



World Soil Day Celebration

Be the Solution to Soil Pollution

Monday, 3 December 2018 (13:15-14:30)

UN Headquarters, New York, CR12

On 20 December 2013, the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly designated 5 December as World Soil Day (WSD). Soil, like air and water, is fundamental for life on earth. Although there is an intrinsic association of food production with soils, they also provide us with clean water, fuel, building materials, fiber, habitat, medicines and nutrients.

Taking note of the importance of soils for food security and nutrition, food safety, sustainable development and human health, the theme for the World Soil Day celebration 2018 is “Be the solution to soil pollution”. Soil pollution affects the food we eat, the water we drink, the air we breathe, our health and the health of all the organisms in the planet. Human activities are the major source of soil pollution.

We continue to use more, and we are exposed to thousands of chemicals in our everyday lives, and tons of urban, industrial and agricultural waste end up in our soils. Further damage to this precious resource would hamper efforts to provide enough and healthy food. All stakeholders need to take action in order to become a solution to soil pollution.

World Soil Day is a major platform to raise awareness at the international, regional and national levels about the essential role of soils for human life. This event in New York will celebrate World Soil Day 2018 as part of the efforts to promote sustainable soil management, which support our path towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.