



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE UNCCD DROUGHT ACTIVITIES

Virtual Exchange on the IDMP Strategy

Daniel Tsegai, UNCCD Programme Officer



UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

COP15
ABIDJAN 2022

Land. Life. Legacy.
FROM SCARCITY TO PROSPERITY

BACKGROUND

UNCCD COP14 in 2019

- Requested the Secretariat and the GM to continue with the **Drought Initiative** implementation
- Requested the GM to identify potential and innovative **financing instruments**

BACKGROUND

UNCCD COP14 in 2019

- Established an **Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG)**
 - review the existing policy, implementation, and institutional coordination frameworks, including partnerships, on **drought preparedness and response**
 - consider **options for appropriate policy, advocacy and implementation measures** at all levels for addressing drought effectively under the Convention

- Assigned the **Science-Policy Interface (SPI)** to provide science-based evidence on the assessment and monitoring of the resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems to drought

BACKGROUND

- The Secretariat, Global Mechanism and partners supported Country Parties in the implementation of a **Drought Initiative**
 - The key element in the initiative was to provide support to countries in designing comprehensive **national drought plans**. **66 countries** have completed developing national drought plans
 - Two regional projects on **drought risk management** are implemented
 - The **UNCCD Drought Toolbox** has been designed and updated with more tools
 - The GM prepared a technical report to support Parties identify **innovative financing instruments for drought**
 - **GEF supported Enabling Activity Project on Drought 2020-2023** (UNCCD/FAO) to support countries on implementation of the plans has been launched

EARLY WARNING, MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

Recognition

- **The SPI** emphasizes the importance of monitoring and assessment of resilience of ecosystems and populations vulnerable to drought and recommend that countries conduct regular assessments and monitoring of drought resilience.
- **The IWG** recognizes the importance of accessible, inclusive, effective monitoring early warning and action systems that support drought-resilient ecosystems, societies and economies.

EARLY WARNING, MONITORING & ASSESSMENT

Good Practice Guidance

The secretariat, collaborating with partners, supported the development of **Good Practice Guidance for country level drought monitoring capabilities** using a set of indicators for Objective 3 of the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework, which will be used for national reporting every four years.

Project supported by the Global Environmental Facility

The secretariat and the GM have also worked with the GEF on an enabling activity project for implementing COP decisions on drought that includes, among others, **implementation of the national drought plans and drought early warning and vulnerability assessments.**

EARLY WARNING, MONITORING & ASSESSMENT

3/3

Supporting the development of country level drought monitoring capabilities

- A special pilot initiative on “**Drought Resilience Accelerator**” to support national drought monitoring, with particular attention to improving comprehensive drought early warning systems.
 - Small number of pilot countries
 - To be implemented in collaboration with FAO, WMO & other partners

Purpose: To establish a **baseline for a state-of-the-art system to assess drought vulnerability, monitor & predict drought and project water scarcity**

DROUGHT FINANCE

Identification of potential financing instruments

- The **IWG** stocktaking and consideration of options includes **financing resources and incentives to integrated drought management**.
- The GM developed a technical report that identifies **potential public & private financing instruments and mechanisms for drought**.

DROUGHT FINANCE

Assessments on Fund and Bonds

- ✓ The GM carried out two additional **informal assessments** on
 - Feasibility & options for establishing a **Global Drought Resilience Fund**
 - Potential for issuing **Sustainable Land Bonds** which includes financing for drought.

The IWG calls for **additional technical knowledge & support to identify financing needs and opportunities for drought management** .

WHAT WE WILL BRING TO UNCCD COP15

Key IWG findings, options & recommendations

Drought Policy Documents

- ✓ Key outcomes & lessons learnt from the UNCCD **Drought Initiative**
- ✓ Experiences from the **regional projects** (SADC & Central Asia countries)
- ✓ Proposal for a **Drought Resilience Accelerator pilot initiative**

High-level Segment

“The big dry: From Drought to Resilience” - A high-level round table to discuss the way forward for a holistic approach to drought management.

WHAT WE WILL BRING TO UNCCD COP15

Drought Day at COP

- ✓ **High-level interactive sessions** (on drought policy, financing & emerging issues on drought)
- ✓ Launch of knowledge products:
 - **IWG Policy (Blue) Paper** with key highlights on the IWG deliberations
 - Publications on best practices on **Drought Risk Mitigation Measures** (with FAO & WMO)

WHAT WE WILL BRING TO UNCCD COP15

Key elements of the Draft decision on drought

- ✓ Establish accessible, inclusive, effective **monitoring, early warning and action systems**
- ✓ Urge further upgrade and knowledge sharing for the **Drought Toolbox**
- ✓ Boosting effective **financing** for the implementation of drought mitigation measures at all levels
- ✓ **Strengthen gender-responsive** national drought plans
- ✓ **Global high-level awareness** of enhancing drought resilience
- ✓ **Drought Resilience Accelerator- A special pilot initiative**
- ✓ **Communities of Learning and Practice**
- ✓ New strategic and collaborative **partnerships & Collaboration platforms**

COP15 EXPECTATIONS (INCL. IWG RECOMMENDATIONS)

- **Parties maintain their commitment** to pursue concerted policies, partnerships & implementation for drought risk mitigation at all levels.
- Multilateral, bilateral & international **financing mechanisms scale up** & facilitate effective financing for drought risk mitigation measures at all levels.
- Parties pursue **co-learning/collaborative approach** for drought risk management by exploring potential modalities for partnerships that serve as networks of experts/institutions for capacity building & knowledge exchange.

COP15 EXPECTATIONS (INCL. IWG RECOMMENDATIONS)

- The COP provides **guidance to support on accessible, inclusive & effective monitoring, early warning/action systems** that support drought-resilient ecosystems, societies & economies.
- UNCCD is **mandated to foster global high-level awareness of & commitment to enhancing drought resilience** which may include co-organization of a 10-year follow-up to the 2013 High-level Meeting on National Drought Policy.
- Overall, COP 15 will give the **impetus for a high-level political commitment to drought resilience in the post-pandemic world.**



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

COP 15
ABIDJAN 2022

Land. Life. Legacy.
FROM SCARCITY TO PROSPERITY

THANK YOU