

MET 15	12 September 2019 (Thursday) 13:00 – 15:00 Side Event
13:15 – 13:20	Opening Remarks Ulrich Apel, GEF
13:20 – 13:45	Feedback from the countries UNCCD Focal Point from Guyana UNCCD Focal Point from Georgia UNCCD Focal Point from South Africa
13:45 – 14:00	Feedback from the GEF-6 exercise (Enabling Activities, Global Support) Adamou Bouhari, UNEP, Task Manager Juan Carlos Mendoza, Global Mechanism Managing Director
14:00 – 14:10	Taking the lessons from GEF6 towards GEF-7: Time management, Templates, Letters of endorsement Jean-Marc Sinnassamy, GEF
14:10 – 14:45	Questions and Answers
14:45	Wrap-up and Closing

English, with interpretation in French and Spanish

12th September 2019/Thursday

Financing and Setting Up Enabling Activities for UNCCD Under GEF-7



The GEF serves as a financing mechanism for the UNCCD and for other multilateral environmental conventions that have set ambitious targets aimed at addressing environmental degradation. The objective of the side event is to explain to UNCCD Focal Points how to access GEF resources for the next reporting cycle (2020) and other enabling activities.

At COP13, the UNCCD invited the GEF to continue its support for the implementation of the Convention under GEF-7 in the context of the SDGs, in particular, target 15.3, and to leverage synergies among the Rio Conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements. It also invited the GEF, during GEF-7, “to continue providing technical and financial support for capacity building, reporting, and voluntary national LDN target setting and implementation.”

GEF support under the GEF-7 LD Focal Area strategy includes financing for UNCCD enabling activities to support the implementation of the UNCCD strategy, in accordance with countries’ obligations to the Convention and based on decisions from the COPs. The GEF-7 LD Focal Area strategy proposes a more strategic approach towards enabling activity support, with a view to mainstreaming SDGs and enabling cross-sectoral coordination in countries.

These enabling activities will be financed by resources set aside from the STAR (non-STAR funding).

Based on the COP decisions, the GEF-7 programming strategies, and building on lessons acquired from the GEF-6 exercise, this side-event will discuss the operationalization of GEF-7 enabling activities, including:

- UNCCD reporting activities (2020), National Action Plans, and long-term strategy (2018-2030);
- Enhanced data framework for LDN and drought-related Convention reporting;
- Global Support Programme III.

The discussion will start with three countries representing different situations and convention annexes sharing their experience and providing feedback. The Global Mechanism, UN Environment, and GEF Secretariat will then discuss how such lessons are taken into account, and describe the plan for Enabling Activities under GEF-7.

Participating countries will receive clear information and templates to prepare their request.

For the latest information please go to www.theGEF.org