Desertification

UN Entities

- Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
https://www.unccd.int/

UN Treaties and Declarations

- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
https://www.unccd.int/convention/about-convention



Sustainable Development Goal 15:
Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss
http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/biodiversity/
https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15
https://sdgs.un.org/topics/desertification-land-degradation-and-drought

UN Conferences and Observances

- Seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP17), Mongolia, 2026
https://www.unccd.int/news-stories/press-releases/mongolia-host-next-un-conference-sustainable-land-management
- Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP16),
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2 to 13 December 2024: https://www.unccd.int/cop16
- World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought - 17 June
https://www.un.org/en/observances/desertification-day
https://www.unccd.int/events/desertification-drought-day
https://www.unesco.org/en/days/desertification-drought-combat
- International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms – 12 July
https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-of-combating-sand-and-dust-storms
- United Nations Decade on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, 2025–2034
https://www.unccd.int/news-stories/stories/un-declares-2025-2034-decade-combating-sand-and-dust-storms
- High-Level Dialogue on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought, 14 June 2021
https://www.un.org/pga/75/event/high-level-dialogue-on-desertification-land-degradation-and-drought/
- United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification 2010-2020
http://www.un.org/en/events/desertification_decade/
https://www.unccd.int/events/un-decade-deserts-and-fight-against-desertification

- General Assembly High-level Meeting High-level Meeting on Desertification, 20 September 2011
  http://www.un.org/en/ga/desertification2011/
- International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006
  http://www.iydd.org/

Selected Statements and Speeches of UN Officials

- 'You are in Riyadh to turn the tide', Deputy Secretary-General urges as United Nations Desertification Conference Opens (DSG/SM/1954, 2 December 2024):
  https://press.un.org/en/2024/dsgsm1954.doc.htm
- 'We must be united for land', stresses Secretary-General, in Video Message for World Day to Combat Desertification, Drought (SG/SM/22268, 12 June 2024):
  https://press.un.org/en/2024/sgsm22268.doc.htm
- Increase cooperation, commit to practical action towards limiting sand, dust storms, Secretary-General stresses in conference message (SG/SM/21930, 9 September 2023):
  https://press.un.org/en/2023/sgsm21930.doc.htm
- Women restore, protect land, Secretary-General stresses on World Day to Combat Desertification, Drought, urging equal right, elimination of legal barriers (SG/SM/21827, 9 June 2023): https://press.un.org/en/2023/sgsm21827.doc.htm
- Taking caring of 'our land, its biodiversity' can help address climate crisis, Secretary-General says in Message for Day to Combat Desertification, Drought (SG/SM/21325, 16 June 2022):
  https://press.un.org/en/2022/sgsm21325.doc.htm
- Build on existing frameworks to improve women's lives, Deputy Secretary-General tells High-Level Gender Caucus at Conference on Desertification (DSG/SM/1739, 9 May 2022):
  https://press.un.org/en/2022/dsgsm1739.doc.htm
- 'Business as usual' not working, Deputy Secretary-General tells Heads of State at Climate Change Conference on Desertification, Land Degradation (DSG/SM/1738, 9 May 2022):
  https://press.un.org/en/2022/dsgsm1738.doc.htm
- Make healthy land central in all planning, urges Secretary-General, in Message for World Day to Combat Desertification, Drought (SG/SM/20780, 16 June 2021):
  https://press.un.org/en/2021/sgsm20780.doc.htm
- Simple, unifying act of land restoration will help tackle intersecting planetary crises, Deputy-Secretary-General tells High-Level Dialogue on Desertification (DSG/SM/1598, 14 June 2021): https://press.un.org/en/2021/dsgsm1598.doc.htm

Further information

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
  - Action Against Desertification:
    http://www.fao.org/in-action/action-against-desertification/en/
  - Dryland Forestry: http://www.fao.org/dryland-forestry/en/
- UN Development Programme (UNDP) – Nairobi Global Policy Centre on Resilient Ecosystems and Desertification (GC-RED): https://www.undp.org/policy-centre/nairobi
- Global Environment Facility – Land Degradation:
  http://www.thegef.org/topics/land-degradation
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO) – Drought: https://wmo.int/topics/drought

Selection of Publications available online

- UNCCD Publications: https://www.unccd.int/publications
- World Drought Atlas (UNCCD, November 2024): https://www.unccd.int/resources/publications/world-drought-atlas
- Drought in Numbers, 2022 (UNCCD): https://www.unccd.int/resources/publications/drought-numbers
- Global Land Outlook Second Edition: Land Restoration for Recovery and Resilience (UNCCD, April 2022): https://www.unccd.int/resources/global-land-outlook/global-land-outlook-2nd-edition
- Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction: Special Report on Drought 2021 (UNDRR): https://www.undrr.org/gar2021-drought
- Trends in Sustainable Development, 2008-2009: Agriculture, rural development, land, desertification and drought (DESA, 2008): https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/30fullreport.pdf

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not an official document - for information only
https://unric.org/en/unric-library-backgrounder-desertification/