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Swedish contributions to the UN convention to combat desertification

Sida has been working with programmes that directly or indirectly address activities to combat desertification for the last two years. It has over the years been a diversified activity with examples from global, regional and local/bilateral level. The results from these activities show that they have had significant value in the desertification work.

Some of the activities Sida supported over the years have been adjacent to recent work in climate adaptation and mitigation. One could say that the work to combat desertification has been a pioneer work for the climate agenda.

The list of activities connected to the work within the UN convention to combat desertification and the list of outcome budgets show that this has been a significant work for Sweden and Sida. The activities comprise research, capacity development, leadership development, services as well as development of water reservoirs directed towards the most vulnerable parts of the poor population.

Row Labels	Sum of Sum of Outcome_2012	Sum of Sum of Outcome_2013
Deserts Principal Objective	47 162 368	72 699 158
Bilateral	10 638 538	10 299 158
Multi	0	5 000 000
Multi-Bi	36 523 830	57 400 000
Deserts Significant Objective	746 747 122	644 193 970
Bilateral	260 372 724	320 510 407
Core cont. to NGOs/PPPs	94 395 001	72 204 349
Multi	250 000 000	211 036 932
Multi-Bi	141 979 397	40 442 282
Grand Total	793 909 490	716 893 128

Note: there is a decrease between 2012 to 2013, from 793 MSEK to 716 MSEK. We foresee that these fluctuations are within the normal fluctuation of projects phasing out, coming in.

Examples of Swedish contributions to the UN convention to combat desertification

Sida's support range from Water and Sanitation, Water resources management (Kenya, Burkina Faso, Mali); Agriculture and forestry (Kenya, Mali, Burkina Faso) Social protection (Ethiopia), Challenge fund Water (Global) International Training programmes, (West Africa) Core support International research organisations, International NGOs, to Humanitarian Assistance.

CGIAR

CGIAR^[2] is a global partnership between research organizations that works to reduce poverty and famine, to improve health and nutrition and to increase the resistance of the ecosystems through international research, partnership and leadership. The World Bank, USA and various UN organizations are the main funders. Sida has supported CGIAR since 1973. The Sida contribution 2013 is 248 MSEK. Of these 14 MSEK is targeted for Dryland Systems. *Principal objective.*

Support to United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

UNCCD facilitates the monitoring of the Convention and enables members to actively engage.

In 2013 Sweden supported UNCCD within in their regular budget with 0,7 MSEK. *Principal objective.*

Water Reservoir Programmes in Burkina Faso

In order to ensure food production in the arid Burkina Faso you need to be able to store water between the rain periods. In the Water Reservoir Programme, old small-scale water reservoirs have been repaired and new ones been built which are important for people in rural areas. To reduce the poor populations' exposure to drought when the climate is changing is an important objective of the project. The poorest provinces have therefore been given priority when choosing where the reservoirs will be built. Just small and medium-sized water reservoirs have proven to be important for reducing poverty and contributing to local development in several ways, such as an increased local business market in which vegetables are sold, or fish production. Support to the Water Reservoir Programmes in Burkina Faso has also decreased the vulnerability of small dams affected by climate change. The programme has contributed to improved food security for more than 1000 people living in poverty by securing 24 million cubic meter of water for

^[2] <http://www.cgiar.org>

food production. Irrigated plots have been distributed and production of vegetables for the local market has started. A guide for climate integration in constructions of dams has also been produced, and awareness among different stakeholders has been raised. Sida has supported the programme with 0,95 MSEK during 2012 and 2013. *Significant objective.*

ITP in West Africa, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, SMHI

The Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute has, together with other partners, implemented an international training programme focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation (including drought and land degradation). About 450 participants (36% women) from 53 countries have been trained and provided with tools to identify vulnerable sectors in their countries and to develop projects in their own countries with support from the organisers. The target group has been individuals in leading positions in administration, national or local, non-governmental organisations, universities or companies. Evaluations show that the participants rate the course highly and that the training has greatly increased their knowledge of climate change. A large majority of the participants also thought that the content was of great significance to their continued work, and a number of important contacts with various experts were established. Sida supported the contribution with 4,8MSEK during 2012 and 2013. *Significant objective.*

European Capacity Building Initiative

Sida support the European Capacity Building Initiative (ecbi) for sustained capacity building in support of international climate change negotiations. The ecbi aims to promote a more level playing field between government delegations to the international climate change negotiations, and to facilitate mutual understanding and trust both between European and developing countries and among the developing countries. Through trust-building seminars, regional training workshops, policy reports, bursaries for LDC negotiators from Africa and Asia, a website for awareness creation, mentoring and encouragement, ecbi has created an environment for negotiators that is conducive for honest and open discussions on climate change issues, including drought and land degradation. Almost 700 negotiators have participated in the activities, given them new skills, knowledge and confidence to play a more effective role in the climate change negotiations. The initiative has direct impact on the negotiations. Sida has supported the initiative with 5MSEK in 2012 and 2013. *Significant objective.*

Decentralised Forest Management Programme, Mali

In Mali which is dominated by desert landscape, there is a lot of pressure on the forest, pasture land and arable land. Sorghum and millet, which forms the basis of the Mali diet is entirely dependent on the rain periods, but as climate change affects rainfall, crop yields have decreased. To compensate for the reduced incomes, deforestation increases, bringing with it other major problems. The Sida-financed GEDEFOR programme has helped preserve the forest by decentralising

its administration and providing people with alternative livelihoods. Horticulture provides a new source of income that villagers are learning to invest in, where drilled wells provide the opportunity to irrigate small cultivations with lettuce, carrot, cabbage and occra, between the rainy periods. Beekeeping is another way to earn a living. In addition, the programme also carries out training, so called Farmer workshops, in cooperation with local players. Besides being able to discuss their own experiences, the villagers learn about climate change and its negative effects and how deforestation leads to soil erosion and a loss of biodiversity, which makes the production systems even more vulnerable. In this way, the people improve their ability to adapt to changing climatic conditions. Sida has supported the programme with 2,6MSEK during 2012 and 2013. *Significant objective.*

International Institute for Environment and Development, IIED

IIED is a global leader on sustainable development and as an independent international action research organization, IIED are specialists in linking local to global. IIED work with some of the world's most vulnerable people to ensure they have a say in the policy arenas that most closely affect them — from village councils to international conventions. IIED's has a specific work stream related to adaptation in dry-lands with emphasis on pastoralism in Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Sudan. Of particular importance to UNCCD is the IIEDs work in the Sahel with decentralization processes related to natural resources governance. Sida has supported IIED for many years, currently with 72 mSEK over five years (2009-2013). *Significant objective.*

Somalia Resilience Program (SomRep)

SomRep is a programme led by a number of International NGOs with longstanding operations in Somalia such as CARE and Oxfam. The objective is to build household and community resilience to drought, and related risks in Somalia by specifically enhancing the resilient productive capacities of pastoral, agro-pastoral and peri-urban households and community groups in selected locations. The resilience approach that the Consortium will take will focus on securing what people have against predictable shocks, while building local adaptive capacity to deal with uncertainty and change. Sida supports SomRep with 13 MSEK. *Significant objective.*