



**SUMAMAD**

Fifth Project Workshop  
*Sustainable Management of  
Marginal Drylands (SUMAMAD)*  
Aleppo (Syria) 12-17 November, 2006

**Workshop Report**

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## **I. Introduction**

The fifth international workshop of the joint UNESCO-UNU-ICARDA-Flanders Project on “Sustainable Management of Marginal Drylands (SUMAMAD)” was held in Aleppo (Syria) from 12-17 November, 2006. The workshop was organized by the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and UNESCO Headquarters within the context of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), and in collaboration with the United Nations University – International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH).

### ***Workshop Objectives***

The workshop brought together the designated project coordinators and the members of the Core Management Group of the SUMAMAD project. The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- Review the implementation of the SUMAMAD Project in 2006;
- Discuss ongoing implementation of SUMAMAD activities under the current phase of the project 2006-7;
- Consider the development of a future phase of the SUMAMAD project, 2007-.

### ***Summary of Workshop Content***

The workshop began with a day of presentations and discussion by the SUMAMAD Country Team Leaders on the achievements that they had made during 2006. On the second day of the workshop, a field visit was undertaken to the Khanasser Valley, including visits to the Syrian study site of the SUMAMAD project. On the third day of the workshop, following a discussion of the field visit, country presentations continued. Discussions of the collective achievements of the project and proposals for their publication were conducted. The fourth day of the workshop began with an expert presentation by ICARDA, before proceeding to the discussion of the future phase of the SUMAMAD project.

### ***List of Participants***

The following participants attended the workshop:

#### a) Team Leaders

- Dr. Jiang Gaoming (China: Hunshandak Sandland /Xilin Gol Biosphere Reserve sub-project);
- Dr. Boshra Salem (Egypt: Omayed Biosphere Reserve sub-project);
- Dr. Mehrdad Mohammadnia (Islamic Republic of Iran: Gareh Bygone Plain subproject)
- Mr. Mohammad Al-Qawabah (Jordan: Dana Biosphere Reserve sub-project);
- Dr. Richard Thomas (Syria: Khanasser Valley sub-project);
- Mr. Mohamed Ouessar (Tunisia: Zeuss-Koutine Watershed Area sub-project);
- Dr. Muhtor Nasyrov (Uzbekistan: Karnab Chul sub-project);
- Dr. Sun Qingwei on behalf of Dr. Wang Tao (China: Heihe River sub-project);

*Note: Dr. Muhammad Akram Kahlown (Pakistan: Lal Suhanra Biosphere Reserve subproject) was unable to attend for visa reasons*

#### b) Additional participants from SUMAMAD study sites

- Ms Marwa Waseem (Egypt: Omayed Biosphere Reserve sub-project);
- Mr. Gholamreza Rahbar (Islamic Republic of Iran: Gareh Bygone Plain subproject)
- Mr. Ma'en Al-Smadi (Jordan: Dana Biosphere Reserve sub-project);
- Dr. Halmumin Narmuratov (Uzbekistan: Karnab Chul sub-project).

c) Project Core Management Group

- Dr. Richard Thomas (ICARDA Headquarters, Aleppo);
- Dr. Thomas Schaaf (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris);
- Ms Helene Gille (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris);
- Dr. Zafar Adeel (UNU-INWEH, Hamilton);
- Ms Caroline King (UNU-INWEH, Hamilton).

*Note: the following members of the Management Group were unable to attend due to conflicting schedules and commitments:*

- *Dr. Rudy Herman (Flemish Government of Belgium, Brussels);*
- *Dr. Zafar Adeel (UNU-INWEH).*

*Note: the following experts from Belgium were also unable to attend due to prior commitments:*

- *Prof. Donald Gabriels (Ghent University);*
- *Prof. Dirk Raes (K.U. Leuven).*

e) Participants from ICARDA

- Dr. William Erskine
- Dr. Adriana Bruggeman
- Dr. Ashraf Tubeleih
- Dr. Hanadi El-Desougi
- Dr. Zuhair Masri

d) Other participants from international institutions

- Prof. Iwao Kobori (UNU Headquarters, Tokyo);
- Dr. Shimako Takahashi (UNU Headquarters, Tokyo);
- Dr. Mohan C. Saxena (Arid Land researcher Center, Tottori University)

## **II. Opening Session**

Participants were welcomed to the workshop by Dr William Erskine (ICARDA); Dr. Richard Thomas (ICARDA); Ms Caroline King (UNU-INWEH) and Dr Thomas Schaaf (UNESCO-MAB).

## **III. Presentation of SUMAMAD Country Reports, 2006**

Country reports were presented from the SUMAMAD study sites in China, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Uzbekistan, Syria and Iran. Notable achievements were reported from each of the study sites concerning the exploration and promotion of traditional and innovative practices for dryland management. Research methods used to explore the merits of management practices involved a mixture of scientific research and participatory activities with local communities.

A broad range of water management issues featured in the discussions and presentations made this year, including water quality issues, flooding and rising groundwater tables, as well as water scarcity. Water quality monitoring activities in Dana Biosphere Reserve, Jordan, were described, and it was observed that the effects of a disused mine on spring-water quality had still to be determined. In the Omayed Biosphere Reserve, Egypt, water quality monitoring had been carried out at Moghra oasis and a socioeconomic survey on the prevalence of waterborne diseases was carried out at Burg el Arab. From the Gareh Bygone Plain, Iran, a study of the effects of artificial recharge activities on water quality and nitrate contamination was presented.

Evaluations of water management techniques presented in the country reports included a survey of structures for water harvesting in the Zeuss Koutine Watershed, Tunisia. Structures were evaluated for their environmental sustainability, as well as for socioeconomic benefits associated with their construction. Floodwater spreading activities at the Kowsar Station, Iran, were evaluated for both the quantity and quality of water harvested, as well as the socioeconomic value of the stored resource for local agricultural production. Techniques to improve water and nutrient management in an area of intensifying agricultural production around Jabboul Salt Lake, Syria, were evaluated through Participatory Learning Action Research with local communities. The evaluation of techniques involved scientific analyses of soil and water resources, combined with socioeconomic work on farmer perceptions and decision-making. Water-saving land-use patterns and irrigation were investigated at the Heihe River Basin, China, through modeling techniques and calculation of ecological footprint, as well as valuation of ecosystem services. Implementation of water-saving improvements to the traditional irrigation system at the Dana Biosphere Reserve, Jordan, were also reported, although the effects of these improvements have not yet been evaluated.

Evaluation of rangeland rehabilitation was conducted on steppe ecosystems in the Jeffara region, Tunisia, including comparative studies of vegetation cover and biodiversity from a series of areas under different management regimes, including a nature reserve. Proposals to alleviate grazing pressures on rangelands in Karnap Chul, Uzbekistan are being prepared for evaluation through a study of the current status of biodiversity and plant cover in the rangelands. The presentation of environmental surveys from this location was complemented by population studies in the grazing areas. An evaluation of land-use scenarios in the seasonal rangelands of Omayed Biosphere Reserve, Egypt, was presented through a decision support tool based on soil, water and plant survey data. Evaluation of the environmental value of restored steppe was presented from Hunshandak Sandland, China, through the calculation of Rainfall Use Efficiency of the steppe vegetation for comparison to other ecosystems. During the discussions amongst Team Leaders and other workshop participants, considerable interest was expressed for more work addressing the valuation of environmental services, such as carbon sequestration.

Presentations included information on alternative income generation for local communities through a range of different activities. In the case of the Hunshandak Sandland, China, an evaluation of the income generated on a household level was presented. Presentations and subsequent discussions gave attention to issues in the marketing of produce and products for alternative income generation, which is one of the challenges faced by Team Leaders in the SUMAMAD project. Market-related factors were also discussed with interest as an important factor driving changes in livestock populations, as described in the presentation of trends in the ratio of goats: karakul sheep at Karnap Chul, Uzbekistan. A number of presentations also included reflections on the study teams' experiences in working with local communities at their study sites. Risk averse attitudes of local communities, slow uptake of technologies and skepticism were reported from a number of sites. On the other hand, many successes in local participation and uptake were also reported. Insights into successful methods for working with local communities were provided in some presentations, for example, in the Gareh Bygone Plain, Iran, more than 20 local meetings were reported to have been held, and local facilitators appointed for the project activities.

#### **IV. Ongoing Implementation of SUMAMAD Activities 2006-2007**

##### ***Production of the Workshop Proceedings Book***

The proceedings book for the workshop will be produced by UNESCO, and distributed to workshop participants.

##### ***SUMAMAD Workplans for 2007***

The budget for SUMAMAD project activities during 2007 is anticipated to be the same as for 2006. Team Leaders should continue to develop their workplans on this basis. Should additional funds become available these will be inserted to supplement the project activity budgets. UNU-INWEH will circulate instructions to Team Leaders for the finalization of the workplans for 2007, including a sample budget table. The transfer of funds to the project sites is anticipated to take place in March 2007, depending on the timing of arrival of funds from the project donor.

##### ***Sixth SUMAMAD Project Meeting, 2007***

Offers to host the next SUMAMAD workshop were proposed by the project study teams from China, Jordan and Uzbekistan. These study sites have not yet hosted the project workshop, and all confirmed their interest to do so in the near future. The Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute supported the offer from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which would be a partner in its organization. In light of this, the offer from China was accepted to host the workshop in 2007. The Team Leaders from Jordan and Uzbekistan indicated their support for this decision, and affirmed that they would like to host the workshop in subsequent years under the proposed future phase of the project.

In light of the climactic conditions at the Chinese study site in Hunshandak Sandland, Inner Mongolia, a tentative date for the workshop was set for the first week of September, 2007. This date is to be confirmed by the Chinese partners. A later date during September would not be possible, due to the likely timing of Ramadan. In order to avoid scheduling clashes (as occurred for a number of project members during 2006), the date for the workshop should be confirmed as early as possible.

Regarding participation in the workshop, the importance of the presence of all Team Leaders at the meeting was emphasized. In addition, it was observed that participation by study team members in addition to Team Leaders alone is extremely useful for the workshop discussions and the continuity of the project, as well as for the team members and Team Leaders themselves. However, the cost of travel to China will be higher than it has been other locations. Team Leaders expressed their concern that the SUMAMAD project budget should be used to support research activities at the study sites, rather than being spent on the travel of additional participants to attend the annual workshop. For this reason, it was concluded that participation of additional Team members in the workshop in China could not be supported by the SUMAMAD project budget, unless partners in the organization of the workshop could mobilize additional funds.

The presentations to be made during this workshop are intended to capture the achievements at each study site over the whole duration of the SUMAMAD project so far, rather than only including the achievements from the one year. Depending on the time available within the workshop programme, additional opportunities for more detailed presentations of activities undertaken during 2007 may also be included separately.

##### ***Design of a Final Publication***

Two alternative outlines for a final publication were presented and discussed by participants. One proposal consisted of chapters on each country in the SUMAMAD project, as well as an introductory chapter and an executive summary. The second proposal outlined thematic syntheses of the findings of the SUMAMAD project across all participating countries. Both proposals were found to have attractions.

There is a need to coherently capture the achievements at each of the study sites. This has not yet been achieved in the proceedings books that are produced on an annual basis. On the other hand, the synthesis approach offers a product that might be of interest to a wider audience and would draw out comparisons between the different country experiences. A third option was proposed, which would incorporate both suggestions into a single publication, with two sections. In addition to these three book outlines, the production of both a book *and* a succinct policy-oriented synthesis for fundraising purposes was proposed. These four proposals may be discussed further with the project donor in order to clarify timing constraints that are likely to affect the scope for the publication(s), as well as the quality and production method, whether by a publishing house or through in-house production.

The required date for submission of country papers to be included in the final publication will be set for June 2007. The country papers will include a description of all achievements during the current phase of the project. Further guidance on the preparation of these papers will be provided by the Core Management Group.

### ***Other Proposals for Publication and Dissemination***

UNESCO is currently finalizing an educational kit on desertification that is targeted at schoolchildren. SUMAMAD participants considered this a particularly attractive tool and observed that it would be of use in a number of the study sites. The development of further similar tools will be considered by the project in the future as part of its dissemination strategy.

## **V. Field Visits and Expert Presentations from ICARDA**

### ***Overview of the Visits and Presentations***

On the second day of the workshop, a field visit was made to the Khanasser Valley region. Participants in the field visit were given the opportunity to visit a range of sites where ICARDA is engaged in activities, including those supported by the SUMAMAD project. The visit began with a stop at Jabbul Salt Lake conservation area, which is a habitat for migratory birds. ICARDA's work in facilitating the management of this area by local groups was presented to participants by a representative from the local Chamber of Industry. This was followed by a visit to Shallallah Seghira, an oasis village, where the ancient qanat system has been re-habilitated by local people working with international experts from ICARDA. This village is now involved in ecotourism activities and the inhabitants welcomed the visitors with tea. The visit proceeded to view various agricultural interventions and alternative crops, and reserve areas developed by local authorities. A visit was also made to the Khanasser Open Air Museum. Lunch was provided at the ICARDA site office and shared with local farmers. Local farmers and ICARDA staff presented their experiences in Participatory Learning Action Research on nutrient management.

On the third day of the workshop, an expert presentation was provided by Dr. Adriana Bruggeman, ICARDA on Expert commentaries were provided on these topics by ICARDA staff, and complemented by an expert presentation on groundwater balance calculations and modelling simulation. Further visits were then arranged for workshop participants to the ICARDA station. These included a rehabilitated underground water gallery, a workshop for manufacturing feed-blocks, a dairy facility, and a demonstration area for water harvesting techniques.

### ***Discussion Points Raised by Participants***

- Participants emphasized their interest to see study site activities with local women because the SUMAMAD project members are keen to see gender issues addressed in project-work. Although ICARDA had planned a visit to a local lady farmer, a bereavement in her family had

prevented this visit from taking place. However, gender issues featured prominently in the discussions at the ICARDA dairy facility;

- Workshop participants from rangelands in other regions expressed interest in the classification of the rangeland conservation area visited as a steppe ecosystem. The shrub vegetation observed at this location was contrasted with the grasses that characterise the steppe of Hunshandak Sandland, Inner Mongolia;
- The local implementation of exclusion areas was examined during discussions, and noted to have had mixed success due to lack of involvement of people. ICARDA drew comparisons with work undertaken in Tunisia on restoring traditional rangeland boundaries, which enabled the movement of people;
- Participants were impressed by the work that ICARDA has been undertaking at the site visit location with local farmers in relation to their crop selection strategies, and discussed with interest the risk averse nature of local peoples decision-making;
- The contribution of poultry to local livelihoods at the site visit locations was observed with renewed interest, following a presentation on this issue from the SUMAMAD study site in China;
- Groundwater management issues highlighted during the site visit and expert presentation were explored with interest by the workshop participants, including problems of both rising and falling groundwater levels.

## **VI. Development of a New Phase for SUMAMAD 2007-**

Dr. Thomas Schaaf informed SUMAMAD participants that the Flemish Government of Belgium has indicated its interest in funding a future phase of the SUMAMAD project. This funding will be subject to an overarching review of all of the Flemish Government Trust Funds for Science and Technology, within which the SUMAMAD project is currently funded. The SUMAMAD project will formulate a tentative plan for future development, to be submitted for the consideration of the Flemish Government. This document will be developed by the Core Management Group and current Team Leaders.

### ***Preparation for the Development of the Proposed New Phase***

All SUMAMAD Team Leaders took part in three preparatory consultation exercises for the preparation of the new phase:

- 1) pre-workshop email consultation
- 2) priority-setting exercise on research themes
- 3) SWOT analysis

The initial consultation indicated that the broad focus that had been developed during the initial phase should lead to a more tightly focused second phase. In order to prepare for the narrowing in of the project focus, a priority-setting exercise was undertaken during the workshop. This was complimented by a SWOT analysis to ensure that lessons from the first phase could be extracted and used in the development of the plan for the second phase. Detailed descriptions of these activities are annexed to this report. Based on the findings of these activities, the Core Management Group will develop a project document for the new phase. This document will be circulated to project members for feedback and improvement.

As Flanders is interested in widening the geographic scope of the project (by also adding a project site in Bolivia, and possibly sites in India and sub-Saharan Africa), a stronger focus on priority project themes will be necessary for consistency and comparative reasons. In essence, workshop participants agreed to focus on the following themes: Scientific studies will address (1) the restoration/rehabilitation of degraded drylands, and (2) improvement of dryland agriculture (crop and livestock production). Policy-relevant

work will be concerned with preparing different scenarios for land use changes, both for local communities and decision-makers. To a lesser degree, environmental education/outreach, and hybrid knowledge systems (traditional knowledge and modern technologies) will also be addressed. Income-generating activities will be promoted by each field project in a site-specific context so as to diversify the income basis of the local communities. These can include handicraft production, ecotourism, cultivation of medicinal plants etc.

In preparation for the initial development of the project proposal, if there are specific training needs that Team Leaders would like to be addressed in the new phase, these requests should be forwarded to the Management Group.

All Team Leaders present at the workshop affirmed their interest to participate in a future phase. Participants also discussed a proposal put forward by the Flemish Government to consider enlargement of the geographical scope of project and the addition of new study teams. It was agreed that enlargement should be subject to the availability of sufficient additional resources to increase funding to all participating locations.

### ***Funding issues***

Following the development of the project document, the Core Management Group and Team Leaders will discuss the funding needed to support the development of the new phase. In order to promote the project to potential additional donors, as well as the Flemish Government, a series of flyers may also be produced by the project. Fundraising opportunities to be pursued by the Management Group will include presentation of the SUMAMAD project at the next UNCCD COP. Both direct contributions of funds for the new phase and also connections to complementary activities that are separately financed will be sought, in order to maximise co-financing opportunities. One such complementary activity may be the Global Environment Facility's initiative on development of a global indicator system for the measurement of impacts in the GEF Land Degradation Focal Area. The Management Group will consider the potential for connections to this activity, eg through collaboration on training activities. Another complementary linkage may be made to the Oasis network of the CGIAR.

### **VII. Closing Session**

Closing remarks were made by Dr. Mahmoud Solh (ICARDA); Dr. Richard Thomas (ICARDA); Ms Caroline King (UNU-INWEH) and Dr Thomas Schaaf (UNESCO-MAB). Participants were congratulated on the successful completion of the workshop, and thanks extended to the organizers and staff at ICARDA.

## **ANNEX 1: Team Leaders Suggestions for Next Phase of SUMAMAD**

### **Summary**

#### **General comments:**

Some common recommendations for the future phase of SUMAMAD can be identified from comments received. In many cases, suggestions were made as to how these should be addressed.

- 1) Narrow the focus of project workplans (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Tunisia, Uzbekistan) *Suggestions:*
  - each site focus on one or two activities (Egypt)
  - project as a whole select a theme to focus on from suggestions included below (Syria)
  - project as a whole focus on one theme each year, with a progression and continuity between years (Jordan)
- 2) Increase participation by local people (Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan) *Suggestions:*
  - conduct needs assessment with local people to determine one or two activities to focus on (Egypt)
  - each year, present findings from the previous year to local communities to have their feedback (Jordan)
  - involve more local people in participatory research on income generating activities by making them partners on a cost-sharing basis (Pakistan)
- 3) Increase exchanges between project sites (Egypt, Tunisia, Pakistan) *Suggestions:*
  - select most successful intervention from each site and train other teams on it (Egypt)
  - encourage information exchange between sites via web interface (Egypt)
  - provide more resources for exchanges between teams/sites (Tunisia)
- 4) Communicate project findings to policy-makers (Syria, China) *Suggestions:*
  - book publication (China)
  - package Sustainable Land Management for policy-makers (Syria)

#### **Ongoing research themes suggested for project as a whole:**

Two broad interrelated themes recur in suggestions for ongoing research activities:

- a) Income generation:
  - focus on one or two income generating activities at each site (Jordan, Syria, Pakistan)
  - expand research on income generating activities to include farmer-market linkages (Syria)
- b) Local community coping strategies:
  - study links between perception of land degradation and land users coping strategies especially informal institutions, include gender disaggregation of data (Syria)
  - study local community ways and means of coping with environmental problems and add improvements if any (Egypt)
  - study livelihood strategies including farm and non-farm activities and how these relate to decisions on land use and investments in SLM (Syria)
  - identify dynamic resourceful and resilient components of the village using socio-economic data in GIS (Uzbekistan)

Note: A third theme suggested to be explored at all sites: ecosystem valuation (Egypt)

**Research interests of individual project sites** (-see full details listed below by country):

Many suggestions were listed for research themes of interest to individual sites. These included the following:

- Plant production, biodiversity and carbon sequestration (China)
- Studies on individual plant species used in floodwater spreading system – eg for phytoremediation of brackish water, nitrogen fixation, forage value, propagation, planting methods, use for carpentry (Iran)
- Studies on insects: collection and propagation of wild honey bees, study of sowbug burrows (Iran)
- Study land use change and degradation by remote sensing and GIS (Uzbekistan)
- Income generation possibilities in areas dominated by saline water and sandy soils- saline fishery, vegetables, livestock etc. (Pakistan)

**Suggestions for dissemination:**

- publish 3 scientific articles per year (China)
- publish electronic drylands atlas (Uzbekistan)
- focus on policy-makers: publish a book to influence officials(China), package Sustainable Land Management packages (Syria)
- include schools and youth education (Syria)
- increase internet dissemination (Egypt)
- dissemination material for farmers of dryland areas (Pakistan)

## **ANNEX 2: Priority-setting Exercise on Research Themes for the Second Phase**

A series of research themes were defined for the SUMAMAD project:

### Scientific studies

- Restoration/rehabilitation of degraded drylands
- water conservation/water harvesting
- improvement of dryland agriculture
- improvement of dryland husbandry/livestock

### Policy studies/schemes

- scenarios for land use changes
- economic valuation of dryland services
- environmental education/outreach
- hybrid knowledge system

### Alternative income-generating activities

- ecotourism
- handicraft production
- medicinal plants
- Diversification options

Workshop participants were requested to select one priority from each of the above lists, and were also given the opportunity to highlight one 'wild card'.

Participant selections were grouped and compared, in order to determine the most popular choices. These were as follows:

Scientific – Improvement of dryland agriculture including rangelands and livestock, with biodiversity and use of natural resources as a minor component. Also featuring prominently was restoration/rehabilitation of degraded drylands including water conservation/harvesting.

Policy – Scenarios for land use change including the assessment of trade offs, economic valuation of dryland services, environmental education and outreach.

Alternative income generating activities – diversification of options including ecotourism, handicraft, medicinals, forages

Wild card special: human well-being in drylands

## **ANNEX 3: SWOT Analysis**

*November 16, 2006*

The participants reviewed the strengths, weaknesses opportunities and threats to the SUMAMAD project and its continuation. This exercise will be used to help formulate the second phase project document where appropriate.

In summary:

### **Strengths**

1. Participants believe that the flexibility given to the national teams in terms of activities that they could undertake was positive.
2. The project has received some positive exposure in meetings and via publications
3. The project has catalyzed a very positive and rewarding collaboration amongst the participating institutes.
4. The project attempts to address the wide scope and complexity of dryland issues involving inter-disciplinary teams.
5. Benefit was achieved through the diversity of the teams and project sites.
6. The project outputs include peer-reviewed articles, other publications and involves training of students.
7. The annual meeting is viewed as a positive learning experience.
8. Good team work and collegiality has been fostered through the project.
9. The involvement of experts in various fields was positive and enriching.
10. The diffusion of information through the project teams and annual meetings was viewed as positive but could be expanded.
11. The involvement of local people and the focus of the project on real problems and demands was positive.
12. The use of multi-stakeholder meetings by the project teams was useful.
13. The up-scaling strategy while limited was viewed positively.
14. The use of a holistic approach was positive.

### **Weaknesses**

1. Insufficient funding per site.
2. Lack of coordination among the sites.
3. Lack of linkages with other projects and institutions.
4. Too many activities and outputs expected in the project document with scarce resources.
5. The project's profile/visibility needs improving at the institutional, governmental level.
6. There were too many themes to do each year.
7. The timing/lateness of fund disbursement is a problem.
8. There are insufficient time/resources spent on training in specific topics.
9. Lack of use of common approaches.
10. The information/knowledge sharing is insufficient.
11. The linkages with other projects/institutional programs needs strengthening.
12. The project has raised local expectations too high.
13. Annual project management and reporting is viewed as a burden and excessive for the resources available.

### **Opportunities**

1. Possibility of geographic expansion to Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa and India.
2. Linkages with other projects such as LADA, oasis, KM-GEF.

3. Long-term possibilities viewed as very positive.
4. Increased interest of donors in co-funded projects.
5. Link with UN conventions
6. Other major projects such as ADB on policy, Ford Foundation in China and other private sector initiatives.
7. Project can result in new knowledge creation on the management of drylands.
8. Brochure can be updated with results and targeted at different audiences.
9. The web-site could be made interactive with results database.
10. Funding opportunities include EC, OPEC.
11. SUMAMAD's initial success can be used as leverage to obtain more new funding.

### **Threats**

1. No or shortage of funding for second phase.
2. Competing projects and how we approach them (competition or collaboration?).
3. Could be seen as duplication of other efforts/projects.
4. The objectives may be seen as too diffuse.