

External review of the first order draft of the land degradation and restoration assessment

30 May - 11 July 2016

Chapter 1

Reviewer Name	Chapter	From Page (start)	From Line (start)	To Page (end)	To Line (end)	Reviewer Comments	Response (from Chapter 1)
LI Qingfeng	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			1, The Report in overall is too academia, too detailed in scientific exploration and descriptions. In consideration of the principal aim "to facilitate the implementation of the National ... and the "Inter-governmental" nature of the organization, the Report has to be more "publicly explicit", rather than "scientifically complicated". If the Report is to be read by the policy makers, and to draw attentions from the public, the content is to be simplified and the volume greatly reduced, one third is more than enough.	In the chapter revision these points are taken into account. The content was simplified wherever possible.
LI Qingfeng	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			2, An Executive Summary and a List of Acronyms and Abbreviations are necessary.	Thank you, this has been done for the final draft of the Chapter 1 and all chapters of the report.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			We believe that the first order draft of the IPBES thematic assessment on Land Degradation and Restoration generally has a comprehensive and scientifically sound structure and we congratulate the authors for this achievement. This is a first order draft however, and, therefore, we hope that our comments was useful for the further development and maturing of this assessment so that in the second order draft scientifically strong and comprehensive key messages can emerge. We very much look forward to the second order draft of this important assessment.	Thank you
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			We request the co-chairs of this assessment to ensure that the general comments listed for this assessment are made available to the CLAs and LAs of all 8 chapters. Reason: Cross-referencing between the 8 chapters of the FOD sections by chapter authors should help to (1) avoid repetition; (2) use the same terminology/definitions, (c) strengthen the logical connection between the 8 chapters and, thus, (d) strengthen the overall storyline of the assessment.	This has been done. 1) In the Second Author Meeting (SAM) in Bonn chapter boundaries were defined; 2) glossary has been made; 3) common drivers and ES were addressed from different chapter perspectives. The general comments have been distributed to all chapters and revisions have been made by chapters as stated above.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			It needs to be critically highlighted that chapter 1 needs to provide a sound basis on the scope of this assessment and on the key definitions/terminology used throughout the 8 chapters. This should help to develop a strong storyline throughout the chapters. Chapter 8 on decision support should reflect more strongly on the findings of the previous chapters and also discuss policy support tools. Currently, chapter 8 remains quite general. All in all, the chapter authors should analyse the findings of the other chapters of the assessment and cross-reference to these. As we are discussing a thematic assessment which should also add value to the IPBES global assessment (D2c), we strongly encourage the authors of the 8 chapters to also analyse the relevant findings emerging from the four regional IPBES assessments.	The work of the regional assessments is ongoing and there is some coordination that happened at strategic points, including the joint Second Author Meeting that brought together all 5 assessments
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			A major cross-cutting issue throughout the document is that land degradation and restoration are being "lumped" too much together , without considering that each of these measures has different drivers, processes etc. Discussing both aspects separately and with a stronger biodiversity and ecosystems perspective would add value to the document.	In the subsequent draft, Chapter 3 has taken that into consideration, discussing degradation and restoration separately. We also have tried to make the links to biodiversity and ecosystems more prominent.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			The assessment should provide balanced scientific-based opinions and not overemphasize certain opinions, thereby possibly paying less attention to other perspectives. Therefore, the arguments in a chapter should not build just around one or two opinion-based citations.	While we have used the available scientific evidence, we have also used other available information and knowledge to form a balanced opinion based on the literature we have assessed.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			Please ensure that all 8 chapters will start with an executive summary that includes a list of key messages and their degrees of confidences, based on the Platform's confidence framework in the Platform's guide on assessments (IPBES/4/INF/9). Such key messages was extremely relevant for the user groups of this assessment and most certainly for identifying policy options.	This has been done in the final draft.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			Provide an annex for this assessment that lists all the acronyms, abbreviations and key terms (including their definitions) used in the assessment.	This has been done in the final draft.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			Ensure consistency in the wording and the use of the key terms provided in section 1.1.2 throughout the document (all 8 chapters) of this assessment. Please also ensure that the wording of definitions provided in section 1.1.2 corresponds to the wording of these definitions as outlined in Decision 3/1, Annex VIII.	Chapter 3 has tried to be consistent with the 1.1.2
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			Ensure that prescriptive language is not used.	Text has been checked for prescriptive language and replaced with "if...then" phrasing.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA			In the further development of the assessment report, please also refer to other IPBES work programme items that are thematically linked to this assessment (e.g. "capacity development (D1a/b)"; "indigenous and local knowledge (D1c)"; "regional assessments (D2b)"; "global assessment (D2c)"; "pollination, pollination and food production (D3a)"; "scenarios and modeling (D3c)"; "policy support tools (D4c)".	Cross-reference to the IPBES policy support tools has been made.

German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Regarding chapter 1 and in chapter 8: highlight the relevance of the LDR assessment for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 / Aichi Targets (specifically goal 15), and the SDGs (and especially SDG 15).	This has been done in the subsequent draft.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Outline in chapter 1 and in chapter 8, how the land degradation and restoration assessment will deliver to/support the IPBES global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services (D2c).	A framework for the criteria of the success stories has been developed in Ch1. The aim of the framework is to be replicable and it our hope it was used in the global assessment.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		The terms "sustainable land use" and "sustainable land management" are somewhat being used interchangeably. Please check the definitions of both terms and if necessary, please align the use of these terms accordingly throughout the assessment report (all 8 chapters).	The terms have been defined in the glossary and used accordingly.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Throughout the document the terms "reduction" and "mitigation" are being used. Please provide information about the technical difference between both terms.	The terms have been defined in the glossary and used accordingly.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Regarding figures, tables, photos/images: Ensure in the <i>second order draft</i> and the associated SPM that the quality of all visual materials should be high .	Visual materials have been improved to the best quality possible through using a specialized cartographer to redraw the figures and obtaining high quality photos.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Information and data targeting the same or similar issues (e.g. on urbanisation/global extent of land degradation, deforestation rates ...), are outlined in the various chapters of the report, partly by referring to different statistical sources. We strongly encourage you to develop comprehensive chapters-spanning tables and figures on similar issues in order to align information throughout the 8 chapters so that strong key messages can emerge .	Chapters-spanning tables were not possible due to sheet complexity. But we did ensure more alignment and hand-overs.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Ensure for all 8 chapters that data and other facts (numbers, percentages, statements, citations) are provided with at least one reference.	Done.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Not all references cited in the text are to be found in the reference lists of the chapters. Please critically cross-check.	All reference material has been added to the referece manager to ensure correct citations.
German government	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		We have acknowledged that professional language editing was taken care of at a later stage. We have therefore restricted ourselves to providing comments only on the thematic contents of each chapter. Therefore, please ensure that language editing is taken care of.	Text has been fully editing for the final draft .
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Perhaps excusable in a FOD, but the majority of the text needs substantial editing to improve English expression and ensure clarity.	Text has been fully editing for the final draft .
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		The document length should be substantially reduced, so that it is readable for the intended audience of policy-makers. Delete the text that does not relate directly to the topic of assessment of land degradation. Condense the explanatory text and provide references for further detail.	We aimed to be as concise as possible in the chapter revisions.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		The report title is misleading. The assessment is not about land degradation but rather about biodiversity loss, because land degradation has been defined here as "processes that cause biodiversity loss and loss of ecosystem functions and services". Ideally the title should be reworded to reflect the content.	Title used was given to us in the Scoping Document, which was approved by IPBES Plenary (please see annex VIII to Decision IPBES-3/1). We are not in the position to change the title.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		We encourage the authors to elaborate on how land degradation/restoration can seamlessly integrate agriculture, ecosystems services and biodiversity.	This has been addressed in the final version of the assessment report.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		It would be helpful if the report used the language of DPSIR; this could help to minimise the repetition between chapters, if authors can recognise that for example chapter 4 should be confined to pressure and state, and not also discuss drivers (ch3) and impacts (on ecosystems - Ch 5), and human responses (ch 6).	The assessment is build around DPSIR. Chapter 6 and part of 8 addresses the response part. Drivers, Pressures, State, Impact Response.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Not all references cited can be found in the reference list. This needs to be taken care of.	All literature has been added to the referece manager to ensure correct citations.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		The second order draft should include key messages and their level of confidence. This is currently lacking.	Executive summary has been developed, including level of confidence
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA		Some item are repeated on introduction of different chapters.	OK. Some overlap in intro is OK, as long as being dealt with from a specific chapter angle.

Peter Onorato	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA	<p>Considering IPBES' role as the interface between science and policy, we consider it critical that the reports clearly communicate the key findings, implications and recommendations within chapters so that they can be readily used by policy makers. To assist this there may be value in the chapters having a uniform structure, similar to that in the Executive Summary of the IPCC Chapters. In addition to including an executive summary, the following headers might help focus the authors' attention to ensuring their chapters are targeted to policy-makers as opposed to an academic audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Executive Summary 1. Key Findings 2. Critical Implications 3. Gaps in Knowledge and Data 4. Recommendations 5. FAQ <p>A clear and consistent structure, along with key findings and recommendations, could be of great benefit to policy makers.</p>	All chapters have an executive summary. SPM addresses all other elements presented.
Peter Onorato	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA	<p>Some of the Chapters (particularly Chapter 2) competing scientific views on certain issues are presented, almost debate-like, one after another. While it's important to understand the current state of the science, we do not think that IPBES Assessment Reports should be used as a platform to advance contested academic theories as this diminishes the report's ability to be a clear and concise communication document. In order to best bridge the gap between science and policy, and to provide policymakers with clear guidance, Assessment Reports should present the latest knowledge and make recommendations based on this. Policy makers generally don't have the depth of knowledge to balance contested scientific theories and will rely on IPBES' work to clearly identify the best policy options available</p>	Not directly relevant to Ch1, but we paid close attention to tone and presentation of evidence in the SOD.
Peter Onorato	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA	<p>The SDGs constitute the new global paradigm for sustainable development. As such, we consider there to be value in drawing more links between the SDGs and IPBES' work within the reports. Again, this will help policymakers effectively prosecute the case for improved biodiversity policies, and help identify where clear links exist between biodiversity policy and other issues including development and broader environmental outcomes, strengthening the case for biodiversity policy priorities.</p>	This has been done.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA	<p>The entire report should be homogenously arranged, logically build and fully integrated with no inconsistency, disharmony or overlapping within its chapters and sections. The titles of chapters and sections are generally too long to be professional.</p>	Harmonization and the avoidance of overlaps has been ensured for the final draft. Titles of the chapters have been pre-approved by Plenary and are defined by the scoping for the assessment. We are not in the position to change the titles of the chapters.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA	<p>Number of sections still requires more work and careful revision. As examples, in Chapter 1, There should be more sections to clarify 1.2 What constitutes Success in the restoration of degraded land?; 1.3.1.1 until 1.3.1.5 should be corrected; in Chapter 2, the classification of Natural and social science and the law, Human sciences, and Social inequities should be justified (or correct); in Chapter 3, how "3.6. Food security through tackling land degradation" is related with the direct and indirect drivers of land degradation and restoration; in Chapter 4, most of sections deals with multiple drivers and Key Human Drivers, although the reader expect that "the status and trends of land degradation and restoration and associated changes in biodiversity and ecosystem functions" was analyzed; in Chapter 5, the reader expect that there are some sort of comparisons between the case of land degradation and the case of land restoration; in Chapter 6, Responses to avoid land degradation and restore degraded land, the reader expect that there is an Environmental assessment evaluation and a full Economic and financial mechanisms, how can it be applied in the mentioned Case studies and how he/she can estimate the total cost in his/her Case study; in Chapter 7, Issues not being raised include how soft computing techniques such as Fuzzy Logic and Neural Networks can develop scenarios of how land degradation and restoration could evolve in both Near-term and Long-term; in Chapter 8, the reader expect that there a focus on soft computing techniques, and the possible application in the fields of the decision support systems used to address land degradation and restoration based on a well-defined Environmental indicators.</p>	The final draft has been extensively revised. The overlaps and redundancies solved, and the whole text edited. Thank you for your close reading of the report.

						The entire report should be homogenous and integrated with no interference within its chapters and sections. As a quick example, the first section in Chapters 1, 5 & 6 is Introduction; whereas in Chapter 2 is Executive summary: Key Messages; in Chapter 3 is Purpose and value of chapter; in Chapter 4 is Introduction to the degradation process; in Chapter 7 is Table of Content, Executive Summary (Key policy messages), At the global level, At the local level (only where different from global messages); and in Chapter 8 is Executive Summary. Similarly, the end section in Chapter 1 is 1.3 Case studies of successful land restoration; in Chapter 2 is Conclusions - Working with perceptions as a policy tool; in Chapter 3 is 3.7 References Cited; in Chapter 4 is 4.6 Conclusions, 4.7 Glossary, 4.8 References; in Chapter 5 is 5.5 Remaining Challenges; in Chapter 6 is 6.4.4.2 Case studies, 6.5 References; in Chapter 7 is 7.4.4 New approaches: Visioning LDR for Sustainable Futures; and in Chapter 8 is 8.4.3 Identify and prioritize responses to reduce trade-offs and/or enhance synergies to address land degradation and/or develop restoration.	The full assessment has gone through multiple revision rounds and streamlining across chapters. Consistent structuring across chapters has been developed as well.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
						Numbers of topics still require work and revision, as examples, please compare "3.3.6 Fire regime change" with "4.3.6 Fire regime change", and "6.3.1.5 Fire regime change", also, compare "3.4 Climate change as a threat multiplier of degradation drivers", with "4.2 Cross cutting degradation processes common to multiple drivers", and "6.3.1.10 Climate change as a threat multiplier".	Harmonization across chapters has been ensured for the final draft.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
						There should be examples/chapter to clarify how the biogeochemical cycle (carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfur, calcium, rock and water etc.) through both biotic (biosphere) and abiotic (atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere) compartments of Earth can cause land degradation and restoration. Special attention should be emphasized to the human-caused cycle of atrazine, which may affect certain species. Land degradation and restoration should be assessed in the light of Global Changes; Global Warming; Global Sea Level Rise, and Global Ocean. Land degradation and restoration should be assessed into two categories which operates at different time scales: the biological – physical, (Near-term) and the geological, (Long-term). Land restoration opportunities, planning, economics, implementation constraints, and limits should be defined.	Drivers of LD, both direct and indirect are at the core of the chapter 3 and have been addressed accordingly. The biophysical aspects are discussed at length in Ch4.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
						Assessment on land degradation and restoration should emphasize on multiple Land-use Categories; Forest Land, Cropland, Grassland, Wetlands, Peatlands, Settlements, and most important and significant Arid and Semi-arid land. Assessment on land degradation and restoration should emphasize on Policy Oriented Research. Human Settlements, Industry, and Infrastructure in both Urban and Rural Areas should be surveyed. Cross-cutting issues such that Agriculture, Water, Energy, Industrial Processes, CO2 Transport, Injection and Geological Storage, Waste Generation, Composition, Incineration, Treatment, Discharge, Disposal and Management should be focused.	Drivers of LD, both direct and indirect are at the core of the chapter 3 and have been addressed accordingly.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
						Research related to the Science of land degradation and restoration should be emphasized on. Assessment on land degradation and restoration generally deal with multiple meanings of fuzzy concepts, so it is strongly recommended to add chapter/section to provide General Guidance to the subject of how applying fuzzy concepts in the context of land degradation and restoration using soft computing techniques. The scope of soft computing covers the areas of Fuzzy Logic, Neural Networks, Chaos Theory, Evolutionary Computing, Rough Sets, Ant Colony, Immunological Computing, Particle Swarm, Wavelet, Probabilistic Computing, Hybrid Methods and other similar techniques to address real world complexities achieving tractability, robustness and low cost solution. The chapter may be devoted to effective approaches to Data Collection; dealing with Uncertainties; Methodological and efficient technique Choice; Time Series Consistency Identification of Key Categories, and Quality Assurance/Quality Control and Verification. The application areas of soft computing include but are not limited to Detection and Attribution of land degradation: from Global to Regional and local, land degradation Projections and Predictability (Near-term and Long-term). Land degradation Phenomena and its relevance for future Global and Climate Change. Detection and attribution of observed and multi-sector degradation, emergent risks, key vulnerabilities, and opportunities should be addressed. Land degradation and restoration should be assessed in the light of statistical analysis and levels of confidence.	Thank you, we have incorporated relevant elements into Ch1 in the SOD in accordance with the scoping for the chapter. But this topic is more appropriate to Ch2 scoping (where it is discussed at length).
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
						Atlas of Global, Regional and local land degradation and restoration Existing, Projections and Predictability should be annexed.	We tried to integrate all relevant information within the body of the text, so as to not overload the final report with extensive back matter.
Ayman Batisha	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
						The Chapters are disomogenous. Their structure is different as well as the degree of deepening of the topics which, in general, remains too weak. Some general concepts and the conceptual framework itself are repeated too many times with no real added value in the various Chapters. Even if all concepts should be based on sound scientific data and information, too many references could generate some confusion. The report should take into consideration its utilisation, among all, in policy making processes, and adopt an appropriate language. Some overlapping, for example for Chapter 7 and 8. On the contrary, some citations are disomogenous.	We solved inappropriate overlap between chapters and within chapters for the final draft.
Anna Luise	0	0	general comment on FOD LDRA				
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	0	0			Overall, this chapter is great contribution, very clear and compelling.	Thank you

Markus Giger	Chapter 1	0	0			Overall the chapter lacks clear explanation of its purpose. Why do we start with successes? The chapter starts with introduction the IPBES as a whole, but it does not really introduce the chapter itself. Should this be a kind of synthesis of the whole IPBES? Or is it more an appetizer or motivational chapter?	We are following the Scoping Document for Chapter 1 which requests we provide an Introduction to the Assessment with a brief review of the rationale, utility and assumptions, including approach adopted and rationale for chapter sequence. We are then to provide a brief summary of benefits to human well being and quality of life which can be achieved by halting, reducing and mitigating degradation processes as well as restoration of degraded land. We are asked explicitly to provide examples of success stories. We was more explicit about explaining the connections to success in the SOD.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	0	0			General: Chapter 1 portrays land degradation/restoration as a practical subject e.g. Box 1 lists "success factors" for avoiding land degradation and restoring degraded land. It would however benefit from a more detailed review of literature. Consider also, whether case studies should be included in the introductory chapter.	An extensive systematic review of the literature sits behind Box 1. This review was now incorporated in the SOD and Box 1 was reworked. The Scoping Document specifically requests Success stories in Chapter 1.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	2	0			General : As an introductory chapter it needs to very clearly set out the aim of the study, and the definitions used throughout.	Thank you we have taken into account your feedback for the SOD
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	2	0			Describe clearly the methods used for the assessment.	Thank you we now included a methodology section
Markus Giger	Chapter 1	2	0		2	According the table of content, there is no 1.2.2. Why not make the box into the chapter 1.2.2?	Thank you for identifying this oversight, as we reworked the Chapter we ensured the numbering was correct
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	1	2	1	3	Lines 2-3: Title: Given the structure and focus of the chapter, I am not sure that the current title is the most appropriate. It seems to me that the focus of the chapter is not explicitly set on the benefits of dealing with land degradation and restoration of degraded land. The first half of the chapter focuses in a (necessary) introduction and description of important points about the LDR Assessment, including the content of Box 1. And the second half presents relevant case studies which indirectly show the benefits of addressing LDR. Maybe a more comprehensive title, which highlights the current relevance of LDR, and at the same time stresses the benefits of land restoration would be better. Probably something like "Land degradation and restoration: key factors to address in the quest for sustainable benefits to people". In any case, I am not sure the term "avoidance" is the correct one to use here. Given that the focus is set on showing the benefits of having addressed land degradation in places where it already occurred, then "halting", "reducing", "mitigating" or "managing" (all of these options implying the avoidance of further degradation) seem to be better options. The use of "avoidance" alone gives the idea of avoidance of future degradation in places where it hasn't yet occurred.	Thank you. We have sought permission from the MEP and Management Committee to alter the Title which was provided as part of the Scoping Document. We incorporated all your comments and others received in the reworking of the title.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	1	2			Chapter title: This is the introduction, that gives general information relevant to the whole study - it should be worded to indicate this.	Thank you. We have sought permission from the MEP and Management Committee to alter the Title which was provided as part of the Scoping Document. We incorporated all your comments and others received in the reworking of the title.
Adonia Kamukasa Bintooro	Chapter 1	6	4	6	15	BOX1, under effective and nefficient economic and financial instrument, include readily available or potential support/funding from World Bank and other financial institutions of restoration and rehabilitation programs/projects for degraded landscape (Bell, 2006)	Thank you for this reference
Penny van Oosterzee	Chapter 1	1	26			I'm don't think the case studies work here. They might be better off further into the chapters with some of chapter 2 coming forward into chapter 1.	The Scoping Document explicitly requests the Chapter to provide examples of success stories. We have now ensured in the SOD that the Case studies were chosen using a systematic process and integrated into the text of the Chapter more seamlessly
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	1	27	1	27	Please change "the" to "The"	Thank you
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	1	30	1	30	Please change "environment" to "Environment"	Thank you
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	1	31	1	31	Please change "trees" to "Trees"	Thank you
M. Y. Yazdandoost	Chapter 1	2	34	9	152	Following points wherever possible are expected to be touched in this introductory chapter: 1. Social Capital Benefits (SCB) including Assets, Institutions and Governance Structures (AIGS) through enhancing Land Reclamation and Restoration Services (LRRS). 2. Enhancing landscape multifunctionality by restoring Natural Capital (NC). 3. Habitat restoration a key to Sustainable Development (SD). 4. Social Capital and Community Governance (SCCG) in maintaining Environmental Capital (EC). 5. Building Social Capital Networks (SCN) to protect Natural Capital (NC). 6. Economic interpretation for Sustainable Habitat Development (SHD).	Thank you we incorporated these into the Literature Review associated with headings in the current Box 1. Box 1 was reworked
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	2	38	2	39	A one sentence example of direct vs indirect drivers of land degradation would be helpful.	This was added
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	2	38	2	39	Chapter 3 identifies natural drivers of land degradation as well as anthropogenic drivers. This introductory chapter should perhaps include a brief discussion on both natural and man anthropogenic drivers, but note that the objective of this assessment is to identify how best to manage anthropogenic drivers of degradation	Yes this was accommodated

Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	2	38	2	60	I am missing a definition of degradation. I realise it comes later, but a hint as to how it was operationalized here seems worthwhile. It should also be made clear whether the different conventions and statistics cited all use the same definition of land degradation.	An extensive discussion on perceptions, definitions and worldviews is available in Chapter 2.
Adonia Kamukasa Bintooro	Chapter 1	7	38	7	40	On social and cultural instruments, include the aspect of poverty and land degradation. Existing efforts to eradicate poverty positively contribute to reduction of land degradation	Thank you, yes we included this in SOD.
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	2	38	3	82	Lines 38-82: An important point of the LDR Assessment, which is later highlighted in Chapter 2, is "the desired shift from a policy that aims to slow down degradation to one that aims to reverse it". In many cases land degradation might be considerable reduced (or even stopped), but no further actions are taken in order to restore the ecosystem (i.e. the ecosystem is let to recover "naturally"). I think it would be worth mention somewhere in the introduction of Chapter 1 (probably at the beginning) that taking action to slow down or stop (or "halt", "mitigate", etc) degradation in a given place does not necessarily imply taking actions to restore the degraded land, and this is precisely one of the conceptual axis of the LDR Assessment. Especially if we consider the definition of "restoration" presented, which specifically refers to "intentional activity". I think this is an important point in the conceptual approach of the assessment, since Lines 38-376: I think a revision of style will help improving the text.	Thank you this was included and style was reviewed with these comments in mind
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	2	38	15	376	Lines 38-376: Check across the text for the incorrect use of capitalization in terms such as "Countries" (Line 41), "Success" (Line 139), "Criteria" (Line 142), "Success Stories" (Line 147), etc.	Thank you these corrections were made
Marina Rosales Benites de Franco	Chapter 1	38	39	2	2	I suggest to consider the following change: Land degradation, which is by definition a direct and indirect result of human activities, affects ecosystems at every continent except perhaps Antarctica.	Thank you, we added ecosystems
German government	Chapter 1	2	40	2	42	Regarding the mentioning of the UNCCD: Provide the definition of "desertification" used by the UNCCD.	Regarding all definitions defined by scopign document, we must use those as given to us. But we agree that defining "desertification" in accordance with UNCCD is appropriate.
Jorge Luis Garcia R	Chapter 1	2	41	2	42	Add Affected in the text: (UNCCD), effective from 1996 and focused on " Affected " Countries experiencing serious drought and/or 41 desertification, particularly Africa.	Thank you, this was included this
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	2	42	2	42	Line 42: Given that there is no previous mention of the "Rio Conventions", the use of "other" may be confusing here. Perhaps after mentioning the UNCCD, it is better to mention the UNFCCC and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, and then mention that all three Conventions are known as the "Rio Conventions".	Thank you, this was corrected
Royal C. Gardner	Chapter 1	2	43	2	43	Date of adoption of CBD was 1992, not 1993	Corrected
Anna Luise	Chapter 1		44		46	Here, there is an evident editorial problem. The wording adopted is not correct and not in line with the wording adopted in other chapters, for example Chapter 2 and 6. Suggestion: The Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), adopted by UNGA in 2015, following the results of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+2, The Future We Want, contain, among all, a specific Goal on land and soil (Goal 15), and a specific Target (15.3) with the aim to halt and reverse land degradation while still promoting economic growth and human development.	These improvements were made
Victor M. Castillo (UNCCD)	Chapter 1	1	46	1	47	Reference to the estimation of land degradation economic cost from FAO needs to be documented. It is suggested considering results included in the report produced by the Economic of Land Degradation Initiative (ELD): ELD Initiative (2015). The value of land: Prosperous lands and positive rewards through sustainable land management. Available at www.eld-initiative.org According to this report, the estimated global loss of ecosystem services due to land degradation is between USD 6.3 to 10.6 trillion. These estimates of lost ecosystem services represent significantly larger fractions (10–17 per cent) of global GDP.	This reference to FAO has been part of the scoping document as was approved by Plenary. Please see Annex VIII to decision IPBES-3/1. We chose to include this as part of our Preface in the final draft where overview of the process and scoping is now explained.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	2	53	2	53	In some other chapter I found Fig. not Figure so be consistent in whole book using either Fig. or Figure but not both.	Thank you, consistency was ensured
Fujiang Hou	Chapter 1	2	54	2	54	There are some choices about the rangeland and grassland in this chapter. Here, forest and rangelands are used together.	This was addressed, thank you
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	2	54	2	54	remove comma before etc.	Done
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	2	63	2	63	Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK) systems. Better to use small s (systems) not capital System.	Done
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	2	66		67	The statement on the beneficiaries is inconsistent with the definition of land degradation. Most of those who rely on the land for their livelihoods are family farmers; to them, productivity means the capacity to produce crops or grow livestock. Yet by the definition used in this report, all such activities cause land degradation and all land on which these activities are undertaken is degraded. It would seem that "keeping land in its most productive state", as benefits these people, is entirely contrary to the substance of this report.	This is a fundamental question related to the IPBES Conceptual framework and the IPBES Plenary adopted definitions and we are working to these definitions
Marina Rosales Benites de Franco	Chapter 1	67	68	2	2	This arguably includes every person on Earth, now and in the future, but especially people with direct livelihood dependence on lands currently degraded. (it is important consider the indirect dependence too).	Direct has been deleted
Rob J.J. Hendriks	Chapter 1	2	69	2	70	Did the MEP indeed request?	MEP deleted

Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	2	69	2	69	request or requests please check it	requests used
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	2	69	2	69	The LDR Assessment, unlike other past Assessments, arises following a request from Governments and a	The LDR Assessment, unlike other past Assessments, arises following a request from Governments and a the
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	3	76	3	76	commencing with First Author Meeting in September 2015 or 2016	The 1st Author Meeting was in September 2015
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	3	76	3	76	restoration, commencing with First Author Meeting in September 2015. restoration, commencing with the First Author Meeting in September 2015.	'the' has been added to the text
Royal C. Gardner	Chapter 1	2	80	2	81	Does the assessment actually evaluate restoration and rehabilitation responses? It seems to provide some examples, but I am not sure there is an evaluation.	The assessment does evaluate, based on the most up to date information, for this reason I believe this is a correct statement
German government	Chapter 1	3	82	3	82	Which previous assessments on LDR are you referring to?	such as LADA which provides a baseline assessment of global trends in land degradation http://www.fao.org/nr/lada/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=29&Itemid=111&lang=en
Wang Yujie	Chapter 1	3	84		106	For readers to clearly get the whole picture of existing responses to land degradation, definitions of "prevention" & "mitigation" should also be provided on Page 3, just as that of "Restoration" & "Rehabilitation".	The UNCCD definition of land has been included. Many widely accepted definitions for prevention and mitigation currently occur in the literature and will not be repeated here
German government	Chapter 1	3	86	3	96	The Definition of LAND is missing.	The UNCCD definition of land has been included.
Josu G Alday	Chapter 1	3	88	3	89	In degraded land definition can be included lands that are not produced by anthropogenic impacts, such as early successional stages produced by natural environmental problems not directly related with global change. This must be considered.	This definition is the one provided by the Scoping Document which we must use for the Assessment. This definition allows for land degradation to occur by many processes including the ones mentioned here. Processes/drivers are covered in Chapter 3.
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	3	88	3	92	Lines 88-92: I believe that the definitions of "Degradation" and "Land degradation" should explicitly say that (for the purpose of the Assessment) they refer to human-caused degradation and land degradation.	This definition is the one provided by the Scoping Document which we must use for the Assessment. This definition allows for land degradation to occur by many processes
German government	Chapter 1	3	88	3	96	Ensure alignment of the wording of the definitions of "Land degradation" and "rehabilitation" according to the wording given in Decision 3/1, Annex VIII.	Some minor differences have been corrected
Jorge Luis Garcia R	Chapter 1	3	90	3	92	We Cant support the use of many concepts for Land Degradation, besides this redaction is not a formal concept or definitionIs recommended to use the concept to the UNCCD, and let the proposed redaction as a complement.	The definition used is the one developed by the Plenary and incorporated into the scoping document. Please see Annex VIII to the decision IPBES-3/1
Josu G Alday	Chapter 1	3	90	3	92	Land degradation definiton, there are some processes such as succession that produces a decline in biodiversity, but they can not be considered as a degradation. Here a more clear definition will help	The definition used is the one developed by the Plenary and incorporated into the scoping document. Chapter 3 on Drivers covers the processes involved with land Degradation
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	3	90		92	Definition of land degradation: The definition is land degradation is imprecise: the many processes that drive decline or loss of biodiversity...; Does processes refer to anthropogenic and natural processes? For example, this would seem to include facial tumor disease killing Tasmanian devils. Is the intention that it should be this broad, and include processes that are unrelated to the land? Is the intention that anything that causes loss of biodiversity is land degradation because if there is a loss of biodiversity in terrestrial, freshwater or coastal ecosystems this is, by this definition, land degradation? Is it the processes or is it the loss itself? The definition is expressed differently in other chapters. Ch2 states the definition as: LD is "loss of biodiversity and ecosystem functions" "as a driver of ... ecosystem services losses" So here services are not included in the definition. The definition should be stated once, in full, in Ch 1 and not expressed differently in other chapters. Include discussion on the fact that the definition of LD used herein is different from the UNCCD definition.	The definition provided in Chapter 1 is the one provided within the Scoping Document and the appropriate one to use throughout the Assessment, as mandated by the Plenary. Chapter 2 extensively addresses the differing views and perspectives and definitions. The Direct and indirect drivers/processes are covered in Chapter 3. We need to ensure all Chapters use the same definition.
Josu G Alday	Chapter 1	3	93	3	94	I will recomend to reference here the definitions used by the Society of Ecological restoration International.	The definition used are those developed by the Plenary and incorporated into the scoping document.
Marina Rosales Benites de Franco	Chapter 1	90	93	3	3	"Land degradation" refers to the many processes that drive the decline or loss in biodiversity, ecosystem functions or services, and includes the degradation of freshwater and coastal wetlands ecosystems that are closely interconnected with terrestrial ecosystems. (It is vital to consider other ecosystems as high Andean ecosystems located in paramo formations, including Central American páramos puna and jalca, among others, contain important wetland systems such as glaciers, lagoons, wet grasslands, bofedales, high-altitude vegas, salt pans and peat bogs, which have high ecological, social and cultural value).	The definition we are using is provided in the scoping document and provided by the plenary, this definition does not exclude the ecosystems included in your comments

Josu G Alday	Chapter 1	3	95	3	96	The use of this term is not clear enough, I recommend to read the SERI primer about the differences between reclamation and restoration.	The definition used here was provided to us by the Plenary through the Scoping document, other definitions are referred to in Chapter 2
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	3	95	3	96	Definition of "rehabilitation ... pre-degradation state (not site, correct?)	Thank you site has been changed to state
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	3	96	3	96	Line 96: Is it "site"? or "state"?	Site has been changed to state. Thank you
German government	Chapter 1	3	97	3	97	It is not clear what is meant with "... in order to establish changes." Consider, whether the following bold additions may help improving this sentence: "These definitions require a measurement of change over time in order to identify pathways for restoring or rehabilitating degraded land. "	Thank you for this excellent comment, we will consider these words and replace our existing words with suitable replacement wording such as you suggest
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	3	98			These terms are not all defined in Box 2.3. Material such as this that applies across the report should be placed in this introductory chapter so it is easy for the reader to refer to.	Thank you, this Box is now included in Chapter 1 and all terms were defined clearly
Royal C. Gardner	Chapter 1	3	103	3	105	It is critical to make the linkage with wetlands, as is done here.	Thank you for this positive comment
German government	Chapter 1	3	108	3	108	Please check: the experts could also have been nominated by Organisations and not only be IPBES member states.	Thank you, this was corrected
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	4	116	4	117	Conceptual framework is hard to follow. Chapters 2 and 7 do not appear to be on diagram. Not clear what distinguishes dotted and solid lines. Not clear why chapters 6 and 8 are outside boxes while other chapters are in boxes. Would be easier to follow if organized from left to right or top to bottom or text should explain that good quality of life is key end point (I'm guessing this is why that box is at top of diagram). In short, diagram is not a helpful map to understand the full report, to a reader new to this text.	Thank you for these comments, this was an early version and a new more informative and easy to read version is being developed
Anna Luise	Chapter 1		116		138	Regarding the conceptual framework, the Chapter 2 is not included. Even the Chapter 2 regards concepts and perceptions of land degradation and restoration, traditionally considered as external factors, they influence the elements on the conceptual framework. I suggest to introduce these topics and highlight their relations with the other topics already considered. Moreover, the chapter 2 seems to be independent and scarcely correlated to the others.	Thank you for these comments. This was reworked incorporating your very useful comments.
Penny van Oosterzee	Chapter 1	4	116			Be good to label where Chapter 1 and 2 fit in within the diagram.	Thank you this diagram was very much improved in the next version
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	4	116	4	116	Line 116: The line reads: "The <u>eight</u> chapters of the LDR can be mapped onto the IPBES conceptual framework. (Figure 1)", but chapters 1, 2 and 7 are not mapped in the figure	Thank you for this comment this figure was very much improved
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	4	116	4	116	delete full stop before (Figure 1).	Thank you, done
Rob J.J. Hendriks	Chapter 1	4	117	4	117	Would it make sense to place chapters 6 and 8 a bit more in the centre of this figure, following the same logic according to which 'governance and institutions' are positioned in the centre of the CF figure?	Thank you for these very helpful comments, the diagram was redeveloped and these comments were very helpful for the new approach
Josu G Alday	Chapter 1	4	118	4	118	I miss chapter 2 in the figure 1. Was it not included for any reason? I think the concepts are fundamental for a proper evaluation.	Thank you for pointing this out, the diagram was re-developed incorporating this obvious omission
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	4	118	4	119	Lines 118-119: I think a little more details on the legend of Figure 1.1 will enhance it. For example: what does the light blue area mean?; Why does the arrow '9' of the original Framework is going in the opposite direction in this case (from "Good quality of life to "Direct drivers")?; What does the outer right dotted line arrow mean?, and the next one to the left?	Thank you, the Figure was reworked and a new legend was developed taking your comments into account
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	4	118	4	118	Figure 1 not Figure 1.1 did not found in the text	Thank you for this correction
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	4	Figure 1.1			The figure needs a key to indicate the meaning of the different arrows (line styles), shading, boxes and text not in boxes. The parallel figure in Ch2 is much more informative. This should be used as a model.	Thank you for this good suggestion, the Figure was completely reworked
German government	Chapter 1	4	Figure 1.1			Text in the upper right corner: Explain the difference between "reduce" and "mitigate"?	Thank you, this was done and the figure was completely reworked
German government	Chapter 1	4	Figure 1.1			Insert information that explains the different use of dotted, dashed or solid line arrows.	Thank you, this was done and the figure was completely reworked
German government	Chapter 1	4	Figure 1.1			Below left corner of the figure: Explanation required what the grey area means in which the terms "Nature's benefits to people" and "Nature" are embedded?	Thank you for this question, the figure was completely reworked with these comments taken into consideration
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	5	131	5	131	Please change "Natures" to "Nature's"	Thank you, this correction has been made
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	5	132	5	132	Please add a period at the end	Thank you, this correction has been made
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	5	137	5	138	Please add a period at the end	Thank you, this correction has been made
Royal C. Gardner	Chapter 1	5	139	5	139	You may wish to note Zedler (2007) http://er.uwpress.org/content/25/3/162 and difficulties with the term "success" as applied to restoration projects.	Thank you, this heading was updated and wording considered more carefully. The Scoping document requests that Chapter 1 incorporate stories of success
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	5	139	5	139	What constitutes success . Use small s not S	Thank you this correction has been made
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	141	5	141	Line 141: Given that there is only one subsection under section 1.2, is the use of a subsection really necessary here?	Thank you your comment has been accepted

						Were these criteria really used to identify successful cases? Were the successful cases not identified based on the benefits of land management? And afterwards the success factors were extracted from the case studies? It seems the success factors are presently much more extracted from the literature in general.	Thank you for this comment. We have reviewed all case studies previously included in Chapter 1 and aligned them with with criteria for succes. A systematic approach was utilised to identify Case Studies to be incorporated into Chapter 1. The methodology was explained in the final draft.
Markus Giger	Chapter 1	5	142	5	143		
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	5	142	5	142	eliminate "were" from the sentence	Thank you, deleted
Penny van Oosterzee	Chapter 1	5	142			Where's Box 10? I think you mean Box 1 below.	Thank you, yes this should be Box 1
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	142	5	142	Line 142: A minor detail is that here the authors use the word "criteria", whereas in Box 1 they use "factors", which I believe is more appropriate.	Thank you consistency of wording was used
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	142	5	142	Replace "Box 10" for "Box 1"	Thank you, this was done.
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	142	5	142	There is a "which" missing before "...were used to..."	Thank you correction made
						Lines 142-143: These two lines are confusing. A "literature review has <u>identified</u> a series of Criteria (labelled A to K in Box 10) (<u>that</u>) were used to <u>identify</u> successful case studies <u>within</u> (??) Chapter 1. It is not very clear what the authors are trying to explain here. Perhaps this helps: "An extensive literature review allowed the identification of a series of factors that were used to select successful case studies, which are briefly presented in this chapter". It is not clear whether the criteria identified in the literature review were subsequently used for selecting successful case studies, or if the selected case studies surged during the review of many cases along with the list of factors for successfully dealing with land degradation and restoration of degraded land. In any case, I think it would be worth mentioning that the selected case studies are just a brief list of examples among many other case studies that have been successful.	Thank you for this excellent comment. We have reassessed the Case Studies used in Chapter 1. We now used a systematic approach to identify the most appropriate success stories for this Chapter and the methodology for selection was clearly outlined.
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	142	5	143		
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	5	142	5	142	An extensive literature review has identified a series of Criteria (labelled A to K in Box 10) were used to	Thank you this correction has been made
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	143	5	143	Line 143: IPBES Plenary number 3?	This has been corrected.
						Regarding the term "guidelines": Avoid using policy prescriptive language. In IPBES/3/18, Annex VIII, the following terms were used: "... <i>providing decision support and policy relevant guidance to decision makers</i> ...". Please adjust the language accordingly.	Thank you for this very helpful comment, the corerction was made
German government	Chapter 1	5	144	5	144		
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	146	5	146	Line 146: I am not an English native speaker, but is the use of: "to benefit people and <u>their human</u> well-being" correct here? Wouldn't be better to use "to improve people's wellbeing"?	Thank you for this improvement in language
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	147	5	147	Line 147: what does "poor" mean?	Thank you this word was reconsidered
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	147	5	147	Line 147: "Perceptions of benefits to people will vary" ...Depending on what?	This wording was improved and will incorporate differing world views
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	5	150	5	150	Please change "imporve" to "improving"	Thank you, the change has been made
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	5	150	5	150	Line 150: Change "improve" for "improving"	Thank you, the change has been made
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	5	151			How does preserving human rights ensure that the gains are "persistent"? Consider using "permanent" instead of persistent.	Thank you for this good suggestion
						Box 1: Again, the use of "avoidance" is confusing. I would say these are "Success factors for addressing land degradation and restoration". For example, in point "l" of Box 1 ("Landscape-scale Ecological Approach") the second line reads: "...and actions to achieve <u>successful avoidance of land degradation</u> ...". I take this to mean that actions are to be taken to prevent land degradation to occur in places where it hasn't yet occurred. But I am not sure this is what the authors are trying to say. I suggest checking across the text for the consistency in the use of "avoidance", "halting", "minimization", "control", "reverse", "remove"; which are all used in relation to land degradation.	Thank you for this excellent feedback, the use of all these words was reassessed and considered across the whole chapter
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	6	151	9	151		
						Add to end of Box1, incise (A): In Mexico the scheme of Environmental Compensation, supported with the financial Instrument of the Mexican Forest Fund is a great mechanism of the financial support for forest and agroforest restoration of the same surfaces that were changed of land use forest with the official permissions.	Thank you for this additional information. We incorporate regional initiatives from a number of countries including Mexico's
Jorge Luis Garcia R	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	6			
						Under Implementation of International Commitments, Ramsar Resolution XI.9, which endorses an "avoid-mitigate-compensate" approach, should be included. http://ramsar.rgis.ch/pdf/cop11/res/cop11-res09-e.pdf	Thank you, we now included this
Royal C. Gardner	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	6	Box 1		
						Box 1:This box is not introduced sufficiently. It needs to be better explained how it was developed and what was the purpose of it.	A fuller introduction was provided and the information currently in the Box was moved outside a Box and presented more creatively
Markus Giger	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	9			
						Box 1: The box elaborates on a number of very relevant success factors, which are obviously overlapping (enabling goverance, legal instruments and economic instruments...) so maybe some thoughts might help to structure this list even better. The factors are all framed in a un-political and technical way. For instance it avoids talking about policy distortions on the trade level (subsidies for cotton farmers which suppress prices for farmers in the sahel....) or tarif escalation for agricultural products.	Thank you for these excellent comments. We reconsidered presentation and restructured this informationin in a more informative manner
Markus Giger	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	9			

Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	9	152	Box is quite long (4 pages), obscuring the key messages. Suggest creating new boxes for subpoints under (D) and (F), then calling these out more explicitly in the case studies.	Thank you for this very helpful suggestion, we restructured these points with a closer connection to case studies/stories, appropriate stories were reconsidered for the whole chapter and established in a systematic manner
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	6	Box 1			Item (K) includes monitoring, but item (H) is in part about monitoring. Because it is so important to assessing degradation and restoration effectiveness, I suggest renaming (H) to something that calls out monitoring more explicitly and make the point that monitoring is need both prior to and throughout (including following) project implementation	Yes such monitoring as you suggest is critical, as we rework this section we will consider your suggestion for a name change carefully
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	6	Box 1			Item (J) is vague and needs more development	Thank you, this section was improved
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	6	Box 1			Box 1 does not explicitly include education, extension or training as an success factor, yet each of the case studies point to education or training as an important element of the project. Suggest making education, extension, training one of the success factors in this box; perhaps it could be integrated with (J), since (J) points to lack of education/expertise in many places	Thank you, this was included
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	6	Box 1			The Box is titled "Success Factors". Some of these statements are fairly targetted-- indicating what kind of implementation is successful. Other statements just say "successful implementation leads to success". E.g. "The incorporation of effective systematic planning across the landscape and across time have been found to benefit implementation and management and success of restoration." That seems self-evident. What factors lead to an effective systematic planning exercise? Section J is particularly vague and unhelpful. Also it seems to be redundant with the discussion of human capital under F.	Thank you, these comments were incorporated into the reworking of this section
Anna Luise	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	9	152	It is better to clarify more accurately all terms in Box 1, that consequently should be enlarged. Their meaning should be better harmonized in all chapters.	Thank you, this was done and linked more closely to all chapters
Victor M. Castillo (UNCCD)	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	6	Box 1	Reference to the concept of Land Degradation Neutrality should be added in the paragraph related to "Implementation of International Commitments (C)"	Thank you this was added
German government	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	9		The issue of „Capacity Building“ is an important factor/criterion for successful land restoration and should be elaborated. Both the case studies in this chapter (see e.g. Kagera River Basin in East Africa) as well as Chapter 6.3.2.3 and 6.4.2.2 highlight the importance of capacity building.	Thank you
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	6	Box 1	6		Edit for general typos in BOX 1	Thank you, this box was edited
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	6	Box 1			Box title: Do you want to "avoid restoration"?	Thank you, no we do not. The typo was corrected
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	6	Box 1			Last sentence in Box 1 on page 6: Reword - very hard to follow.	Thank you we will make this clearer
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	6	Box 1: Effective Legal and Regulatory Instruments			Consider lessons from the uptake of Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security which outline principles and practices that governments can refer to when making laws and administering land, fisheries and forests rights.	Thank you for this additional information, which was considered for the next draft.
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	6	Box 1: Implementation of International Commitments			Please review the legal status of these various instruments, while the conventions are ratified by signatories, the SDG's are agreed by General Assembly Resolution. Each also has slightly different interpretation of what is obligatory requirements and what is voluntary. I suggest you that softer language be used to avoid legal inaccuracies.	Thank you for this excellent comment, we followed your advice
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	6	Box 1: Implementation of International Commitments			This section should also include reference to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the first of the international agreements to be adopted in 2015. The Sendai Framework has particular relevance for this assessment as it recognizes the risk reducing services of ecosystems and priorities a number of related actions (including at landscape scale) (cf for instance para 28 (d), 30 (f) and 30(g) : (28 (d) To promote transboundary cooperation to enable policy and planning for the implementation of ecosystem-based approaches with regard to shared resources, such as within river basins and along coastlines, to build resilience and reduce disaster risk, including epidemic and displacement risk; 30 (f) To promote the mainstreaming of disaster risk assessments into land-use policy development and implementation, including urban planning, land degradation assessments and informal and non-permanent housing, and the use of guidelines and follow-up tools informed by anticipated demographic and environmental changes; 30 (g) To promote the mainstreaming of disaster risk assessment, mapping and management into rural development planning and management of, inter alia, mountains, rivers, coastal flood plain areas, drylands, wetlands and all other areas prone to droughts and flooding, including through the identification of areas that are safe for human settlement, and at the same time preserving ecosystem functions that help to reduce risks. http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/publications/43291	Thank you for this excellent contribution, we included this in the SOD
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	6	Box 1: Success Factors			Please take care to distinguish "factors that contribute to success" from indicators of successful restoration efforts. The language used seems to give the impression that the aim is to "address" the success factors rather than to achieve successful restoration outcomes. This occurs again later in the box.	Thank you for this useful comment which was addressed in SOD

Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	6	box-1	6	box-1	Too many corrections needed (see also attached chapter). Never use both first and second name (Sophia Gnych, 2015), better to use last name only i.e. (Gnych, 2015) but the reference will also start from the same name. Better to send me in world file then I will correct all and make them according to format.	Thank you for this assistance , all references were cited correctly and uniformly in the final draft.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	6	box-1	6	box-1	(ELD Initiative., 2015) remove the full stop for this reference in this whole chapter. Better to write as (ELD Initiative, 2015) with no full stop before comma.	Thank you for this assistance , all references were cited correctly and uniformly in the final draft.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	6	box-1	6	box-1	Beter to write the correct format like (Nkonya et al., 2016).	Thank you for this assistance , all references were cited correctly and uniformly in the final draft.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	6	box-1	6	box-1	When separating different citation then use; not comma (,) in whole document please	Thank you for this assistance , all references were cited correctly and uniformly in the final draft.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	6	box-1	6	box-1	countries (Paustian et al., 2016; Montanarella, 2015).	Thank you for this assistance , all references were cited correctly and uniformly in the final draft.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	6	box-1	6	box-1	Bonn Challenge (Chazdon et al., 2015).	Thank you for this assistance , all references were cited correctly and uniformly in the final draft.
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	7	Box 1			In the subsection of "Active multiple stakeholder involvement", Please change "business" to "businesses"	Thank you, done
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	7	Box 1:Enabling Policy and Governance			Opening para on enabling circumstances could be reworded, maybe "strategic and coordinated efforts to strengthen the factors that contribute to successful LDR projects"	Thank you, this was incorporated this
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	7	Box 1:Enabling Policy and Governance			para on successful policy instruments could use language: "When aligned with national policy and international commitments" rather than "integrated with"	Thank you, done
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	7	Box 1:Enabling Policy and Governance			The section on good governance could draw attention to the importance of risk-informed planning and investments and ensuring that no one is left behind (in alignment with Agenda 2030). The governance mechanisms could be more explicit about political commitment at the highest level, the role of coordination mechanisms that cross sectors, scales and administrative boundaries. and the demonstrated value of mechanisms for science-policy dialogue with stakeholders.	Thank you, these comments were taken into account when rewriting this section
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	7	Box 1:Enabling Policy and Governance			In addition to representation, useful to reference the importance of access to information that supports an informed dialogue, the benefits of multi-stakeholder engagement which include the value of diverse knowledge and opportunities for innovation.	Thank you, this wasl included
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	7	box-1	7	box-1	all the citation style is not correct, please see my comments on the PDF file of the chapter	Thank you
German government	Chapter 1	7	In Box 1, section (D)			First line under the sub-title " <i>Formal recognition of property rights and land tenure</i> ": Is there a reason why the term "landscape degradation" is used here rather than the term "land degradation"? If so, then do provide a definition of "landscape".	Thank you for pointing this out, we changed the word to land not landscape
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	8	Box 1	8		Under Strategy to Deal with Conflicting Interests (F): Consider discussing the impact of corruption as a conflicting interest that directly affects the success or failure of government policies, strategies etc. I have worked with governments with excellent policies and procedures in place for environmental and social-cultural protection (including managing biodiversity and payment for ecosystem services) but in reality these systems do not function as intended. At times government officials are corrupt and receive considerable payoffs from foreign enterprises that are not made to comply with national environmental laws, and the police force and military are also corrupt so that infractions against the environment (e.g., illegal logging) are not reported. People living in poor rural areas generally do not report illegal actions they observe when they know some members of government or police are involved, for fear of legal repercussions, or direct harm to their families. I think that in many areas of the world, unless high level corruption can be addressed and eliminated it was very difficult to stop unsustainable land degradation, and rehabilitate these areas.	Thank you for this excellent feedback. We now incorporated impacts of corruption on effective implementation of govt policy, strategies etc
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	8	Box 1:Accurate Assessment of Ecological and Biophysical Conditions			Successful outcomes also rely on an assessment of the social and economic consequences of LDR, for instance, the value of LDR efforts (and support to them) increase with evidence based analysis of the effect of land degradation on downstream disaster losses, for instance.	Thank you, this was included and has been an oversight
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	8	Box 1:Strategy to deal with conflicting interests			The section on conflict between national and international interests is an important place to make the point that the drivers of degradation are not always in the same location where locale solutions are being designed. Understanding trade policy is particularly important in this regard.	Thank you, this was included and has been an oversight
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	8	box-1	8	box-1	all the citation style is not correct, please see my comments on the PDF file of the chapter	Thank you
German government	Chapter 1	8	In Box 1, section (F)			First line under the sub-title "Food Security ...": Include the following bold terms: "It is possible to develop approaches which will maintain and increase agricultural productivity ..."	Thank you this was included
John Parrotta	Chapter 1	9	Box 1			in section on Effective Planning, Design..., it would be useful to introduce the broadly understood concept of Adaptive Management as as essential component of successful restoration programs. There are a number of excellent references that could be cited for this.	Thank you this was included

Glenn Dolcemascoco	Chapter 1	9	Box 1: Incorporation of science and technology instruments			More could be said about interdisciplinary science, the enabling environment for innovation (consider for instance natural or hybrid infrastructure for coastal flood protection). Rather than "the use of technology may not be advantageous", consider "the choice of technology must be appropriate (socially, culturally and environmentally) and any risks associated with the introduction of new technologies should be considered carefully.	Yes thank you we will take this approach and also include nature based solutions
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	9	box-1	9	box-1	all the citation style is not correct, please see my comments on the PDF file of the chapter	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
German government	Chapter 1	9	In Box 1, section (I)			First line under the sub-title "Landscape-scale ...": Provide a definition of "landscape and systems approach"	This was included
German government	Chapter 1	9	In Box 1, section (J)			As the first sentence ("In many places...in other places...") speaks of two issues, namely places with insufficient and places with extensive scientific and technological knowledge, these "places" (or regions) that are mentioned need to be explained. Otherwise the sense of the sentence is difficult to grasp. Ideally, the train of thought should be split into two sentences.	Thank you this was reworked, along with other comments on this section
German government	Chapter 1	9	In Box 1, section (J)			The second sentence "In other situations, the use of technology may not be advantageous." does not follow the same train of thought as the prior sentence, which only mentions the different levels of scientific and technological knowledge around the world, but does not evaluate the impact of using technology.	Thank you this was reworked, along with other comments on this section
Wame L. Hambira	Chapter 1	8	151	8	152	Some social upliftment programs, poverty reduction schemes and agricultural policies meant to enhance human wellbeing end up compromising the environment as in the case of the Botswana Tribal Grazing Land Policy (TGLP) and Arable Land Development Program (ALDEP) (Mufune, 1995). Therefore there is need for policy makers not to work in silos.	Thank you for this very valid point which is good policy advice this was included
Sally Valdes	Chapter 1	8	152	8	152	Skips letter "G" when listing success factors	Thank you, corrected
Sally Valdes	Chapter 1	8	152	8	152	When setting long-term restoration targets it is important to factor in the likely regional effects of climate change. With climate change the past optimal conditions may not be obtainable in the future. Baselines are shifting at a relatively rapid pace.	Yes this is a very valid point and was considered in our baselines box
Markus Giger	Chapter 1	9	153	15		The case studies are very interesting and well chosen. However they currently resemble mostly project descriptions. Partly they mix description of activities and the achieved results. They do not demonstrate the different benefits in a structured way. I would expect more clearly structured categories of benefits to people and ecosystems and then add a synthesis in form of a table or graph.	Thank you for this comment, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story
Cristina Branquinho	Chapter 1	9	153	15	376	As a case-study I would like to suggest also the case-study of the multifunctional woodland of Montando (in Portugal) or Dehesas (Spain). They occupy an important area in the semi-arid part of Europe. There are laws to protect the system and trees. It is a system with social, economic and biodiversity important outcomes	Thank you for this excellent suggestion, for the SOD case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story
LI Qingfeng	Chapter 1	9	153	15	376	Case Studies in the introductory part are not appropriate.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story
Anna Luise	Chapter 1		153		376	Case study should be connected to each topic and may be used to better understand each one.	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	9	153	9	153	Line 153: Probably a more accurate title for this section would be: "Case studies of successful restoration of degraded lands"	Thank you for the suggestion, we reworded the title
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	9	158	9	158	Line 158: I wouldn't use the term "conservation" here.	This term was changed
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	10	159			This is correct. Thank you for not trying to catalogue possible benefits.	Thank you
Aleksei Kotko	Chapter 1	10	161	10	167	For my mind, it is necessary here to determine what specifically defines the difference between objective and subjective benefits derived by humans from ecosystems. (My variant of definitions is) Objective benefits are those, which are of value to any of the members of society through contribution to the satisfaction of basic common biological and socio-economic needs. Subjective benefits are those having a value for individuals, groups and local communities because of their cultural, religious or other individual and group specific features in genetics, physiology, and/or psychology.	Thank you for this excellent response and variant which was considered carefully when rewriting this section.
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	10	163	10	163	Please take off "of"	Done
Brajendra (ITPS)	Chapter 1	10	168	10	175	from three sources not sufficient as there are other financial, cultural, land conversion benefits associated	Yes we covered this more substantially when addressed.
Markus Giger	Chapter 1	10	169	10	175	These categories are not clearly formulated: It mixes up things. One category could be the cessation of damage to ecosystem services, a next one should then be the increase of ecosystem services. Within each category several types of ecosystem services should be mentioned (as it was done in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment). The third category (advantages from policy) is not a real benefit, as such measures also have their costs (subsidies need to be financed). This does not prevent them to be justified (based on the increase in environmental benefits to people for instance).	Thank you for this comment this was addressed in the SOD, your suggestions were incorporated into the first section, in the appropriate places, rather than being under the Case Study Heading, and with the appropriate wording as you suggest.
William Olupot	Chapter 1	10	169	10	172	three or more examples for each benefit would be useful at this point	Thank you

Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	10	174	10	174	these land uses changes (e.g., subsidies, certification, payment of ecosystem services	Spelling was corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	10	175	10	175	building etc.). Remove comma before etc., and use full stop after brackets.	Thank you, done
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	10	176	10	178	this sentence is a bit confusing and doesn't really add anything. Suggest deleting entirely.	Thank you, done
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	10	180			I do not read Box 1 as providing criteria to define success. If I were to read Box 1 this way, it would mainly state that policies are effective when "most" of the factors leading to success are successful. Firstly, that doesn't define success, it is circular and just delays specifying the definition of success. Secondly, as you have set it up, you appear to be saying, "there are K factors that lead to success. Success is defined as having addressed most of those factors". From a project-management point of view, addressing a factor that may lead to success is not in itself a sufficient way to assess project success. There should be independent measures used to assess project success. These appear to be provided by your definitions on page 5. I think this relationship between the factors and the definitions of restoration success should be clarified.	Thank you for these very helpful comments , this was addressed in the SOD. And the box was substantially reworked. The methodology was also clearly laid out.
Glenn Dolcemascolo	Chapter 1	10	180	10	180	Useful to clarify the causal connections....are the "criteria used to define success" the same thing as "factors contributing to successful LDR outcomes" ?	This was clarified
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	10	183	15	376	suggest including a web link for projects 1, 2 and 5, as included for projects 3 and 4	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story and any web links were provided.
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	10	183	10	183	Line 183: I believe there is a "1" too many in the numbering of the subsection	Thank you
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	10	184	10	185	"thousands of people depend..." (not depends). Replace "it" with "them" on line 185	Thank you
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	10	184	11	217	Perhaps make a statement about using non-invasive species to establish the "woody forested areas" used for livestock grazing.	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story and any web links were provided.
Fujiang Hou	Chapter 1	10	184	10	184	Please change "pasture" to "grassland".	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story and any web links were provided.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	10	184			Surely there are millions of people relying on pastures.	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	10	184	10	184	Pastures are the single most extensive form of land use on the planet, thousands of people depends on	Thank you, typo corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	10	185	10	190	write like (see chapter 3) do not use different styles	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	10	187			I may be misinformed, but I don't think it is generally the case that extensive pastures apply pesticides. I suppose it depends on whether you are referring to industrial ranching, small-scale but extensive pasturing, or what. I could not immediately find data on this. Could you qualify this to state where it is most common?	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Fujiang Hou	Chapter 1	10	187	10	189	"In the long run, animals 187 grazing (in the same site) leads to excessive plant cover removal, soil compaction, soil erosion, reduction of organic matter and water infiltration, landslides on steep sites, and silting of springs and streams (see, 189 Chapter 3)." is not right. If so, after so long term of grazing in history, organic matter will disappear completely.	Thank you for this correction, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1		187			Provide a reference to substantiate "intensive use of pesticides" in extensively grazed livestock.	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	10	187	10	187	they also make intensive use of pesticides to control insect disease vectors. In the long run, animals	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Royal C. Gardner	Chapter 1	10	190	11	217	The text states that it is possible to achieve "excellent results" with relatively low investment, as showcased by the Sustainable Colombian Livestock Project. It is unclear, however, whether the project has been completed and whether such excellent results have come to fruition. For example, the text states that the project "aims to convert 45 thousand hectares of extensive pasture land." Did the conversion occur or is it a goal? If the latter, is it too soon to characterize the project as an example of "excellent results"? A clarification on the status of the project would be helpful.	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	10	192	10	192	"imoroved" should be "improved"	Thank you, corrected

Aleksei Kotko	Chapter 1	10	192	10	192	Mistake: it should be used 'improved' instead of 'imoroved'	Thank you, corrected
William Olupot	Chapter 1	10	192	10	192	text is not clear	Thank you for this suggestion, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	10	192	10	192	improved management of natural resources, increased environmental services and improved	Thank you, corrected
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	10	194	10	194	The outcomes of the Sustainable Colombian Livestock Project show that in 4-5 years, this new system can	Thank you, corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	11	197	11	197	if length ok if area then square	Thank you
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	11	197	11	197	This project is funded by the GEF and the World Bank	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Sally Valdes	Chapter 1	11	198	11	199	Perhaps it would be best to write out the names of the partners to give them credit and because the readers may not be familiar with all the acronyms.	All acronyms were spelled out, and a final list of Acronyms is now part of the Appendix to the full report.
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	11	198	11	198	and is operated by the Colombian government	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
German government	Chapter 1	11	203	11	204	Provide concrete examples, how intensive silvopastoral systems (ISPS) help to maintain high levels of biodiversity and achieving other beneficial effects in ecosystems?	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. This case study is no longer part of the chapter
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	11	205	11	205	Please add "to" before "avoid"; and change "reversal" to "reverse"	Thank you
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	11	205	11	205	Line 205: Check the writing in the first part of the sentence ("it is possible avoid, halt and reversal")	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	11	209	11	209	Line 209: Change "(see, Chapter 8)" for "(see Chapter 8)"	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
German government	Chapter 1	11	213	11	215	Provide examples, how ISPS can be an important tool for climate change adaptation and/or mitigation.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. This case study is no longer part of the chapter
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	11	213	11	213	ISPS on a large scale can be an important tool for climate change adaptation and	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	11	218	12	247	I'm sure this is a nice project, and might be an example of putting some of your factors for success into practice, but where is the evidence that it is successful? It seems pointless to learn from an example where we don't know the outcome.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. This case study is no longer part of the chapter
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	11	218			For consistency and to help the reader, indicate the funding source.	Thank you
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	11	223	11	217	I don't think this sentence contributes to explaining how this example achieved success. And I'm missing how K, J, I, H, F, E, C, were incorporated or why and how conditions contributed to those factors working for the project.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies were chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story.
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	11	223	11	223	Line 223: Change "(see, Chapters 8)" for "(see Chapter 8)"	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	11	223	11	223	(see chapter 8) no need to include comma	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	11	228	11	228	Please change "cost" to "coast"	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	11	232	11	232	Line 232: "highly fragmented landscape" is already mentioned two lines above.	Thank you, all typos and repetitions were corrected
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	11	232	11	232	Line 232: Change "Chapters" for "Chapter"	Thank you, all typos and repetitions were corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	12	239	12	245	(see chapter 6 and 8) also for chapter 7	Thank you, all typos and repetitions were corrected
Diane L. Douglas	Chapter 1	12	240	12	241	Are these long term or short term employment opportunities (i.e., a few seasons of planting trees, shrubs or also managing these re-forested areas over several years?) Also, does this model include managed resource exploitation in the restored areas? If not, how does the program make provision for the rural poor to continue to sustain their families in the long run?	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success.
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	12	241	12	241	creation can be as high as 6 million employment opportunities, mostly in rural communities. To date,	Thank you, all typos and errors were corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	12	246	12	246	Brancalion et al., 2013 please do not need to include all names of authors	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Lim Li Ching	Chapter 1	12	248	13	292	These two case studies (Kagera River Basin and the Sahel) are good examples of agroecology at a landscape level, which apply multiple and integrated agroecology practices in agriculture. Since unsustainable agriculture is a major driver of land degradation, it would be good to make this point more explicit.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success.
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	12	251	12	251	change "base" to "basin"	Thank you, done
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	12	251	12	251	This transboundary effect is exemplified by the Kagera River Basin	Thank you, corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	12	252	12	252	(59,700 km ²), use super script for 2	Thank you, corrected

William Olupot	Chapter 1	12	256	12	256	a matter of choice of style here but I would replace the words "Basin degradation" with a listing of the indicators given in lines 261-264	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporate evidence of success.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	12	264	12	264	use proper style no need to include comma	Thank you, corrected
Li Changxiao	Chapter 1	12	270	12	270	There should be a definition of "Farmer Field School (FFS)".	Thank you, included
Victor M. Castillo (UNCCD)	Chapter 1	12	271	12	271	It is suggested following similar notation when referring to Sustainable Land Management practices (SLM), indeed that is what is shown in the webpage of the project	Thank you, consistency was ensured
Fujiang Hou	Chapter 1	13	278	13	279	There should be a clear line between conservation agriculture and others, integrated crop-livestock and farming systems.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success.
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	13	285	15	285	what is the meaning of <i>sensitized</i> in this sentence?	This was clarified in the next draft
Aleksei Kotko	Chapter 1	13	291	13	291	Mistake: it should be written 'Kagera' instead of 'Kegeera'	Thank you, corrected
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	13	291	13	292	and mitigation (FAO, 2011 ; Kegera TAMP website - http://www.fao.org/in-291 action/kagera/home/en/). Remove full stop before bracket and write full stop after brackets.	Thank you, corrected
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	13	300	13	300	This, in turn, increased food insecurity and <i>impacted living</i> conditions for more than 50	Thank you, corrected
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	13	301	13	301	Soil erosion in the Loess Plateau <i>also affects</i> faraway regions producing massive sand	Thank you, corrected
William Olupot	Chapter 1	13	303	13	303	to control would be enough for the beginning of the sentence	Thank you
Adonia Kamukasa Bintooro	Chapter 1	13	307			The last paragraph on the case study of Akagera, link the benefits to the overall objectives and goals of a bigger and related transboundary arrangements of the Nile Basin Initiatives and Lake Victoria Basin Commission. Teshome, B. W. (2008). Transboundary water cooperation in Africa: The case of the Nile Basin Initiative. Alternatives: Turkish J. Int. Rel. 7(4):34-43. Nile Basin Initiative (2012). State of the Nile Basin Commission, Entebbe Uganda.	Thank you for this reference
Beverley Wemple	Chapter 1	13	308	13	308	change "water infiltration favoring" to "promotion of infiltration"	Thank you, corrected
Mark Schauer	Chapter 1	13	309			reads gouts, should read goats	Thank you, corrected
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	13	309	13	309	Line 309: Change "gouts" for "goats"	Thank you, corrected
German government	Chapter 1	13	309			Reads 'gouts', should read 'goats'.	Thank you, corrected
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	13	309	13	309	General open livestock grazing by sheep and <i>goats</i> was the most important cause of plant cover	Thank you, corrected
Fujiang Hou	Chapter 1	13	314	13	314	Here, forestlands and grasslands are used together.	Thank you, corrected
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	14	327	14	327	All actions combined reduced sediment in water by 99 %. Given that million tons per year. Please clarify this amount - how many million tons?	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success.
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	14	333	14	336	This is an interesting case study, but this summary sentence meanings nothing: "through a well-founded and continuous work it is possible to reverse significantly great environmental damages and improve the quality of life for people directly or indirectly involved in these changes." Please be specific about what well-founded means in this situation.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	14	335	14	335	Hanson et al., 2015 do not include all names in text	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	14	337	15	376	This is a very interesting case study, with not a single reference. The reader would like to learn more about it, please provide some way to look up more information.	Clear list of references to each study was provided in the final draft.
Hamid Custovic (SPI)	Chapter 1	14	337			Is there a project with a specific title? How is it funded? What are the major mechanisms, interventions?	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success and contains full details.
Meredith Root-Bernstein	Chapter 1	14	338			I think there is something missing. Each case study highlights (not always very clearly) a couple of the factors in your list and how they were put into practice and contributed to success. You claim that successful projects are ones that have addressed the majority of the factors leading to success. I see no evidence of this. Either you have not sufficiently clarified how each project implemented a majority of these factors, or only two or three factors per project are really important. Please clarify.	Thank you, for the SOD Case Studies was chosen using a systematic approach specifically designed for this assessment and was written using a common structure for each case study/story. The systematic approach now incorporates evidence of success and contains full details.
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	14	340	14	340	see chapter 4 remove comma	Thank you, done
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	15	359	15	359	for fire, once again, meant that crop residues and manure remained over the soils improving their	Thank you, corrected
Peter Onorato	Chapter 1	15	361	15	361	greater rainwater infiltration and water permanence on soils. Fewer pests and diseases were also	Thank you, corrected
Pedro Jaureguierry	Chapter 1	15	377	15	377	Line 377: The references for further details of the Sahel case study are missing	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft

Anna Luise	Chapter 1		389		771	Too many references!	There is no limit on the number of references we can use, the large number of references reflects the extensive literature review conducted to verify our assessment
Dr. Amanullah Khan (ITPS)	Chapter 1	16	389	24	771	Check all referees with text and use a single format in the whole book, there are many problems and variations in this section. Some are missing and some are extra. Please see my comments on the PDF file.	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	16	417	16	417	Line 417: The format of this reference is wrong. Last name of this author is Joly, and names are Carlos A. The same applies for the other authors.	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Victor M. Castillo (UNCCD)	Chapter 1	17	447	17	447	Reference is not completed	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Mark Schauer	Chapter 1	17	457			please add: Available from www.eld-initiative.org . (as in the other chapters)	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
German government	Chapter 1	17	457			Please add: Available from www.eld-initiative.org . (as in the other chapters)	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
John Parrotta	Chapter 1	20	577			citation should be listed under "S" for Stanturt. Also, a number of citations in the text give full author names, so text should be checked for consistency.	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
John Parrotta	Chapter 1	20	604			citation is incorrect (there are 3 authors): Lamb, D., Erskine. P., and Parrotta, J.A. 2005. Restoration of degraded tropical forest landscapes Science 310 (5754): 1628-1632.	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft
Pedro Jaureguiberry	Chapter 1	20	626	20	626	Line 626: Same case as above.	Thank you, all references were completed and cited correctly in a uniform style in the final draft