

Global Dryland Alliance to help boost farm output

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IN the presence of the directors of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Environment, the Global Dryland Alliance (GDA) hosted a dinner reception for the heads of diplomatic missions and representatives of international organisations at the Diplomatic Club on Monday.

The Global Dryland Alliance is an initiative introduced by the Emir His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani, aimed at making dryland

GDA projects will help the member countries implement the latest technologies to enhance agricultural production

countries food secure and contribute to peace and stability in the world.

Speaking on the occasion, GDA's Executive Director, Ambassador Bader al Dafa thanked UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, heads of specialised UN agencies and countries supporting the initiative.

Dafa also highlighted characteristics of GDA such as adoption of new methods to address food security in dryland countries, strong public-private partnership, and use of innovative financing mechanisms that will help member states fund their food security programmes and projects.

The alliance will complement existing international endeavours confronting the challenges of poverty, hunger and food insecurity in dryland countries which represent more than 40 percent of the globe's surface and inhabited by a third of

the world's population.

Dafa said the GDA projects will help member countries improve their agricultural policies and implement the latest technologies to enhance agricultural production and also to cooperate in times of emergency.

He also informed the attendees that a ministerial meeting will be held in Marrakesh, Morocco by the end of May, to present GDA Foundation Treaty to the alliance's founding member states and to discuss innovative financing mechanisms to fund the alliance's programmes and projects.



Bader al Dafa.