under the scientific activities of the NAP.</p>	<p>Vulnerable regions in Italy have a system to monitor climate variation and soil moisture. A national agrometeorological bulletin is published nationally. Reservoir levels are monitored as early warning for irrigation. A monitoring system for soils is being elaborated.</p>	<p>The diffusion and awareness of traditional knowledge was implemented by the research centre on traditional and local knowledge to combat desertification (IPOGEA). The committee's mandate includes making an inventory of technologies, knowledge and traditional and local practices. Several institutions address traditional and local knowledge by research, action and publication. An iconographic system of traditional and innovative techniques was presented at COP7.</p>
<p>Other remarks: In Italy the focus appears to be on institutional participation and scientific and technological approaches. Soil conservation is a primary focus.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Latvia				
Considerable assessment has been undertaken on the types of erosion that are the main causes of degradation in Latvia. While the report mentions the need for monitoring, the first steps are obviously underway. Indicators that are used in the assessment process have been clearly elucidated.	Throughout project activities there is considerable effort to build local capacities for sustainable land management by distributing materials and training local land users and decision makers.	The Latvia NCSA in the field of biodiversity, climate change and land degradation integrates the activities of the three conventions. The Latvian NCSA will explore synergies among the three conventions.	The land degradation policies of Latvia are committed to sustainable land management practices, to protect soil and water resources and to reduce soil erosion on agricultural lands.	Traditional knowledge was not discussed, but the importance of developing local capacity was stressed throughout the report. Extending or transferring the successes of pilot projects to other affected areas is of high importance within Latvia's efforts to mitigate land degradation.
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Lithuania¹				
Monitoring, assessment, and indicator development was discussed only in the context of areas that are considered degraded i.e. soil erosion, impoverishment of arable land and reduction of forested areas.	Not discussed.	Although the importance of climate change and biodiversity are mentioned in the report, there is no discussion of other conventions	Discussed only in the context of the importance of involving appropriate agencies and institutions to mitigate soil erosion.	Not discussed.

¹ country officially not affected, but presenting activities on the implementation of the UNCCD at national level

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Moldova				
<p>Not specifically discussed in UNCCD context. However, critical levels for soils indices are being determined in one research project that is described and drought mapping is part of another project.</p>	<p>Meetings, forums, workshops and seminars related to desertification and environmental management have all been organized, but a “lack of public awareness and participation” is mentioned.</p>	<p>CBD and UNFCCC are mentioned, as is the fact that close collaboration between working groups associated with each convention is desirable.</p>	<p>No specific discussion of rehabilitation or early warning systems. Drought is a problem, and will be part of the NAP when it is operational. At present, drought monitoring is based on information from the 1970s to 1980s and new equipment is needed.</p>	<p>Traditional knowledge not discussed. Strong environmental education programmes at all levels, and 34 “science themes” related to desertification are underway.</p>

Other remarks: The country ratified the UNCCD in 1998, and the NAP was finalized in 2000. No country profile is provided. There is a strong soils and agriculture focus for all CCD-related activity, and future activity.

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Poland²				
<p>Drought and land-degradation assessment is a high priority. There many universities and other institutions that focus efforts on this assessment. Indicators, <i>per se</i>, are not discussed, but the monitoring of drought and the monitoring of the effects of drought are given high importance.</p>	<p>Strong participatory processes exist to mitigate the problems of land degradation, both within Poland and in countries receiving assistance from Poland. The participants include scientists from institutes and universities as well as governmental agencies involved in the management, development and protection of the resources of the country. The nature of this work involves studies, consultations, discussions and expert opinion.</p>	<p>An NCSA study focuses on the functioning of structures managing the UNCCD and on strengthening the coordination of actions related to the UNCCD and those undertaken for the Conventions on Climate Change and Biological Diversity.</p>	<p>Long term assessments of drought that could be used in drought mitigation and drought early warning systems are discussed. The further development of drought forecasting techniques is considered to be a high priority.</p>	<p>While traditional knowledge is not mentioned, the importance for increased awareness both in the host country as well as in countries receiving assistance is considerable. Linked to this is the importance of technology transfer from the developers to the users.</p>
Other remarks:				

² country officially not affected, but presenting activities on the implementation of the UNCCD at national level

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Portugal				
<p>Five pilot zones affected by desertification have been identified. 19 indicators have been developed to be applied on the five zones.</p> <p>Benchmarks and several international projects are used for monitoring and assessment of desertification.</p>	<p>The country has organised many topical seminars, workshops and training for various stakeholders. Many activities and conferences involving the local communities have been carried out at the “pilot area” level. At the national level, several workshops and seminars have been carried out. Representatives of all stakeholders are actively involved in NAP development.</p> <p>There was strong participation of stakeholders in the five pilot zones, especially after the huge fires of 2003. Although, in some areas, effectiveness has been low since then.</p>	<p>No indications</p>	<p>The NAP as well as other specific instruments have provided the basic tools for rehabilitation, and mitigation.</p> <p>Drought affects a large section of the country, but no specific measures are reported.</p>	<p>No action reported on traditional knowledge system. There is strong interaction with international initiatives such as CLEMDES, DISMED, MEDRAP.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The national coordination commission, comprised of technicians and experts from NGOs and universities, oversees the application of the NAP on the five pilot zones.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Russian Federation				
Monitoring methods have been developed, and the Russian Federation has a long history of addressing desertification issues. However, no specific information relating to UNCCD activities were provided.	Not discussed.	Not discussed.	Rehabilitation of salinated and eroded areas, pastures and forests is ongoing. Regional and national desertification maps have been compiled.	Traditional knowledge not specifically discussed. A list of 10 projects related to the UNCCD is provided
<p>Other remarks: Ratified the UNCCD in 2003 and the formulation of NAP is underway. This is a very short report, although baseline information on preparation for NAP is provided.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Slovakia				
<p>While the development of indicators for assessment or project effectiveness was not mentioned, it is clear that the country is well aware of the factors that must be looked at in providing assessments of land degradation. They are an important part of the strategy for land- degradation mitigation. A map of drought potential was included in the report. Monitoring of agricultural and forest soil properties was started in 1992.</p>	<p>A consultative and participatory process, involving appropriate levels of government, local communities and NGOs, should be undertaken to provide guidance on a strategy with flexible planning and implementation of action programme. Numerous universities, institutes, and government agencies are mentioned.</p>	<p>A significant role to strengthen cooperation and achieve synergies is played by the “joint liaison group” whose objective is to improve coordination among the three conventions. The Ministry of the Environment is the focal point for it and also for the CBD and UNFCCC. The Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute in Bratislava prepares early warning systems and also has a strong link with the UNFCCC.</p>	<p>A number of pilot areas have been established to mitigate the problems of organic-matter loss, soil erosion, pollution and other factors of land degradation. As mentioned, some institutions are preparing drought forecasting and early warning systems.</p>	<p>Promoting know-how and technology transfer is a key part of the effort of Slovakia to mitigate the problems of land degradation.</p>
<p>Other remarks: A final draft of NAP has been produced. The country profile is partially complete.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Slovenia				
<p>The two ministries addressing soil and land management lack capacity and the skills are dispersed. Focus of attention is almost entirely on soil. Drought is monitored on the basis of climatological and hydrological data.</p>	<p>Three NGOs operate in the area of soil protection. NGOs participated in the NCSA.</p>	<p>The NCSA addressed all three conventions where similar results were noted. Emphasis on the UNCCD is lowest amongst the three.</p>	<p>Slovenia has a mitigation strategy for hydrological drought but has no early warning systems. Responsibilities are dispersed amongst different institutions. At the level of principles, Slovenia is in line with the Convention. Although rainfall is high, agricultural droughts occur during the growing season. A national programme supports people to stay on the land, encourages sustainable land use and provides financial incentives directly to farmers.</p>	<p>A programme for raising public awareness has not been implemented. The Convention is virtually unknown in Slovenia.</p>
<p>Other remarks: The report by Slovenia consists of a component of the NCSA report addressing the UNCCD. Soil was the key issue under the UNCCD portion of the report.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Spain				
<p>There are several tools aimed at surveying, assessing and monitoring areas affected by desertification. It is planned that these tools will be components of the desertification surveillance system. In 2001, an initiative started to define a set of benchmarks and indicators of desertification. The initiative is based on the results of several research projects in which the focal point played an active role. There is a database of environmental indicators with public access through the website of the Ministry of Environment. The new sustainability observatory prepares a report on sustainable development based on indicators provided by European Environmental Agency. A national drought observatory has been established.</p>	<p>A series of workshops with stakeholders from regions affected by land degradation were held in the framework of research projects funded by European Union. The current draft of NAP has not been subjected to a participatory process. There is a lack of coordination and interchanges with NGOs working on natural resources management. Spanish collaboration has created local capacity building, improved technology and environmental management of vulnerable areas and traditional knowledge in Latin America.</p>	<p>A strategy to deal with climate change has been approved. It contains actions to increase forest area and reduce forest fires. The Spanish strategy for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is now under review.</p>	<p>The adoption of agrico-environmental measures and best management practices is being encouraged to reduce land degradation in agricultural areas. Through the national forest plan, actions to increase forest areas, to rehabilitate degraded lands and to develop sustainable forestry techniques, are promoted. Plans to prevent droughts and mitigate their effects were established.</p>	<p>No reference to traditional knowledge. A project to transfer available technology to combat land degradation through a web site managed by Ministry of Environment is planned. The national focal point has participated as a member in several projects to build clearing-house mechanisms and to disseminate accounts of successful initiatives on land degradation control. The national focal point has played an active role in organizing scientific meetings to disseminate the causes effects and remedies of desertification. Some projects in ecotourism and indigenous peoples have been started recently.</p>
<p>Other remarks: As a developed country, Spain has acted as an agent to help the implementation of the Convention in Latin America as well as in other continents. NAP has not been approved yet.</p>				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia				
Monitoring, assessment, and indicator development was discussed only in the context of involving the scientific community in these activities.	The preparation of the draft NAP has not been carried out in a fully participatory process due to time and financial constraints. It has been based mostly on desk studies. Existing national sectoral strategies have provided an overview of policies and priorities.	The NCSA process identified the need of closer cooperation or integration of the other Rio Conventions (the CBD and the UNFCCC) in order to take into consideration the cross sectoral nature of the Convention.	Discussed only in the context of the importance of involving appropriate agencies and institutions in rural development.	Traditional knowledge was not discussed, but the importance of developing appropriate mechanisms from the legal and institutional framework was considered to play a great role in strengthening the capacity of the country in these activities.
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Turkey				
<p>The proposals for action of the NAP include assessment and monitoring measures. Municipalities and governorates are individually trying to establish environmental management plans. Attempts are underway to develop the national coordinating body as well as local ones on land/ environmental degradation to develop and implement the NAP in the country. The Middle East Forum is already empowered to monitor and approve the management programmes to be developed by the local authorities under the supervision of the NCB.</p>	<p>A number of collaborative programmes with neighbouring countries have been developed and/or implemented in various sectors. Efforts were made to participate in many important international conventions related to desertification. Effective and promising erosion control measures and rehabilitation of degraded lands through active participation of local stakeholders were developed and applied in project areas. The bottom-up approach is given particular attention to support anti-desertification activities. Various meetings, panels, symposiums etc have recently been organized on different aspects of soil conservation and land management, environment, land use, land degradation etc. through broad participation as well as effective collaboration of the interested parties.</p>	<p>An active part was taken on the region-specific collaborative work of the Northern Mediterranean regional implementation such as regional projects, programmes as well as the regional action programme and sub-regional action programme in order to find out common solutions for problems of the region and exchange of knowledge and experiences achieved.</p>	<p>A number of measures and practices were made including the expansion of forest cover and rehabilitation of degraded forest areas through afforestation /reforestation on marginal, bare as well as disaster and erosion prone areas, rangeland improvement and expansion of grasslands and meadows in open lands, prevention of soil loss caused by water and wind and promotion of improved agricultural land use and cultivation practices to increase the soil and crop productivity. A number of measures were also undertaken to prevent land from possible floods and loss of sediments. No indication of early warning systems.</p>	<p>No specific reference to traditional knowledge. A number of initiatives and programmes were created for some Asian countries through exchange of experiences, transfer of technology, education, technical visits, machinery and equipment etc. Those programmes include several areas such as agriculture, land-use management practices, rehabilitation of degraded lands, reforestation etc.</p>

Other Affected Country Parties

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know- how and technology transfer
Canada				
The indicators are based on erosion, sensitivity of landscapes to erosion and rainfall efficiency index based on vegetation productivity. Monitoring is based on remote sensing. Some comment is made on the process.	While little comment is made on the role of the public in the participatory process, significant remarks are made on the role of a number of regional efforts to involve the various groups within the provinces that interact at various levels to mitigate degradation.	Canada hosts the CBD and is actively involved with a number of international organizations on a number of agreements. Little detail, however, was given on the nature of these interactions.	From the time that the prairie-farm rehabilitation administration was established, Canada has been at the forefront of activities designed to promote rehabilitation of degraded lands and to mitigate the effects of drought. early warning systems were not discussed, although planning and forecasting were.	Traditional knowledge was not discussed but the efforts of technology transfer or extension, such as the national land and water information service (NLWIS) and other efforts are among the most active in the world.
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
Israel				
<p>The national report contains little information on the development of indicators in the process of monitoring and assessment, yet, the Blaustein Institute for Desert Research has an extensive programme in desertification research, which would almost certainly include indicators. Monitoring in the report is considered to be somewhat outdated in spite of strong geographical information system and remote sensing capabilities.</p>	<p>There are three general areas in which public participation is encouraged: public access to information, public participation in formal decision-making, and general awareness and educational outreach. Although these participatory possibilities exist, there is little activity regarding the combating of desertification.</p>	<p>Israel is a signatory to most of the major multilateral environmental conventions including the UNFCCC and the CBD. In this capacity, expectations are low, yet Israel has conducted green gas emission audits and has initiated local projects involving carbon sequestration. Nature reserves have been established especially in areas that are especially vulnerable to degradation.</p>	<p>The country has demonstrated considerable efforts to rehabilitate degraded lands and gives a number of examples in the national report. These activities as well as others indicate the degree to which Israel has successful attempts have been made to mitigate the effects of drought. There was no discussion of early warning systems.</p>	<p>While the national report has no comment on the promotion of traditional knowledge, Innovative measures related to irrigation, agricultural techniques, desalinization and other techniques, for farmers as well as schools, universities etc, are being actively promoted .</p>
Other remarks:				

Monitoring, assessment and indicators	Participatory approach	Linkage with other conventions	Rehabilitation, drought mitigation, and early warning systems	Traditional knowledge - promoting know-how and technology transfer
United States of America				
<p>The sustainable rangelands roundtable coordinates indicator development for the monitoring and assessment of desertification. In addition, a number of programmes within the NRCS and the EPA are designed to develop common indicators. Drought monitoring is a key activity within the national drought mitigation centre at the University of Nebraska. NOAA also has considerable drought monitoring capabilities.</p>	<p>Numerous federal, state and local governmental agencies as well as NGOs and institutes focus much attention on the importance of societal participation and public outreach (such as extension programmes) that enable stakeholders at all levels to voice their concerns on what governmental programmes should focus their various efforts.</p>	<p>Not discussed.</p>	<p>The U.S. initiated a national drought policy in 1998 that was focused on preparedness (early warning systems) rather than on after-the-fact crisis management. Appropriate and timely changes in the management of rangelands are designed to mitigate drought and reduce the potential for the initiation of desertification.</p>	<p>Research priorities within the report focus on the potential of research results to reduce the impacts of drought. Extension services of the federal government that are located at universities take advantage of an effective method of transferring appropriate technologies. These, and other, services also allow the use of techniques developed by individual stakeholders to be disseminated well.</p>
Other remarks:				

Global Conclusions

This document provides a summary review of 73 reports (from affected and developed country parties (national reports) from Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern Mediterranean, Central and Eastern Europe, and other affected Country Parties) submitted in 2006 to the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC). The reports detail how the Parties carry out their commitments under the Convention (according to [Article 26](#) of the Convention).

The range of reports provides an overview of country's efforts to meet their obligations associated with ratification and observance of the UNCCD. Many of the countries are in the early stages of involvement with the UNCCD and their reports demonstrate a lack of land-use policies, policy conflicts, and the fact that too many ministries are responsible – hampering the process, and their progress.

In many cases, there is excellent awareness of desertification issues, their causes and implications. There is, for example, recognition that deforestation may be a “first phase” in the desertification process. However, one of the major challenges facing the UN is distinguishing between those countries genuinely embarking on preventative and rehabilitation measures, where there is a real risk and those who identify “desertification” as a chance to acquire international funding based on an over-interpretation of definitions. In this context there is a disconcerting lack of quantification in many reports, and a wealth of description.

With very few exceptions, institutions tend to make access to information on natural resources difficult. There is no real understanding of the public interest in creating channels to facilitate accesses to databases. Additionally, information is located within a great number of institutions. Disappointingly, some reports presented by countries whose NAPs are operational, show little evidence of indicator development, resulting in a low level of assessment – and negligible monitoring. Without these components in place, it is impossible to measure progress. There are many declarations on the importance of indicator, monitoring and assessment issues but few concrete actions.

Land degradation is realistically considered not merely as an ecological threat, but as a detrimental contributor to social and economic development. Nevertheless the linkage between biophysical, socio-economic and cultural knowledge on the one hand an activity to combat land degradation on the other is not reflected in national reports. The differing assessment methodology of this process in different countries is not shown clearly.

Reports tend to refer only to positive aspects of the implementation of the Convention. Reading them, one has the impression that everything is going very well. Rarely do they make an analysis of the adversities encountered. Such a diagnosis could be very useful in looking for strategies to face these adversities.

Many reports do not distinguish between actions implemented in the context of national policies and those developed as a consequence of the existence of the NAP. This makes an objective evaluation of the degree of commitment of governments with the UNCCD Convention difficult.

Main Positive Aspects

Many countries have created or adopted legislation to facilitate the implementation of the Convention. This includes specific laws or decrees aimed at regulating land use, to prevent its degradation, to protect biodiversity or to facilitate environmentally friendly production systems. This is one of the most remarkable outcomes of the UNCCD Convention.

The UNDP/GEF project “national capacity self –assessment for global environmental management” implementation has promoted linkages between the CBD, FCCC and CCD. The programme has enabled countries to elaborate and initiate implementation of the UN global conventions. Some reports mention that countries are ready to accept and to implement the European Charter for the Protection and Sustainable Management of Soil and to move towards a thematic strategy for soil protection, which has application in combating degradation.

A significant number of countries have established or identified a national coordination body for the NAP. These bodies operate in ministries or government agencies with varying political power to operate. In some cases the National coordination body is supported by a technical multidisciplinary group (a kind of CST group). This experience should be replicated in all countries.

In some countries, the NAP, or parts of it, have been included in national development strategies. Normally in these cases, there are increased possibilities to access national and stable funds for implementation. In addition, this provides political support that otherwise would be impossible to get.

Almost all countries have accessed some international funds for the implementation of some specific actions or programmes. In some cases these funds have been augmented by additional funds from national sources. This is a clear indication of the increased concern prompted by the UNCCD Convention.

Policy makers are increasingly conscious of the importance of halting land degradation, and reports reveal an increased degree of international cooperation, especially among countries of the same region. It is probable that NAPs will start to gain political support, especially in those countries with economies more opened to international markets and this will facilitate implementation of the Convention.

There are encouraging references to involvement of women and girls in programmes and their role in rehabilitation, education and decision-making processes. However, countries often fail to discuss and provide examples of some activities which are likely to be taking place – such as involvement and role of the media, and reach out to holders of traditional knowledge. Many countries are developing interactions between the NAP and the regular educational system, with aspects of sustainable land management being included in curricula.

Main Negative Aspects

Despite many countries efforts in the NCSA programme, there is a continued lack of promotion of synergies among UN conventions, and examples of real synergies are very scarce. It is probable that countries need more technical assistance to implement effective synergies by means of integrated programmes.

Reports do not show real progress in the development of public concern and awareness. With few exceptions there are no programmes to increase public concern. Institutions are rather insular and not easily accessible to users. There is some lack of public interest in biophysical information on natural resources, and it appears that socio-economic information has better channels of access.

Public participation is sporadic and non systematic, with relatively few countries reporting the establishment of regular channels of participation. Occasional workshops (national and local) are conducted, but feedback to end users is not stressed. This may provide disincentives to participation in the long term.

Remediation has still more priority than prevention. It is likely that there is an imbalance between these two dimensions. It appears that it is more difficult for countries to prevent a problem than to remediate it.

There is an almost total lack of economic evaluation of land degradation and cost/benefit analyses of actions to prevent and to mitigate land degradation. Figures would be very useful to convince policy makers.

Very often actions are more oriented to tackle symptoms than the causes of desertification.

Recommendations:

1. Provide mechanisms to facilitate indicator development and use.
2. Capacity building from a variety of perspectives is needed.
3. Improve capacity to work with early warning systems and monitoring systems.
4. Improve institutional articulation and coordination and provide assistance in developing synergies between and among conventions and convention-implementing bodies.
5. Translate traditional knowledge into scientific understanding.
6. In the future, two sets of criteria for reviewing country reports would be appropriate – to reflect the differences in reporting requirements between countries at varying stages of the implementation process.

Conclusions:

1. We need to understand whether or not the measures we are implementing are having their intended effect.

2. Science and technology is critical to our ability to understand both the phenomena themselves and our efforts to affect them.
3. We need to guide the “help guides” so that the results can be compared and evaluated.
4. The countries have made a tremendous contribution toward their (and our) understanding of the phenomena.
5. We need to change our paradigm from reactivity and rehabilitation (which are, of course, in themselves highly desirable) to include proactivity and preventive mechanisms or action.
6. The bottom line is that indicators are not being developed rapidly enough, with the result that we are lacking measures of success and of programmatic effectiveness.
7. Science must connect with the people who are affected, not just with other scientists during meetings.
