

# SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION COP16



## UNCCD COP16: Our Land, Our Future

100 million hectares of land are degraded every year, depleting in matter of minutes soils which take up to hundreds of years to form. Severe droughts occur at higher frequency, affecting women and girls the most. Three out of four people in the world will face water scarcity by 2050.

UNCCD COP16 is a "moonshot moment for land", to raise global ambition and accelerate action on land and drought resilience through a people-centered approach.

UNDP plays a pivotal role in addressing the interconnected crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation, recognizing land as a critical link between these issues.

UNDP calls for the alignment of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Biodiversity Strategies (NBSAPs), and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets to achieve a sustainable future.

## South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) & Life on Land

Desertification and droughts are transboundary issues which require regional and sub-regional collaboration, including through South-South Cooperation.

UNDP promotes South-South and Triangular Cooperation approaches to advance integrated solutions under:

- > [Nature Pledge](#)
- > [Climate Promise](#)
- > Multi-billion-dollar portfolio of environmental projects.

## Urgent Action Needed

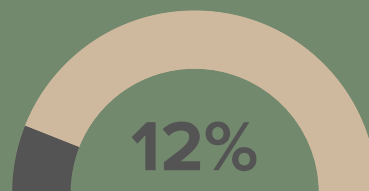
Land degradation and resource scarcity drive conflict and threaten sustainable development. Without urgent action, the climate – nature – land interconnected crises will reverse global stability and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### COP16 aims to:

1.5 billion Accelerate restoration of 1.5 billion hectares of degraded land by 2030

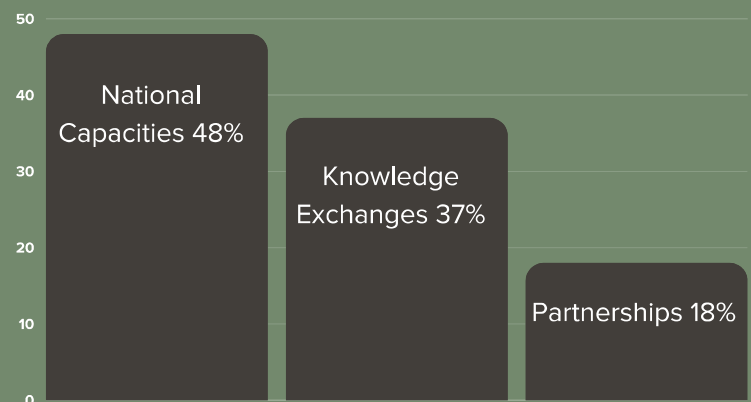
1.6 trillion Mobilize private sector investments: US\$1.6 trillion will be needed over 10 years to implement land restoration commitments

## UNDP helps advance SDG15 (Life on Land) through South-South Cooperation



12% of SSTC projects support action on SDG15

Among these ...



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## Examples from UNDP's Work

### Capacity Building

#### Tackling Deforestation in Francophone Africa

Supported by UNDP Morocco and GEF Small Grants Programme, “Initiatives Climat” addressed deforestation and climate change via South-South cooperation, and trained dozens of participants from 15 countries via 13 workshops.



#### Biodiversity Conservation in Belize

UNDP supports mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable water/land management in Belize. This project includes South-South exchanges with Costa Rica and Colombia to enhance institutional capacity and resilience.



### Knowledge Brokering

#### Benin Supporting REDD+ in 13 Countries

UNDP helps 13 countries enhance the ambition and delivery of forest solutions in their NDCs, and access climate finance through policy dialogues, technical assistance and South-South exchange.



#### Land Restoration in Benin

UNDP assists Benin in restoring land and forests to enhance agriculture and resilience. Peer-to-peer exchanges with countries in the Green Belt initiative share best practices in landscape and forest restoration.



### Partnership Facilitation

#### Snow Leopard Protection

Supported by the Global Environment Facility, the Global Snow Leopard & Ecosystem Protection Programme (GSLEP) supports 12 countries to protect snow leopards and their habitats. UNDP facilitated South-South cooperation through transboundary agreements among Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan to conserve the species in the Tien Shan Mountains.



#### Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade in Ethiopia

UNDP helps Ethiopia combat illegal wildlife trade and improve protected area management. The project fosters South-South cooperation through international agreements and knowledge sharing with countries in the Horn of Africa.

