

MET 13	11 September 2019 (Wednesday) 13:00 – 15:00 Side Event
13:15 – 13:20	Opening Remarks Gustavo Fonseca, Director of Programs, GEF
13:20 – 13:25	The UNCCD Perspective —Pradeep Monga, Deputy Executive Secretary, Executive Direction and Management, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
13:25 – 13:40	Evaluation of Land Degradation and Value for Money of GEF Interventions —Geeta Batra, Chief Evaluation Officer, GEF Independent Evaluation Office
13:40 – 14:10	Dialogue with Country Partners on Experiences and Outlook India – The Sustainable Land and Ecosystems Management (SLEM) Country Partnership: A Decade of Experience to Build On —Mr. S.D. Sharma, Deputy Director General, Research Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) —Mr. Anupam Joshi, Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank Country Office-India Guyana – A perspective from SIDS and Host of the recent CRIC17 —Mr. Trevor Benn, Commissioner, Guyana Land and Surveys Commission (GLSC)
14:10 – 14:25	GEF-7 opportunities for LDN implementation and the Way Ahead —Ulrich Apel, Land Degradation Focal Area Coordinator, GEF
14:25 – 14:45	Questions and Answers
14:45	Wrap-up and Closing
Chairing of the Side Event: Gustavo Fonseca, Director of Programs, GEF	

English, with interpretation in French and Spanish

11th September 2019/Wednesday

GEF-7 and LDN Implementation Support: Turning Plans into Action



This side event will allow the panel and audience to discuss the multiple political, financial, and technical dimensions of sustainable land management, as well as the opportunities that the GEF-7 replenishment cycle offers for LDN implementation. Turning plans into action requires learning from past projects and programs, and must be based on ongoing efforts. The event is therefore structured along three main elements: an overall analysis of the GEF's Land Degradation focal area portfolio; specific country experiences from India and small island developing States (SIDS); and highlights of the GEF-7 programming strategy and its opportunities for support to LDN implementation.

The GEF Director of Programs will open the program and provide his perspective on how to achieve land-based transformation for a future land degradation neutral world.

The UNCCD representative will give perspectives on ongoing and future cooperation between the UNCCD and GEF.

The head of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office will present the lessons learned from the evaluation of GEF efforts in land degradation.

Panelists from India will highlight a decade-long country partnership between India, the GEF, and the World Bank, as well as other partners in the Sustainable Land and Ecosystems Management program. The presentation will present results and impacts of the program in the context of ongoing and future efforts to achieve LDN.

The panelist from Guyana, as a representative of the SIDS and as host of the recently successfully concluded CRIC15, will give recommendations to the sustainable development community from a SIDS perspective.

GEF's Land Degradation Focal Area Coordinator will present the GEF-7 programming directions, preliminary results of LDN implementation support through the GEF, and highlight the GEF-7 impact programs as a centerpiece of the GEF-7 strategy to support the UNCCD agenda.

After the presentations, the audience will be invited to participate in a Q & A session.

For the latest information please go to www.theGEF.org