



Innovative actions towards a pollution free-planet: Implementing the UNEA-3 resolution on soil pollution

12 March 2019 | 12:30-15:00

VIP Lounge, UN Environment HQ, Nairobi, Kenya



The Fourth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) special side event brings together governments, private sector and civil society partners to share ideas and lessons learned on innovative, impactful and replicable solutions to prevent and reduce soil pollution.

Human development and well-being are rooted in healthy soils which ensure the provision of nutritious food and clean water, the regulation of nutrients and heat cycles, the habitat for countless organisms, and provide us with fiber, fuel and pharmaceutical compounds. Soil pollution is therefore one of the greatest environmental problems of our time, addressing it requires a joint effort from all stakeholders.

The objective of this event is to highlight the importance of addressing soil pollution through innovative solutions and to identify effective ways to scale up these actions towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

**12:30 – 13:00 Light refreshment offered
by the International Fertilizer Association**

13:00 Welcome

**Ms. Susan Gardner, Director of Ecosystems Division,
UN Environment**

13:10 – 14:10 Experts interventions

Moderator: Will Surman, Croplife International

Ms. Violette Geissen, Wageningen University (tbc)
A future without action: the threat of soil pollution for the sustainable agenda

Ms. Natalia Rodríguez Eugenio, FAO
Towards a better understanding of the global status of soil pollution

Mr. Marco Martuzzi, WHO
Is the circular economy a feasible solution to soil pollution?

**Ms. Lilian Wanjiru Mbuthia, ICL and International
Potash Institute**
The new fertilizer generation

Mr. Christoph Neumann, Croplife International
Innovations in crop protection products

Mr. Simon Mattsson, Australian farmer
Enhancing soil health to ensure food security

Mr. Budithi Rajsekhar, Zero budget natural farming
Climate resilience farming experiences

Mr. Deyi Hou, Tsinghua University
Nature-based alternatives to remediate polluted soils

14:10 – 14:50 Panel discussion

Open discussion with interventions from the floor

14:50 – 15:00 Conclusions and way forward