

11th Meeting of the Science-Policy Interface (SPI)

Date: 17 – 19 February 2020
Venue: UN Campus - Langer Eugen
Meeting Room: 1916
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn, Germany

Working languages: English
Working hours: Monday, 17 February: 10:00 – 13:30, 14:30 – 18:00
Tuesday, 18 February: 09:00-13:00, 14:00 – 18:00
Wednesday, 19 February: 09:00 – 13:00, 14:00 – 18:00

– ANNOTATED AGENDA –

I. Welcome address

The UNCCD Executive Secretary, Ibrahim Thiaw/ Deputy Executive Secretary, Pradeep Monga, will welcome all participants and present views with regard to the Science-Policy interface (SPI).

II. Introduction of the participants

This SPI meeting will be chaired by **Bongani Simon Masuku**, the co-Chair of the SPI and Chair of the Committee of Science and Technology (CST), and the co-Chair of the independent scientist co-Chair after he/she is elected. To facilitate the work of the meeting, the co-Chair will give the floor to participants to briefly introduce themselves.

III. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The co-Chair will propose the provisional agenda and organisation of work for adoption.

IV. SPI group photo

A photo of the members and observers of the SPI will be taken, guided by Helga Karsten, of the secretariat

V. Modalities of work of the SPI

The UNCCD secretariat (Barron Joseph Orr) will recall, among others, the context of work of the SPI and its mandate in line with past decisions of the Conference of Parties (COP) as described in the SPI Terms of Reference (TOR)(Annex 1), SPI Code of Conduct (Annex 2), Conflict of Interest Policy (Annex 3) and Communication Strategy (Annex 4) as agreed by the Bureau of the CST. Additionally, the Role of Authors and Contributors will be highlighted (Annex 6).



Subsequently, the co-Chair will open the floor for questions or clarifications on the SPI mandate and modalities of work. Participants will be asked to read and sign the SPI TOR and assorted policies.

VI. Consideration of relevant decisions of COP14 that impact the work of the CST and of the SPI

Members of secretariat will give short overviews of the COP 14 decisions which affect the work of the SPI and CST

- *Anja Thust and Sara Minelli will present on CRIC and National reporting*
- *Wagaki Wischnewski will present on UNCCD communications strategy and the SPI*
- *Corinna Voigt will present the UNCCD gender action plan and mainstreaming gender into SPI products (Annex 7)*
- *Marcos Montoiro will present on UNCCD COP14 decisions on land tenure*

VII. Report to SPI from former SPI co-Chair - Mariam Akhtar-Schuster

The co-Chair will introduce the former independent scientist and co-Chair of the SPI, Mariam Akhtar-Schuster to give a brief report. The UNCCD secretariat (Richard Byron Cox) will introduce the vision for future fellowships in the context of the UNCCD.

VIII. Introduction to the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021

The secretariat will introduce the SPI Work Programme and will outline expected outputs

- a) From objectives to deliverables**
Technical reports, Science-Policy briefs and UNCCD official documents
- b) Organization of SPI work and milestones**
Timelines of Obj 1 and 2 and coordination activities

IX. Election of an independent scientist as SPI co-Chair and appointment of SPI Rapporteur and SPI leadership roles

Roles to be appointed: Rapporteur, Objective co-Leads/Observer Advisors/ Coordinating Scientific Contributor

X. SPI Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions

Five working sessions are scheduled for the second day of the SPI meeting (Tuesday, 18 February), to introduce and discuss the expected outcomes and methodologies to achieve the objectives of the SPI Work Programme. In the last 30 minutes of the first working session (Tuesday 18 February, from 10:15 - 10:45) secretariat members addressing other relevant COP14 decisions will attend and provide further insights/guidance.

Objective 1 working session:

- *Utchang Kang will present on Sand and Dust Storms and LDN*
- *Pedro Lara Almuedo will present on LDN implementation case studies & GEF proposals*
- *Morgane Chiocchia will present on Rural and urban dynamics on LDN*
- *Marcos Montoiro will be available for discussion on land tenure*



Objective 2 working session:

- *Daniel Tsegai will present on the on the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on effective policy and implementation measures for addressing drought under the UNCCD*
- *Camilla Nordheim-Larsen will present on the implementation of the drought initiatives and pilot exercises on drought*
- *Jeroen Van Dalen will present the Drought Toolbox and other drought knowledge management relevant activities*

During the second objectives working session (Tuesday 18 February 11:00 – 13:00), coordination activities Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII - relating to Objective 1) and Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP - relating to Objective 2) will be introduced with the respective objective working groups.

- GLII will be introduced by SPI Observer Everlyne Nairesiae (UN-Habitat)
- IDMP will be introduced by SPI Observer Robert Stefanski (WMO)

XI. Report back to Plenary on the Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021

The co-Chairs will facilitate a discussion to integrate all that has been discussed with respect to the work programme objectives. This will begin with a report back to the plenary from each of the three working sessions.

XII. SPI coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Introduction in plenary

Coordination activities will be introduced in Plenary for the first hour, after which working sessions will commence.

Coordination activities will be introduced by:

- Intergovernmental Science-Policy platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) – Simone Schiele (tbc)
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - Jim Skea (tbc)
- Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) – Ronald Vargas
- International Resources Panel – Jeff Herrick (tbc)
- Global Land Outlook 2 (GLO2) - Sasha Alexander

XIII. SPI coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions

Preliminary ideas for the format and flow of these working sessions will be provided by the secretariat with the understanding that the members will shape the discussion as needed.

XIV. Report back to Plenary on the coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021

The co-Chairs will facilitate a discussion to integrate all that has been discussed with respect to the coordination activities. This will begin with a report back to the plenary from each of the working sessions.



XV. Other matters

- a) The proposal of an SPI “Early Careers Scientists Programme”
- b) How the SPI might be able to support other major processes of the UNCCD (e.g., the UN Decade on Restoration, Land tenure and other potential new topics),
- c) Any other matter might be discussed by the SPI members and observers under this agenda item, as deemed necessary,
- d) Next SPI meeting,
- e) UNCCD Secretariat will provide a summary of the meeting outcomes and way forward.

XVI. Closing remarks

UNCCD Deputy Executive Secretary, Pradeep Monga will give closing remarks.

Tentative schedule of work

Monday, 17 February 2020	
10:00 – 10:15	I. Welcome address
10:15 – 10:45	II. Introduction of participants
10:45 – 11:00	III. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
11:00 – 11:15	IV. SPI group photo
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30– 12:30	V. Modalities of work of the SPI
12:30 – 13:30	VI. Consideration of relevant decisions of COP 14 that impact the work of the CST and of the SPI
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch break
14:30 – 15:00	VII. Report to SPI from former SPI co-Chair - Mariam Akhtar-Schuster
15:00 – 16:30	VIII. Introduction to the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 17:30	IX. Election of an independent scientist as SPI co-Chair and appointment of SPI Rapporteur and SPI leadership roles
17:30 – 18:00	Logistics and organization for sessions on Tuesday, 18 February
19:00 -	Dinner
Tuesday, 18 February 2020	
09:00 – 09:10	Initiating working sessions in Plenary
09:10 – 10:45	X. SPI Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions (other relevant COP14 decisions will be addressed in Objective working groups)
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 13:00	X. SPI Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions continued (coordination activities GLII and IDMP will be introduced)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 16:00	X. SPI Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions continued



16:00 – 16:15	Coffee break
16:15 – 17:15	X. SPI Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions continued
17:15 – 17:45	X. SPI Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions continued
17:45 – 18:00	XI. Report back to Plenary on the Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 (setting the stage for tomorrow mornings session)
Wednesday, 19 February 2020	
09:00 – 09:10	Initiating working sessions in Plenary
09:10 – 10:45	XI. Report back to Plenary on the Objectives 1 and 2 of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 (this should include any inputs of the GLII and IDMP coordination activities)
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	XII. SPI coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Introduction in plenary (IPBES, IPCC, ITPS, UNEP-IRP, GLO2)
12:00 – 13:00	XIII. SPI coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions continued
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 16:00	XIII. SPI coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021 – Working sessions continued
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee break
16:15 – 17:15	XIV. Report back to Plenary on the coordination activities of the SPI Work Programme 2020-2021
17:15 – 17:50	XV. Other matters
17:50 – 18:00	XVI. Closing remarks

List of Annexes:

Annex 1 – Terms of Reference of the SPI

Annex 2 – SPI Code of Conduct

Annex 3 – SPI Conflict of Interest Policy

Annex 4 – Communication Strategy

Annex 5 – SPI Work programme 2020-2021

Annex 6 – ICMJE Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors

Annex 7 – UNCCD Gender Action Plan