

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

## Soil organic carbon (SOC) loss

Decline of organic carbon stock in the soil affects its fertility status and climate change regulation capacity.

Approximately 1 417 billion tonnes of SOC are stored in the first meter of soil and about 2 500 billion tonnes at two meters soil depth. The global loss of the SOC pool since 1850 is estimated at about 66 billion tonnes (±12), mainly caused by land use change.

SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT FOSTERS CO<sub>2</sub> SEQUESTRATION, BOOSTS SOIL HEALTH AND CONTRIBUTES TO ACHIEVING THE SDGs, ESPECIALLY CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPATATION AND MITIGATION

 $CH_4$ 

There is more organic carbon in the soil than there is in the vegetation and atmosphere combined URCE: STATUS OF THE WORLD'S SOIL RESOURCES - MAIN REPO

World

Soil Day

2016

