



Picture: Catherine Brahic/SciDev.Net

A research unit in the savannah surrounding Niger's capital measures particles in the air

DRYLANDS AND DESERTIFICATION: FREE ONLINE RESOURCE

Two billion people live in drylands, where extraordinary biodiversity exists next to grinding poverty. Now modern farming methods and climate change threaten the future stability of these places. SciDev.Net's free online resource addresses the science and policy issues relating to drylands and desertification.

Contents include:

Policy briefs

Authoritative, accessible and in-depth articles, commissioned from leading experts, provide insight into the key science and policy aspects of desertification and drylands including biodiversity conservation, access to water, human impact on drylands, and the role of international conventions.

Key documents

Concise summaries with links to background reading, case studies, and facts and figures.

Links

Annotated references to relevant organisations' websites.

Definitions

A glossary of key terms concerning desert science.

Events

Find out about or publicise events relating to drylands and desertification.

Latest headlines

Reports from SciDev.Net's worldwide network of science journalists on new discoveries, events and announcements, providing comprehensive coverage of desert science. Includes free access to relevant research published in the journals Nature and Science.

Highlights

SciDev.Net also publishes opinion articles written by key stakeholders expressing personal viewpoints. Together with editorials these are intended to challenge ideas and spark debate. Longer news features examine the ideas, people and projects that define the international scientific agenda.

Free email update

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About SciDev.Net

SciDev.Net's goal is to provide information and analysis to support people in developing countries to make informed decisions on science and technology issues that impact on social and economic development.

Topic guides

Other subjects covered

include: agri-biotech, biodiversity, bird flu, brain drain, climate change, ethics of research, genomics, HIV/AIDS, indigenous knowledge, intellectual property rights, malaria, nanotechnology, research and development policy, science communication and technology transfer.

Topic guides are an ideal

tool for: informing policy decisions; increasing knowledge of a subject; keeping track of the latest developments; reference; identifying fruitful areas for career development; and education, both for teachers and students.

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CGIAR

This online resource has been produced with the support of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research.



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DRYLANDS AND DESERTIFICATION: FREE ONLINE RESOURCE

To give you a taster of what's included in our desert science resource please see below.

To read these articles in full and find out what's new, visit:

www.scidev.net/desertscience

Policy briefs

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

Lindsay C. Stringer

Prospects for improving access to water in deserts and drylands

Theib Oweis

People, deserts and drylands in the developing world

David Thomas

Conserving dryland biodiversity: science and policy

John Lemons

Highlights

What future for the UNCCD?

Camilla Toulmin and others

Wet or dry? Sahel's uncertain future

Catherine Brahic

Key documents

Categories include:

- background reviews
- case studies on dryland life
- desert science: facts and figures
- the UN Desertification Convention

Links

UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

www.unccd.int

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

www.gefweb.org/projects/Focal_Areas/land/land.html

International Year of Deserts and Desertification (2006) (IYDD)

www.iydd.org

International Institute for Environment and Development – Drylands

www.iied.org/NR/drylands



Picture: Catherine Brahic/SciDev.Net

Precious commodity: water in the Sahel

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Advisory panel

This resource is produced in collaboration with a panel of experts in the field of drylands and desert science:

Malavika Chauhan, Jawaharlal Nehru University

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 - improve your science communication through online resources and workshops
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SciDev.Net is supported by the journals Nature and Science, as well as the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS).

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SciDev.Net is funded by:

Department for International Development, London, United Kingdom

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Stockholm

International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada

The Rockefeller Foundation, New York, United States

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