



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



LDN Fund & TA Facility Strategic Board

Minutes

Conference call, December 16th, 2019

Q4 2019



Meeting Minutes

The second meeting of the LDN Fund & TA Facility Strategic Board took place via conference call on December 16th, 2019.

Participants:

- UNFCCC: Mr Daniele Violetti, Director, UNFCCC
- CBD: Mr Markus Lehmann, CBD (via a separate phone call)
- UNCCD: Mr Juan Carlos Mendoza, UNCCD GM, Managing Director
- UNCCD SPI: Ms Annette Cowie
- WWF France: Ms Véronique Andrieux, Managing Director
- Mirova: Mr Gautier Quéru, LDN Fund Director
- IDH: Ms Nienke Stam, Senior Program Manager, TA Facility

Executive Summary

Update on the LDN Fund and the TA Facility

Mirova and IDH presented progress made by the LDN Fund and the TA Facility, both on the fundraising front as well as regarding operation and deployment.

Mirova and IDH could in particular comment on the implementation of the recommendations given during the first Strategic Board meetings.

Regarding pipeline diversification, both the Fund and the TAF have a balanced pipeline in terms of geography and business model. Such diversification has been allowed by continuous interactions with many stakeholders, including CSO bodies. As special session was planned during COP14 in New Delhi to discuss investment opportunities with civil society organisations.

Regarding concrete case studies, a report was made public at the end of November and is entitled: '[Innovative and inclusive sustainable land management and ecological restoration finance case studies](#)'.

Finally, regarding LDN broad based indicators, further work has been carried out to implement the measure at project level. Following a competitive selection process, Conservation International was chosen to support the operationalisation of LDN indicator measurement. A kick off meeting with representatives of the UNCCD SPI, the GM, CI, WWF, IDH, Mirova took place in September.

Recent public policy developments and market outlook

UNCCD:

The main take aways of the UNCCD COP14 in New Delhi are outlined:

- LDN remains a key guiding principle that can promise multiple benefits to other major global commitments, including on biodiversity and climate.
- LDN monitoring frameworks is making good progress;
- The topic of Drought is gaining strong momentum in the Convention, with the launch of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Drought.
- Land tenure / VGGT/ Gender / Sand and Desert Storms were also presented as main topics to which the Convention has renewed its commitment.
- Messaging point of view: the Delhi declaration is a political program that highlights the messages of the convention. It conveys the message that land restoration is the cheapest solution to biodiversity loss and climate change.



UNFCCC:

- An update was provided on the COP negotiation process on key topics, including Article 6 (e.g., long-term climate finance), loss and damage, COP 25 issues
- LDN is mentioned in the IPCC report on climate change and land. The IPCC new draft will be circulated Jan-March 2020 and nature based solutions are expected to play an important role.
- COP26 will take place in November in Glasgow. There is political pressure to raise ambition
- Nature Based Solutions: nature-based solutions are gaining traction in the climate Convention process, and this includes both Land and Oceans.

WWF:

- WWF recommends ensuring that projects really are bringing conservation benefits, and helping local communities, in order to avoid greenwashing, and projects that are not well-integrated into landscapes.
- As the only conservation organisation on the Strategic Board, WWF's focus is on ensuring that LDN Fund projects bring maximum conservation benefits, within sustainable landscapes.
- The existing partnership between Mirova and WWF is well aligned with those objectives.

Upcoming events in 2020

24-28 February: Second meeting of the CBD Working group

4-8 June: GLF Global Digital Conference, Bonn (alongside SBSTA 1-11 June)

11-18 June: IUCN Nature Summit, Marseille

15 June: One Planet Summit in Marseille

27-31 July: Third meeting of the CBD Working group

20 September: "Nature Summit" in UN GA, New-York

15-28 October: CBD COP15 in Kunming

29 October: Climate Finance Day, Paris

9-20 November: Glasgow UNFCCC COP26



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