



ACTION AGAINST DESERTIFICATION

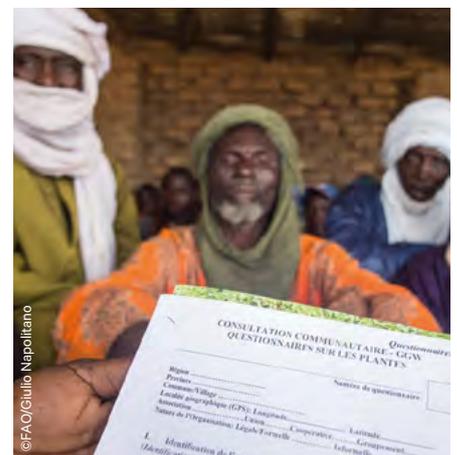


LAND RESTORATION

Forest landscape restoration led by FAO and its partners shows that land degradation is not yet irreversible. Action Against Desertification is championing large-scale restoration for small-scale farming. It places communities at the heart of restoration work by providing scientific plant expertise, while focusing on the communities' needs for useful species and preferences for restoration in support of their livelihoods. Action Against Desertification is bringing its activities to scale using mechanized land preparation – essential to meeting the massive needs for restoration in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

In 2018, Action Against Desertification is preparing to restore 18 000 hectares of land, planting well-adapted native species of trees, shrubs and grasses in six African countries — Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal — plus an estimated 2 000 hectares in Fiji and 1 500 in Haiti.

- **12 000 HECTARES** of degraded land have been planted to start their restoration between 2015–2017. Action Against Desertification's approach was tested in partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew from 2013 until 2015 in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.
- **325 VILLAGES** involved in restoration activities with the participation of an estimated 70 000 farmers, half of them women.
- **110 WOODY** and herbaceous species planted, using more than 40 000 kg of seeds and over 2 million seedlings.
- **10 NON-TIMBER** forest products selected by communities for development. Products include honey, Balanites oil, fodder and natural gums, forest seeds and seedlings for restoration.





©FAO/Giulio Napolitano



©FAO/Giulio Napolitano

ACTION AGAINST DESERTIFICATION

is an initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) in support of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel initiative and UNCCD national action programmes to combat desertification. It promotes sustainable land management and restoration of degraded land in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Action Against Desertification is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union in the framework of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF).

Contact

Moctar Sacande
International Project Coordinator
Dryland Seeds & Restoration Expert
moctar.sacande@fao.org

**ACTION
AGAINST
DESERTIFICATION**

THE RESTORATION METHOD IS BASED ON A FIVE-STEP MODEL:



Communities: needs and requirements for restoration are determined through in-depth consultations.



Research: quality seed is made available for propagation of economically viable, locally adapted and bio-diverse material.



Operational procedure: ensuring efficient operational restoration processes, including land preparation and management, assisted natural regeneration and planting.



Monitoring: evaluating the field performance of species, as well as communal activities such as maintenance and management of restored areas.



Capacity development: developing village technicians' capacities in large-scale restoration and sustainable land management techniques.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE METHOD INCLUDE:

- Planting the right species in the right place.
- Promoting the use of quality native forest and fodder seeds.
- Ensuring that a wide range of useful plant species are used or made available.
- Managing natural regeneration of species and planted areas through village management committees.
- Maintaining a species database for gene-pool traceability, monitoring, reporting and for future uses of data and information.

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

www.fao.org/in-action/action-against-desertification



© FAO 2018
0144EN/1/04-18