

**No such thing as a free lunch
Invest in healthy soils**



***World Day to Combat Desertification
Global Observance Event
Wednesday, 17 June 2015
Conference Centre, Expo Milano, Italy***

Programme

- 11:00 **Opening**
Curtain raiser – short opening music/performance
- 11:15 **Welcome**
- Welcome remarks by Monique Barbut, UNCCD Executive Secretary
 - Welcome remarks by Giampaolo Cantini, Director General of Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy
 - Remarks
 - Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 - Pia Bucella, Director, Natural Capital, Directorate-General for the Environment, European Commission
 - Raffaello Cervigni, Lead Environmental Economist, The World Bank

11:40 **Key notes**

- H.E. Mr. Pohamba Shifeta, Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia
- H.E. Mr. Souleymane Jules Diop, Secretary of State for the Senegalese living abroad, Senegal

12:10 **Land for Life Award winners ceremony**

- Green Asia Network, Republic of Korea
- The Conservation Organization for Afghan Mountains Areas, Afghanistan

12:30 **Testimonies**

- Mario Tozzi: The vicious circle of climate change and land degradation – a threat for humanity
- Paola Agostini: Restoring lands and livelihoods through the Great Green Wall

13:10 **Cultural performance**

- Titi & Baribagass Band, Senegal

15:00 **End of the event**

