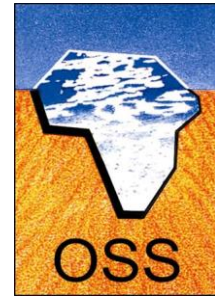




**Institut de recherche
pour le développement**



Centre d'Actions et de Réalisations Internationales



PRESS RELEASE

Toward equitable and sustainable Land-Degradation Neutrality

Ankara, 15 October 2015 – The Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) and IRD (France), in partnership with CARI (international NGO), are organizing a side-event at COP 12 UNCCD in support of an equitable and sustainable implementation of Land-Degradation Neutrality (LDN). In addition to reiterating support to LDN, the side-event aims to highlight the complexity of the concept's implementation and to shed light on risks and ethical issues affecting concerned communities in Africa and beyond.

The side-event will take place on **Thursday 15 October 2015 from 6-8 pm in Room MET 08**. It will feature presentations and discussions on the concept of LDN, its objectives and challenges as well as options for implementation and funding.

Mr. Xavier Sticker (Ambassador for the Environment, French Foreign Affairs Department) will notably speak at the event on "Goals of Land Degradation Neutrality, objectives and challenges".

Other presentations from IRD's Maud Loireau and OSS's Nabil Ben Khatra will address risks and compensation mechanisms, as well as the need to take into account the variety of scales and stakeholders when it comes to implementing LDN on the ground. Concrete examples, including a recent UNCCD project, will be presented.

A roundtable discussion chaired by Ms. Lindsay Stringer (Researcher, University of Leeds) will offer expert and policy insights into LDN from distinguished panelists including Ms. Monique Barbut (UNCCD), M. Bouafou Kouamé Guy Marcel (CILSS/AGRHYMET), Mr. Olivier Barrière (IRD) and Mr. Patrice Burger (CARI).

Media representatives are invited to attend the side-event. Assistance and background documentation will be provided.

For further information, please contact our delegates to COP 12 in Ankara:

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