

Perspectives: Land Degradation and Desertification around the Globe
 Thursday, 5th Dec (11:00am-12:30pm)

Location: IPCC Pavilion, Hall 6 (Blue Zone)

Short description (max 250 words):

This session brings together authors and scientists from the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land to discuss findings around land degradation and desertification. Authors and guest speakers will discuss land degradation in various regions of the world, with a focus on women and indigenous knowledge.

Moderator: Valérie Masson-Delmotte		
Time	Description	Speaker
5 mins	Opening Remarks and welcome	Valérie
10 mins	Introduction to and overview of land degradation/desertification in SRCCL: current status and risks	Eamon Haughey
10 mins	Introduction to and overview of land degradation/desertification in SRCCL: solutions, response options and sustainable development	Minal Pathak (remote)
10 mins	SRCCL in an African context	Balgis Osman Elasha
10 mins	Guest Talk	UNCCD - TBC
10 mins	Indigenous women and indigenous knowledge for sustainability in Nepal, the Phillipines and Thailand.	Pirawan Wongnithisathaporn (AIPP Program Officer)
35 mins	Q&A session	All
	Closing Remarks/Summary	Valérie

Guidance for external speakers – what should you touch on?

- Land degradation in their region
- Indigenous and local knowledge in tackling land degradation
- Adaptation and case studies

Biographies

Dr Balgis Osman-Elasha (SRCCL Lead Author, Chapter 1) is Climate change and Green Growth Specialist and Regional Coordinator at the North Africa Development and Business Delivery Centre of the African Development Bank. She is a forester by training with a PhD in Forestry and Masters in Environmental Studies. She has more than 20 years of experience spanning natural resources

management, renewable energy and green growth with a special focus on the human dimension of global environmental changes and their impacts on sustainable development. Balgis has served as a leading member in several professional networks in the area of conservation and sustainable development. In 2008 she received a UNEP Champion of the Earth Prize awarded to people with outstanding achievements in the field of environment. In 2007, she was named a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize as a contributor to the IPCC and was selected among the 25 delegates to represent the IPCC community and receive the Prize on their behalf during the official ceremony in Oslo.

Dr. Minal Pathak is Senior Scientist for the IPCC WG III TSU. Minal is based at the Global Centre for Environment and Energy at Ahmedabad University India and closely supports the work of the Professor Shukla, one of the two Working Group III Co-Chairs. Minal's areas of expertise include assessment of mitigation scenarios in the context of sustainable development where she is specifically interested in sectoral demand side solutions in cities. Minal formally joined the TSU in June 2017, but has been providing ad-hoc scientific support for TSU activities since late 2016. She provided scientific support for IPCCs Special Reports on 'Climate Change and Land' and 'Global Warming of 1.5 Degrees C'. Prior to joining the TSU, Minal was a Visiting Scholar at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT and Associate Professor at CEPT University, India. She holds a PhD in Environmental Science.

Dr. Eamon Haughey is Senior Scientist for the IPCC WG III TSU. Based out of Dublin, Ireland, Eamon provides scientific support to the IPCC's Special Report on Climate Change and Land. He is a postdoctoral research fellow at the School of Natural Sciences in Trinity College Dublin, funded by the Irish Environmental Protection Agency. Prior to this he worked as a scientist in the cocoa sustainability program of Mondelēz International. This work focused on improving the economic viability and sustainability of smallholder cocoa farms. Eamon holds a PhD in plant ecology from University College Dublin and Teagasc (Agriculture and Food Development Authority of Ireland), in which he investigated the effects of drought on the ecological functioning and agronomic performance of temperate grasslands. He also holds an MSc in soil science from the University of Aberdeen and continues to have a strong interest in sustainable soil management and land use.

Pirawan Wongnithissathaporn belongs to the Karen indigenous group from Chiangmai, Thailand. She is currently working with the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, which is a regional organization that works for promoting and protecting indigenous peoples' rights.

As a program officer of the Environment program since August, 2017, she has been involved in awareness raising and capacity building activities for indigenous peoples including indigenous women on climate change and indigenous peoples' rights in the local, national and regional levels. A unique part of this programme is the institutionalization of regional learning exchange on the good practices of indigenous peoples where government and indigenous peoples' representatives travel together to indigenous communities to have a dialogue and learning exchange. The regional learning exchange comes out with the knowledge product to make their stories visible in public. The last exchange conducted under her leadership was in the Mountain Province of the Philippines in 2018. Besides capacity building, she is actively participating and contributing in the regional advocacy process; for example; CSO Forum on Social Forestry as well as in the ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWGSF) Conference. She has been actively advocating the rights and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples in this important forum as well as facilitating the participation of indigenous peoples from the ground. This advocacy work is strengthened with the documentation of good

practices of indigenous peoples relating to resource management including climate change adaptation.