

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

**Capacity development for improved agriculture and the management of natural resources
in the drylands of the world**

Expected date of initiation: December 2002

Expected date of completion: December 2015

Partners Involved:

In each participating country:

- Central government
- District level administration
- Local administration
- Community administration
- National NGOs
- Local NGOs
- Women's groups
- Local private sector

SADC

IGAD

CILSS

Other regional/sub-regional organizations

The UNCCD Global Mechanism

GEF Small Grants Programme

CGIAR Centres (ICRISAT, ICARDA, WARDA)

Foundations with expertise in agriculture, law and community development. (To be identified).

WE-TV/World in Motion Television (Canada)

Leading Partner:

UNDP Drylands Development Centre

Address: P.O. Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya

Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

To reduce poverty in drylands areas by 50% over the life of the project.

Secondary objectives

To strengthen the capacities of drylands communities to manage their natural resources and farming systems.

To improve livelihoods and food security of drylands communities.

To review and revise the legislative basis for access to land and other resources.

To improve access to markets.

To create the enabling environment needed to improve rural livelihoods.

To improve the access of communities to information through the media (print, radio and television).

To bring about legal and institutional reform to support the socio-economic development of rural communities.

Expected results:

Increased productivity of drylands areas while avoiding or resolving conflicts over the use of natural resources.

Improved legislative arrangements for access to land and access to resources including water. These arrangements where most appropriate to be based on local custom, but codified into modern law.

Farmers and other members of the local communities better able to influence local institutions, decision-makers, extension services and the research community.

Increased use of improved agricultural technology.

The creation of public-private partnerships to improve access to markets.

An increase in value added agricultural activity.

Crop diversification and an increase in marketing of high value crops.

Effective and respected governance regimes based upon participatory approaches to planning and management.

Institutions created or strengthened to ensure that district and meso-level authorities are representative of and supportive of local institutions, and that national government policy, strategy and budgets are properly oriented towards community needs.

Increase in the percentage of national budgets assigned to aspects of the development of communities in the drylands.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

December 2002. Establishment of the partnership with roles agreed and knowledge exchange networks in place.

December 2003. Partnership operating in support of five countries.

December 2005. Partnership operations extended to at least 15 more countries in Africa, South Asia and Latin America. Intermediate results (to be more closely defined) being achieved and a

knowledge network established among all partners. Institutional and legislative barriers identified.

December 2010. Partnership extended to a target of 50 countries, which will include the “hungriest” countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Measurable improvements in land productivity, nutrition, income, (along with expected concomitant improvements in health and education). New legislation in place. National development plans, strategies and budgets aligned with partnership objectives. Results shared with all members of partnership and disseminated widely. Poverty levels reduced by one quarter.

December 2015. Poverty levels reduced by half.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

The initiative will be coordinated by UNDP. A major departure in coordination will be the establishment of an effective knowledge network that will ensure the constant exchange of knowledge among partners. This will *inter alia* radically reduce the rigidity and costs of coordination. The partnership will focus on the strengthening of the capacities of local communities and all higher levels of government and of CBOs and NGOs to participate in the network and in coordination. This will lead to a non-bureaucratic approach with low transaction costs. The existing flexibility of communities, CBOs and NGOs will be built upon.

Arrangements for funding

The Drylands Development Centre of UNDP has initiated the preparation of this initiative through support from Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands. Further support will be mobilized through the partnership that is established.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

The partnership is a capacity development partnership. Capacities will be strengthened in areas of:

Institutions (strengthened central policy capacities and strengthened local government and community institutions)

Enabling conditions (especially legislation)

Agriculture (improved capacities to enter added value and high value agriculture)

Land and water management (greater investment and increased efficiency)

Participatory planning (communities contributing to district plans and benefiting from changes in national policy)

Community awareness raising (capacities for communities to benefit from information)

Marketing (increased public-private partnerships in the improvement of markets)

Sustainable development strategies (capacities to implement at the local level)

Land tenure and management of access to resources (especially legislation)

National planning and budgeting (capacities to link central budgets to the needs and potentials of agricultural communities)

Use of media (increased capacities for farmers to make decisions on the basis of knowledge about weather, markets etc., and knowledge of good practices from elsewhere).

Technology transfer will occur in:

Agriculture (especially drought-resistance technologies)
 Electronic networking
 Access to print media, radio and television

Learning will be facilitated by the establishment of a knowledge network based on computer-based and existing means of knowledge transfer (meetings, workshops, literature, telephone, radio, television)

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

The programme will build upon the work carried out in many countries to draw up National Action Plans to Combat Desertification and Drought. It builds upon the Integrated Programme for Drylands Development of UNDP's Drylands Development Centre (DDC). It will benefit from DDC networking activities. It will benefit from research of the CGIAR Centres. It will build upon programmes of community media capacity development carried previously carried out by WE-TV.

Monitoring Arrangements

UNDP's normal monitoring procedures will under-pin the monitoring of the activities and will provide the legal basis for monitoring and evaluation. Thus, the Drylands Development Centre will exercise overall management overview. Financial reports will be made at least twice yearly, annual operational and financial reports will be made. During the 13 years of the programme there will be at least four reviews in which all partners will be involved. In addition at least two independent reviews will be carried out.

More importantly, the partnership will be designed to facilitate participatory monitoring. The learning and media components will facilitate wide dissemination of results and wide oversight and scrutiny.

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available):

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