Summary of the 18th Meeting of the UNCCD CSO Panel (6 April 2021)

The 18th meeting of the UNCCD CSO Panel was held on 6th April 2021. In this meeting, the panel members more specifically discussed the following topics:

− The available resources for the work of the panel and its work program;
− The very successful and well-organized virtual involvement and participation of the CSOS within CRIC19 process despite the Covid19 Pandemic, more details: https://csopanel.org/
− Preparation for the open discussion and online meeting among CSOs and MIROVA, LDN, and IDH (organizational matters including agenda, content, date, technical issues, etc.)
− Discussion on the way for stronger contribution of the CSO’s community, farmers & indigenous people within the UN High-level dialogue, secretariat will provide information on the process;
− The panel discussed the preparation of COP15 with the secretariat (probable date, venue, the topics of the CSO’s ODS, etc.). The COP Bureau will meet in April for more details.
− The panel discussed the organization of the Desertif’actions Summit (international CSO summit for UNCCD COP preparation) in 2023 by CARI association and Panel involvement.
− The tree-planting campaign of the IDEA and support of the Ministry in irrigation systems will be organized in an area with water stress.
− Participation of CENESTA as one of the partners of the Global Hub on Indigenous Food System of the FAO;
− Organizing a meeting for French CSO involved in combating desertification by CARI to inform the results of CRIC and prepare the collective advocacy plan for next international meetings (Africa-France Summit in July 2021, the IUCN Congress in Sept. 2021, and the UNCCD COP15);
− The CSO panel website is very well-handed and informative for all accredited CSOs of the UNCCD, and the process continues;
− The next issue of the CSO panel Newsletter and reports of recent activities of the panel will be uploaded to the website by the end of April.
− Discussion on different actions by accredited CSOs of the UNCCD and the Celebration of 17th June at various levels and a virtual dialogue between CSOs and the Executive Secretary;
− The submission of CSO’s (2 cases were prepared) case study for the preparation of the GLO and the extension of the submissions;
− The panel requested the new information on the preparation of the FAO/UNCCD technical guide on land tenure; The internal review is finalized with the aim of external peer-review by various groups and the CSO panel;
− The panel members discussed the preparation of the panel’s activity report before COP15.