



IUCN – UNCCD Plan of Action Workshop 13-14th July 2011, Gland Meeting Report¹

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1. Background

The two-day technical workshop bringing together staff from the UNCCD Secretariat as well as IUCN at IUCN headquarters in Gland to generate a comprehensive plan of action presented the result of a recently increasing number of communications between both organizations.

Over the last two years, UNCCD Executive Secretary Luc Gnacadja and IUCN Director General Julia Marton-Lefèvre have been strengthening the common work of both their institutions with respect to sustainable development in dryland ecosystems as well as the achievement of synergy action within the Rio conventions. In February 2011, Luc Gnacadja sent a formal letter to Julia Marton-Lefèvre to outline possible opportunities for cooperation in forthcoming international meetings as well as joint activities (see official letters under Annex D). The idea of a common programmatic approach to addressing issues of drylands and desertification was consolidated by a meeting between IUCN and UNCCD staff later that month during the UNCCD CRIC9 conference in Bonn (see meeting report under Annex D). Moreover, the dialogue between IUCN and the UNCCD Secretariat was strengthened further through an official visit of Julia Marton-Lefèvre to Bonn and the UNCCD Secretariat in April 2011, where ideas on high-level policy processes and collaboration possibilities were exchanged.

¹ Prepared by Lara Fleischer and Gonzalo Oviedo (IUCN Social Policy), with inputs from workshop participants.

Whereas the guiding principle for all UNCCD actions is the 10-Year Strategic Programme adopted by Parties through Decision 3 of COP8, IUCN recently launched its Global Drylands Initiative, hosted under the Ecosystem Management Program and out-posted to IUCN ESARO in Nairobi, with Jonathan Davies as coordinator. The decision to proceed with this Initiative was taken at the SMAT in Dakar, February 2011. The Initiative is currently proceeding as a Programme of Work – built around the delivery of a number of global projects and guided by a draft strategy developed in 2009 (see documents on the drylands draft strategy and the Drylands Initiative under Annex C). The Drylands Initiative will harness IUCN's extensive expertise of working in drylands, and also strongly focus on the UNCCD 10-Year Strategy. It thus represented an excellent opportunity to enhance and strengthen the cooperation with the UNCCD and formed the basis for convening the plan of action retreat.

2. Highlights from the Discussion

Based on the workshop objectives to update participants on the status and framework of the IUCN Drylands Initiative as well as the UNCCD Strategy, to produce concrete results to feed into a collaborative plan of action, as well as to identify a suitable coordination mechanism between IUCN and the UNCCD, a number of relevant cooperation opportunities ranging from emerging global policy opportunities to national stakeholder issues and promotion of synergies with other Rio conventions were discussed (see agenda under Annex A).

Both organizations agreed that it would be most realistic to focus on a few key collaborative actions for the plan of action. Ideally, those joint actions should highlight the added value of both institutions and, for resource mobilization and practicality reasons, include already ongoing activities and projects which can be brought together under a 'drylands umbrella'. At the same time, the motivation to produce a coherent strategy instead of a rather loose and unrelated number of joint events was made clear.

After an introduction to the drylands work and mandates of both organizations (see presentations on 'IUCN Global Drylands Initiative', 'UNCCD and Gender' as well as 'The UNCCD and Global Challenges' and 'The 10 Year Strategy of the UNCCD' under Annex C), the first day and the morning of the second workshop day consisted of a general introduction and brainstorming of all possible areas and events of joint interest.

During this discussion, several themes emerged as areas of common interest with high cooperation potential. Please note that the following highlights are not supposed to cover the full range of opportunities discussed, as a more detailed list is presented in the results section of this report.

High Level DLDD Event during UN GA, Gender Lunch (20, Sept 2011, New York)

This high level event is the 3rd and final commitment of the GA to the Rio conventions, and at the same time marks the last GA before Rio+20. It represents a good opportunity to flag land degradation in and beyond drylands, create political momentum and promote convention synergies. In September, the GA decides on its yearly resolution, and this high level event can help put DLDD into perspective for this vote, e.g. the focus on the economic value of SLM should be stressed. Sergio will share the UNCCD's concept note for this event with IUCN. It was suggested that since CBD and UNFCCC were granted the same high level event in the last two years, they should be addressed for lessons learned. During the same week, the Environmental Management Group (EMG) will promote its global drylands report in New York.

UNCCD COP10, WCPA Pavilion (10-21, October 2011, Korea)

Apart from IUCN's Director General possibly making a statement at the High Level segment, the upcoming UNCCD COP10 offers a great opportunity to showcase ongoing and planned joint activities. The CBD Secretariat has organized a Rio conventions pavilion throughout the whole COP to emphasize synergies between the conventions, and WCPA has booked this pavilion for half a day to feature Protected Area events. In this context, Lorena Aguilar will present on gender and the UNCCD, and Jonathan Davies will hold a side event on drylands governance and the DFID project of IUCN.

IUCN Congress (September 2012, Republic of Korea)

The IUCN Congress offers two ways of enhancing the cooperative drylands work of the UNCCD and IUCN: On the one hand, it can serve as a learning and knowledge forum to build capacity. In this context, the UNCCD could organize an exhibition booth and organize joint sessions on drylands topics, for example on the idea of an environmental atlas of drylands. This awareness raising can in turn influence the other purpose of the IUCN Congress, namely to serve as the place for IUCN's member assembly to adopt formal resolutions which grant more importance to the Union's drylands work.

Gender (see presentation under Annex C)

Gender represents the strongest ongoing partnership area between IUCN and the UNCCD – Lorena Aguilar has assisted the UNCCD Secretariat in February to develop a Gender Policy Framework with 20 targets for gender mainstreaming, which will be launched at the Gender Luncheon at the UN GA in September and should be approved during COP10. As a result, the UNCCD Secretariat has created a gender focal point position (held by Sergio Zelaya). IUCN will continue to support the UNCCD in achieving the recognition of women as major stakeholders in policy processes through planned side events at COP10 as well as Rio+20. Furthermore, Lorena Aguilar has held a harmonization retreat in March between all Rio conventions and the GEF to develop a

common vision and roadmap on advancing gender. A concept note on this roadmap has been prepared to be shared with donors, including support of the three Secretariats and implementation of gender reporting systems at the national level, as well as IUCN's continuous role as scientific and technical advisor.

Economics of Drylands

The economics of dryland ecosystems appeared as emerging issues with increasing significance at several entry points for collaboration. First of all, the 2nd UNCCD Scientific Conference in 2012 (exact date tbd) will take place under the theme "Economic Assessment of Desertification, sustainable land management and resilience of arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas". The conference is supposed to generate state of the art scientific outcomes and policy recommendations for the next UNCCD COP, and IUCN could possibly take on a stream at the event. The Global Risk Forum (GRF) Davos has been nominated as lead organization for the 2nd Scientific Conference, and a meeting between GRF and Edmund Barrow as well as Jonathan Davies took place the day after this Plan of Action workshop. Both UNCCD and GRF have proposed to nominate Jonathan Davies for the Scientific Technical Advisory Group as first step, and IUCN has expressed its interest to be involved in this conference as much as possible. A second entry point for the economic valuation of drylands is the "Economics of desertification, land degradation and drought" (e-dldd) initiative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the European Commission. Although this global study on the cost of action vs. cost of inaction with regards to land degradation is not hosted by the UNCCD, its theme is obviously linked to the 2nd Scientific Conference as well as the mission of the Secretariat. From the 1st of August, the German government has employed a responsible person to lead the e-dldd initiative full time and the UNCCD will bring IUCN in touch as partner. Furthermore, Nathalie Olsen from IUCN's Economics Programme pointed to the fact that economic elements have gained increasing recognition in all three Rio conventions and thus present an opportunity for creating synergies. IUCN is already working with the CBD on economic valuation capacity building and integrating economic incentives by attaching two-day trainings to the CBD's regional revision workshops. Those trainings are funded by a Geneva-based energy company, and a similar model might be of interest to the UNCCD if money can be raised. This would at the same time contribute to the goal of capacity building at the national level as well as Rio convention synergies. Lastly, private sector engagement with the UNCCD convention is another issue of growing importance: The UNCCD will hold a business forum at the upcoming COP10 (see leaflet under Annex C) which is going to target 50-100 businesses with a special focus on Asia and address CSR, the impact of business on land as well as the value of ecosystems to encourage business led SLM and DLDD initiatives, and land as cornerstone of the green economy with

regards to Rio+20. In the medium-term, this business forum hopes to develop into a similar mechanism as the CBD business and biodiversity platform, and could build the basis for cooperation with IUCN's Business and Biodiversity Programme.

Communication and Awareness Raising

Besides communication as potential tool for synergic action between the Rio conventions, Yukie Hori presented several UNCCD awareness raising events and initiatives which she proposed IUCN to join (see presentation "The UNCCD Comprehensive Communication Strategy CCS" under Annex C). These include Land Day (partnerships, panelists, key-note speakers), the Land for Life Award (launch at COP10, current partners are the Korean and German government, IUCN could also become a long-term partner and for example join the jury board of this award with its extensive network of scientists), World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June (joint publicity), and Rio Convention Pavilion events at both UNCCD COP10 and Rio+20. More concretely, IUCN will be shortly formally invited to join the Inter-Agency Taskforce on the UN Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification 2010-2020 (see UNDDD presentation under Annex C). Yukie Hori clarified that most participation in communication events, including the UNDDD, do not imply additional IUCN activities and resources, but for example can be achieved by placing the UNCCD logo on ongoing relevant IUCN publications.

Drylands and Protected Areas

The discussion between both organizations identified a clear need to increase the percentage of drylands in Protected Areas – although 40% of the world of global land area is considered dryland, only 26% of Protected Areas are in drylands. The 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress will focus on several issues relevant to improved drylands management, such as ecosystem-based approaches to climate change, improving management effectiveness and governance, and restoration. It thus presents an opportunity for the UNCCD to mobilize parties on establishing Protected Areas in drylands, for example through an exhibition booth, joint presentations with IUCN, and showcasing the results of the midterm review strategy of the 10-Year Strategy. In case IUCN and the UNCCD want to publish a joint position paper for the World Parks Congress, this should be done about 12 – 18 months in advance.

Drylands Governance

Governance and land rights remain topics which have not been raised in the UNCCD Secretariat due to its mandate, but which critically demand a resolution for the success of any kind of ecosystem and traditional knowledge interventions in drylands. IUCN through its unique membership structure and the focus of the Drylands Initiative has the potential to identify intervention opportunities at the national level to raise awareness on how governance determines the integrity of ecosystems as well as the livelihoods of the drylands populations. Furthermore, IUCN is strongly committing to governance and

rights to nature in its next intersessional programme 2013-2016, another entry point to strongly work in the drylands.

Drylands and the Millennium Development Goals

Facing the 2015 deadline of achieving the MDGs, it is clear that most of the targets will not be met globally – and even less so in drylands, partly due to their marginalization as well as a general misunderstanding of their unique ecology. However, this predicted failure of meeting the MDG goals presents at the same a huge opportunity to bring attention to the drylands and lobby for more and better investment before 2015. To achieve this, IUCN and the UNCCD could work on a coordinated approach to assess MDG 7 “Ensure environmental sustainability” with a focused view on drylands and their specificities. The relevance of this exercise can clearly be recognized by looking at three of the indicators of MDG 7 (proportion of land area covered by forests, land area protected to maintain biological diversity, proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source) and their direct relation to the challenges dryland ecosystems and their inhabitants face.

Civil Society Organization Participation in the UNCCD Process

Another important area of possible joint cooperation between IUCN and the UNCCD Secretariat pertains to the persistence of underrepresentation of CSOs in the UNCCD decision making process. IUCN with its large network of CSO members is in a potential broker position to advocate the convention and facilitate participation among its members. The UNCCD has already fixed in its official work plan that it would like to work with IUCN as partner on CSO participation, and is looking for the development of suitable tools and mechanisms in cooperation with IUCN to achieve this goal. In the course of the workshop, a more concrete idea for increasing representation of dryland user groups, including CSOs was developed (see Results Section B “National and Regional Stakeholder Issues”). Furthermore, the discussion highlighted the distinction between CSOs and Indigenous Peoples, which are not yet recognized as separate stakeholder group. However, with women as well as business recently breaking away as unique groups, the timing might be ripe to promote the same movement for Indigenous Peoples. Suggested ways of dealing specifically with Indigenous Peoples were to create a distinct participation mechanism for them, as the CBD has done, to engage with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and to hold pastoralism gatherings at the COPs (which has been facilitated by IUCN in the past).

3. Results

After the general brainstorming, the participants then prioritized key joint activities, including concrete actions, timelines and responsible persons in concentrated group work around the three overarching themes ‘emerging opportunities in global policy’, ‘national and regional stakeholder issues’ and ‘strategic synergies on the national level’, In this process, three detailed sheets to feed into and built the basic structure of the plan of action were produced.

a) Emerging Opportunities in Global Policy

(Overall aim: recognition of ecosystems management as nature-based solution, for IUCN to provide guidance for natural solutions)

Expected accomplishment (objective)	Action	Milestones (indicators?)	Lead institution/person	Supported by (including funding)	Timeline for completion
Feature drylands in the forests, climate change and biodiversity restoration agenda	UNCCD to participate in the meeting/exhibition esp. on the issue of restoration in drylands	“Bonn Challenge” High-level meeting Germany-IUCN, Bonn (1 and 2 Sep 2011)	IUCN	Gov of Germany UNCCD	
Engage countries/political commitment in the implementation of the UNCCD policy framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (Joint) statement - Ministerial luncheon on Gender 	GA HL New York (20 Sep 2011)	UNCCD/IUCN	CBD	
Awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Side events at the Rio Pavilion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WCPA - Drylands governance - Gender strategy (2) IUCN DG to make a statement at the HL segment 	UNCCD COP10 (10-21 Oct 2011)	IUCN/UNCCD		
Awareness raising, give recognition to SLM practice on the ground	Invite IUCN to partner in Land for Life Award	Launch of the Award UNCCD COP10 (10-21 Oct 2011)	UNCCD	IUCN/Drylands Initiative	
	Coordinated position on water scarcity and droughts	Nexus Meeting: Food water energy security, Bonn (21 Nov 2011)	UNCCD/IUCN	Germany	
Awareness raising on the Rio Conventions synergies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint events/session/etc. on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drylands (Topic: Environmental atlas of drylands?) - Synergies and REDD+ 	UNFCCC COP17, Durban (Dec 2011)	UNCCD/IUCN		
Address drylands issues in other Conventions processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key-note speaker - Joint organization of a session 	Land Day 5, 6 (Dates tbd)	UNCCD	IUCN	tbd

	Coordinated position on water scarcity and droughts	World Water Forum (March 2012)	UNCCD/IUCN		
(1) Highlight the relevance on drylands in the context of green economy and governance (2) Raise awareness on the Rio Conventions synergies	Joint activity at the Rio Conventions Pavilion/side events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender coordination - Green economy and governance in the context of drylands (energy and water) - IUCN inputs to the joint statement by 3 Executive Secretaries 	Rio+20 (June 2012)	UNCCD/IUCN		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint events/session/etc. on drylands (Topic: Environmental atlas of drylands) - UNCCD Exhibitions 	IUCN Congress (Sep 2012) Jeju, ROK	UNCCD	IUCN/Drylands Initiative	End Oct Proposal deadline
	Rio Conventions Pavilion/side events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint event on environmental atlas, joint brief paper, etc. on the Aichi biodiversity targets 11, 12, 15, 16, 18) 	CBD COP11 India (2011)	IUCN	UNCCD	
Improvement of the UNCCD reporting process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide technical advice to the reporting guidelines - Supporting countries on reporting - Joint side events? 	UNCCD CRIC/CST (Date tbd)	IUCN	UNCCD	
	Support scientific advisory group, working groups in cooperation with GRF	2 nd Scientific Conference (Date tbd)	IUCN	UNCCD	
IUCN to put forward drylands agenda in IPBES scientific board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNCCD's input (drylands, synergy) to IUCN's preparation for interventions of CSO - Scientific meeting board to identify the IPBES scientific agenda 	IPBES (October 2011)	UNCCD	IUCN	March 2012 (Work Plan)
Awareness raising	Invite IUCN to be a member of UNDDD IATF	ASAP	UNCCD	IUCN	
Advocacy for policy advocacy on drylands forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IUCN's technical backstopping on advocacy for policy framework on drylands forests - Joint proposals on countries with low forest cover, drylands forests/ restoration 	UNFF 10 (2013)	UNCCD/IUCN	ICRAF	
Awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Messages - Joint events - Production of joint promotion materials 	World day to Combat Desertification (17 June every year)	UNCCD	IUCN	

Policy intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNCCD to mobilize countries on PAs in drylands - Joint presentation - UNCCD Exhibition 	World Parks Congress (2014)	UNCCD	IUCN/WCPA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinated approach to the review of Goal 7 	MDG (2015)	UNCCD/IUCN		
Advocacy on policies Awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interventions on drylands issues (possible resolutions) - UNCCD Exhibition 	Species Congress (2015)	IUCN		

b) National and Regional Stakeholder Issues

GOAL	Action	Milestones (indicators?)	Lead institution/person	Supported by (person)	Timeline for completion
Development of capacity for increased dryland user representation (piloted in at least 1 country)	<p>Increase representivity in at least 1 Country:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify dryland users 2. Identify accredited Civil Society Organisation (CSO) 3. Identify national authorities involved in drylands 4. Capacity of assessment of national authorities to ensure representation 5. Capacity assessment of dryland users to be the representatives for their user group 6. Identify existing structures and processes for representation that can be used (policy structures) to strengthen the process 7. Identify and document good practices on dryland user involvement in national processes 8. Identify and document evidence of the benefits of dryland user group involvement in national processes 9. Influence and contribute to draft decision in COP 2013 to welcome progress /guidance , encouraging the international donor community to support increased representation in national programming processes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNCCD COP10 October 2011, in Korea (IUCN and UNCCD to meet) concept note drafted 2. Donor interest identified 3. Agreement with pilot countries 4. Guidance ready for COP 2013 	IUCN- Jonathan Davis	Concept note help from Louise Baker UNCCD – Richard Cox (UNCCD capacity building officer)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concept Note for donors – October 2011 2. Guidance on drylands practice by 2013 3. Draft decision for COP 2013 to recognise importance of broad civil society representivity to implement UNCCD- examples, partnerships and request for support from international donor community

c) Strategic Synergies (National Level)

Expected accomplishment	Action	Milestones (indicators?)	Lead institutio	Resources	Timeline for
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(objective)			n/person		completion
GPF approved Harmonisation process in place	<p><u>Current actions:</u> Negotiation Side event</p> <p>Approval concept note</p> <p>Fundraising</p> <p><u>Proposed actions:</u> Gender publication by 3 conventions Event in Rio +20</p>	<p>GPF in place/CoP decision</p> <p>USD 3m for harmonisation process through IUCN over 3 yrs</p> <p>Decision-makers are aware of importance of gender in the env sector</p> <p>Declaration Rio+20 is gender responsive</p>	<p>IUCN/ UNCCD</p> <p>IUCN/ GFP/ Conventions/GEF</p>	<p>In place (Finland, CIDA, Swe)</p> <p>?</p>	<p>Oct 2011</p> <p>January 2012</p>
Dryland biod is effectively safeguarded and supporting livelihoods/sustainable	<p><u>Current actions:</u> IUCN support to PA systems (guidelines, good practice) Red List for ES Natural Solutions – ES based approaches Legal/policy conceptual devt on mechanisms for adaptation and connectivity Red List Species NBSAPs National/regional Red Lists</p> <p><u>Proposed actions:</u> 1.To integrate UNCCD Secretariat into TF to develop BD responses to CC 2.Natural solns – contributing to SLM and helping communities adapt to CC in dryland systems a. Pavillion side event b. Booklet for CoP c. Expanded publication for drylands ES 3. Link CCD Sec to IUCN members for increasing awareness 4. Integrate CCD Sec with new Sust Use Specialist Group</p>	<p>1.UNCCD receives technical outputs from TF (taskforce between SSC and CEESP already existing) 2. a. Side event during UNCCD CoP10 b. Publication distributed during CoP c. Publication release WCC 3. CCD Sec distributes media to IUCN members on demand 4. UNCCD receives technical outputs from TF Input to Scientific Conf of CCD</p>	<p>SSC</p> <p>2a and b. WCPA</p> <p>2c.WCPA/ UNCCD</p> <p>3.IUCN</p> <p>4.IUCN/ UNCCD</p>	<p>None required</p> <p>1. none required</p> <p>2a and b. none required</p> <p>2c. USD30k needed</p> <p>3. none required</p> <p>4.none required</p>	<p>2012 ongoing</p> <p>2a and b. Oct 2011</p> <p>Sept 2012</p> <p>2012 ongoing</p> <p>April 2012-ongoing</p>
Economic value of dryland BD is represented in UNCCD Science Conf and deliberations	IUCN to be appointed as member to the Scientific and Technical Advisory (STAG)	IUCN a member of UNCCD STAG	UNCCD (Sergio!)	None required	July 2011
	Produce case studies demonstrating values of dryland ES	Publication and presentation of case studies during conference	IUCN (Jon and Nathalie)	publication cost shared with UNCCD	2011-2012
	IUCN to provide inputs to UNCCD white papers	IUCN inputs included in white papers	IUCN/ UNCCD	Staff-time and travel	2011 and 2012

				costs	
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4. Follow-up Actions

A number of next steps were identified to follow-up on the workshop outputs and turn them into a plan of action which can form the basis for collaboration between IUCN and the UNCCD:

1. The official focal points for coordinating and implementing the plan of action are **Sergio Zelaya** from UNCCD and **Jonathan Davies** from IUCN. Their next expected task would be to lead the preparation of the plan of action.
2. The potential contributions of IUCN's Programmes and Commissions need to be mapped around the above produced templates, and responsible people need to be identified for each action. A matrix for this mapping exercise will be prepared by the Social Policy Unit, to be followed up and completed by Edmund Barrow and Jonathan Davies.
3. Additional people should be identified and added internally from each organization to form a task force later on.
4. Periodic reporting from Sergio and Jonathan will be expected every six months to revisit the agreed activities, assess progress made and report back to the constituencies. The first follow-up meeting after this workshop will be January 2012 either in Bonn or via video conference.
5. Based on IUCN's internal mapping with its Secretariat, Programmes and Commissions and the subsequent action plan, such Programms and Commissions will be expected to include the relevant results in their component program plans for the next intersessional period 2013-2016, **due 15th December 2011**.
6. Similarly, the UNCCD Secretariat will include the agreed action plan in its upcoming workplan.

Proposed timelines:

BENCHMARK	TO BE COMPLETED BY
• Internal mapping in IUCN	• 1st week of September 2011
• Draft joint action plan completed	• 3rd week of September 2011
• Consultation with constituencies on the action plan	• 2nd week of October 2011
• Finalization of the joint action plan	• 1st week of November 2011
• Revision of IUCN's and the UNCCD's institutional work plans to include the joint action plan	• 4th week of November 2011

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- Formal report to IUCN's Director General and the UNCCD's Executive Secretary on the final action plan and related arrangements for its approval

- *4th week of December 2011*

- First follow-up meeting between Sergio and Jonathan on operationalization of the action plan

- *January 2012*
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ANNEXES

A) Agenda

Wednesday 13 th July	IUCN-UNCCD WORKSHOP	
12.30 – 14.00	Joint Lunch	
14.00 – 14.05	I. Official Welcome and Opening of the Workshop	UNCCD Sergio IUCN Stewart
14.05	1. Introduction	IUCN Edmund
14.10	2. Objectives	IUCN Edmund
14.15	3. Approval of the agenda	IUCN Edmund
14.20 – 14.55	II. Background information: 4. UNCCD presentation of 10-Year Strategy 5. Presentation of IUCN's work on UNCCD-related issues, including gender, and the Drylands Initiative	UNCCD Sergio, Satu IUCN Jonathan, Lorena
14.55 - 15.05	6. General exchange, Q&A	IUCN Edmund
15.05 - 15.15	Coffee Break	
15.15 - 16.05	III. Technical and Policy Discussions: Emerging Opportunities (from now until end of 2012) <u>2011, Joint actions and their resources:</u> 7. International Year on Forests 2011 8. High level DLDD event during UN GA, Gender Lunch (20, Sept 2011) 9. UNCCD COP10, including Business Forum (October 2011) <u>2012, Joint actions and their resources:</u> 10. Year for Sustainable Energy for All 2012 11. 2nd UNCCD Scientific Conference on economics (mid-2012) 12. Land Day 5 (June 2012) 13. Rio 2012 (June 2012) 14. Land for Life Award 15. IUCN Congress (Sept 2012)	IUCN Constanza UNCCD Sergio UNCCD Sergio IUCN Lorena UNCCD Louise, Satu IUCN Jonathan UNCCD Satu UNCCD Yukie IUCN Constanza UNCCD Yukie IUCN Constanza
16.05 – 16:15	16. Synergies: UN Decade for Deserts and the fight against Desertification and UN Decade on Biodiversity	UNCCD Yukie IUCN Josphine
16:15 – 16:45	17. Special global studies /assessments: • e-DLDD: The economics of drylands • 2015: Assessing the MDGs achievements in drylands • Other opportunities in global policy processes	UNCCD Satu IUCN Jonathan
19:00	Joint Dinner	

Thursday 14 th July		
8:30 - 10:30	IV. Technical Issues and National Implementation (national/regional level focus)	UNCCD Sergio IUCN Stewart
8.30 – 9.15	IV-A. Stakeholder issues 18. Issues at national level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Focal Points: Capacity building (NAPs implementation / alignment, reporting, etc.) Gender policy and planning Engagement of civil society organizations; business sector Drylands governance, management, and land rights 19. Stakeholder issues at regional level 20. Knowledge management and best practices	UNCCD Sergio UNCCD Sergio IUCN Lorena UNCCD Sergio, Louise IUCN Jonathan UNCCD Sergio IUCN Gonzalo UNCCD Sergio UNCCD Satu
9.15 – 9.45	IV-B. Promotion of synergies to address DLDD and improve livelihoods 21. Synergies with other Rio Conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBD COP11 (October 2012), CBD and drylands biodiversity at the national level UNFCCC and dryland issues, including Land and dry forests in REDD+ 22. Harmonization of gender processes among the conventions	IUCN Josephine, Sonia IUCN Stewart UNCCD Sergio IUCN Lorena
9.45-10.00	Communication Strategy (UNCCD and IUCN)	UNCCD Yukie IUCN Jonathan
10.00-10.15	V. Additional collaboration possibilities on technical issues and national implementation: resource mobilization brainstorming#	All participants
10.15-10.30	Coffee Break	
10.30 – 13.00	VI. Group Work on 3 sections to produce priorities and recommendations for the Plan of Action: 1. Emerging opportunities in global policy, 2. National and regional stakeholder issues, 3. Strategic synergies	All participants

13.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00 - 15.00	VII. Wrap-up discussion, coordination mechanism and deadlines#	UNCCD Sergio IUCN Stewart
15.00	Closing of Workshop	UNCCD Sergio IUCN Stewart

B) Participants List

UNCCD

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Zelaya, Sergio A.	Coordinator Policy for Advocacy on Global, Emerging Issues and Platforms (PAGI) Unit; gender focal point of the UNCCCD	szelaya@unccd.int

IUCN

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C) List of Inputs

The following documents are uploaded on the IUCN Knowledge Network under [doc/Drylands/UNCCD/](#):

- Presentations

- a) The UNCCD and Global Challenges (Sergio Zelaya, UNCCD)
- b) The 10 Year Strategy of the UNCCD (Ratu Satu, UNCCD)
- c) The UNCCD Comprehensive Communication Strategy CCS (Yukie Hori, UNCCD)
- d) United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification UNDDD (Yukie Hori, UNCCD)
- e) IUCN Global Drylands Initiative (Jonathan Davies, IUCN)
- f) Gender and UNCCD (Lorena Aguilar, IUCN)

- Informational Documents

- a) The UNCCD in Brief
- b) The UNCCD Strategy Leaflet
- c) IUCN Involvement with the Civil Society Organizations in the UNCCD
- d) Note on the PRAIS Reporting Mechanism
- e) Planned Priorities of the UNCCD Secretariat for 2012-2015
- f) SLM Business Forum Concept Note
- g) Mission Brief on the NAP Alignment Process
- h) UNCCD Mission Files 2011: Bullet Points on Action Programme Alignment
- i) UNCCD Mission File on Capacity Building
- j) UNCCD Draft Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender
- k) Draft IUCN Drylands Strategy

- Pictures

- a) Flipcharts and Notes
- b) Participants

D) Prior Communications between IUCN and UNCCD

- *Copy of Luc Gnacadja's letter to Julia Marton- Lefèvre*

SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION
SECRETARIAT DE LA CONVENTION SUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA DESERTIFICATION



Date: 4 February
2011 Ref:
NIK/ft/2011 Cc:
lg,mnd,nik,mb

Dear Julia,

It was a great pleasure seeing you yesterday at our common CPF High-Level Dialogue and to have a brief exchange on our common effort to address challenges facing dry land populations and their ecosystems. I am therefore grateful to you and to Ashok for increasingly focusing on those issues thus allowing for opportunities to develop and implement joint activities. I wish I could participate to the IUCN Council scheduled to take place in Gland from 23 to 25 May 2011, but scheduling conflict makes it impossible as I will be in Buenos-Aires to attend the COP Bureau meeting during the same period

Nevertheless and upon your advice, I will be pleased to visit you in Gland and look forward to considering options and opportunities to address the IUCN Council as well as to further discuss with you and the team of IUCN secretariat. I suggest that early March 2011 we organize a meeting in Gland at working level for our staff to work out on avenues for joint activities.

In this respect, allow me to outline my ideas which are based on the exchanges we had in Nagoya as well as other meetings and previous joint work between the two entities.

Opportunities for cooperation in forthcoming international meetings

- 1 The International Year on Forests, highlighting dryland forests, which are crucial for livelihoods and ecosystem adaptation and resilience.
- 2 The high level event on DLDD in the context of sustainable development and poverty alleviation to be held in New York one day before the GA session, i.e., on 20 September 2011.
- 3 We will be organizing a Business forum beginning from UNCCD COP-10 to be held in South Korea in Oct 2011. IUCN can assist in organizing them; we could start exchanging views on this year's forum.
 - 1 I propose that for the next Land Day, Ashok could participate as a keynote speaker.
 - 2 The UN Decade on Desertification and the UN Decade on biodiversity are related and common approaches could be identified.
 - 3 The Rio+20 meeting scheduled for May 2012. Can we together highlight biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation in drylands, perhaps with concrete successful cases at country level?
 - 4 UNCCD generally organizes events at meetings of CBD, UNFCCC and others; these can offer important opportunities for showcasing the several aspects of the partnership and joint action between UNCCD and IUCN. I am grateful that at least three staff from IUCN will be attending CRIC

9 in Bonn.

Possible joint-activities

8. On Gender: First, great progress has been achieved on this and will continue during 2011. The joint effort of this partnership aims at the development of a gender policy framework and action strategy for the UNCCD. A concept approach, ToR and the agenda for the organization of a workshop in Bonn have been scheduled and are ongoing. This issue needs additional resource mobilization efforts for implementation that we could do together;

9. Promotion of synergies to address desertification/land degradation and improve livelihoods: We could follow-up to previous discussions held in Copenhagen that have resulted in a concept proposal by IUCN in support of UNCCD, CBD, UNFF, and other land-related initiatives.

10. Drylands biodiversity. We can also seize the opportunity to jointly implement the CBD COP10 decisions that are related to drylands; we have advanced a list of common issues with CBD, currently being discussed at the technical level.

11. Land/Soil and dry forests in REDD+: We could engage in a coordinated approach in the context of REDD+ in relation to tropical dry forests and countries with low forest cover; CPF offers a great opportunity for multilateral coordination. In addition bilaterally some aspects could be developed;

12. On Climate Change Adaptation: Contribution to the global discussion on agro-forestry and climate smart agriculture in drylands can be further developed within a business oriented approach, building on previous research of IUCN on the opportunities that drylands offer.

13. Communication: I commend the support of IUCN to John Liu. We could joint force to advance on the dry lands portion within the ongoing initiative for communication, education and awareness raising ("In search of Sustainability" and "Visual Ecological Database"). For instance John could make one film episode on desertification for the World Day to Combat Desertification on 17 June as part of his series. The slogan of this year is "**Forests keep dry lands working**".

The above-mentioned opportunities and suggestions could be consolidated in a comprehensive UNCCD-IUCN partnership and joint programme of work to possibly be part of the IUCN Dry lands Initiative.

Given the importance of this proposed joint work, we shall pursue our consultations to make it implementable and mobilize required resources in this respect.

I look forward to strengthening our partnership.

Sincerely,

Luc Gnacadja

Executive Secretary

- *Copy of Julia Marton- Lefèvre 's reply to Luc Gnacadja*



Mr. Luc Gnacadja
Executive Secretary
UNCCD
P.O. Box 260129
D- 53153
Bonn
Germany

31 March 2011

Dear Luc,

I received your letter of 4 February with great pleasure and welcome your proposed opportunities for cooperation and joint activities between the UNCCD Secretariat and IUCN. I would like to assure you that IUCN is extremely interested in strengthening the cooperation with you through consolidating those ideas into a concrete and comprehensive UNCCD-IUCN partnership. Our commitment to jointly address challenges facing dry land populations and their ecosystems through combating desertification, land degradation and drought is highlighted by the fact that IUCN's newly launched Global Drylands Initiative will focus on your convention and thus represent the framework for our collaboration.

I am also delighted to inform you that during the recent UNCCD CRIC 9, which eight of my colleagues attended, a meeting between IUCN and UNCCD staff was held to discuss the areas of joint interest expressed in your letter, as were the next steps to advance our partnership. In this context, I am pleased to highlight IUCN's already successful collaboration with your Secretariat by supporting the development of UNCCD's Gender Policy Framework during a workshop held in Bonn at the end of February and through the organization of a gender harmonization retreat for the three Rio Conventions held in Costa Rica, March 2011.

During the above-mentioned CRIC9 meeting, IUCN offered its expertise in the following areas in addition to the endorsement of the already outlined opportunities:

- Knowledge management and collection of best practices, especially considering the subset of economic evaluation of sustainable drylands management, desertification, land degradation and drought;
- Capacity building, with regard to reporting impact indicators of the Convention and gender issues;
- Engagement with the Committee on Science and Technology through IUCN's involvement in the Scientific conference in 2012;
- Engagement with Civil Society Organizations;
- Drylands governance, management and land rights
- Synergies with other Rio Conventions, with the current efforts to mainstream gender issues which are supported by IUCN as an entry point;
- Consultation with IUCN Commission members to identify additional personnel for the Roster of Experts.

My staff informs me that arrangements are now well advanced for a two-day retreat at IUCN Headquarters in June, involving both UNCCD and IUCN staff to generate a concrete roadmap for the joint programmatic approach between IUCN and your Secretariat, in time to showcase progress at the UNCCD COP 10 in October 2011.

I welcome this opportunity to consolidate our partnership and believe it represents an important stepping stone to address together the pressing challenges our world's unique drylands. I look forward to hearing from you further.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Marton-Lefèvre
Director General

- ***Meeting Report IUCN- UNCCD during the UNCCD CRIC 9, 23.02.2011, Bonn***
This document can be found on the IUCN Knowledge Network under [doc/Drylands/UNCCD_Reports/](#).