

# GEF 6TH ASSEMBLY SIDE EVENT

## SDG 15 Life on Land: Monitoring and maximizing global environmental benefits of drylands

Sunday 24 June  
18.00-19.30

Ariyana Convention Center  
Room: Hoi An 1

Land degradation affects over 20% of the Earth's vegetated surface and over 1.3 billion farmers. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 15.3 calls for countries to “combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world”. This event will highlight methods, approaches and findings of recent advances in spatial data management and cloud computing developed in collaboration with many partners contributing to the implementation of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and the Achievement of SDG 15.3.

### **Keynote:**

The Honorable Carlos Manuel Rodriguez  
Minister of Environment and Energy, Costa Rica

### **Panel:**

Melchiade Bukuru  
Chief of UNCCD Office, New York

Nosipho Ngcaba  
Director General, Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa

Annette Cowie  
Adviser on Land Degradation, GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

Thomas Hammond  
Senior Land and Water Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization

Alex Zvoleff  
Senior Director of Resilience Science, Conservation International

### **Moderated by:**

Vincent Martin  
Representative in China and DPR Korea, Food and Agriculture Organization



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Organization of the  
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