

# **Legal Instruments to implement the objective „Land Degradation Neutral World“ in international law, especially under UNCCD**

## **Future Cooperation Medium- and Long-term Perspective Food for thought**

Dr. Harald Ginzky  
Federal Environment Agency  
8 December 2014

# Expert community on land governance



- Aim: Sustainable management of land worldwide
- Added Value
  - Organized form of scientific discussions and cooperation
  - Advice for policy makers
- Next steps
  - Mailing list
  - List of Legal Journals relevant in this area
- UBA: Management
- Future Research projects commissioned by UBA

# New „journal of international and national land and soil governance“



- Tool for expert community
- Necessity ?
  - Three journals identified
    - Journal on land-use and environmental law (USA)
    - Planning and environmental law (USA)
    - International Journal on rural law and policy (Australia)
    - Either too national or too broad in scope
- Content – ideas
- Attractive Concept: International board of editors

# Short-term perspective



- Sustainable Development Goals
  - Sept 2015: land related issues included ? LDNW ?
  - Determination of Indicators and National Implementation
- UNCCD
  - IWG proposals
  - COP 12 in Turkey, 2015
    - Negotiation of IWG results
    - Scope of UNCCD: only drylands ?

# Perspective: binding international instrument



- Global concern
- International governance
  - Transboundary effects: climate, bio-diversity
  - International cooperation needed: level playing field, common standards, technical assistance
  - Conflict between states: poverty, refugees
- Content
  - Scope: all land worldwide
  - Objective: LDNW
  - Specific legal obligations

# Perspective: where ?



- First option: new stand-alone treaty
  - Most costly in terms of efforts
- Second option: UNCCD
  - Strong support by former General Secretary
  - Some deficiencies
- Third option: CBD
  - Integrated concept: ecosystem services
  - Enabling clause for a Protocol