



Webinar on:

Towards UNCCD COP17: Youth and Scholar Perspectives on Mapping Resilient Drylands, Desertification, Rangelands, and Vegetation Dynamics

Geospatial Perspectives on Dryland Restoration, Climate Resilience, and Land Degradation Neutrality

Presented by the Dryland Ecology Lab, Department of Geography, Lahore College for Women University (LCWU), Pakistan Dryland Knowledge Network (PDKN), and Geographical Society LCWU in connection with World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2026.

On: 3rd June, 2026, Wednesday, 11-12 noon

Google meet link:

Wednesday, June 3 · 11:00am – 12:00pm

Time zone: Asia/Karachi

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/zre-nwke-jfk>

1. Background and Rationale

Drylands and rangelands are among the most ecologically significant yet vulnerable landscapes in Pakistan. These ecosystems support biodiversity, livestock systems, local livelihoods, soil fertility, carbon sequestration, and climate resilience. However, increasing land degradation, unsustainable land-use practices, climate variability, drought stress, and vegetation loss are placing growing pressure on dryland ecosystems.

The webinar aims to showcase emerging youth-led research focused on dryland resilience, rangeland sustainability, vegetation dynamics, and land degradation neutrality using Remote Sensing and GIS technologies.

2. Aim of the Webinar

To promote scientific dialogue and youth-led research on dryland resilience, land degradation neutrality, rangeland sustainability, and geospatial approaches for monitoring environmental change in Pakistan.

3. Objectives

- Highlight emerging research related to drylands, rangelands, and desertification in Pakistan.

- Promote the application of RS and GIS technologies for ecological monitoring and land degradation assessment.
 - Encourage youth participation in climate resilience and restoration discourse.
 - Support awareness regarding sustainable dryland management and restoration.
4. Proposed Speakers and Talk Titles

Ms. Shabana Waqas



*Assistant Professor Geography, Samanabad for Women University Lahore
PhD Geography Scholar, LCWU*

Talk Title: “Remote Sensing-Based Assessment of Land Degradation Neutrality in Cholistan Rangeland under Changing Land Pattern”

Ms. Anam Shahbaz



PhD Geography Student, LCWU

Talk Title: “Identification of range lands in Bahawalpur City, Pakistan, using RS & GIS”

Ms. Fatima Rani



MS Geography Scholar, LCWU

Talk Title: “Monitoring Decadal Vegetation Dynamics and Land Productivity in Bahawalpur and Rahim Yar Khan, Southern Punjab Pakistan”



Dr. Nausheen Mazhar

*Chairperson Geography Department, LCWU
Director & Founder Pakistan Drylands Knowledge Network (PDKN)*

Concluding remarks.

5. Expected Outcomes

- Increase awareness regarding dryland degradation and restoration challenges.
- Promote geospatial research for sustainable land management.
- Encourage youth engagement in environmental and climate research.
- Strengthen academic networking and interdisciplinary collaboration.

6. Conclusion

This webinar represents an academic initiative connecting local dryland research with global environmental priorities under UNCCD COP17. It aims to provide visibility to youth-led scientific contributions from LCWU and promote geospatial science for ecological restoration and climate resilience in Pakistan.