



2006 “International Year of Deserts and Desertification”

JANUARY 2006			
1 – Press Conference for the launching of the International Exhibition “The Deserts”.	Munich	January	Regional Government of Bavaria, Rosenheim, UNCCD
2 – Publication of the second edition of the book “Deserts of the World”	Several countries	January	Friederking & Thaler, Michael Martin, UNCCD
FEBRUARY 2006			
3 – Launching of the book “365 pictures for the IYDD”	Several countries	February	Friederking & Thaler, Michael Martin, UNCCD
MARCH 2006			
4 - International Festival of the Peoples of the Deserts.	Lucca (Italy)	March	Ministry of Environment of Italy, World Deserts Foundation
5 - International Conference: Youth and the environment	Bamako (Mali)	March	France, Mali, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, UNCCD
6 - Deserts through photography.			World Deserts Foundation
I. Exhibition of photos by Jacques Durou ' Agades: Gates of the Desert'	France		
II. Exhibition of photos on the Deserts of the World by Michel Martin.	Germany		
III. Exhibition of photos by Arthus Bertrand.	France		



7 – Session on Land Development around the word to be organized on the occasion of the Environmentally and socially sustainable development week celebrations at the WorldBank	Washington (United States)	March	WorldBank
8 – International Exhibition “The Deserts”	Rosenheim (Bavaria, Germany)	30 March – 30 October	Rosenheim, Bavarian Government, UNCCD, Siemens, Qatar Airways
APRIL 2006			
9 - “IYDD Geneva symposium: combating desertification, hunger and poverty”	Geneva (Switzerland)	April	Switzerland, UNCCD
10 - Conference on ecotourism in Deserts.	Tunis (Tunisia)	April	UNEP, UNESCO, World Deserts Foundation, Saharian Countries.
11 - Experts meeting for the preparation of the 2006 High level summit on the IYDD	Algiers	April	Ministry of Environment of Italy, Algeria, UNCCD
MAY 2006			
12 - International Conference: “Women and Desertification”	Beijing (China)	May	Ministry of Environment of Italy, China, UNCCD
13 - International conference “Civil society and desertification”	Montpellier (France)	May	France, GTD, ENID UNCCD



14 - Fourteenth Conference of the International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO)	Marrakech (Morocco)	May	European Soil Conservation Society, Morocco and others
JUNE 2006			
15 – Celebration of the World Environment Day under the topic Deserts and Desertification	Algiers (Algeria)	5 June	Algeria, Italy, UNCCD, UNEP, World Deserts Foundation
16 - International Film Festival “Desert Nights: Tales from the Desert”.	Rome (Italy)	12 – 17 June	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, UNCCD
17 - UNESCO conference on «The Future of Arid Lands »	Tunis (Tunisia)	End June	Tunisia, France, UNESCO, UNCCD, OSS, UNU, UNDP, UNEP, IFAD,
18. a) Launching of the International Observatory on Environment and the combat against Desertification b) Launching of the park and the museum of the World Deserts, Opening of the International Institute of the World Deserts c) Opening of the Centre to combat Desertification.	Ghardaïa (Algeria)	17 June	Ministry of Environment of Italy. UNDP, UNESCO, World Deserts Foundation.
19 – Launching by UNEP of two publications: 2006. GEO-Deserts (June 2006) and Environmental management of Arid Lands (during 2006).	Throughout the World	June	UNEP
SEPTEMBER 2006			
20 – International Symposium on Desertification and Migrations	Almeria (Spain)	September / October	Spain, UNCCD



21 - Scientific Conference on "Environmental Arid Lands Management and the Millennium Development Goals"	Nairobi (Kenya)	September / October	UNEP
22 – IYDD Photo Exhibit at the United Nations Headquarters in New York	New York (USA)	September – November	Ministry of Environment of Italy, UNCCD, Michael Martin
OCTOBER 2006			
23 - Designing a forward-looking strategy for effective implementation of the UNCCD	Buenos Aires (Argentina)	October	Ministry of Environment of Italy, Argentina, UNCCD,
24 - High Level Conference on Deserts and Desertification (Heads of States and Governments)	Algiers (Algeria)	October	Algeria, Ministry of Environment of Italy, UNCCD, UNEP, World Deserts Foundation
NOVEMBER 2006			
25 – Presentation of the Report on the celebration of the IYDD at the United Nations General Assembly.	New York (USA)	November	Ministry of Environment of Italy, Foundation Deserts of the World
26 - "Deserts and Desertification - Challenges and Opportunities"	Sdeh Boker (Israel)	6 – 9 November	Blaustein Institute for Desert Research Ben Gurion University Israel, UNCCD



27 – UNU International Conference: “Desertification and the International Policy Imperative”	Algiers (Algeria)	November	Japan, Algeria University of the United Nations, Foundation Deserts of the World
DECEMBER 2006			
28 – Official Closing ceremony of the International Year			