

## Science-Policy Interface work programme for the biennium 2016–2017

### Objectives and deliverables

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>
1: Provide scientific guidance to the operationalization of the voluntary land degradation neutrality (LDN) target	A user guide for implementing LDN at the country level based on a review of proposed conceptual and methodological frameworks that would scientifically underpin the implementation of LDN
2: Highlight the science-based synergistic potential of sustainable land management (SLM) practices to address DLDD, climate change mitigation and adaptation	A report that will include the following three sections as well as associated policy brief(s):
2a: Foster and facilitate the adoption of SLM practices which address DLDD while mitigating climate change	Section 1 of the report will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Explore the potential of SLM practices to contribute to both climate change mitigation and addressing DLDD;</li><li>(ii) Review incentives and obstacles for the adoption of sustainable land use practices at different scales;</li><li>(iii) Provide options for enhancing climate change mitigation (increasing carbon sequestration and/or reducing emissions) and addressing DLDD through SLM practices.</li></ul>
2b: Foster and facilitate the adoption of SLM practices which address DLDD while enhancing climate change adaptation	Section 2 of the report will present state-of-the-art knowledge on experience in land management practices that can qualify as land-based climate change adaptation practices. The report will also summarize land users' responses to drought in affected areas over several millennia and provide information on responses to emerging occurrences of droughts. Based on this information the report will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) Provide guidance for SLM practices that could increase adaptability to climate change projections in affected areas ;</li><li>(ii) Provide relevant information for supporting informed policymaking and inform policy-makers, research funding bodies and the scientific community on existing knowledge gaps in terms of achieving land-based climate change adaptation;</li><li>(iii) Identify existing knowledge gaps in terms of achieving land-based climate change adaptation;</li><li>(iv) Review incentives and obstacles for the adoption of sustainable land use practices at different scales.</li></ul>

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Deliverable</i>
2c: Critically evaluate the conclusions of 2a and 2b to ensure the clear understanding of synergies and trade-offs between climate change mitigation and adaptation, and SLM practices which reduce land degradation	Section 3 of the report will provide a critical analysis of the potential synergies and trade-offs between climate change mitigation and adaptation, and SLM practices which reduce land degradation in different biomes and regions.
3: Encourage the development and implementation of specific rehabilitation, restoration and reclamation measures and practices in degraded lands	A report providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) An assessment of existing land management practices suitable for the rehabilitation, restoration or reclamation of degraded lands with regard to the lands' potential, including associated costs;</li> <li>(ii) Scientific guidance and policy options for addressing degraded lands taking into account the lands' potential and the different degrees of degradation severity in different biomes and regions, based on the assessments referred to in point (a) above and available best practice case studies.</li> </ul>

## **Coordination activities**

<i>Coordination area</i>	<i>Activity</i>
1: Follow up and contribute to the land degradation and restoration assessment (LDRA) conducted by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)	The Science-Policy Interface (SPI) will contribute to the LDRA in accordance with the procedure established by the IPBES.
2: Contribute to the development of the Global Land Outlook (GLO)	SPI members should participate in the steering committee and the review process of the GLO.
3: Follow up on current collaboration with and explore further means of collaboration with the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)	Collaboration will be based on the topics jointly agreed by the SPI and the ITPS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable Development Goal related to the objective of the Convention (SDG target 15.3)</li> <li>• Indicators serving the 3 Rio conventions</li> <li>• Soil organic carbon</li> </ul>
4: Initiate and coordinate interactions between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	With the support of the secretariat, the SPI will explore the possibility for the IPCC to address the link between climate change and land degradation in its future work.