

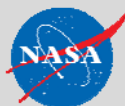
# ENHANCING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR MONITORING LAND DEGRADATION AND TO SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY (SDG 15.3)

## Experiences from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Senegal

Alice Ruhweza

Vice President/Head of Sustainable Production  
Conservation International – Africa Field Division

© BENJAMIN DRUMMOND



VITAL SIGNS



Centre de Suivi Ecologique



## SDG 15.3

The **UNCCD** has taken responsibility for developing a framework for monitoring Target 15.3 and has convened an Inter-Agency and Expert Group (IAEG) that has proposed a sole indicator for indicator 15.3.1:

*“Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area.”*



# MONITORING ACHIEVEMENT OF LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY

Conservation International, in partnership with Lund University and NASA, has created a **land degradation monitoring platform** to calculate indicator 15.3.1

**Four pilot countries:**  
Senegal, Kenya,  
Tanzania, Uganda



THE TOOLBOX ALLOWS USERS IN **ANY COUNTRY** TO  
**Process Indicators for SDG Target 15.3**



Vegetation  
Productivity



Land  
Cover



Soil Organic  
Carbon



# Feedback from pilot country workshops

## Productivity

- Productivity trajectory is the best understood of the indicators
- Need for further guidance on interpretation of productivity sub-indicators

## Land Cover

- Need flexibility in how land cover categories
- Countries desire support for national-level land cover datasets

## Soil Carbon

- Need for standardized time series of soil organic C datasets

# Lessons learned

- Countries expect ownership of the assessment and reporting process.
- Countries need guidelines on dataset standardization and metadata documentation, to allow for valid comparisons.
- Request for finer spatial resolution earth observation datasets (e.g. Landsat and Sentinel) to be preprocessed and ready for analysis.
- Need for further capacity building around indicators & tools.
- Internet access could limit usefulness of fully online platforms.