

- (b) land use patterns, management of water resources, soil conservation, forestry, agriculture activities and pasture and range management;
- (c) management and conservation of wildfilife and other forms of biological diversity;
- (d) protection against forest fires;
- (e) promotion of alternative livelihoods; and
- (f) research, training and public awareness.

Article 7

Subregional, regional and joint action programmes

1. Affected country Parties of the region may, in accordance with article 11 of the Convention, prepare and implement subregional and/or regional action programmes in order to complement and increase the efficiency of national action programmes., Two or more affected country Parties of the region, may similarly agree to prepare a joint action programme between or among them.

2. The provisions of articles 5 and 6 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the preparation and implementation of subregional, regional and joint action programmes. In addition, such programmes may include the conduct of research and development activities concerning selected ecosystems in affected areas.

3. In preparing and implementing subregional, regional or joint action programmes, affected country Parties of the region shall, as appropriate:

- (a) identify, in cooperation with national institutions, national objectives relating to desertification which can better be met by such programmes and relevant activities which could be effectively carried out through them;
- (b) evaluate the operational capacities and activities of relevant regional, subregional and national institutions; and
- (c) assess existing programmes relating to desertification among Parties of the region and their relationship with national action programmes.