

Gender Mainstreaming to Ensure Sustainable Land Management and to Effectively Combat Desertification



Gender Mainstreaming in UNCCD



- **Gender equality** affords the opportunity for all persons to participate in combating desertification

- While **desertification** impacts women and girls and men and boys, it **is not gender neutral**
- Because of **gender discrimination** and the **feminization of poverty** women and girls are impacted by desertification differently than men and boys

Gender Mainstreaming in UNCCD



The important role of women in combating DLDD

- traditional and local knowledge
- household needs including food, water, fuel, animal husbandry, pastoralist
- role in community livelihoods
- provide social values to the youth
- contribute to the economy, though not recognized

- Gender equality will lead toward the effective achievement of SLM and DLDD goals and MDGs
- *From its inception* UNCCD has recognized the ‘important role of women in regions affected by desertification and/or drought’ and in ‘ensuring the full participation of women and men at all levels’ (Preamble)

Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender

Starting point for Parties to meaningfully address issues of gender equality in achieving objectives in the UNCCD's 10-year strategic plan

- Empowering women to
 - participate in the decision-making at all levels
 - be part of the solution as half of the population
 - sustainably manage resources in drylands
 - Be involved in national action plans and reporting
 - capacity building of gender issues in women and men



Recommendations

- Go forward from the paper and the beautiful words to take actions at the national and local levels
- Actions by countries to include a greater number of women and youth from rural communities with DLDD problems in decision-making positions



- Equal access for women and men to all resources at all levels (land, savings and credit systems, technologies, planning)

Final Messages

- The current face of poverty and desertification in the most affected areas is that of women, which must change!



We must consistently wear our gender lens to implement the goals of the Convention in a transformative way for women and men

Thank You

AFAD



Cenesta

Centre for Sustainable Development

IPADE



What are the challenges, opportunities and risks Parties foresee in implementing the Advocacy Policy Framework on Gender?