

## UN-Land Revitalizing Drylands: Benefits from coordinated action

This side event will highlight the role of land in adapting and mitigating the effects of climate change. Land is one of the major, yet least tapped, natural sinks of carbon dioxide. It can sequester carbon through the plant organic matter in soil. The event will examine land from a new value; that of its capability to sequester and, literally, inhale the excess blanket of CO<sub>2</sub> for conversion into stored carbon that can cool Earth.

UN-Land is an initiative bringing together all United Nations agencies to provide a system-wide guidance, partnership and contribution to reverse and/or prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas, with a view to support poverty reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and environmental sustainability. It provides guidance to public and private sector investments that are supported by UN agencies as well, to coherently respond to opportunities within the mandate of the 10-year strategic plan and framework for implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

### ***Presenters:***

*Sergio Zelaya* - UNCCD Secretariat

*Sarala Gopalan*- IFAP (farmer from India)

*Silvia Donato* - IFAD

### ***Panelists:***

*Stephen Muwaya* - Uganda

*Alejandro Kilpatrick* - Global Mechanism

*Jato Sillah* - Gambia

*Sergei Chernikov* - UN Office for Outer Space Affairs

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**09 December 2009 at 18:00 hrs**

**Room: Victor Borg**

