



**UNDERSTANDING DESERTIFICATION AND
LAND DEGRADATION TRENDS**

Bio-physical and socio-economic monitoring and assessment of desertification and land degradation to support decision making in land and water management

Poster Submission Guidelines

Important Dates for Poster Authors

Abstract Submission Deadline:	28 June 2009
Authors Notification:	27 July 2009
Additional information to Selected Authors:	3 August 2009
Poster Session (during UNCCD COP-9):	21 September – 2 October 2009

Please consult www.drylands.org regularly for updates on the organization of the Poster Session.

Specific guidelines for Argentinian participants will apply. Please see below for further details.

Background information

The DSD (Dryland Science for Development) Consortium¹ has been tasked to assist the UNCCD, and particularly its Committee on Science & Technology (CST) in organizing the first UNCCD CST scientific conference-style meeting to be held from 22-24 September 2009 during the COP-9 in Buenos Aires, Argentina (21 September – 2 October).

Interested scientists have several options for participating or making a contribution to the Conference, including a Competitive Poster Session side event which will take place during the entire duration of the COP-9. The DSD Consortium will select a number of posters that will be included in the scientific Poster Session at the COP-9.

Poster content

As per COP-8 mandate, the CST scientific style-conference is expected to produce sound scientific outputs and policy-oriented, actionable recommendations that can provide useful options and possible solutions to questions and needs of decision-makers. Posters topics therefore must support the conference focus, particularly in developing recommendations for decision-making.

The three interrelated facets of the Conference topic are:

1. *Land Quality Assessment* – Integrated methods for monitoring and assessment of land degradation processes and drivers
 2. *Sustainable Land Management Assessment* – Monitoring and assessing land rehabilitation and sustainable land management
 3. *Economic and Social Drivers and Knowledge Management* – Monitoring and assessment of desertification and land degradation: economic and social drivers and knowledge management
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¹The DSD Consortium includes five partner organisations: European DesertNet, the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA), the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), the European Commission – Joint Research Centre – Institute for Environment and Sustainability (EC-JRC-IES) and the United Nations University International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH).

Poster submission and format

Interested participants should send their Extended Poster Abstract along with the Poster Submission Form to the DSD Secretariat at: secretariat@drylandscience.org.

Argentinian participants interested in participating in the poster session are kindly requested to send their Extended Poster Abstract along with the Poster Submission Form to Prof. Elena Maria Abraham at: abraham@lab.cricyt.edu.ar.

Extended Poster Abstracts should not exceed two pages (A4 format) in Times New Roman 12, single spaced and justified. Margins should be 3 cm for left, and 2.5 cm for top, bottom and right margins.

The Extended Abstracts should include the following:

- Title (capital letters, size 14, bold and centered)
- Name of authors (size 12, normal and centered)
- Author's affiliation with complete name, town, country and e-mail (size 10, italics and centered)
- Abstract (size 11, title in bold and italics, text in italics)
- Keywords – max 4 (size 12, title in bold and text normal)
- Introduction (size 12, title in bold and text normal)
- Body of work (size 12, title in bold and text normal)
- Conclusions (size 12, title in bold and text normal)
- Recommendations for decision-making (size 12, title in bold and text normal)
- References (title in size 12 and bold; text in size 10, normal)

Poster selection

Extended poster abstracts received within the deadline will be evaluated by the DSD members against the following criteria:

- Relevance of the topic to the Conference theme
- Scientific excellence
- Recommendations for decision-making

Extended poster abstracts from Argentinian participants received within the deadline will be evaluated by an ad hoc Argentinian committee.

Additional information

For further information, please visit the DSD website at www.drylandscience.org and the UNCCD website at www.unccd.int.

Email inquiries should be sent to: secretariat@drylandscience.org.

Participation in and/or contribution to the conference can be done through any one of the following:

- Competitive Poster Session side event (during the entire COP-9)
- Online Global Consultation (22 May to 28 June 2009 – please visit the DSD website at www.drylandscience.org)
- Working Groups white paper drafting (by invitation; please email the secretariat with your request at secretariat@drylandscience.org)
- Participation at the CST Conference (22 to 24 September 2009)



Poster Submission Form

Please complete this form and send it to secretariat@drylandscience.org by **28 June 2009** together with the extended poster abstract. Late submissions will not be considered.

*For submissions from Argentinian candidates, please send this form together with the extended poster abstract to abraham@lab.cricyt.edu.ar by **28 June 2009**.*

Title of Poster:	
Lead Author:	Name:
	Organisation:
	Complete Address:
	Email: Phone: Fax:
Co-authors:	Name:
	Organisation:
	Address:
	Email: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Co-authors:	Name:
	Organisation:
	Address:
	Email: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Co-authors:	Name:
	Organisation:
	Address:
	Email: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____

EXTENDED ABSTRACT SAMPLE TEXT

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Abstract: *The multi-country ELTOSA network hinges on the common observation that ecosystems and environmental issues permeate political boundaries. Within ELTOSA, countries are joining efforts to increase the effectiveness of environmental research and information, particularly of processes that cannot be understood with short-term small-scale ecological research, e.g. climate change, land degradation and desertification. Knowledge of long-term processes and episodic events is gathered through site-based long-term monitoring and large-scale processes can be elucidated by comparing data from distributed sites.*

Keywords: long-term monitoring, environmental policy, capacity building, information management.

Introduction

The emerging Environmental Long-Term Observatories of Southern Africa (ELTOSA) is a facilitating regional forum for the national Environmental Observation Networks (EON) in southern Africa was established in 2001 to create synergy among them and to create sufficient critical mass in terms of intellectual and infrastructural capacity. ELTOSA's vision is one where knowledge and understanding of important regional long-term large-scale environmental processes (e.g. desertification, climate change) and episodic events (e.g. droughts, floods) are providing adequate information for appropriate environmental legislation and policy frameworks needed to maintain productive ecosystems and underpin sustainable development on the Sub-continent. Ecosystems and environmental issues are not constrained by political boundaries.

Body of work

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Conclusions

The emerging Environmental Long-Term Observatories of Southern Africa (ELTOSA) is a facilitating regional forum for the national Environmental Observation Networks (EON) in southern Africa was established in 2001 to create synergy among them and to create

sufficient critical mass in terms of intellectual and infrastructural capacity. ELTOSA's vision is one where knowledge and understanding of important regional long-term large-scale environmental processes (e.g.

Recommendations for Decision-making

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References

- Anon, 2004. SADC sub-regional progress report on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Southern Africa. SADC Secretariat, Gaborone.
- Anon, 2005. A strategic plan for ELTOSA. Unpublished.
- Henschel J.R., Seely M.K., Zeidler J., 2000. Long-term ecological research at Gobabeb: gaining and applying knowledge about a highly variable environment. *Journal of the Namibia Scientific Society* 48: 89-115.