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

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Federal Environment Agency
8 December 2014

Legal instruments for "Land Degradation Neutral World" - Workshop 8 December 2014, Berlin
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

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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

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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