



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



High Level Event: Women's Land Rights for Effective Restoration Efforts: Understanding Synergies, Taking Action

Location and Time

Action Zone (Blue Zone)

Friday, 6 December 2024

13:00 to 15:00

Room: MET-24 (Mini-Action Dome)

Translation: Requested

Concept

Women's land rights has increasingly been recognized by UNCCD Parties and enshrined within UNCCD decisions as a foundation for effective land restoration initiatives and achieving land degradation neutrality. Parties, the Secretariat, and partners are working to implement the landmark tenure decision adopted at COP14, the Gender Action Plan (which centers women's access to and control of land and natural resources as a key strategy), and an additional three decisions on gender-equitable tenure and land governance adopted at COP15. The UNCCD Secretariat has invested in a global campaign on women's land rights to support greater awareness of the importance of the issue of gender justice with regard to land rights and governance. This is in addition to increasing recognition across all three Rio Conventions of the crucial role women's land rights plays in achieving effective climate action and protecting biodiversity. The UNCCD Secretariat has been a leader in promoting women's land rights as a cross-cutting foundation for effective action across the three Rio Conventions, and for the past two years has co-hosted an initiative on women's land rights with the two sister Conventions (UNFCCC and CBD).

Progress on these strong commitments requires strategic coordination with the long-standing and swiftly growing global movement for women’s land rights. Implementing women’s land rights in practice requires elevating the leadership of local women leaders and their organizations (many of whom have been advocating for land rights for decades) in all relevant decision-making spaces, including centrally in UNCCD spaces and arenas relevant to their restoration agenda. Implementing women’s land rights also requires systems change, to address the social, political, financial, and technical barriers that hinder progress.

This session will present attendees with a clear overview of the strong standards set by and for UNCCD Parties; examples of effective approaches to strengthen land rights for women in all their diversity; and recommendations for stronger, more equitable and participatory, and more coordinated action and stronger resourcing to achieve gender justice related to land and natural resource rights, and within land and ecosystem restoration initiatives.

Speakers

First Panel

Name	Organization
Venge Nyirongo (Moderator)	UN Women
President Tarja Halonen (Opening Remarks)	Government of Finland
Ms. Wala Abdelmuati	The University of Khartoum
Cate Owren	United Nations Development Programme
Beth Roberts (S4HL) Frederike Klümper (TMG)	Stand for Her Land TMG Research
Tizita Abebe	PHE Ethiopia Consortium, Stand for Her Land
Valerie Hickey	World Bank

Second Panel

Name	Organization
Venge Nyirongo (moderator)	UN Women
TBC	Saudi Development Fund or Her Royal Highness Princess Lamia bint Majid Al Saud (Alwaleed Philantropies)
Gwladys Kpiele Dabire	UNDP Small Grants Programme grantee partner), Coopérative Wend Panga de Kirsi, Burkina Faso
Hannah Longole	Co-chair, RISG Eastern & Southern Africa , Stand for Her Land
Juliet Grace Luwedde	Youth Leader, UNCCD Youth Caucus

Valerie B. Ramahavalisoa	UNCCD Party Representative, Madagascar
Bhavana Desai	MARAG, ILC India Member
Maria Medina Vidal	UNCCD Gender Caucus National Representative, Spain

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