

Country ownership and empowerment in SLM

10:00 – 11:30 , 9 September 2017 (Saturday)

Rio Conventions Pavilion, GEF Day

Since the 3rd programming cycle of the GEF (GEF 3), the GEF has tested different approaches to make SLM a reality on the ground. The Country Partnerships Programs (CPP) were the first generation of programmatic approaches, mainly at national level, to increase the visibility of SLM in the development agenda, develop institutional capacities, and set up technical and financing mechanisms to deliver SLM. During GEF 4, countries like China and India developed a robust portfolio of SLM projects under Sustainable Land and Ecosystems Management Programs. More recently, other countries, including Mongolia, Kazakhstan and Tanzania, have developed a national agenda on SLM, with many lessons and best practices emerging out of these experiences. Building on the lessons from these programmatic approaches, countries like Lebanon and Namibia, have recently begun including the LDN concept into their national framework for addressing land degradation and desertification.

The proposed dialogue will bring together UNCCD focal points, CSOs, agencies and partners who were involved in these programs, and draw outlines and messages to replicate and scale up good experiences. The event will be moderated by UNDP, one of the agencies instrumental in supporting countries in these national programming exercises.

Provisional Agenda (as of 28 August 2017)

Time	Agenda Item
5 minutes	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jean-Marc Sinnassamy – Global Environment Facility
10 minutes	Keynote and narrative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phero Kgomotso, UNDP, Regional Service Center for Africa
45 minutes	Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot CPP experiences initiated under GEF 3 (Burkina Faso, Namibia, Cuba) GEF4 SLEM CPP (China, India) UNDP/GEF portfolio in Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Tanzania <p>A synopsis of the different national programming exercises of SLM in different countries will be provided. Several countries (the panelists) will be invited to</p>

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	<p>share their experiences and highlight the lessons learned, in line with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of national coordination and synergy between donors and partners (platforms, CSIF, integrated financing strategies); • Country ownership (capacity development, institutional strengthening) to mainstreaming SLM into the development agenda, financing and sustainability aspects, bottom up approaches, role for women and CSO, etc. • Lessons for future programming - upscaling and advancing the LDN agenda
25 minutes	Questions and Answers
5 minutes	Wrap-up