



IUCN-UNCCD Joint 2011-2014 Action Plan

Draft for comments: 23/09/2011

Preamble

IUCN staff and commission members and UNCCD secretariat staff jointly organised an Action Planning Retreat in Gland, Switzerland, from 13-14th July 2011. This two-day technical meeting was used to brainstorm opportunities for collaboration and synergy and culminated in the prioritisation of possible actions in three broad categories: strategic synergies, stakeholder engagement and emerging opportunities. This Action Plan summarises the actions that were agreed to at that meeting and provides details of dates and responsibilities. It was agreed that IUCN Programmes and Commissions will include relevant results associated with this action plan in their component program plans for the next intersessional period (2013-2016), whilst the UNCCD Secretariat will include the agreed action plan in its upcoming work plan. The action plan is organised in the following sections:

1. Emerging Opportunities in Global Policy;
2. Strategic synergies;
3. Stakeholder engagement;
4. Operationalizing the Action Plan.

1. Emerging Opportunities in Global Policy

A long list of potential opportunities and emerging themes were identified in this discussion group. Some of these actions are already planned by IUCN/UNCCD whilst others are contingent on resource mobilisation. Some events and themes are captured in subsequent sections and are not included here to avoid repetition. This section includes the following subsections:

- A. Events and initiatives in which IUCN and UNCCD will engage in collaboration;
- B. Events to which IUCN will contribute on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought;
- C. Issues on which IUCN and UNCCD will collaborate to further the DLDD agenda;
- D. Events (opportunities) contingent on resource mobilisation;
- E. Issues contingent on resource mobilisation.

A. Events and initiatives in which IUCN and UNCCD will engage in collaboration

Event	Action	Lead person
UNDDD	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNCCD to invite IUCN to join the IATF 2. IUCN to participate in IATF consultations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sergio Zelaya 2. Jonathan Davies

Land Day 5,6	1. IUCN Director General to make keynote speech	1. IUCN DG
UNCCD COP10 Korea (October 10-21, 2011)	1. Drylands governance side event 2. Gender side event, fundraising for process of harmonisation (between conventions) 3. Land for Life Award Launch 4. Presentation of Protected Areas work in the Rio Conventions Pavilion	1. Jonathan Davies 2. Lorena Aguilar 3. Yukie Hori 4. Kathy Mackinnon
World Day to Combat Desertification (June 17)	1. Preparation of webstory and media advisory	1. Jonathan Davies
UNCCD Second Science Conference	1. IUCN to be invited to join the Scientific Advisory Group 2. IUCN to participate in SAC meetings 3. Contribute case studies on economic valuation of drylands	1. Sergio Zelaya 2. Jonathan Davies 3. Jonathan Davies & Nathalie Olsen

B. Events to which IUCN will contribute on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought

Event	Action	Lead person
UNGA New York DLDD HL (September 20, 2011)	1. Gender Luncheon	1. Lorena Aguilar
Rio+20 (June 2012)	1. Incorporate drylands specifically in the green economy theme 2. Gender publications of all three conventions 3. Incorporate drylands specifically in the IUCN submissions/advocacy related to the governance theme 4. Input to the statements of all three executive secretaries 5. Contributions on a "Global Soil Instrument": Rio+20 symposium at CIDCE Limoges France	1. Nathalie Olsen 2. Lorena Aguilar 3. Gonzalo Oviedo 4. Connie Martinez/Lorena Aguilar 5. Ian Hamman
IUCN Congress (September 2012)	1. Incorporate drylands in rights and governance discussions 2. Joint IUCN-UNCCD event on DLDD and biodiversity	1. Gonzalo Oviedo 2. Yukie Hori/ Jonathan Davies

C. Issues on which IUCN and UNCCD will collaborate to further the DLDD agenda

Issue	Action	Lead person
Drylands biodiversity	1. Include drylands specifically in the Red List of Ecosystems	1. Edmund Barrow
Rio Convention Synergies	1. Continue advice on the gender harmonization process and produce joint publications from all three conventions 2. Continue advice on harmonization of Rio Convention legal frameworks and integrated mechanisms for adaptation at international and national levels.	1. Lorena Aguilar 2. John Costenbader
Economic Valuation of Drylands	1. Contribute to E-DLDD global study with existing case studies and TEEB experience, produce new research on the economic value of drylands	1. Jonathan Davies & Nathalie Olsen
Governance and	1. Produce brochure on customary governance in drylands	1. Gonzalo Oviedo

Rights	2. Produce publication on land rights in drylands	2. Jonathan Davies
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D. Events (opportunities) contingent on resource mobilisation

Event	Action	Lead person
UN Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lead biodiversity-themed year of the UN Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, in cooperation with the CBD 2. Support communication activities of all relevant programs for the UNDDD 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IUCN Species Programme 2. IUCN Communications
UNCCD CRIC/CST (2012)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support countries on reporting, give technical advice to the reporting guidelines 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jonathan Davies (joint UNCCD-IUCN proposal)
World Parks Congress (2014)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce joint publication with WCPA and UNCCD Secretariat on increasing PAs in drylands 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kathy Mackinnon and Stephen Woodley
MDGs (2015)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Input to revision of MDG 7 based on assessment of forest cover in drylands, assessment of proportion of population in drylands with access to water source, assessment of protected areas to maintain biodiversity in drylands 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal development to be led by Jonathan Davies
Species Congress (2015)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interventions and possible solutions on drylands species & possible collaborative workshop with UNCCD 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IUCN Species Programme

E. Issues contingent on resource mobilisation

Issue	Action	Lead person
Drylands biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal development for Dryland-specific red-listing, areas of important dryland BD, re-introduction and recovery of flagship arid-land species 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jonathan Davies with Species programme
Protected Areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce joint publication with the UNCCD Secretariat for the 2014 World Parks Congress on increasing the percentage of PA's in drylands 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kathy Mackinnon and Stephen Woodley
Livelihoods	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce research on the dryland contribution to food security of their populations, assess proportion of population in drylands with access to water source for revision of MDG 7 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal development to be led by Jonathan Davies
CSO Engagement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop tool to facilitate CSO participation in the UNCCD process, especially amongst IUCN members 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint IUCN-UNCCD stakeholder proposal – led by Jonathan Davies
Capacity Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate workshops on economic valuation capacity building for UNCCD National Focal Points (following CBD model) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nathalie Olsen

2. Strategic Synergies

Three priorities were identified under Strategies Synergies:

- A. Approval and harmonisation of the Gender Policy Framework (GPF);
- B. Increased safeguarding of dryland biodiversity in support of sustainable livelihoods;

Note: the working group on Strategic Synergies also proposed “Greater representation of the economic value of dryland BD in UNCCD Science Conference and deliberations”. This is already captured in action Point 1A.

A. Gender Policy Framework

Milestones include achieving a COP decision over the GPF, raising funds for the harmonisation process, raising awareness of the importance of gender in the environment sector amongst government decision makers, and ensuring that the Rio+20 declaration is gender responsive.

Specific actions and targets are:

- 1. Gender luncheon at the UN General Assembly (September 2011);
- 2. Approval of concept note and fundraising for USD3 million (January 2012);
- 3. Gender publication by 3 conventions (2012);
- 4. Event in Rio +20 (2012).

Lead person: Lorena Aguilar.

B. Safeguarding of dryland biodiversity

Agreed actions under this priority:

- 1. Maintain communication with UNCCD Secretariat from the task force to develop BD responses to climate change;
- 2. Natural solutions contributing to SLM and helping communities adapt to CC in dryland systems;
 - a. Pavilion side event;
 - b. Booklet for CoP;
 - c. Expanded publication for drylands ES;
- 3. Link CCD Sec to IUCN members for increasing awareness;
- 4. Strengthen communication with CCD Secretariat from the new Sustainable Use Specialist Group.

These activities are the responsibility of the Species Survival Commission and the World Commission on Protected Areas. To support these activities, members of the taskforce between SSC and CEESP have agreed to provide technical outputs from to the UNCCD whilst the UNCCD Secretariat has agreed to distribute media to IUCN members on demand. UNCCD will also receive technical outputs from the Sustainable Use Specialist Group, which will also provide input to UNCCD Scientific Conference.

Lead persons: Mark Stanley-Price, Kathy Mackinnon and Stephen Woodley

3. Stakeholder engagement

Under Stakeholder Engagement, IUCN and UNCCD agreed to develop one new initiative to strengthen capacity for representation of dryland users in UNCCD processes. The agreed goal was “Development of

capacity for increased dryland user representation (piloted in at least 1 country)". The following steps and deadlines were agreed to at the meeting:

1. Development of concept note addressing stakeholder capacity as outlined in the workshop (September 2011)
2. Presentation to donors (October 2011)
3. Identification of a donor (December 2011)
4. Agreement with pilot countries (2012)
5. Submission of proposal (2012)
6. Implementation of activities (2012-2014)
7. Publication of initial outputs by COP 2013

Lead persons: Jonathan Davies (IUCN), Louise Baker and Richard Cox (UNCCD)

4. Operationalizing the action plan

IUCN and UNCCD have agreed to meet every 6 months, either face to face or by telephone, to monitor progress against these commitments. The twice-yearly meetings will provide mutual updating and discussion on ways forward, and the outcomes of these meetings will be shared with the heads of the two respective institutions. IUCN's Ecosystem Management Programme, through the Drylands Initiative, will track actions in IUCN.

This Action Plan will be endorsed by participants at the workshop as well as departments that are implicated in the plan. The schedule for finalising the action plan is as follows:

<i>BENCHMARK</i>	<i>TO BE COMPLETED BY</i>
• <i>Draft joint action plan completed</i>	• <i>3rd week of September 2011</i>
• <i>Consultation with constituencies on the action plan</i>	• <i>2nd week of October 2011</i>
• <i>Finalization of the joint action plan</i>	• <i>1st week of November 2011</i>
• <i>Revision of IUCN's and the UNCCD's institutional work plans to include the joint action plan</i>	• <i>4th week of November 2011</i>
• <i>Formal report to IUCN's Director General and the UNCCD's Executive Secretary on the final action plan and related arrangements for its approval</i>	• <i>4th week of December 2011</i>
• <i>First follow-up meeting between UNCCD (Sergio Zelaya) and IUCN (Jonathan Davies) on operationalization of the action plan</i>	• <i>January 2012</i>