



*Eleventh session of the UNCCD Conference of the Parties (COP11)
Windhoek Country Club Resort
Windhoek, Namibia*

ANOUNCEMENT of the Side Event:

**“Launch of a Networking Process of International Scientific Bodies on
Research on Land Degradation and Desertification”**

- **An initiative of DesertNet International, an international independent network for research on desertification - www.desertnet-international.org**

Monday 16 September from 18.00 to 20.00

Location: Rio Pavillion - Marquee 3

Background: Unbiased, peer-reviewed interdisciplinary and independent science that is available on time and in policy-relevant however not policy prescriptive formats is indispensable for the preparedness of decision-makers to implement sustainable land management and sustainable development goals (SDGs) in areas exposed to or at risk of land degradation and desertification.

This side event will:

- (1) Provide insight into the scientific needs and requirements to improve policy measures to combat desertification and land degradation;
- (2) Set the scene to present and discuss the independent science-driven initiative of DesertNet International to pursue a networking process between DesertNet International (DNI), the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT), and the Global Network of Desert Research Institutes (GNDRI);
- (3) Discuss the first joint initiatives to establish the networking process of existing research and knowledge networks.