

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): The Best Solution for Sustainable Land Management

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

strengthens the relationship between land degradation, desertification and drought, and adaptation to climate change. It promotes the implementation of an integrated approach for addressing desertification in every way and harmonizes activities resulting in the formulation of national action programmes. These programmes address land degradation and drought in affected developing countries.



Photo: Mined-out area, Cuyuni (2017)

Mining exposes the land to erosion, water pollution and other environmental hazards which pose threat to human beings and biodiversity.

How can Sustainable Land Management benefit Guyana?

Practicing sustainable land management can assist in the following:

1. Counteracting land degradation and soil erosion;
2. Providing vital support to biodiversity and ecosystems;
3. Building climate change resilience for storing carbon in the land; and
4. Improving production and long-term food security.

For more information, contact the Department of Environment on 592 223 6313-4 or ddoe.motp@gmail.com

The UNCCD Strategic Objectives 2008 – 2018

The UNCCD Strategic Objectives are the following:

1. To improve the condition of affected ecosystems, combat desertification/land degradation
2. To improve the living conditions of affected populations
3. To mitigate, adapt to, and manage the effects of drought in order to enhance resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems
4. To generate global environmental benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD
5. To mobilize substantial and additional financial and non-financial resources to support the implementation of the Convention by building effective partnerships at global and national levels.



Photo: Erosion of a section of mangroves at Wellington Park, Corentyne (2017). Destruction of mangroves can lead to severe losses of biodiversity and livelihoods.

What has Guyana done to implement the UNCCD?

The Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission, the Focal Point agency to the UNCCD, has prepared the following documents to guide implementation of the UNCCD:

- Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Target Setting Programme (TSP) (2017-2030)
- The Aligned National Action Plan to Combat Land Degradation (2015-2025)
- National Action Plan to Combat Land Degradation (2006)

The organization has also submitted to the UNCCD Secretariat several National Reports on the Implementation of the UNCCD as well as a Report on the LDN TSP.