

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System
Fifth reporting cycle, 2014-2015 leg

Report from The Bahamas as affected country Party



July 31, 2014

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Operational objective 1: Advocacy, awareness raising and education

CONS-O-1

Number and size of information events organized on the subject of desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) and/or DLDD synergies with climate change and biodiversity, and audience reached by media addressing DLDD and DLDD synergies

Global target

Percentage of population informed about DLDD and/or DLDD synergies with climate change and biodiversity

30 %

2018

National contribution to the global target

Percentage of national population informed about DLDD and/or DLDD synergies with climate change and biodiversity

60

2011

2013

2015

2017

2019

Voluntary national target

Percentage of national population informed about DLDD and/or DLDD synergies with climate change and biodiversity

% Year

Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

Information events

Year	Number of events	Total estimated participants
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012	6	180000
2013	10	218000
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Mass media articles and radio/television programmes about these events

Year	Number	Estimated people reached
2012	10	96100
2013	15	117400
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Sources of information

- Bahamas Protected Areas website www.bahamasprotected.com
- Newspaper articles, Brochures, Posters, Environmental Camps, Youth Forum, Teaching Aids/ Games
- Exhibitions, Booklets, School Outreach, Art Competition, Biodiversity Tour
- Youth Forum, Environmental Camps, Presentations, Media Programmes using Tv and Radio
- Awareness activities on climate change and sustainable forestry management
- Click242 Nature App a daily Bahamian environmental field designed to increase public awareness

Qualitative assessment

Does your country have a national communication strategy addressing DLDD and/or DLDD synergies with climate change and biodiversity in place?

Yes

No

Operational objective 1: Advocacy, awareness raising and education

Provide any complementary information as needed (e.g., regarding the implementation of the Comprehensive Communication Strategy, activities relating to the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification, etc.):

Created Click242 Nature App that provides The Bahamian environmental field in daily basis, is designed to increase public awareness about the Bahamian environment and the organizations which work to educate the public and manage the country's natural resources, including Protected Areas. Also use of Internet social media such as facebook

Operational objective 1: Advocacy, awareness raising and education

CONS-O-3

Number of civil society organizations (CSOs) and science and technology institutions (STIs) participating in the Convention processes

Global target

A steady growth in the participation of CSOs and STIs in the Convention processes is recorded along the implementation period of The Strategy.

National contribution to global target: number of CSOs and STIs involved in DLDD-related programmes/ projects

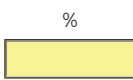
Year	Number of civil society organizations	Number of science and technology institutions
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012	8	1
2013	8	1
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Sources of information: name of the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs the CSOs and STIs

The Bahamas National Trust www.bnt.bs
The Nature Conservancy (Bahamas) www.nature.org
Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Foundation (BREEF) www.breef.org
Friends of the Environment www.friendsoftheenvironment.org
Young Marine Explorers (YME) www.ymebahamas.org
Andros Conservancy and Trust www.ancat.net
Cape Eleuthera Institute www.ceibahamas.org
Ministry of the Environment and Housing Forestry Unit www.bahamasforestry.com
Bahamas Protected Areas www.bahamasprotected.com

Voluntary national target

Percent increase in the number of CSOs and STIs participating in the Convention process at national level, per biennium



Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

The CSOs and STIs have been continuing providing education and awareness campaigns aligned to the Sustainable Land Management, Climate Change impacts and Conservation of Biodiversity. The CSOs and STIs collaborates well with the Government Agencies and especially the BEST Commission in addressing and implementing the Land Management, Climate Change and Biodiversity.

Operational objective 1: Advocacy, awareness raising and education

Qualitative
assessment

Is your country undertaking initiatives to increase the participation of CSOs and STIs in DLDD-related programmes and projects?

Yes No

Provide a short description of actions taken at the national level to promote participation by CSOs and STIs in the Convention processes.

CSO supported by The BEST Commission (the Focal Point), and some are funded through the Focal Point.
In Forestry - about 30+ CSOs received training on forest resources management between 2012-2013. The workshop was funded by the FAO, enhanced stakeholder with the knowledge such as identification of native/indigenous plant species in The Bahamian Pine Forest, native birds and other terrestrial species, including utilization of tools and instruments to conduct forest assessment and management

Operational objective 1: Advocacy, awareness raising and education

CONS-O-4

Number and type of DLDD-related initiatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) and science and technology institutions (STIs) in the field of education

Global target

A steady growth in the number of DLDD-related education initiatives undertaken by CSOs and STIs is recorded along the implementation period of The Strategy

National contribution to the global target: number of DLDD-related initiatives implemented by CSOs and STIs in the field of education

Year	Number of CSOs initiatives	Number of STIs initiatives
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012	1	0
2013	2	0
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Sources of information

1. Bahamas Protected Areas www.bahamasprotected.com
2. The Bahamas National Trust <http://www.bnt.bs/> conducts training on the National Parks, importance of indigenous plants and ecosystem for The Bahamas, and the need of protection. Also responsible for protected park management.

Voluntary national target

Percent increase in the number of DLDD-related education initiatives undertaken by CSOs and STIs, per biennium

%

Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

Qualitative assessment

Is your country undertaking initiatives to increase the number of DLDD-related initiatives in the education sector implemented by CSOs and STIs?

Yes

No

Provide a short description of actions taken at the national level to increase the number of DLDD-related initiatives of CSOs and STIs in the field of education.

At the national level, the CSOs have programmes to increase awareness and conduct training on protected areas, biodiversity and climate change. In the public awareness campaign through The Bahamas National Coastal Awareness Committees (NCAC), five threats to the integrity of our coastal zones were identified. The issue of "land degradation" was among one of the five threats identified. Moreover, the Bahamas recognizes and is committed to protecting its biological diversity through sustainable land use. 6 series of training workshops were conducted in 2013 including Reef Check, Capacity Building for CSOs, Protected Area Network Management Effectiveness Evaluation for Building a Sustainable Marine Protected Area System, Biodiversity and Sustainable Forestry Management. In addition, a model for Sustainable Tourism for the Exuma Cays was established in 2013, it is built based on three principles: environmental, economic, and socio-cultural aspects of tourism development, which complements the three dimensions to guarantee its long-term sustainability.

CONS-0-5 Number of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities to have finalized the formulation/revision of national, subregional and regional action programmes (NAPs/SRAPs/RAPs) aligned to The Strategy, taking into account biophysical and socio-economic information, national planning and policies, and integration into investment frameworks

Global target Percentage of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities that have formulated/ revised a NAP/SRAP/RAP aligned to The Strategy **≥ 80 %** **2018**

National contribution to the global target

Does your country have a NAP aligned to the Strategy? Yes No

Qualitative assessment

Is your NAP being implemented? Yes No

Please answer the following two questions only if your country has not aligned the NAP to the Strategy

Voluntary national target

When do you plan to align your NAP to the Strategy? 2014-2015
 2016-2017
 2018-2019
 No Plan Yet

Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

Qualitative assessment

Provide any complementary information as needed (e.g., national circumstances affecting the NAP alignment and implementation process)

Technical and Finance Resorces

Sources of information

CONS-O-7

Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation, at all levels

Global target

Each affected country Party has either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies among the three Rio conventions

2014

National contribution to the global target

Was your country implementing joint planning/programming initiatives for the three Rio conventions in the current reporting period?

Yes

Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions

No

Were there any operational mechanisms that facilitated joint implementation of the three Rio Conventions during the current reporting period?

Yes

Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions

No

Please answer the following questions if your country has such initiatives or mechanisms in place

Qualitative assessment

If your country has initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions, specify the type of joint initiative(s):

Evaluation of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies

Identification of national sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation

Review of national policies to enhance cooperation and synergies

Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacities and awareness of relevant stakeholders

Other (please describe below):

The Bahamas Environment Science and Technology (BEST) Commission has meetings with the other Focal Points regarding work on the Conventions, and reports on the work done on the CBD such as work done for GEF IWCAM Bahamas Andros Land & Sea Use Plan project and the wide Protected Areas in the country.

Qualitative assessment

If your country has mechanisms for joint implementation, specify the type of mechanism(s):

Regular meetings between focal points and focal point teams of the Rio conventions

A national coordinating committee for the implementation of the Rio conventions

National coordination on synergies in reporting under the Rio conventions

Other (please describe below):

The GEF Focal Point, BEST would indicate the status of planning, programmes and projects, and status of Reports under the Rio Conventions

Provide any complementary information as needed:

Minutes of GEF Meetings and Progress Reports on Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation under the Rio Conventions

Sources of information

CONS-O-8 Number of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities to have established and supported a national/subregional/regional monitoring system for DLDD

Global target Percentage of affected country Parties, subregional and regional reporting entities that have established and supported national monitoring systems for DLDD **≥ 60 %** **2018**

National contribution to the global target Is a monitoring system specifically dedicated to DLDD established in your country? Yes No

Please answer the following questions if your country has not established and supported national monitoring systems for DLDD by the end of the current reporting period

Voluntary national target When does your country plan to establish and support a national monitoring system for DLDD? 2014-2015
2016-2017
2018-2019
No Plan Yet

Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

Sources of information

Qualitative assessment

Does your country have a monitoring system partially covering DLDD? Yes No

Provide any complementary information as needed (e.g., major difficulties experienced, how the system is being supported, etc.):

Knowledge-sharing systems

List any DLDD-relevant knowledge-sharing system in your country, providing an Internet link and estimated number of users per year (add as many rows as necessary).

Name of the system:

Internet link:

Estimated number of users per year:

Operational objective 3: Science, technology and knowledge

CONS-0-10

Number of revised NAPs/SRAPs/RAPs reflecting knowledge of DLDD drivers and their interactions, and of the interaction of DLDD with climate change and biodiversity

Global target

Percentage of revised NAPs/SRAPs/RAPs that have successfully gone through a quality self-assessment.

≥ 70 %

2018

CONS-O-13

Number of countries, subregional and regional reporting entities engaged in building capacity to combat DLDD on the basis of the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) or other methodologies and instruments

Global target

Percentage of affected country Parties, subregional and regional reporting entities that implement DLDD-specific capacity-building plans or programmes/projects

≥ 90 %

National contribution to the global target

Is your country implementing DLDD-specific capacity-building plans or programmes/projects on the basis of the NCSA?

Yes No

Is your country implementing DLDD-specific capacity-building plans or programmes/projects on the basis of other methodologies and instruments to assess national capacity-building needs?

Yes No

Provide any relevant information on the size, scope, effectiveness and status of the initiatives implemented, or other complementary information as needed

The Forestry Department of the Ministry of the Environment & Housing in collaboration with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Bahamas National Trust (BNT) held Forest Management Training Workshop in New Providence and Abaco in 2012/2013. About 20 persons from different form difference agencies and community groups were trained to conduct forest resources assessment, including saw millers and Training and sensitization sessions were held. As well as GIS and Remote Sensing technology use in forestry management, Biomass determination, Forest Carbon Stock assessment and Forest Resource Assessment in relation to Sustainable Forest Management and Governance and Forest Monitoring. Implementation of Pine Islands project - Forestry/ Mangrove Innovation and Integration (Grand Bahama, New Providence, Abaco and Andros) is underway.

The Second National Communication to UNFCCC provided training in Greenhouse Gas inventory and had consultations in mitigation and adaptation to climate change among other areas.

Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Workshop, Consultation and Project design for GEF Support to Development of a legislative and operational framework for access and benefit-sharing (ABS) of genetic resources and bioprospecting for The Bahamas was conducted in 2012/2013.

Sources of information

The Bahamas Forestry Unit <http://www.bahamasforestry.com>

Global Environment Facility (GEF) Liaison Officer & Task Manager UNEP

Qualitative assessment

Has your country assessed DLDD-related capacity-building needs?

Yes No

Did you country receive technical and/or financial assistance to build capacities to combat DLDD?

Yes No

From which institutions and which type of assistance was provided?

Financial

Technical

UNCCD Secretariat

Global Mechanism

Global Environment Facility

Bilateral agencies

Other multilateral organizations

CONS-O-14

Number of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities whose investment frameworks, established within the integrated financing strategy (IFS) devised by the Global Mechanism (GM) or within other IFSs, reflect leveraging national, bilateral and multilateral resources to combat DLDD

Global target

Percentage of affected country Parties, subregional and regional reporting entities that have developed integrated investment frameworks (IIFs)

≥ 50 %

2014

National contribution to the global target

Does your country have an integrated investment framework?

Yes

No

Provide any complementary information as needed (e.g. is the IIF based on the NAP; non-traditional and innovative financing targeted by the IIF; overview of the progress in implementing the IIF in your country; assistance received in the development or implementation of the IIF from the GM or other development partners, etc.)

The Finance and Technology framework for NAP implementation would be established. The Aligned NAP would be updated to accommodate priorities, including national targets for investment.

Sources of information

NAP

Please answer the following questions only if your country has not developed an IIF by the end of the reporting period

Voluntary national target

When does your country plan to establish an IIF?

2014-2015

2016-2017

2018-2019

No Plan Yet

Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

CONS-O-16

Degree of adequacy, timeliness and predictability of financial resources made available by developed country Parties to combat DLDD

Rating of the bilateral assistance received for the implementation of the Convention and its Strategy during the reporting period

Adequacy of bilateral assistance received	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fairly adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
Timeliness of bilateral assistance received	Timely	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fairly timely	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not timely	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
Predictability of bilateral assistance received	Predictable	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fairly predictable	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not predictable	<input type="checkbox"/>

Provide any complementary information (e.g., additional information on other aspects beyond those mentioned above which impact proper planning and effective implementation of the Convention in your country, etc.)

No assistance was requested.

Qualitative assessment

Did your country receive assistance in raising resources from bilateral donors? Yes No

CONS-O-18

Amount of financial resources and type of incentives which have enabled access to technology by affected country Parties

Global target

A steady growth in the financial resources allocated to facilitate access to technology by affected country Parties is recorded along the implementation period of the Strategy

A steady growth in the number of economic and policy incentives reported upon is recorded along the implementation period of the Strategy

National contribution to the target: estimated amount of financial resources allocated to facilitate access to technology

Year	Currency	Amount
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Has your country established economic and policy incentives intended to facilitate access to technology? Yes No

Sources of information

Voluntary national target

Percentage increase of financial resources allocated to facilitate access to technology by a given year % Year

Which national target your country has established to measure progress in achieving the priorities established in the national action programme, if different from the target suggested above?

Qualitative assessment

Provide any complementary information as needed (e.g., a short overview of specific aspects and the nature of technology transfer in your country, aspects in which there is a need to increase the level of technology transfer, etc.)

Identification

Identification code

Enter the Identification Code (ID), number or acronym given to the activity funded (if known)

Name of the activity
funded

Enter the name or title of the activity, project, programme, organization or initiative

Reporting process-related issues

Financial resources

Could your country count on sufficient financial resources to meet UNCCD reporting obligations? Yes No

Provide an estimate of the amount invested from your country's national budget into the current UNCCD reporting process

Year	Currency	Amount
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Human resources

Provide an estimate of the people involved in your country in the UNCCD reporting process, and of the total number of months dedicated by these persons to the reporting process

Year	Number of people	Number of months
2008		
2009		
2010		
2011		
2012	1	1
2013	1	1
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		
2018		

Knowledge

Could your country count on sufficient technical and scientific knowledge to meet UNCCD reporting obligations? Yes No

If no, describe the main reasons and the difficulties encountered

There is no specific programme to address DLDD in The Bahamas, our efforts are more into addressing UNFCCC and CBD that mostly affect our social and economic well-being of the Country. Also, lack of data to support producing the report was a major factor.

Coordination

Was coordination at the national level with the relevant line ministries satisfactory in order to report comprehensively and coherently? Yes No

Participation and consultation

Was a participatory or consultative approach applied to involve all relevant stakeholders in the reporting process? Yes No

Validation

Was a validation meeting held as a part of the reporting process? Yes No

Subregional and regional processes

Did your country cooperate with the entities entrusted with preparing the subregional and regional action programme reports?

Yes

No

Accommodation of specific requests within decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties

Reporting on specific COP requests: iterative process on indicators

Tick the boxes only if you have experienced difficulties in reporting on one or more performance indicator(s). When doing so, place the tick mark under the e-SMART criterion for which the difficulty occurred.

	Economic	Specific	Measurable	Achievable	Relevant	Time-bound
CONS-0-1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-10	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-13	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-16	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONS-0-18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other country-specific issues

Does your country have any specific issue to bring to the attention of the Conference of the Parties? Yes No

If yes, please specify under which of the following broad categories it can be classified

- Policy, legislative and/or institutional framework
- Capacity-building and awareness-raising
- Desertification/land degradation and drought and sustainable land management monitoring and assessment/research
- Funding/resource mobilization
- Knowledge management and decision-making support
- Participation, collaboration and networking
- Reporting and review process
- Other

Please describe below:

Policy guidance is important for Sustainable Land Management and Land Policy to combat land degradation related to tourism and urban demand.
Capacity building and awareness campaign is required to ensure knowledge is wide shared with public

Submission form

Name of the reporting officer	Hilda Pius Luoga
Date of completion	30/07/2014
Please enter your email address to authorize this submission	hildaluoga@bahamas.gov.bs
Name of the authorizing officer	Philip S. Weech, National Focal Point
Date of authorization	31/07/2014
Please enter your email address to authorize this submission	philipweech@bahama.gov.bs