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3pm - 5.30pm



Why partnerships are critical in addressing
desertification and drought?



Elisabeth Barsk-Rundquist

Elisabeth Barsk-Rundquist, Director of Strategic Programmes -The Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

Ms. Barsk-Rundquist, a Swedish national, has a 25 year UN career since 1982. She has extensive experience from numerous intergovernmental bodies and negotiation processes in the sphere of sustainable development, natural resources, energy and the environment. She was involved in the start-up of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the negotiations on sustainable forest management leading up to the United Nations Forum on Forests, as well as in the World Summit on Sustainable Development- “The Johannesburg Summit” (WSSD). Ms. Barsk-Rundquist is currently seconded from the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs to the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) hosted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). There she holds the position of Director of Strategic Programmes, developing and implementing strategic programmes to increase resources being directed towards the implementation of the Convention and adjusting the programmes of the Global Mechanism to the new realities of the international development architecture, such as the Paris Declaration, the “One UN” reform, and the increased importance of innovative mechanisms for financing sustainable development activities. Ms. Barsk-Rundquist holds a Master in Chemical Engineering, from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm Sweden. Ms. Barsk-Rundquist is married and the proud mother of three daughters.

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