

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE
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**UN-HABITAT Intervention at the Multistakeholder Dialogue on
Implementing Sustainable Development
New York, 1 February 2010**

UN-HABITAT would like to highlight the following **two major contributions** to the implementation of the 17th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-17) key outcomes, particularly in the area of **Land**.

From May 2009 to January 2010, UN-HABITAT has undertaken the following CSD-related activities in the area of Land:

1. UN-HABITAT is actively participating and contributing in the **Issue Management Group on Land** to prepare a United Nations system-wide rapid response report on dry lands highlighting the importance of dry lands to key emerging issues on the global agenda, including climate change, food security and human settlements. The report will also address options for follow-up action of the Commission for Sustainable Development, particularly in the areas of international financial and technical cooperation for development, and strengthening multi-stakeholders participation and partnerships. The report will support the implementation of the broad mandate of the UN Environmental Management Group.

2. UN-HABITAT, in collaboration with the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), has published a report entitled “**Land, Environment and Climate Change: Challenges, Responses and Tools**”. This publication is a direct effort of the Agency to contribute to the implementation of CSD decisions, particularly: (i) increasing and sharing knowledge, (ii) promoting integrated management of land and water resources; and (iii) increasing resilience and adaptation to climate change. The publication will be available at the 18th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18) to be held in New York from 03 to 14 May 2010.

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The summary of the publication is as follows:

This publication provides an overview of some of the most important land-related environmental and climate change problems that the world is facing. *Land, Environment and Climate Change* offers an overview of the relationship between land tenure, land management approaches and the environment. This document identifies clear linkages between land, environment and climate change, moving from a scientific framework to a country level implementation framework. The implications this has in urban and rural areas are presented, and illustrated with 20 brief cases.

This global overview of key environmental and climate change issues related to land use, land administration, land management and land tenure offers timely material and land tools for land professionals, environmental practitioners, and planners in evaluating strategies in such a way that they can comfortably and effectively engage and respond to the environmental and climate change challenges. The report identifies opportunities, gaps and priority research areas and critical land tools for action at local, sub-national, national, regional and global levels. The publication has action-oriented suggestions for new research, land tool development, advocacy, resource mobilisation, and coordination.