

Monique Barbut

Monique Barbut, Under Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), has over 30 years of experience in sustainable development, international diplomacy, governance and finance. From 2006 to 2012, she was the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Vice President at the World Bank.

Prior to that she was a Director at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), preceding which she oversaw diverse functions in the French international development system, ranging from aid evaluation to serving as Executive Director of Agence Française de Développement. She played a key role in the 1992 Rio Earth Summit finance negotiations and the GEF's creation thereafter.