



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Soil acidification

Lowering of the soil pH caused by the buildup of H^+ and Al^{3+} ions in the soil and the leaching of base cations such as Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , K^+ and Na^+ .

The main causes of soil acidification are long term rainfall, draining of potentially acid sulphate soils, acid deposition, excessive application of ammonium-based fertilizers, deforestation and land use practices that remove all harvested materials.

Topsoil and subsoil acidity ($pH < 5.5$) affect around 30% and 75% respectively of the total ice-free land area of the world

SOURCE: STATUS OF THE WORLD'S SOIL RESOURCES - MAIN REPORT



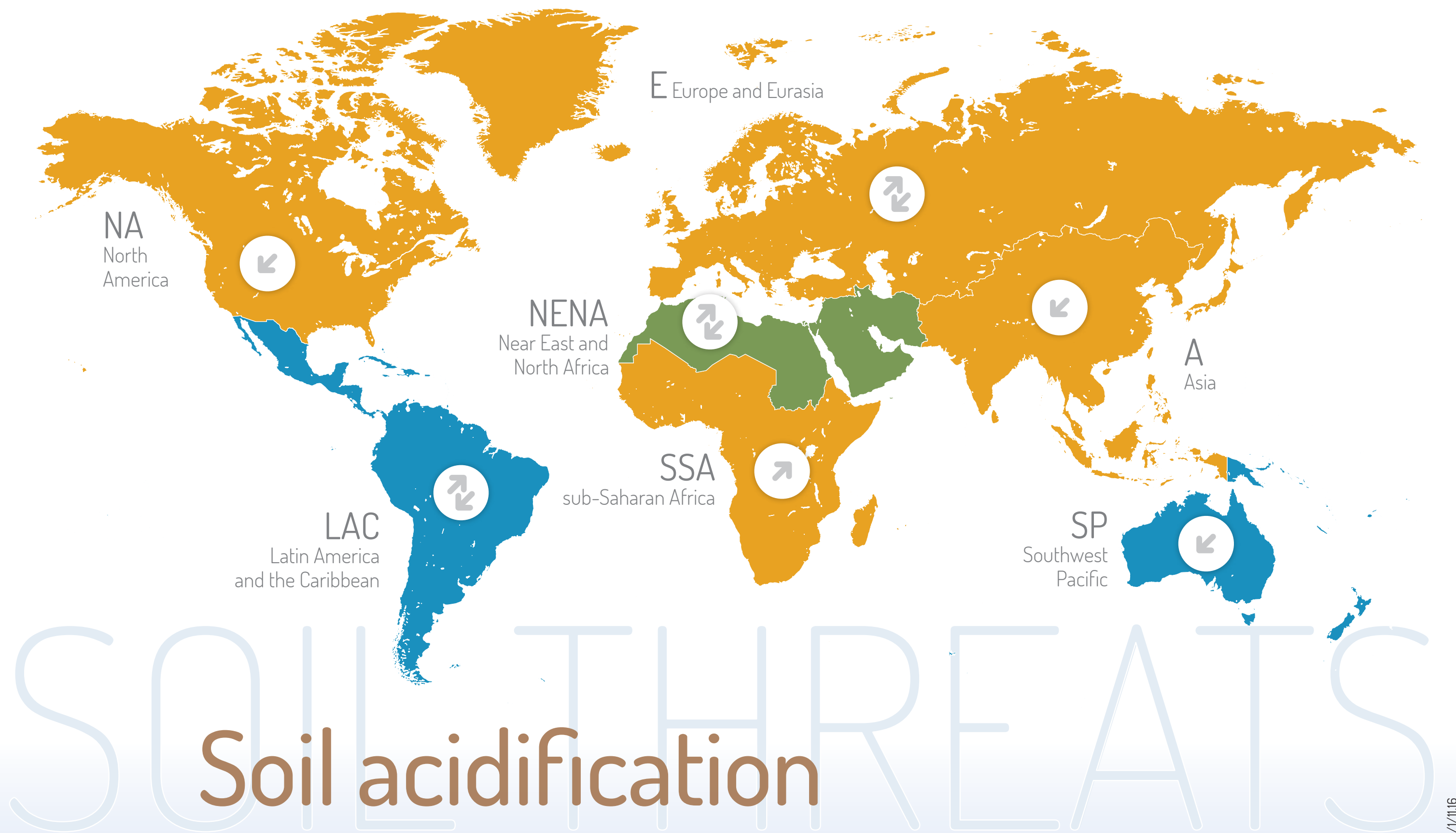
World
Soil Day
2016



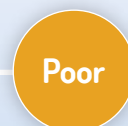
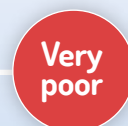
GLOBAL SOIL
PARTNERSHIP

SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
SUCH AS INCORPORATING THE USE OF LIME CAN
BE DEVELOPED TO IMPROVE SOIL pH, PRESERVE
SOIL PROPERTIES AND BUFFER SOIL ACIDITY





Condition



Trend



Improving

Deteriorating

Variable

Stable