

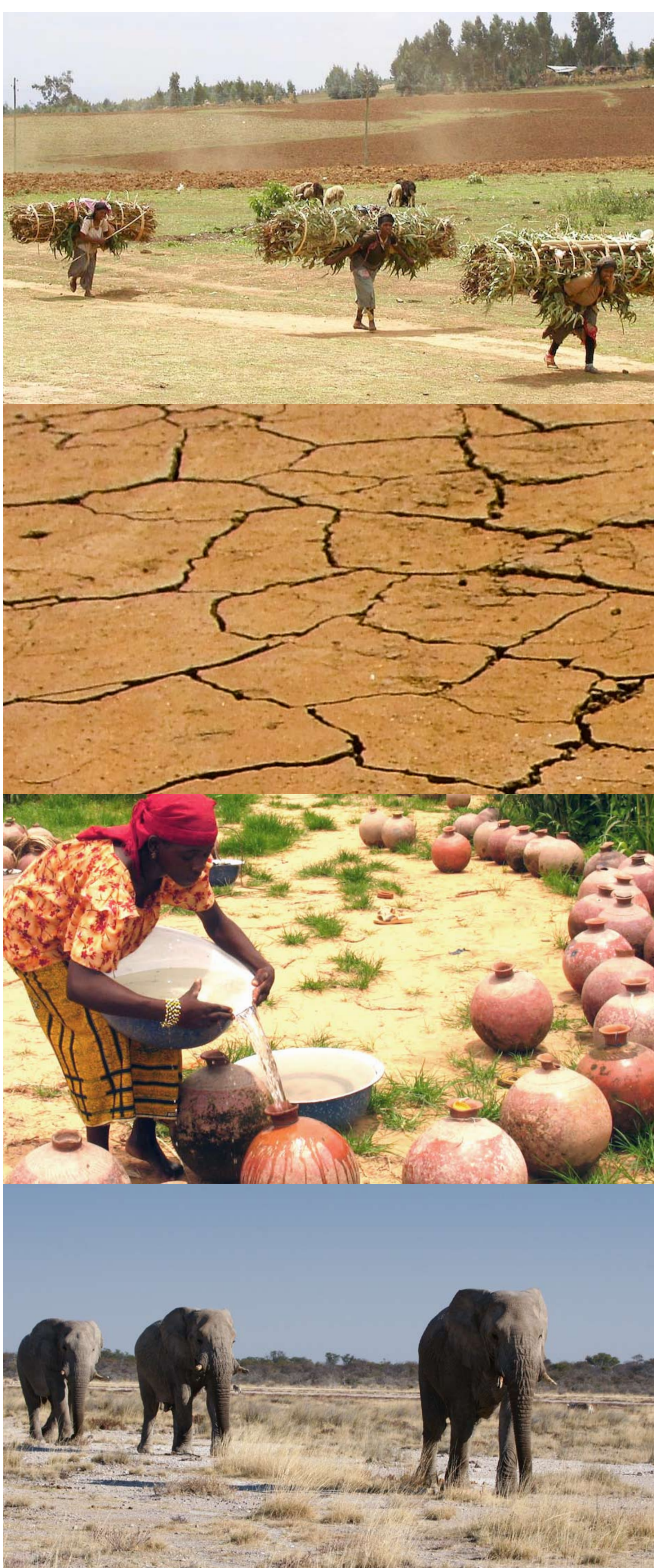


Convention on  
Biological Diversity

Dry and sub-humid lands, including arid and semi-arid areas, grasslands, savannahs, and Mediterranean landscapes cover **47% OF THE EARTH'S TERRESTRIAL SURFACE** and are **HOME TO 2 BILLION PEOPLE**. These lands have great biological value and are home to many of the world's food crops and livestock.

# DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**HIGHER TEMPERATURES AS A RESULT OF CLIMATE CHANGE COULD THREATEN ORGANISMS THAT ARE ALREADY NEAR THEIR HEAT-TOLERANCE LIMITS.** Changes in rainfall patterns and wildfires can also have serious impacts on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity, changing composition of species and reducing biodiversity.



Many people are highly dependent on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity. For example, about **70% OF AFRICANS DEPEND DIRECTLY** on dry and sub-humid lands for their **DAILY LIVELIHOODS**. As such, the impacts of climate change could reduce economic growth and alter regional food security.

The maintenance and restoration of native dry and sub-humid lands **IS A KEY OPTION FOR THE ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE**. Balancing human and wildlife needs for fresh water, through sustainable management of water resources is essential since water is a limiting factor in dry and sub-humid lands and changes in water availability can have disproportionate effects on biodiversity.

