



United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL  
LAND INITIATIVE

NEWSLETTER G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE / DECEMBER 2024



### 30 Years of the UNCCD: 'Save Land. United For Land' Exhibition

The UNCCD-G20 GLI are marking 30 years of the UNCCD with the 'Save Land. United For Land' modern art exhibition in Bonn, Germany. Hosted by the Bundeskunsthalle, this contemporary art exhibition will tell the story of land and its importance with pieces inspired by history, the natural sciences, and the latest media technologies. The exhibition aims to inspire pro-land action for the common good, because **Land is a Gift, Not a Given**. Visit the [exhibition webpage](#) to learn more, interact with the digital exhibit and make your own land themed digital stickers. Plan your visit to the exhibition on the Bundeskunsthalle [website](#).

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## Stories



## Restoration Pavilion at the UNCCD COP16 Concludes With a Call for Action

The Restoration Pavilion at UNCCD COP16 hosted leaders, experts and innovators at an array of inspiring events and talks. Final day discussions emphasised the role of women, youth and indigenous peoples in land restoration, and the importance of integrated approaches to balance ecological, economic and social needs.

## IISD Daily Reporting on UNCCD COP16 Activities

The Earth Negotiations Bulletin (ENB), maintained by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), maintained a daily report on UNCCD COP16 activities. Their daily breakdown includes analysis of negotiation proceedings, event summaries, and photos from COP16. Visit the [website](#) to get caught up on UNCCD COP16.



## Brazil Restoration & Bioeconomy Finance Coalition launched at G20 Summit

The United States, and 12 partners, launched the Brazil Restoration & Bioeconomy Finance Coalition (BRB Finance Coalition), which aims to mobilize at least \$10 billion in public and private investment for land restoration and bioeconomy-related projects by 2030.



## **South Africa's G20 Presidency.**

South Africa will hold the G20 Presidency from 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025, only five years before the deadline of the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda. To tackle multiple overlapping crises, South Africa has embraced the theme “Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability” to achieve Strong, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth.



## **Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee: Supporting Parties Ahead of Key Submission Cycles**

The Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee (PAICC) held an event at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) last month to help Parties prepare for upcoming submissions of Nationally Determined Contributions, Biennial Transparency Reports and Biennial Communications of Information.

## **'Feeding millions' – How Land Restoration Can Turn Around Africa's Sahel**

In Mauritania the World Food Programme (WFP) is supporting the government through an ambitious programme to restore lands depleted by droughts and other hazards. So far, the initiative has benefited 4 million people in 3,400 villages and restored more than 300,000 hectares of degraded land.



# Publications

## **Greening the Blue Annual Report**

On an annual basis, Greening the Blue provides information on the UN system's environmental footprint and the efforts to reduce it. Greening the Blue Annual Reports highlight the progress in the implementation of the Sustainability Strategy I. These reports are publicly available, assuring transparency of the environmental performance and efforts and serving as a source of inspiration for other organizations to green their facilities and operations. Find the report [here](#).

## **The Global Threat of Drying Lands: Regional and Global Aridity Trends and Future Projections**

For the first time, the aridity crisis has been documented with scientific clarity, revealing an existential threat affecting billions around the globe. The report points to human-caused climate change as the primary driver of this shift. Greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation, transport, industry and land use changes warm the planet and other human activities warm the planet and affect rainfall, evaporation and plant life, creating the conditions that increase aridity. Read the report [here](#).

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## Meet the Interns:



**Maria Mercedes Gavilan Galisteo**

Capacity Building Intern

Maria Mercedes Gavilan Galisteo is a highly motivated, goal-oriented professional who is deeply committed to innovative environmental policy solutions. Mercedes holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Loyola Andalucía University in Cordoba, Spain. She is currently pursuing a double master's degree in Comparative Public Governance and European Studies at the University of Twente in the Netherlands and the University of Münster in Germany. During her academic career, she focused on environmental policy and policy development, specializing in agricultural and forestry sustainability. Mercedes is a strong advocate of human rights and is a dedicated volunteer to protect the dignity and rights of refugees and migrants. Passionate about music and outdoor sports, she is driven to make a difference in the lives of others through meaningful efforts.

## Events



### 168th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

Dates: 17 December 2024

Location: Nairobi Kenya

A green-themed poster for a workshop. At the top, it features the logos for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the G20 Global Land Initiative. The main title is "POST-MINING LANDSCAPE RESTORATION" in large, bold, yellow and white letters. Below the title, it says "A HANDS-ON WORKSHOP" in white. The dates and location are "10-14 March 2025" and "Johannesburg, South Africa". There is a call to action: "APPLY BY 03 FEBRUARY!" and a note that "GLI offers funding for limited number of delegates to attend the mining restoration workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa". At the bottom, there is a QR code and the text "SCAN QR TO REGISTER" and "OR VISIT bit.ly/4hnjKJl". The logos for LaRSSA (Land Restoration Society of Southern Africa) and UNU-Flores are at the bottom.

### UNU-FLORES and LaRSSA: Post-Mining Landscape Restoration Hands-On Workshop

Dates: 10-14 March 2025

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

Application Deadline: **February 3rd**

Apply [here!](https://bit.ly/4hnjKJl)



## Reforest Fest 2025

Dates: 18-21 April 2025

Location: Bodhi Kaya Nature Retreat,  
Walker Bay Conservancy, South Africa

Tickets on sale now!



## First Sustainable Finance Working Group Meeting

Dates: 16-17 January 2025

Location: Online



## First Climate and Environment Sustainability Working Group Meeting

Date: 5-6 March 2025

Location: Online





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**Our mailing address is:**

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United for land

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