



**United Nations**  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

# Earth Observation for the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework

**UN-Space Open Day**  
**19 October 2023**

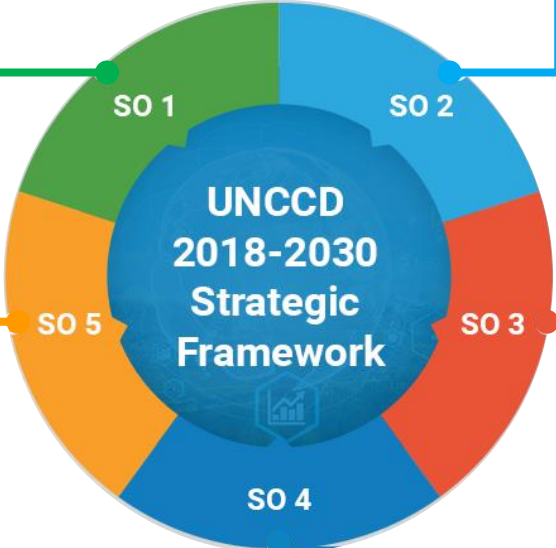
# UNCCD background

- The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was established in 1994 to protect and restore our land and ensure a safer, just, and more sustainable future.
- One of the three Rio Conventions
- The UNCCD is the only legally binding framework set up to address desertification and the effects of drought. There are 197 Parties to the Convention, including 196 country Parties and the European Union.



# UNCCD strategic objectives

To improve the condition of affected ecosystems, combat desertification/land degradation, promote sustainable land management and contribute to land degradation neutrality



To improve the living conditions of affected populations

To mitigate, adapt to, and manage the effects of drought in order to enhance resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems

To mobilize substantial and additional financial and nonfinancial resources to support the implementation of the Convention by building effective partnerships at global and national level

To generate global environmental benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD

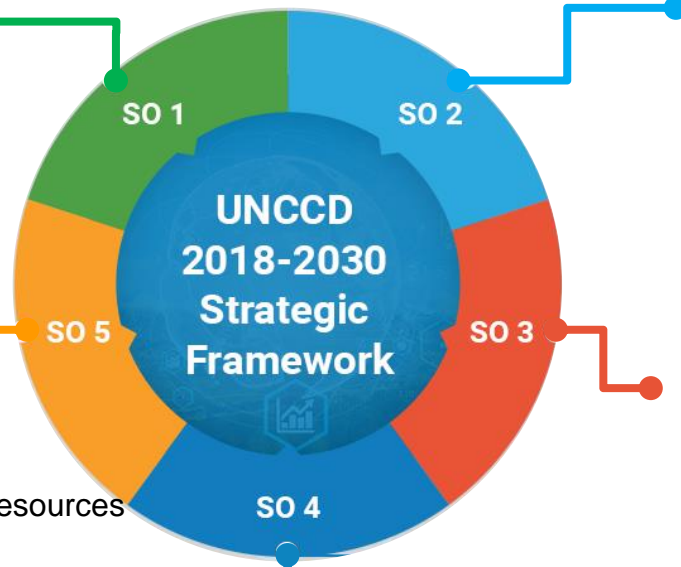
# Indicator framework

## Trends in:

- Land cover
- Land productivity
- Carbon stocks above and below ground
- SDG indicator 15.3.1 – Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area

## Trends in:

- Bilateral and multilateral public resources
- Domestic public resources
- International and domestic private resources
- Technology transfer
- Future support for activities related to the implementation of the Convention



## Trends in:

- Carbon stocks above and below ground
- Abundance and distribution of selected species
- Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

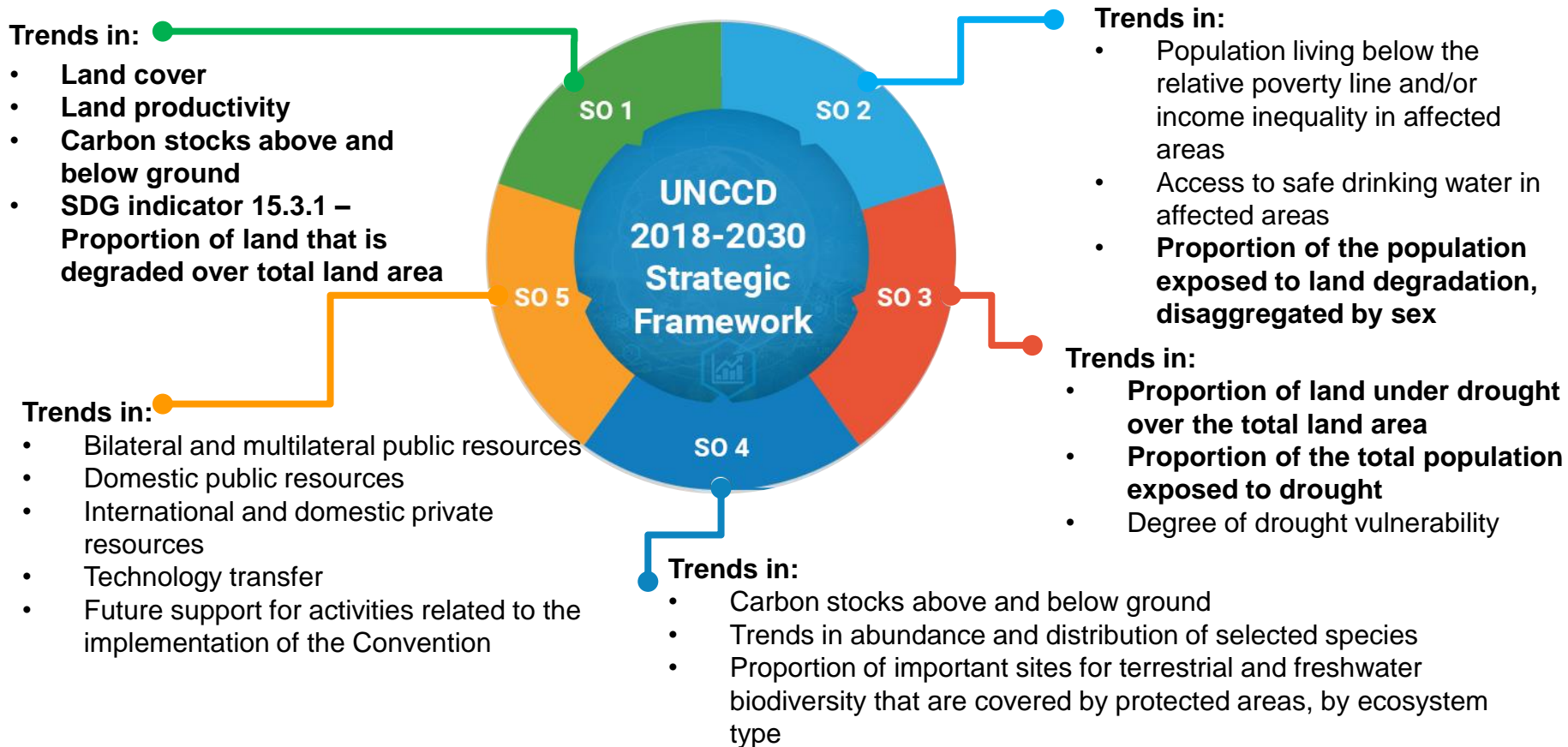
## Trends in:

- Population living below the relative poverty line and/or income inequality in affected areas
- Access to safe drinking water in affected areas
- Proportion of the population exposed to land degradation, disaggregated by sex

## Trends in:

- Proportion of land under drought over the total land area
- Proportion of the total population exposed to drought
- Degree of drought vulnerability

# Indicator framework



# SDG Indicator 15.3.1 Approach

Tier 1

LAND  
COVER



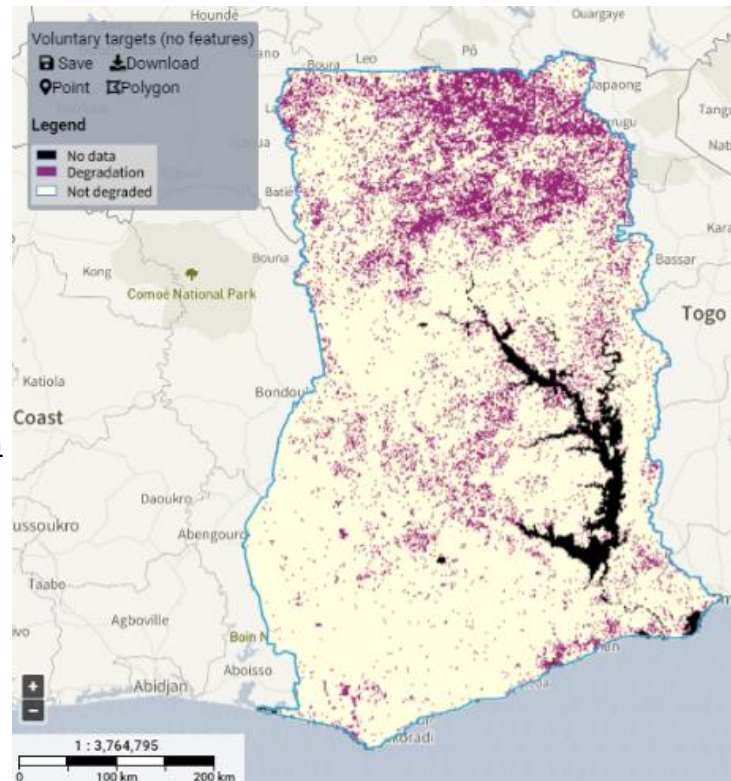
SOIL  
ORGANIC  
CARBON



LAND  
PRODUCTIVITY

“ONE OUT  
ALL OUT”

SDG 15.3.1



# UNCCD 2022 Reporting Process

- Regional and global aggregates compiled from 115 national reports and 52 government-approved estimates, all derived from Earth observations data sources
- The benefits of open data, as espoused by the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), have been demonstrated in this national reporting process with Parties having access to over 70 Earth observation data layers spanning 20 years and collated from the best available open data sources.
- UNCCD undergoing a data-driven transformation in line with the Secretary General's 'Data Strategy for Action by Everyone, Everywhere'

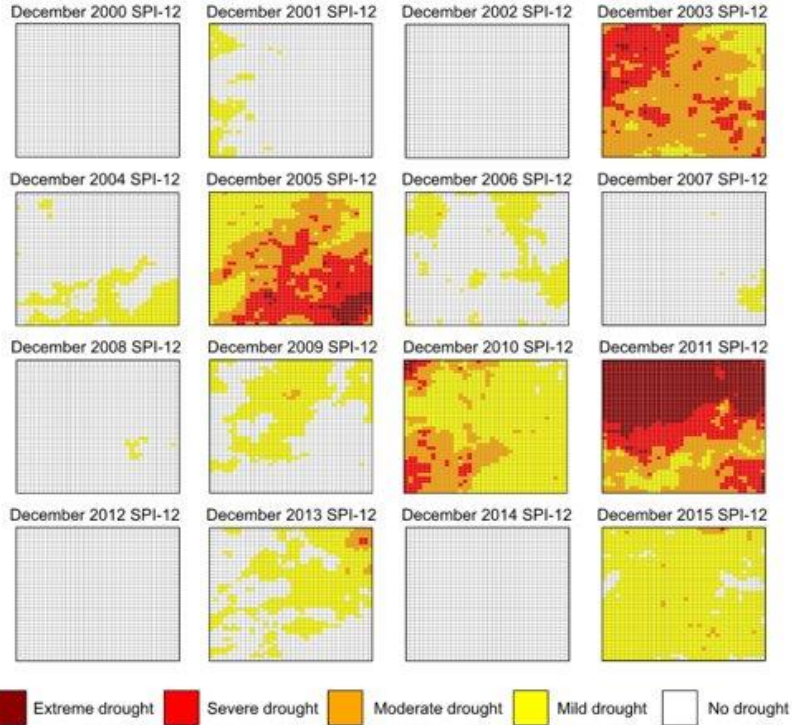
# Proportion of degraded land over the total land area (2015 - 2019)



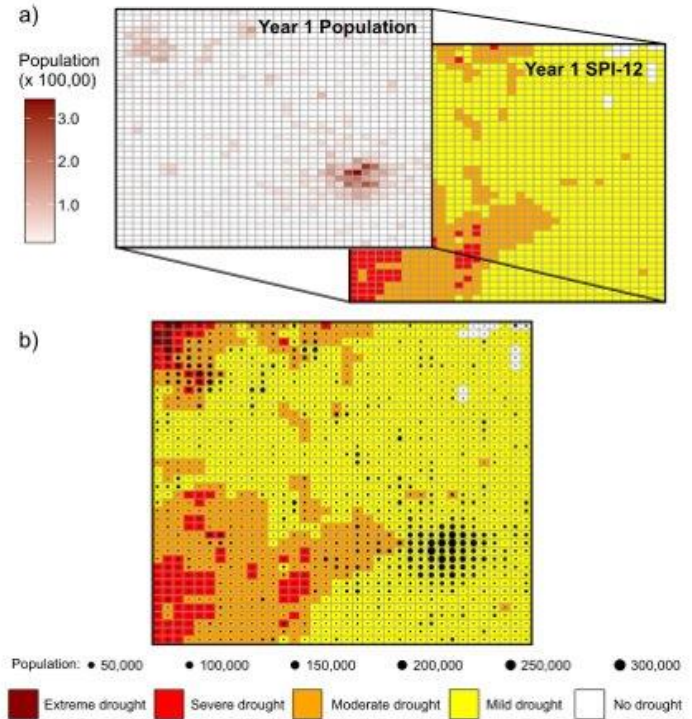
- 1 Excluding the Maldives
- 2 Excluding the United States of America
- 3 Excluding Belarus, Denmark, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Russian Federation and Switzerland
- 4 Excluding Angola and Comoros
- 5 Excluding Brunei Darussalam and Singapore
- 6 Excluding Barbados and Grenada
- 7 Excluding Japan and Republic of Korea

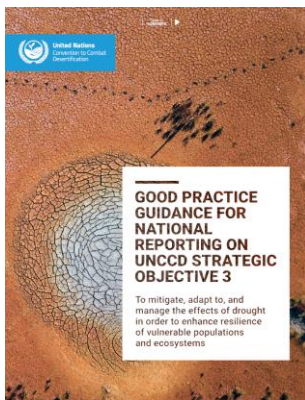
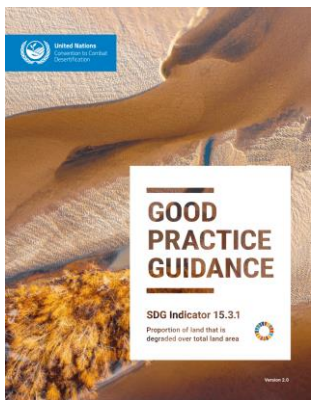


# Drought hazard



# Drought exposure





METHODOLOGY

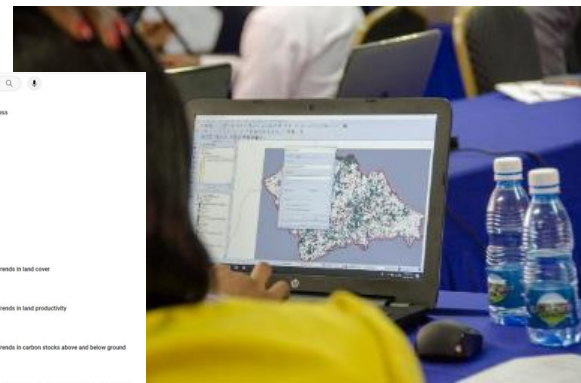
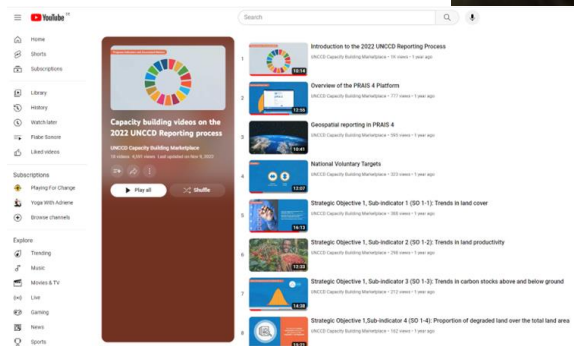
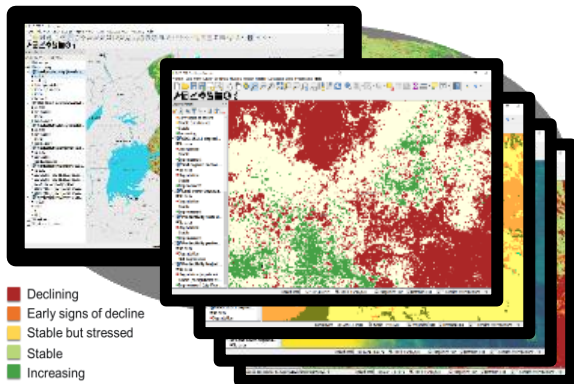
TOOLS

Key Enablers

DEFAULT DATA

CAPACITY BUILDING

TRENDS.EARTH



# THANK YOU!



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Convention to Combat  
Desertification

United for land

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# Proportion of degraded land over the total land area (2019)

