



United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural  
Organization (UNESCO)



Ben-Gurion University  
of the Negev  
Jacob Blaustein Institutes for  
Desert Research



משרד החוץ  
ירושלים  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Jerusalem

Drylands, Deserts & Desertification 2010: *The Route to Restoration*  
November 8-11, 2010 Sede Boqer Campus, Israel

Professor Graciela Chichilnisky  
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Dear Professor Chichilnisky,

I am writing to ask you to consider speaking at the third international conference on Deserts, Drylands and Desertification to be held in Sede Boqer, Israel from November 8-11, 2010. This year the overall theme is "*The Route to Restoration*" and we hope, that as in the previous two gatherings, it will offer a variety of compelling and significant presentations and discussions. **It would be an honor and a privilege for us to have a first rate mind and the architect of the Kyoto Protocol as a keynote speaker, as part of our session on Economic Development Strategies as part of Restoration Programs.**

Our conference is not a conventional academic gathering. It is interdisciplinary by design and is open to scientists, government and NGO leaders, international policy and aid workers, as well as farmers, foresters, pastoralists and of course the general, concerned public. Of the four hundred and fifty participants from fifty countries that we expect, over one hundred to come from Africa and other regions affected by desertification. Co-sponsors are UNESCO and Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Feel free to peruse the web-site at: [www.desertification.bgu.ac.il](http://www.desertification.bgu.ac.il). The conference includes field trips, lectures and workshops.

Your participation would mark an important addition to the deliberations and presentations that will be held at the conference and associated workshops. It will be an opportunity to share your ideas with people from all over the world, who will then take them into the field, into policy, and into science as well as consider local achievements (and mistakes) in combating desertification.

**While our budget will be minimal, at present, sufficient funding is available to cover your travel expenses.** If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Korine, our conference coordinator at [desertification@bgu.ac.il](mailto:desertification@bgu.ac.il). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Alon Tal, Chairman of the Organizing Committee

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