



WORLD DESERTS FOUNDATION

International Intergovernmental Organisation



Newsletter

N°1/December 2009

- The organization of the 2nd Festival of cultures and civilizations of Peoples of the Worlds Deserts from 16-22 April 2005 conducted in UAE, Dubai, with the participation of many countries coming from all the continents ;
- The celebration of the year 2006 International, the Year of Deserts and Desertification through several national and international events including:
 - The issue of the best international contest of chawing devoted to children of the on the thematic of the year 2006.
 - The issue of the best national report on the thematic of the year of Deserts destined the national press.
 - The issue of the best national prize intended to painters (Artists) for the exhibition with the problematic of the year 2006.
 - The celebration of "The World day of Environment" on June 5, 2006 in Algiers in partnership with UNEP rewarding prize winners in the contest above mentioned ;
- The organization of the 3rd meeting of cultures and civilizations of peoples of the world deserts from 13- 26 December 2006 in Algiers and Gardenia with the participation of many countries of the five continents ;
- The organization of the International scientific conference with the University of UN and UNCCD in relation with the thematic of the year 2006.
- The achievement of a chart on the Deserts which was discussed and adopted , during the international scientific conference at the Nations Palace , end of December 2006 , the International year of Deserts and Desertification.
- The participation in several international and national seminars and meetings during the year 2007-2008;
- The signature of many conventions of twinning or cooperation in partnership with different international organisms, among others :
 - The organization of Zaed International Prize for Environment (Dubai).
 - The organization of the conservation of the Saharian Wild Fauna (Sahara Conservation Fund), Namibia.
 - The Embassy of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, accredited in Algiers, in the frame work of the reforestation of 3.5 ha of the protected area of Tinerkouk (Adrar)
 - The International union for the conservation of Nature (UICN).

« World Deserts Foundation »

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The **World Deserts Foundation** is an independent Intergovernmental Organization (IGO), created in April 2002 in Algeria under the patronage of their Excellencies, Pt Abdelaziz Bouteflika of Algeria, Pt.Thabo M'BEKI of South Africa and Pt. Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria, and at the Initiative of Mr Cherif Rahmani, Minister of Land Development, Environment and Tourism.

The **World Deserts Foundation** is an organization whose founding members are from all countries.

It is supported by an international sponsor committee including prestigious personalities from around the world : Nobel Prize winners, cultural, media, show-business and sport figures as well as politicians.

■ The **World Deserts foundation** has been granted the status of a permanent observer in the United Nations Economic and social council on 28 June 2004.

■ The **World Deserts Foundation** could decree in 2004 , the year 2006 as an International year of Deserts and combating desertification during the Forum of the Ministers of Environment, held in Nairobi by the resolution N° 58/21 of February 9, 2004.



OBJECTIVES

The Uninhabited objectives of the **World Deserts Foundation** is registered in the continuity of the actions of United Nations, in favour of development. Also, it is based on the statement of Johannesburg and about the lasting development to be known :

- Combat desertification ;
- Improve the cultures and traditions of the people of world deserts ;
- Promote a sustainable development policy ;
- Create specific communication platforms and networks to enable deserts people to have a say ;
- Prevent the incidences of the misuse of desert natural resources ;
- Prevent the risk of sole cropping ;
- Provide for specific programs for these areas including diversification strategies, in particular to promote actions, at a local, regional and international scale, so as to help populations to fight desertification, poverty as well as promoting conditions for a sustainable and harmonious development.
- Protect innovations arising from deserts;
- Publicize the cultures and traditions of these regions ethnic minorities;
- Participate in the development of the biodiversity inventory of the fragile ecosystem;
- Mark the particularly endangered landscapes and ecosystems and develop conservation strategies ;

Seven Actions for a Single Strategy

The **World Deserts Foundation** proposes a new ethics to promote sustainable development in the deserts through a strategy built on the following seven actions:

- 1 Recognizing deserts as specific development areas.
- 2 Developing a priority charter for the benefit of such areas.
- 3 Preventing mono-production and promoting a policy for income diversification.
- 4 Involving all local stakeholders in strategy, program and project development.
- 5 Promoting «sustainable diversity» with a special sensitivity to identities.
- 6 Protecting and preserving desert ecosystems : deserts inventory, classification and promotion.
- 7 Institutionalizing sustainable development in desert areas.

MEMBERS OF THE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

From its inception, the **World Deserts Foundation** has become the privileged partner of prestigious institutions such as:

- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) ;
- UNDP (United Nations program for the Development) ;
- Zayed Prize International for The Environment (Dubai) ;
- UNCCD (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification)
- AFEST (French Association of Scientists and Experts for tourism) ;
- PNUE (United Nations Environment) ;
- ECOSOC/UN (The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations) ;
- UICN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature)

REPRESENTATIONS OF THE WORLD DESERTS FOUNDATION

The **World Deserts Foundations** has opened representations in the following countries :

- Niger (Niamey)
- France (Paris)
- Suisse (Genève)
- EAU (Dubai)
- Spain (Barcelona)

THE ACTIONS OF THE WORLD DESERTS FOUNDATION

The Foundation has organized, since its creation, various demonstrations and events, which the most important are:

- The organization of an international workshop with UNESCO on : "A strategy for a sustainable development of tourism in the Sahara", organized in Ghardaïa , April 2003.
- The working out of a charter, from a new ethic of travellers, for the sustainable development of deserts.
- The working out of diverse documentary supports on the foundation (charter and ethic fauna and flora of the World Deserts, the book of the Deserts Poets, Films, DVD, CD...).
- The inauguration of Tinerkouk fortress after the restoration during the 1st Festival of cultures and peoples of Deserts, organized on December 2003 in Tinerkouk (Adrar).
- The launching of a landscaping project of the protected area of Tinerkouk (Adrar) on a superficies of around 13 000 ha;
- The organization of " the 1st World Deserts cultures and peoples Festival" in Timimoun - Tinerkouk (Adrar) from 26 december to 2 january 2004 gathering artistic and folk troops coming from all countries with deserts.
- The organization of a network of deserts poets during the 1st Festival of deserts cultures and peoples in Adrar (December 2003/January 2004).
- The organization of a seminar on "The roads of Ksour" in partnership with UNESCO and UNDP in 2004 at Al Djazaïr Hotel, Algiers.
- Festival on "the Saharian Tourism" from 28 December 2004 - 02 January 2005 organized by the ministry of Tourism.
- The organization of diverse cultural , scientific and artistic actions at the headquarters of the world Deserts Foundation (Painting, poetry, evening concerts, scientific conferences, exhibition of painting on " philately, calligraphy, miniature, ceramics").
- Organization of a play on the problem of water entitled : "Adrop of water in wadi of water" realized by Mr Fellous .
- The launching of the project concerning the creation of the World Deserts Parc in the wilaya of Ghardaïa in 2004.