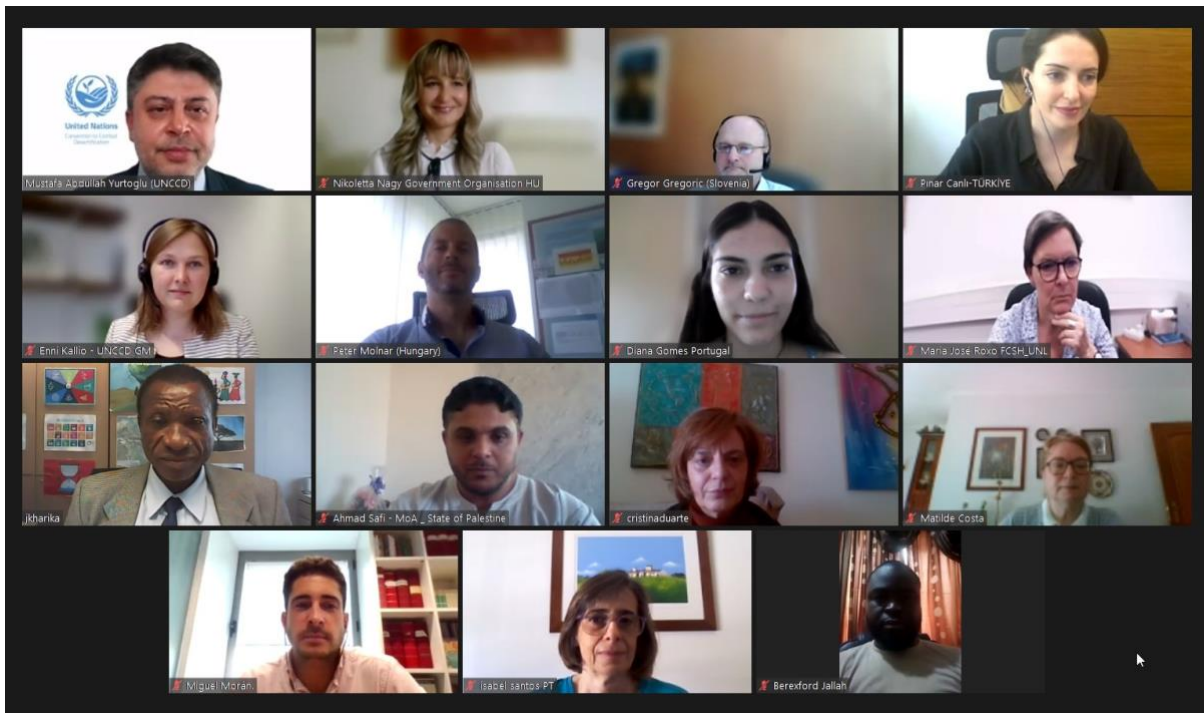


2023 Desertification and Drought Day

ANNEX IV Online Event

“Her Land. Her Rights”

22 June 2023 Thursday | Online | 13:00-15:00 CEST



Hungary as Chair of Annex IV Northern Mediterranean Region expressed their willingness to organize a virtual event with the administrative and technical support of UNCCD for 2023 Desertification and Drought Day.

The online event, aligned with the global campaign "Her Land, Her Rights," has provided participants with an opportunity to enhance their capacities in combating Desertification, Land Degradation, and Drought (DLDD) while highlighting the crucial role of women in land-related issues and sustainable land management.

Throughout the event, panelists also delved into the pressing challenges posed by DLDD, particularly in the face of intensified dry spells that have impacted both Northern Mediterranean region and the world. The presentations and discussions have offered invaluable insights into innovative approaches, regional and national experiences, and best practices. The panelists have shared their expertise, shedding light on diverse perspectives under these presentations:

UNCCD- Ms. Enni Kallio "Land Tenure and Gender in the Context of the UNCCD Global Mechanism's Mandate and Work" laid a solid foundation for understanding the intricate relationship between land tenure, gender equality, and sustainable land management. By recognizing women's rights to land and empowering them as key stakeholders, to pave the way for more equitable and resilient societies.

TURKIYE – Ms. Pinar Canli "LDN Upper Sakarya Basin Project and Women-Based Activities" exemplified how localized initiatives can make a profound impact on land degradation neutrality. Through the active involvement of women in sustainable land management activities, the positive transformations that can be achieved at the community level, fostering economic empowerment and environmental conservation.

PORTUGAL- Ms. Susana Viseu "Network of Guardians of Nature and Sustainable Development of the Rural World" exemplified the power of community engagement and collective action. By mobilizing local communities, including women, as custodians of nature and advocates for sustainable development, we can drive positive change and address the complex challenges of DLDD.

PORTUGAL- Ms. Diana Gomes "Portuguese Women Farmers in the Inner Territories - MAIs Project" showcased the remarkable resilience and determination of women in rural areas. By empowering these women through targeted support and capacity-building, we witnessed their contributions to sustainable agriculture, rural development, and the preservation of cultural heritage.

Finally, SLOVENIA- Mr. Gregor Gregoric "Tackling drought in Europe: an example of Slovenia" highlighted the importance of integrated and holistic approaches in managing drought. Through effective governance, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement, Slovenia has demonstrated that proactive measures can mitigate the impacts of drought and ensure the sustainable use of water resources.

These presentations and discussions have reinforced the significance of women's participation in land-related issues and sustainable land management. It's recognized that women are not just victims of DLDD; they are agents of change, knowledge bearers, and innovators who possess invaluable insights and solutions. It is imperative that we foster an inclusive and enabling environment that empowers women to actively contribute to sustainable development.