

Meeting 1 of the GSP Pillar 4 Working Group

Draft Agenda

Location	Teleconference
Date	22nd September 2017 (13.00 UTC+0) Please Refer the table here for your local times.
Attendees	
Neil McKenzie	INSII Chair, ITPS member
Ronald Vargas	GSP Secretariat
Yusuf Yigini	GSP Secretariat (Pillar 4 Coordination)
Rainer Baritz	Chair Pillar 5 Working Group
Rik van den Bosch	SDF/ ISRIC
Christian Omuto	Africa
Rodelio Carating	Asia
Edoardo Costantini	Europe
Oleg Golozubov	Eurasia
Carlos Cruz Gaistardo	Central America, Caribbean and Mexico
Guillermo Federico Olmedo	South America
Rachid Moussadek	Near East and North Africa
Bert VandenBygaart	North America
Mike Grundy	South West Pacific

Agenda (all times are UTC)

13:00	Welcome and introductions	
13:05	ITEM 1.1: Proposed mode of operation for the P4WG	Neil McKenzie
13:40	ITEM 1.2: GSP Soil Data Facility	Rik van den Bosch
14:00	ITEM 1.3: Global Soil Organic Carbon map (Gap filling)	Yusuf / Ronald
14:20	ITEM 1.4: GLOVIS - Fine-resolution grid of soil properties	Yusuf/Ronald
13:45	ITEM 1.5: INSII Meeting	Ronald/Neil
14:30	Meeting close	

Global Soil Partnership Pillar 4 Working Group	Meeting Number: 1
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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 1.1
Proposed mode of operation for the Pillar 4 Working Group	
<p>Background</p> <p>The Fifth Session of the Global Soil Partnership Plenary Assembly has clarified the arrangements for establishing the Global Soil Information System (GLOSIS). The Plenary Assembly, amongst other things, agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● endorse the legal basis for a fully functioning GLOSIS ● establish the International Network of Soil Information Institutions (INSII) as proposed in the Pillar 4 Plan of Action ● appoint the Chair of INSII (CSIRO Australia) ● appoint the GSP Soil Data Facility (ISRIC - World Soil Information) ● endorse the GSP Soil Data Policy. <p>The details of each aspect (including terms of reference) are outlined in GSPPA:V/2017/3. Note that the INSII (see Annex III) oversees the P4WG and the GSP Soil Data Facility. Furthermore, the INSII delegates tasks to the P4WG, as needed, to support the efficient implementation of Pillar 4. The Plenary Assembly further reiterated that the INSII and the P4WG should overall be guided by the GSP Plenary Assembly with technical advice from the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS).</p>	
<p>Key issues</p> <p>Several agreements and documents now provide detailed guidance for the P4WG. The most notable are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Plan of Action for Pillar Four ● The Implementation Plan for Pillar Four ● The Plan of Action for Pillar Five ● The outcomes of the Fifth Session of the GSP Plenary Assembly (GSPPA:V/2017/3) and in particular, the annexes relating to GLOSIS and INSII (Annex II), the Terms of Reference for INSII (Annex III), Terms of Reference for the Chair of INSII (Annex IV), role of the GSP Soil Data Facility (Annex V), and the GSP Soil Data Policy (Annex VI). <p>The P4WG will be meeting several times before the next INSII Plenary at the end of October 2017. As such, it has not received formal instructions from the INSII. However, it is reasonable for the P4WG to proceed within the bounds set by the above agreements and documents to ensure that the implementation of Pillar 4 can begin immediately.</p>	
<p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members are requested to familiarize themselves with the key documents noted above. ● Any questions or clarifications will considered during the teleconference. 	
<p>Resource implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None at this stage 	
<p>Preparation and consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● INSII Chair and GSP Secretariat 	

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 1.2
GSP Soil Data Facility	
<p>Background</p> <p>The GSP Soil Data Facility is the new name for the GSP Global Soil Spatial Data Infrastructure Centre which is outlined in the Implementation Plan for Pillar Four. ISRIC has been appointed to be the GSP Soil Data Facility for a mandate expiring on 31/12/2020. The GSP Plenary also recognized that it may be useful to extend the mandate of the facility to three years and have an evaluation prior to renewing the mandate for another three years. The P4WG will in effect operate as a board of management for the GSP Soil Data Facility and be responsible for oversight on a month to month basis with annual reporting to the INSII and GSP Plenary Assembly. The Pillar 4 Implementation Plan identified the following activities and tasks for the GSP Soil Data Facility:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate in meetings including INSII, P4WG, grid specification meetings; 2. Provide support for the development of data product specifications by the P4WG; 3. Provide support for the development of the global polygon map; 4. Tier 1 and Tier 2 profile database: design and implementation, technical support, maintenance; 5. Development, installation and maintenance of a soil profile data up- and download tool; 6. Development of a web viewer for v0 and v1 gridded maps as part of the GSP data portal; 7. Harmonization of v0 grids 1 km; 8. Documentation of v0 gridded maps; 9. v1 grid server and network maintenance; 10. Provide support for the technical SDI of GSP: development of data services (WMS, WFS, WCS), catalogue services, support to metadata development, vocabulary services; 11. Provide support for the formulation of a capacity development program by P4WG; 12. Development of training materials and conduct of training courses. <p>The GSP Soil Data Facility requires an annual work plan and this will be submitted to the INSII for endorsement.</p>	
<p>Key issues</p> <p>The P4WG will need to play a key role in the development of the annual work plan for the GSP Soil Data Facility and the initial work plan will need to be submitted to the INSII in October 2017.</p>	
<p>Required actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rik van den Bosch (ISRIC) will provide his assessment of the key issues and tasks for the GSP Soil Data Facility as it begins its work in implementing the Plan of Action for Pillar Four ● Members are requested to identify the key issues and tasks for their region paying close attention to the relevant GSP Regional Implementation Plans ● An initial outline of the annual work plan will be proposed. 	
<p>Resource implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None at this stage. 	
Preparation and consultation	

- INSII Chair and GSP Secretariat

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 1.3
Global Soil Organic Carbon map (Gap filling)	
<p>Background</p> <p>The preparation of the Global Soil Organic Carbon map (GSOCMap) was mandated by the 4th GSP Plenary Assembly to the ITPS and GSP Secretariat. This request was endorsed by the 25th session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) and the 155th FAO Council. The map will provide a significant contribution to the SDG process (SDG indicator 15.3.1). Preparation of the map was a key focus of the Global Soil Organic Carbon Symposium held in March 2017. The preparation of the map is widely viewed as being an initial test of procedures for developing the Global Soil Information System. Ensuring its success is therefore of direct interest to the P4WG.</p> <p>In the case of countries that are unable to contribute to the GSOCMap, the 5th Session of the GSP Plenary Assembly agreed that if a member country should explicitly request that it be left, such a request would be respected. In the case of countries that are not able to provide data, but who wish to be included in the global map, a solution will be determined to fill the gap using available data and mapping techniques. All other countries will provide their national SOC stock maps according to the agreed technical specifications.</p> <p>A large training effort has been mounted to help countries develop the capacity in the use of digital soil mapping tools for preparing their national soil organic carbon maps. Members of the P4WG have been involved in these training activities. The final country SOC maps will be shared with the ITPS and GSP Secretariat for the final compilation of the GSOCMap. The maps will also be a key focus for the next INSII meeting. The final GSOCMap will be launched during the 5th of December World Soil Day celebration at FAO headquarters. After that, the map will be continuously updated with information received from countries.</p> <p>The GSP Plenary Assembly also endorsed an extension of the deadline for the submission of national SOC maps to the end of September 2017.</p>	
<p>Key issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the GSP Secretariat are working to very tight deadlines in preparing the GSOCMap. P4WG members can assist by ensuring that countries in their respective regions have provided the required information in the most appropriate format. • The INSII meeting provides an opportunity to provide quality assurance of the map products prior to consideration by the ITPS and publication on World Soil Day. • An efficient process for providing this quality assurance is required. 	
<p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GSP Secretariat will provide a verbal update on progress with the development of the 	

GSOCMap.

- Members are requested to support the preparation of the GSOCMap by ensuring input data have been delivered to the GSP Secretariat
- Members are requested to respond to the proposed process for quality assurance and control at the INSII meeting and suggest improvements where possible.

Resource implications

- None at this stage.

Preparation and consultation

- GSP Secretariat and INSII Chair

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 1.4
Fine-resolution grid of soil properties	
<p>Background</p> <p>Establishing the Global Soil Information System involves the delivery of several key products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the fine-resolution grid of soil properties • databases of soil profiles • a global soil polygon map • SoilSTAT. <p>Each meeting of the P4WG will consider progress on at least one of these core components of the GLOSI. This meeting will review the current plans for delivering the fine-resolution grid of soil properties. The focus will be on the general strategy for delivering a default global product and integrating national products.</p>	
<p>Key issues</p> <p>The availability of high-quality technical specifications is essential for the development of the fine-resolution grid of soil properties. At present, the GlobalSoilMap Technical Specifications provide the basis for developing the fine-resolution grid of soil properties. Members of the original GlobalSoilMap Consortium are keen to ensure that these Technical Specifications are further developed to support the establishment of the GLOSI. Several options for achieving this are available. The IUSS Working Group on GlobalSoilMap is one option and another could involve re-establishment of the GlobalSoilMap Consortium in a mode that provides the necessary technical advice and input to the GLOSI and the work of the GSP Soil Data Facility.</p>	
<p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members are requested to familiarize themselves with the proposed fine-resolution grid of soil properties as outlined in the Pillar Four Plan of Action and the Pillar Four Implementation Plan. • Members are requested to consider mechanisms for ensuring that the GLOSI is established using the best available technical and scientific inputs. Note that these issues are relevant to other key products where existing scientific and technical communities are active (e.g. the various IUSS Working Groups on soil monitoring, information standards and related activities). 	
<p>Resource implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at this stage although the preferred mode for engaging with the relevant scientific and technical groups will most likely require specific and fully-funded projects. 	
<p>Preparation and consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSP Secretariat, INSII Chair and inputs from IUSS Working Group leaders including Dr Dominique Arrouays (INRA, France) and Mr Peter Wilson (CSIRO, Australia). 	

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AGENDA Paper	ITEM 1.5
INSII Meeting	
<p>Background</p> <p>The forthcoming INSII meeting will take place at FAO Headquarters in Rome on the 31st of October and 1st of November. The meeting will focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● issues related to the execution of the Pillar 4 Implementation Plan ● preparation of the Global Soil Organic Carbon Map ● key activities under Pillar 5 that directly affect the development of the Global Soil Information System ● consideration of any matters that need to be taken to the next GSP Plenary Assembly in June 2018. <p>The meeting provides an important opportunity for building connections and support networks between INSII members and their work programs.</p>	
<p>Key issues</p> <p>The annual INSII meeting is a key event for the P4WG and for the establishment of the Global Soil Information System. As with any international meeting, substantial expenses are involved in terms of travel, accommodation and people's time. The contributions and leadership from P4WG members will have a large effect on the success of the INSII meeting. The GSP Secretariat will provide a verbal update on progress with the organization of the INSII meeting and the proposed agenda.</p>	
<p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● P4WG members are requested to provide feedback on the proposed agenda for the INSII meeting. ● Members are also requested to assist with the planning and running of the meeting. In particular, by ensuring that their region is fully informed and prepared for the meeting. 	
<p>Resource implications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effective organization and active participation in the INSII meeting will ensure a good return on investment for all parties that are supporting the meeting. 	
<p>Preparation and consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GSP Secretariat and INSII Chair 	