

# Civil Society and implementation of UNCCD



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# Meet them



















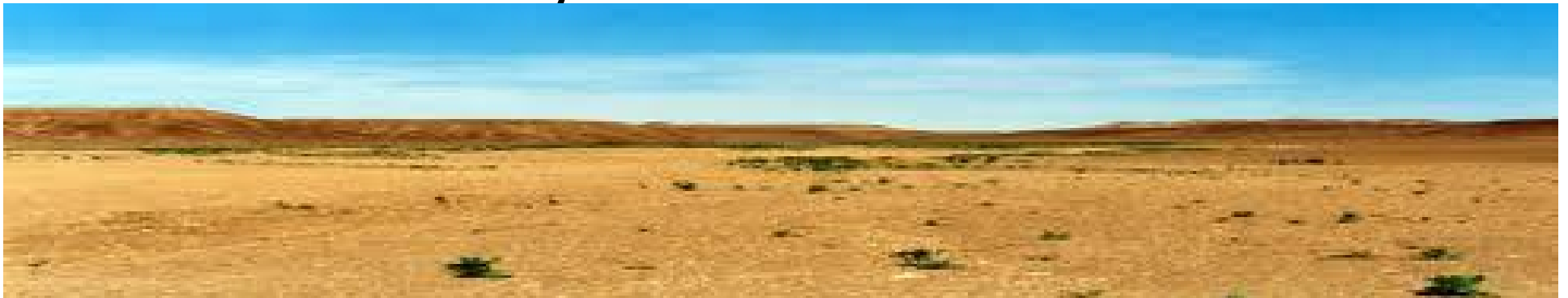
# Who they are and what they do

- They work on land to raise livestock and food
- They respect land as their mother
- They are the custodian of nature
- They suffer from hardships of nature and human induced desertification
- They fight drought and hunger
- Yet they believe that they can take better care of land in sustainable way



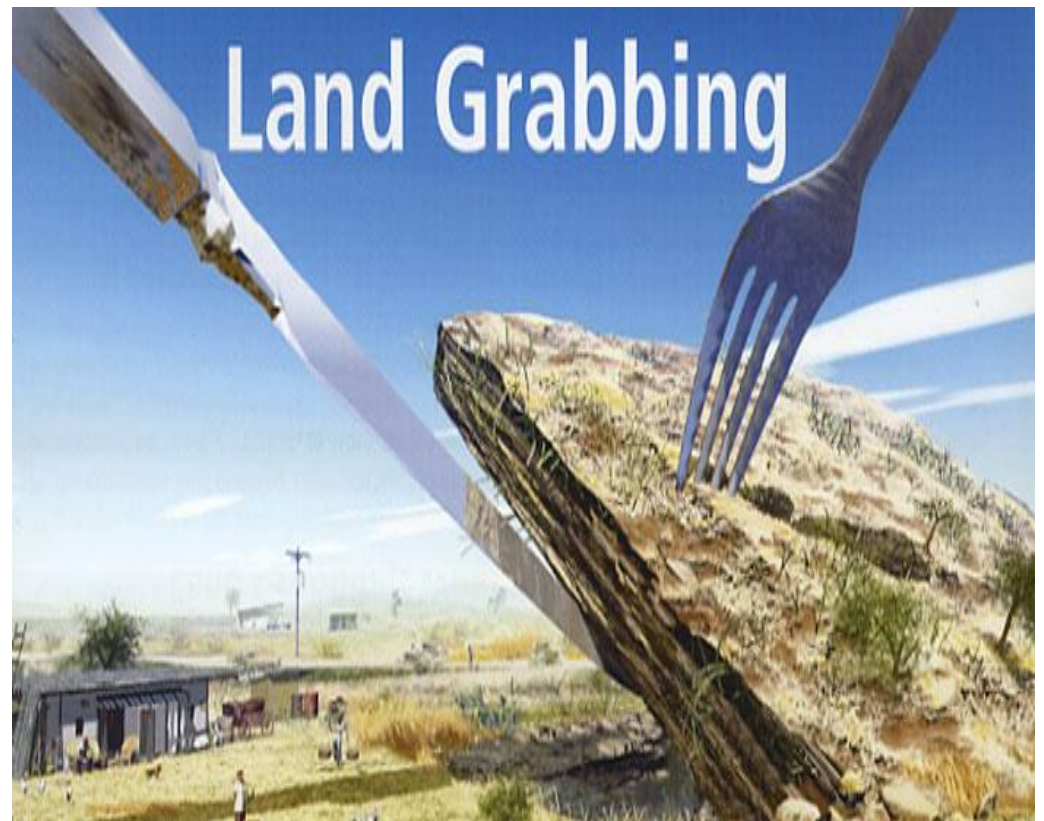
# Harsh Facts..

- 3.6 billion hectares or 25 % of the Earth's land, is desertified
- Every year about 12 million hectares worldwide are lost to land degradation
- Desertification annually contributes to \$42 billion in lost of incomes
- Livelihoods of one billion people in 100 countries are threatened by desertification.



# Situation on ground in drylands

- No secure access to land by pastoral and forest dwelling communities
- Land grabbing trends are threatening livelihoods and food security
- Forced eviction of peasants
- Climate change impacts



# Business as usual scenario

By the year 2030:

- Population: 8 billion
- food demand grows 50%, energy 45%, water 35%
- Will need 120 million ha. of additional land of size of South Africa

# Challenges for CSOs

- Drylands development is not integrated in official development policies
- CSOs have no access to best practices databases
- Limited capacity to develop fundable project
- CSOs are not officially recognized as implementing partners by the national governments
- Token participation of CSOs



# Constraints

- Lack of funding
- Lack of strong networks
- Lack of technical capability to design DLDD projects
- Lack of cooperation between government and CSOs
- Limited funding of SGP grants
- Least opportunities for CSOs to access to medium and large size GEF funding
- Least opportunities for ideas exchange among counterparts



# Role of CSOs

- Success of UNCCD depends upon the participation of affected population
- CSOs have a vital role in ensuring participation
- UNCCD promotes the active involvement of CSOs in the implementation of the Convention at all levels
- Number of accredited NGOs is diminishing day by day
- Strong partnership at national level in the implementation of NAPs





# What CSOs offer

- In depth knowledge of social and physical conditions
- Skills, experience, participatory approaches
- Mobilize human resources
- Enhance local and national ownership of projects
- Improve project designs, implementation and evaluation
- Co-financing in cash n kind



# What CSOs can offer...

- Influencing policies
- Develop demonstration models
- Document best practices
- Develop and apply success/ failure indicators
- Networking
- Value addition in outcomes through social integration, research, participation, local trust



# Recommendation

- Better CSOs engagement at GEF and UNCCD
- Increased access to GEF grants in MSPs and FSPs
- Formalize partnership mechanisms of partnership at GEF and UNCCD
- Formal working relationship at national level



# Thank you

