



Concept note on the organisation of the UNCCD Technology Fair

Background and justification

In Article 18 of the Convention, Parties agree to promote the transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of environmentally sound, economically viable and socially acceptable technologies, and to encourage and actively support the improvement and dissemination of such technology¹. The Conference of the Parties (COP) has taken several important decisions aimed at encouraging implementation of Article 18².

The concept, vision and purpose of the Technology Fair

The UNCCD will organize its first ever "Technology for Sustainable Land Management Fair (TF)" at COP 13. This TF will offer COP13 attendees an opportunity to see the latest and most effective technology and innovation in action. It will facilitate contact and interaction among land users, policy makers, academic/ research institutions and the private sector on available SLM technologies.

The Fair is designed to be a meeting space to promote the best SLM technologies and will reinforce the importance of developing and disseminating appropriate technology for the implementation of the UNCCD process. It should create a new entry point for greater and stronger partnerships, in particular with private sector enterprises. It will create a buzz at the COP in China and lead to a dynamic new agenda that should allow technology and technology transfer to play a more substantive role in the implementation process going forward.

Operation, management and content

- The aim is to demonstrate a variety of innovative, unique, efficient and effective technologies.
- Invitations to exhibit at the TF shall be open to all entities, public or private, offering such technologies including country Parties, private sector enterprises and academic and research institutions.
- The TF will run for the duration of COP 13.
- Exhibitors will have the chance to engage with the policy makers and the public. Apart from the physical exhibition displays - there will be scope, in the exhibition booths, for electronic displays to facilitate presentations.
- In addition, a Technology Fair Spot will be established as a central location from where exhibitors may present and demonstrate, on a regular basis, their innovation, brief guests and undertake panel discussions or one-on-one interviews. A schedule for presentations will be established in consultation with confirmed exhibitors.

The Secretariat can provide only those services as offered to participants in our normal exhibition area. All other costs must be borne by the exhibitors in the TF. All Participants must accept the specific terms and conditions for participation as determined by the Secretariat in consultation with the local organizing authorities.

¹See Article 18 of the Convention

²See this links for all decisions: <http://www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Capacity-building/CBW/Features/Pages/Capacity-Building-in-the-Action-Programmes.aspx>