



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL
LAND INITIATIVE

NEWSLETTER G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE / JANUARY 2025



'Save Land. United For Land' Exhibit: Promoting Land Restoration, Celebrating 30 Years of UNCCD Action

UNCCD is starting the year with the 'Save Land. United For Land' art and science exhibition in Bonn, Germany. Co-hosted by its G20 Global Land Initiative and the Bundeskunsthalle (KAH) Exhibition, this contemporary art and science exhibition, tells the story of land and its importance with pieces inspired by history, the natural sciences and the latest media technologies. On 4 February, UNCCD and KAH are hosting an interactive discussion at the Bundeskunsthalle, with a keynote address by Ibrahim Thiaw, UNCCD Executive Secretary, followed by a courtesy free entry and guided tour of the exhibition. The exhibition aims to inspire pro-land action for the common good because **Land is a Gift, Not a Given**. It also celebrates the UNCCD's 30 years of work in calling attention to the threat of land degradation globally and to inspire action to manage land sustainably. 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](#). Registration details for the February interactive discussion are in the events section below.

Stories



Looking Back at the Environmental Highs – and Lows – of 2024

In 2024, the UN Environment Programme spearheaded landmark conservation, climate action and pollution agreements, addressing biodiversity loss, emissions and sustainability, while highlighting the urgency of transformative action against environmental crises worldwide.

Acción Andina, a Restoration Initiative in the Andes, Sets a New Record

Acción Andina planted 150,000 native trees in Aquia, Peru, advancing high-Andean ecosystem restoration and water security through community collaboration, education and reforestation, which is crucial amid South America's escalating climate challenges.



Major Funding Boost for the Freshwater Challenge as Membership Hits 50 at the One Water Summit

The Freshwater Challenge achieved key milestones at the One Water Summit in Saudi Arabia. It secured \$5M from the GEF and welcomed Kazakhstan and Australia, advancing freshwater restoration globally.

WWT to Restore Saltmarsh on the Awre Peninsula

WWT has acquired 148 hectares on the Awre peninsula to create a saltmarsh nature reserve. This will enhance biodiversity, carbon storage and flood resilience while advancing saltmarsh restoration research and community engagement.



"Throw Birds a Lifeline and Ban Toxic Lead Ammunition" Wildlife Experts Urge Government

Environmental groups and parliamentarians urge the United Kingdom government to swiftly ban toxic lead ammunition, citing its devastating impact on wildlife, ecosystems and human health, with calls for action within 18 months.

Meet the 2024 Champions of the Earth Laureates

The Champions of the Earth award honours individuals and organizations whose actions have a transformative impact on the environment. In 2024, UNEP honours individuals and organizations working on innovative and sustainable solutions to restore land, enhance drought resilience and combat desertification.





United Nations Conference in Riyadh Charts a Path for Global Action on Land, Drought

The 16th UNCCD COP in Riyadh concluded with 200 nations committing to land restoration and drought resilience. Key outcomes include USD 12 billion in financial pledges, Indigenous and youth participation, science-based policies and private sector engagement.

Publications

Sustainable Land Use Systems – the Path Forward to Collectively Achieve Land Degradation Neutrality

This report presents science-based evidence concerning sustainable land use systems (SLUS) and the potential of the SLUS approach to achieve land degradation neutrality (LDN) targets, reduce inequalities, achieve social justice, improve economic viability and consequently, help achieve multiple United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs) and targets. It aims to guide countries to use SLUS to apply more effective management of natural resources and the environment. Find the report [here](#).

Harmony in Action for Land Restoration: Linking Social Protection, Financial Inclusion and Disaster Risk Finance

This report serves as a roadmap for policymakers, drawing two pathways to the intersections of the objectives of land restoration, social protection, financial inclusion and disaster risk management. These synergies can make land restoration fair and equitable, respecting land rights and the tenure of those who often rely on these lands as both a home and as a source of livelihood. By centering inclusivity and equity, this approach aims to build a sustainable future in which all communities benefit from restored and resilient landscapes. Find the report [here](#).

Promoting Synergies Between Land Degradation Neutrality and Climate Change Adaptation

The report is envisioned as a supplement to the guidelines of the NAP process. It offers a step-by-step approach to integrating the principles and objectives of the LDN framework within climate change adaptation planning. It identifies where and how these broad goals intersect, and it reveals how activities, knowledge, training, monitoring and funding sources can be better leveraged when they serve both climate change adaptation and LDN. Find the report [here](#).

Meet the Interns:



Samuel Tahinduka

Intern

Samuel Tahinduka is a self-driven and results-oriented individual with a strong passion for and background in environmental conservation. Samuel completed his Bachelors degree in Geographical Sciences at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. He specialized in Physical Geography, with key modules such as Geographical Information Systems (GIS) / Remote Sensing, Environmental Disaster Management, Climatology, Global Environmental Change and Ecosystems Sciences. Samuel's first internship was at the National Environment Management Authority of Uganda. His research project titled, *Analyzing the implications of wetland degradation on livelihoods in river Rwizi middle catchment area Southwestern Uganda*, justifies his passion and determination for environmental conservation. A standout success for his strong desire for environmental management, Samuel was awarded a grant by the Tree Ring Society to attend the 2024 African Dendrochronological Field School in Livingstone, Zambia. Samuel coordinates the local Students for Liberty group and is a correspondent for the *Speakfreely* magazine in Uganda. He loves nature, travelling and studying new subjects.

Vacancies

[Programme Support](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 20 January 2025)

[Logistics Support to CRIC23/COP17](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 21 January 2025)

[Documents Processing](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 21 January 2025)

[Translation Services Spanish](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 21 January 2025)

[Translation Services French](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 21 January 2025)

[Editing Services](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 21 January 2025)

[Global Initiative Internship](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 30 January 2025)

Events

The poster is for an online training course. It features a green background with a silhouette of a person working in a field. The text is in white and yellow. At the top, it says 'United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification' and 'G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE'. Below that, it says 'Online Training of Instructors (ToI) course : Arab States and the Middle East'. The main title is 'Trigger Change! Innovative Sustainable Agriculture Solutions for Land Restoration'. The date is '03 February 2025 – 06 February 2025'. The time is '3.30 hours each day' with specific times for Jordan and GMT. There is a QR code and a registration link 't.ly/GK7Hp'. At the bottom, it says 'Educators, Researchers, academics and agricultural professionals are encouraged to apply'. Logos for Technology Arts Sciences TH Köln, WOCAT, GJU, and Ecosystem Restoration are at the bottom.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE

Online Training of Instructors (ToI) course :
Arab States and the Middle East

Trigger Change!
Innovative Sustainable
Agriculture Solutions for
Land Restoration

DATE / 03 February 2025 – 06 February 2025

TIME / 3.30 hours each day
14:00 - 17:30 JORDAN TIME
11:00 – 14:30 GMT

REGISTER NOW!
t.ly/GK7Hp

Educators, Researchers,
academics and agricultural
professionals are encouraged
to apply

Technology Arts Sciences TH Köln

WOCAT

GJU

الجامعة الأردنية الأردنية
Jordanian University

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Arab States and Middle East Training of Instructors Workshop

Dates: 3-6 February 2025

Location: Online

[Register here!](#)



Launch and Interactive Discussion. Save Land. United for Land Exhibition

Dates: 4 February 2025

Location: Forum, Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn

[Register here!](#)



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

Dates: 10-14 March 2025

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

Application Deadline: **3 February 2025**

Apply [here!](#)



Strategic Communication of Land Restoration Masterclass

Dates: 2-6 June 2025 (TBC)

Location: London, United Kingdom

Application Deadline: **16 February 2025**

Apply [here!](#)



RestorLife Awards

Dates: 23-31 July 2025

Location: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Application Deadline: **February 28th**
Apply [here!](#)

THE GLOBAL CHANGEMAKER ACADEMY FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS (G-CAP)
25 - 29 AUGUST 2025
BONN, GERMANY

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Third Global Changemaker Academy for Parliamentarians (G-CAP) is an exclusive 5-day in-person leadership academy that brings 30 selected parliamentarians from around the world to come together to explore the criticality of land restoration agenda both globally and within their national and local contexts.

At G-CAP, we believe that collaboration is key to driving meaningful change. Together, in this leadership academy we will dive deep into the challenges and opportunities presented by land restoration, sharing insights and fostering innovative approaches.

G-CAP OVERVIEW

Over five days in Bonn, Germany, the parliamentarians will engage in **masterclasses, legislation workshops,**

APPLY NOW

The Global Changemaker Academy for Parliamentarians (G-CAP): Call for Applications

Dates: 25-29 August 2025

Location: Bonn, Germany

Application Deadline: **February 15th**
Apply [here!](#)

Reforest Fest

EASTER 18-21 2025
WEEKEND APR 25
BODHI KHAYA NATURE RETREAT

PHASE 2 TICKETS AT
QUICKET.CO.ZA

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:

G20 Land Initiative

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United Nations
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United for land

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