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**Questionnaire**

**The New Concepts: LDN & CSA**

**UNCCD COP12**

As the global population is expected to reach about 9 billion people by 2050 and the impacts of global change are more and more evident, many challenges have to be met, notably food insecurity and climate change adaptation. Africa, for instance, is one of the most concerned regions by these challenges.

Global agriculture suffers the effects of climate change, but contributes to it as well. It has thus to evolve to meet the ever growing needs of the population while adapting to global change and contributing to mitigating its effects.

Accordingly, new concepts aiming at devising effective solutions and tools for addressing global change are regularly emerging at the occasion of international forums and meetings, such as Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA). These concepts are constantly present and discussed at international debates, however, without a real understanding of their implementation modalities and plans.

Included in the Rio+20 Declaration, “The Future We Want”, the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality has been presented as a major topic since last UNCCD COP11. States, as well as institutions, should actually take into account this controversial concept on which is based Objectives 15 and 15.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals to be adopted at the UN General Assembly to be held in September 2015.

Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), on the other hand, has also become a key concept for national institutions and policies and marks a new turning point in agricultural development orientations. In September 2014, the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA) was launched by the United Nations at a world climate summit. In Africa, the Africa Climate-Smart Agriculture Alliance was launched under the auspices of NEPAD.

The shared understanding of these concepts among different stakeholders is urgent and important for their adoption, appropriation and implementation.

The present questionnaire, launched by the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) and the Centre d’Activités et des Réalisations Internationales (CARI), aims to bring a Circum-Saharan reflection on major risks of and opportunities for LDN and CSA into the 12th conference of the Parties to the UNCCD (COP12) to be held in October 2015.

This questionnaire is aimed at the various stakeholders involved in the conceptualization, implementation, and monitoring of activities related to LDN, CSA, and land degradation and restoration/rehabilitation, as well as regional and international scientists, managers, decision-makers, NGOs, civil society, local and indigenous communities, private sector …

It is not compulsory to answer all questions. You may reply to only those that fall within your area of expertise or activities.

The questionnaire’s results will be analyzed and will later feed into a synthesis document to be presented at a side-event to be organized by OSS at the margin of COP12.

Please do not hesitate to contact OSS on the following address: questionnaire@oss.org.tn, should you need further clarifications or assistance filling in the questionnaire. A phone support will also be available (+216 71 206 633).

To valorize everyone’s effort, all contributors to the questionnaire will be mentioned in the synthesis document.

Thank you for your participation.

First Name

Last Name

Institution

Organization type

Countries

E-mail

Participation in COP 12 in Ankara

***Transmission, dissemination and knowledge of these concepts***

**Question 1**

Are you informed about on-going debates focusing on the concepts advocated by the Post Rio Conventions (LDN, CSA, Agro-ecology, LULUCF, etc.)?

* YES
* NO

How could you define **CSA?**

How could you define **LDN**?

**Question 2**

How did you know about the existence of these new concepts?

LDN:

CSA:

**Question 3**

How is the information on these new concepts communicated and transmitted in your country?

* Media
* Inter-Ministerial Technical Bureau,
* International Conference,
* Articles and publications…
* Civil society networks

**Question 4**

Do you think that these concepts do bring or could bring effective solutions to environmental problems in your country?

**Question 5**

Do you know about projects on LDN or CSA?

* YES
* NO

If yes, which one(s), and by whom are they funded?

**Question 6**

What are, in your opinion, the possible risks of using these concepts?

**Question 7**

Who are, in your opinion, the main users and beneficiaries of these concepts?

* Public sector
* Private sector
* Research sector
* Local communities
* NGOs/CSOs

***Appropriation of these concepts***

**Question 8**

How, in your opinion, could your country adopt the LDN and CSA concepts?

* Defining national objectives that correspond to the expectations of these concepts (i.e. national voluntary objective to attain LDN)
* Integrating these concepts in national strategic investment
* Financing these concepts using the national budget
* Putting in place a legislative and legal framework
* Integrating these concepts in existing NAPs or creating scientific plans (as proposed by the IWG LDN)
* Creating structures dedicated to these concepts
* Trainings and education
* Private-public partnership
* Other

**Question 9**

Do you know about measures taken in this respect: laws, existing structures, trainings, etc?

* YES
* NO

Do you have examples?

**Questions 10**

Do you think that your country is ready to finance the implementation of the LDN and CSA approaches using its national budget?

***Use of these concepts***

**Question 11**

In your opinion, how could these concepts be operationalized (translated into concrete actions)?

**Question 12**

Do you have knowledge and scientific and technical tools for the implementation of LDN and CSA?

* Land Degradation
* Land Restoration/rehabilitation
* Carbon sequestration in Soil
* Land Neutrality Indicators
* Soil Fertility

If yes, where did you get them and within which experiences?

**Question 13**

What financial tools and mechanisms, do you know, that could allow the implementation of these concepts?

**Question 14**

Concerning LDN, and based on your proper experience, what approaches do you recommend to attain LDN objectives?

* Land tenure strategy (assembling lands, converting lands …)
* National strategy for soil/land fertility
* Valorization of local know-how and existing best practices
* Financial incentives
* Compensations (financial / or physical)
* Multi-sectorial cooperation among actors (private sector, Ministries, Universities?)
* Access to loans
* Agricultural extension and decentralization of support services
* Other….

**Question 15**

At which level should LDN be established?

* Local and territory level
* National level
* Regional level
* International level

**Question 16**

Do you have in your country a national structure dedicated to land degradation analysis and land restoration?

***Capacities and expertise***

**Question 17**

Would you need a technical, scientific or financial assistance to translate these concepts into concrete actions?

* YES
* NO

In which field precisely?

* Theoretical definition of these concepts
* Design of LDN and CSA projects
* Implementation tools and techniques
* Projects and programmes monitoring-evaluation
* Other

**Question 18**

Who are, in your opinion, the main actors that should be trained for the operationalization of these concepts?

* Regional organizations
* International organizations
* National technical structures
* Local communities
* Local technical services
* Private sector
* Scientists
* NGOs/CSOs
* Others

**Question 19**

What are the most appropriate structures to ensure trainings in terms of these concepts?

* Regional organizations
* International organizations,
* National technical structures,
* Scientific centres
* NGOs/CSOs
* Private consultants
* Others

***More general questions***

**Question 20**

Does your country have environmental monitoring and evaluation systems?

* Land Degradation
* Land Restoration/rehabilitation
* Carbon sequestration in Soil
* Land Neutrality Indicators
* Soil Fertility

If yes, which one (s) (GIS ? In-field Observation?)

And at which scale (observatory, national …)?

**Questions 21**

What are the most important gaps that must be addressed by capacity building activities?

* Sustainable land management
* Technical options for land rehabilitation
* Technical options for the prevention of land degradation
* Strategic options and policies to incite land rehabilitation
* Strategic options and policies to incite the prevention of land degradation
* Access to available funds
* Environmental monitoring
* LDN concept
* CSA concept