

POSITION PAPER FROM THE MALIAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR THE 13TH COP OF UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

The Drylands Coordination Group in Mali (GCOZA-Mali), member of the ReSaD, has organized a preparatory workshop reuniting representatives of civil society organizations. As most organizations cannot participate to the COP, this workshop aimed to allow them to get informed on the subjects that are going to be discussed and to contribute to the common advocacy.

Exchanges at the workshop were facilitated by M. Abdrahamane Deme, from the Agency for Environment and Sustainable Development (AEDD). Two themes were discussed:

- (1) Climate Change (CC), combat against desertification and land degradation, and the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)**
- (2) An organized and plural civil society to advocate on environmental forthcoming sakes**

On each of the themes, participant formulated recommendations to advocate during the COP13.

In order to guarantee climate change adaptation, to combat desertification by sustainable land management (SLM) actions, and to reach LDN, Malian CSO representatives recommends:

- Integration of CC adaptation actions within development projects and programs that are carried out on the entire country,
- Fund raising to take in account climate change among development policies and programs,
- Better access to funding for projects and programs about SLM, CC and LDN,
- Reinforcement of cooperation between all stakeholders (government, civil society, population, technical and financial partners) on activities contributing to combat desertification, to adapt to climate change and to reach LDN,
- Reinforcement of cooperation between all stakeholders (research, government, civil society, population, technical and financial partners) in order to propose solutions to obstacles linked to desertification, CC, LDN,
- Improvement of coordination of actions within the various territories,
- Elaboration of strategy and plan of actions to overcome obstacles to LDN.

In order to reinforce CSO participation to the implementation of Land Degradation Neutrality, Malian CSO representatives also recommends:

- To facilitate CSO participation to high-level discussions on LDN, organized by the Rio Conventions,
- To facilitate CSO participation to national discussions on LDN,
- Capacity building for CSO so that they fully master the concept of LDN,
- Inclusion of LDN within CSO's programs and projects,
- Involvement of Malian Civil Society into quest for peace and security through implementation of SLM and LDN projects and programs

On a plural and organized civil society to weighs on stake to come, Malian CSO representatives recommend:

- Reinforcement of existing networks that work on common objectives to address stakes linked to SLM, combat desertification and CC,
- Better collaboration between SC networks, technical and financial partners, and government on financed projects,
- Improvement of CSO participation into designing national projects and programs,
- Cohesion between CSO within discussions with the Government and technical and financial partners.

Bamako, June the 9th of 2017

