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Ecosystem Restoration Day in the Rio Conventions PavilionFriday, 20 September 2013 @ 15:00 – 16:30

**The Potential Contribution of Ecosystem Restoration   
to Zero Net Land Degradation**

World leaders at the Rio+20 agreed to strive for a land-degradation neutral world. It is an ambitious goal that needs to be translated into deliverable targets at national, regional and international levels. Thus the UNCCD’s advocacy for a post-2015 sustainable development goal on a land-degradation neutral world and an associated target on Zero Net Land Degradation are key to translating this ambition into actionable targets. One of the key elements of a land-degradation neutral world is the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, but equally important is the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems, as highlighted in the Hyderabad Call for a Concerted Effort on Ecosystem Restoration at CBD COP11.

**Schedule**

Session Moderator: **David Ainsworth**, *CBD secretariat*

15:00 – 15:15 Keynote Address: **Uriel Safriel**, *Co-Chair of the Israel National Ecosystem Assessment Project*

15:15 – 15:30 Response: **Sakhile Koketso**, *CBD secretariat*

15:30 – 16:10 Panel Discussion

**Sasha Alexander**, UNCCD; **Jonathan Davies**, IUCN;   
**Nora Berrahoumi**, FAO; **Malta Qwathekana**, Ramsar; Representatives of UNDP and GEF (TBC)

16:10 – 16:30 Views from the Audience

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