



COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

WORKING GROUP ON DRYLAND FORESTS AND AGROSILVOPASTORAL SYSTEMS

Inaugural Session

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THE DRYLAND RESTORATION INITIATIVE PLATFORM (DRIP)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. FAO conducted two global Dryland Monitoring weeks in 2015 and 2016, which led to the launch of the “Rome Promise on Monitoring and Assessment of Drylands for Sustainable Management and Restoration” in which participants communicated the value and importance of drylands monitoring to relevant stakeholders, including policy makers and resource partners.
2. The Rome Promise stressed that an appropriate and sustainable monitoring and assessment system, including a comprehensive baseline and participatory approaches, is necessary for an effective management and restoration of natural capital in drylands.
3. Responding to the Rome Promise, FAO implemented the Dryland Restoration Initiative Platform (DRIP) project in 2016 as a monitoring and reporting tool in the form of an interactive web portal.
4. DRIP is a web-version of the monitoring and reporting tool for forest land restoration (FLR), that was prepared as part of the global guidelines for the restoration of degraded forests and landscapes in drylands.

II. TOOL DESCRIPTION

5. DRIP (<https://drip-dev.surge.sh>) is active now. The tool aims at supporting practitioners, managers, and policy/decision makers and other stakeholders working on dryland restoration at local, national, regional or global level in compiling, analysing, capturing and sharing lessons learnt from restoration initiatives, thus advancing the monitoring and assessment of these initiatives globally.

6. The tool includes a questionnaire to obtain key information, namely: baseline description, restoration objectives and implementation strategy, monitoring and evaluation strategy, and the results and impacts.

III. UPDATED VERSION OF DRIP

7. Partly in response to the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, FAO intends to have an interactive web portal as a monitoring and reporting tool for restoration activities of all ecosystems. As such, DRIP will be updated as part of this inclusive ecosystem restoration portal.

8. The new version of DRIP will help increase the understanding of drylands restoration projects. It can link the project profiles with the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) monitoring checklist¹. This will be useful to inform the policy development at country level, project planning and prioritization of actions toward achieving the LDN targets.

9. In addition, the DRIP tool will be linked with FAO's Sustainable Forest Management Toolbox² to provide further guidance on effective restoration initiatives and projects in dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems.

IV. POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE WORKING GROUP

10. The Working Group may wish to:

- Provide guidance to make the new version of DRIP a more comprehensive and easy-to-use monitoring tool for dryland forest restoration initiatives; and
- Use DRIP to share information and to inform policy development and project planning and prioritization interventions.

¹ <https://knowledge.unccd.int/sites/default/files/201809/LDN%20TPP%20checklist%20final%20draft%20040918.pdf>

² <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-forest-management/toolbox/en/>