

Hungary's UNCCD implementation and envisaged LDN program

OUR WATER VISION

Péter MOLNÁR
UNCCD national focal point

General Directorate of Water Management
Excess Water and Irrigation Department
molnar.peter@ovf.hu



PannEx National Seminar
Budapest, 8 December 2016

- UNCCD and Hungary
- SDGs
- SDG 15 and target 15.3
- Reporting, indicators
- CRIC.15
- What has happened until today
- LDN pilot project -examples
- Hungary's possibilities



UNCCD and Hungary

- ▶ *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa*
- ▶ Rio de Janeiro, 1992
- ▶ Paris, 1994 – UNCCD adoption
- ▶ Parliamentary Resolution 47/1999. (VI.3.) – accession, contracting
- ▶ Act CVII. (2003) - announcement
- ▶ Dual (ACP and DCP) status
- ▶ 2011-13 COP Bureau membership
- ▶ Ministry in charge: Ministry of Agriculture
- ▶ National focal point: GDWM (OVF)

- ▶ National contribution
- ▶ National reporting



Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 15

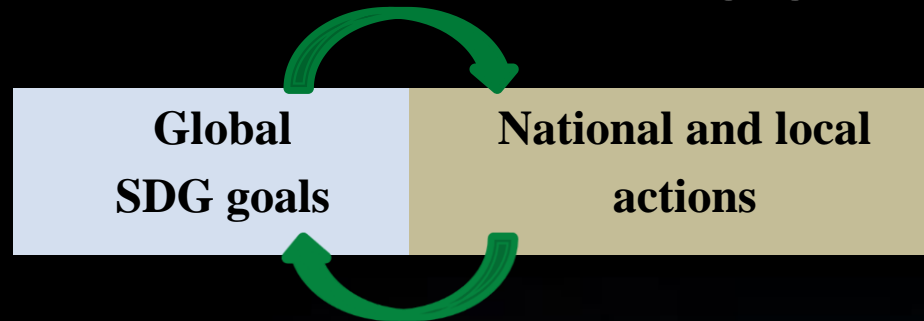
‘Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss’



Target 15.3

‘By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world’

15.3 LDN



- ▶ avoiding LD through land use planning that fully accounts for the potential and resilience of land resources;
- ▶ adopting sustainable land management policies and practices in order to minimize current land degradation
- ▶ rehabilitating/restoring degraded lands



Country Parties' decisions on LDN (decision 3/COP.12)

- COP invited Parties to **formulate voluntary targets to achieve LDN** in accordance with their specific national circumstances and development priorities
- working definition of LDN
- COP requested UNCCD bodies to provide
 - **guidance** for formulating national LDN targets
 - **scientific and technical support** to countries



Land Degradation Neutrality



Reporting, indicators

National reporting on land degradation:

Baseline setting → regular monitoring → reporting on the progress made

March 2016, UN Statistical Committee: indicator 15.3.1 and its' sub-indicators are suitable to monitor target 15.3

Proposed indicator:

- ▶ **'Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area'**

sub-indicators:

- ▶ **Land cover and land cover change**
- ▶ **Land productivity**
- ▶ **Carbon stocks above and below ground**

RECOMMENDATION

Reporting should be based primarily on official national data, however global data sets can also be used to fill data gaps (Earth observation).



CRIC.15 (Oct. 2016)

Main outcomes

- aligning the **new strategy** with the 2030 Agenda, in particular **SDG target 15.3** and other interrelated SDGs;
- building on the Strategy, focusing on implementation and including **LDN as the main element of innovation**
- welcomed the efforts made by the GM to **operationalize the voluntary LDN target-setting** programme, and called for its continued **implementation**;
- acknowledged the work of the SPI in developing the **LDN conceptual framework** and response hierarchy, thus providing a sound **scientific basis** for Parties wishing to adopt LDN targets;
- recognized the importance of **linking the voluntary LDN target-setting process with LDN implementation**, taking into account the national action programmes as a new opportunity to promote effective action, particularly in affected areas;
- recognized the **need to mobilize additional financial resources** for voluntary LDN target setting and implementation from multiple sources.

What has happened until today...



- ▶ Adoption of SDGs
- ▶ LDN pilot programme – 14 countries
- ▶ UNCCD COP.12, 12-23 October 2015
- ▶ Letter of UNCCD Executive Secretary to Minister Dr. Sándor Fazekas
- ▶ World Day to Combat Desertification, 17 June 2016
- ▶ Consultation in TAKI
- ▶ Optional reporting, August 2016
- ▶ LDN Target Setting Programme – 102 countries
- ▶ Regional workshops
- ▶ UNCCD CRIC.15, 18-20 October 2016
- ▶ (PannEx National Seminar, 8 December 2016)
- ▶ ...



LDN pilot project

14 countries (Algeria, Bhutan, Chile, Costa Rica, Chad, Ethiopia, Belarus, Grenada, Indonesia, Namibia, **Italy**, Armenia, Senegal, **Turkey**)
2014-15



Italy Summary Report



Towards achieving Land Degradation Neutrality: turning the concept into practice



This report summarizes the key outcomes of the national efforts carried out in 2014 and 2015 towards putting in practice the land degradation neutrality concept. The LDN project, which was sponsored by the Republic of Korea, was carried out with the support of the UNCCD Secretariat and implemented in partnership with the Joint Research Center of the European Commission and CAP 2100 International.



Republic of Turkey

Land Productivity Dynamic for Land Degradation Neutrality for Two Adjacent Micro Catchments in Gediz Basin CASE STUDY REPORT



2015



LDN pilot project - ITALY

National priorities

- improve understanding of ongoing LD processes and validation of Land Productivity Dynamics monitoring (2017).
- identification of targets and action/measures in pilot areas with stakeholders (2018).
- implementation of measures in pilot areas (2020).
- improve awareness of land degradation causes and impacts among policy makers at national and local level (2020).
- mitigation of pressures on 12,200 sq km of degrading forest areas with SLM measures (2030).
- mitigation of pressures on degrading agricultural areas with SLM measures (2030).

The LD processes addressed by the LDN project indicators

- Land Cover/land Use change,
- Land Productivity status and trends,
- Soil Organic Carbon status and trends



The study was carried out in two adjacent micro catchments

- **Land Cover-Land Use Change**
 - Changing of Land Cover/Use
 - Accuracy assessment of land cover/use
 - Determination of NDVI
- **Land Productivity Dynamics**
 - Trends in Land Productivity Dynamic
 - Land Productivity Dynamics in the Study Area
- **Soil Organic Carbon Stock**



Hungarian implementation

Pilot area or the whole country?

Aspects of LD

Hungarian LDN target setting

Cooperation with other country/countries

Common project with an eligible country

(GEF support + ODA)

Transnational project

Study – baseline setting, compilation of recommendations
(Land Degradation Neutrality Report)



Steps and guiding questions to implement LDN on a national level

1. Tailor concept to regional context/identify **main soil threats and trends**
2. Define suitable **indicators**
3. Define **baseline**
4. Set a **target**/define ambition
5. Define **thresholds** to determine gains and losses
6. Specify the **spatial dimension**
7. Define **reference years**
8. Determine compensation mechanisms
9. Establish aggregation methods to balance degraded and restored areas
10. Set up and maintain a LDN **monitoring** system
11. Improve monitoring capacities
12. (Further) develop instruments, measures and institutions
13. Support the LDN process through awareness raising and **communication**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

