The Francophonie’s Sustainable Land Management and Desertification Partnership Initiatives

Marc Paquin
Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)

Structure of the presentation

• What is the Francophonie (OIF / IEPF) ?
• How does the OIF / IEPF sustainable land management and desertification partnership initiatives work ?
  – Médiaterre
  – SLM network
• What are the key lessons learned ?
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIE)

- Intergovernmental organization
  - Created in 1970, based in Paris
  - 55 member states and governments from 5 continents
  - 13 observer states
- 200 million people
- First summit: Paris (France, 1986)
- 12th summit: Quebec City (Canada, 2008)
Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIE)

• Mission
  • Support developing countries and countries in transition in their development

• Means
  • Multilateral cooperation

Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIE)

• 10-year Strategic Plan (2005-2015)
  • Promote the French language and linguistic and cultural diversity
  • Promote peace, democracy, and human rights
  • Support education, training and research
  • Support a development that is sustainable
Institut de l’Énergie et de l’Environnement de la Francophonie (IEPF)

- Subsidiary body of the OIF
  - Based in Quebec City
  - Created in 1988 (celebrating its 20th anniversary)
- Mission
  - Contribute to national capacity building and to the development of partnerships in the areas of energy and the environment

Partnership Initiatives

1. Médiaterre

- www.mediaterre.org
- web platform for information and cooperation
- sustainable development focus (including desertification and SLM)
- built on partnerships (formal and informal)
- in French
- allows partners to access and post information and exchange with other partners
Partnership Initiatives

1. Médiaterre

• Who are the formal partners?
  – Institutions (universities, research centres, NGOs)

• What do the partners do?
  – Identify and federate other institutions and individuals interested in one of Agenda 21 topics
  – Facilitate exchanges among the partners
  – Post and moderate news on the mediaterre site
Partnership Initiatives

1. Médiaterre

• Some of the benefits for the partners
  – Strengthen partners, joining a network and building on the expertise and contacts of that network
  – Increases the visibility of the partners (as contributors of information and knowledge)
  – Increases the visibility of the partners in relevant networks beyond their usual constituency

• Can lead to the creation of virtual « work communities »
  – Exchange of best practices
  – Build on each others’ advances
    • Development or review of National Sustainable Development Strategie
Résultats dans l'actualité

- **L'OCDE à la Commission des Nations Unies sur le Développement durable**
  
  La 12 mai à 14h15, l'OCDE sponsorisera un débat à l'occasion de la 16ème session de la Commission des Nations Unies sur le Développement Durable qui se ...

- **Développement durable : l'agriculture au centre des débats**
  
  La Commission des Nations Unies du développement durable (CDD) a la responsabilité de suivre et d'informer les progrès réalisés dans les différents secteurs ...

- **Les bonnes pratiques de la CDD 16**
  
  ... les bonnes pratiques de l'Afrique, développement rural, les terres, la sechassière et la désertification avec un accent tout particulier sur la situation de l'Afrique ...

- **RNT : 7ème session de la Commission du développement durable**
  
  Les délégations à la 7ème session de la Commission du développement durable (CDD-7) qui commence aujourd'hui et qui se poursuivra jusqu'au 19 mai 2016 ...

- **La séance de préparation de la Francophonie**
  
  Les délégations à la séance de préparation de la Francophonie qui se tient aujourd'hui ...

- **Aussi, l'article 3**
  
  ...
Partnership Initiatives

2. Network Development

• Francophone Networks on Sustainable Land and Forest Management, Land Degradation and Desertification (www.terres.iepf.org)
• Launched in 2007 (in development)
• Network of UNCCD francophone country Focal Points
• Network of interested francophone individuals and organisations
Partnership Initiatives
2. Network Development

- objective: information sharing and capacity-building through partnerships
- based around a website, list-serv and live activities in parallel to international meetings
- publication of documents
  - Guide to UNCCD negotiations

Francophonie’s Partnership Initiatives - Key Lessons Learned

- Importance of breaking the isolation of Southern partners through their involvement in networks and partnerships
- Importance of bridging the electronic divide
- Importance of bridging the language divide
- Importance of South-South partnerships
- Importance of linking policy makers, academics/scientists and actors on the ground