

## Accra Communiqué on West and Central Africa Soil Partnership

We, the participants of national soil institutions from 23 West and Central African countries along with international/national institutes and others with an interest in sustainable soil management in Africa have assembled in Accra, Ghana, from February 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013, to explore opportunities and applications of the emerging Global Soil Partnership (GSP) in light of food insecurity in the region. The meeting was funded and facilitated by FAO.

During the three days of discussions of country reports and relevant regional organizations and initiatives, the participants agreed that there are similar environmental and development challenges, priorities and needs for improving food security under a changing climate in the region. We reiterate that if actions towards healthy/fertile soils are not rapidly implemented, the challenge of food security, sustainable intensification of food production and poverty reduction will not be achieved.

We recognize the benefits to be gained from further sharing our information and data on soil survey, soil health management and capacity development. It is paramount that the role of soils and Soil Science in ensuring food security and providing other key ecosystem services are given appropriate recognition. These are fundamental for sustainable production and adaptation to climate variability and climate change as already noted by CORAF/WECARD and others.

Across the region, there are similar environmental and development challenges, priorities and needs for improved soil information, capacity and institutional development. By working together, countries will improve soil security and benefit from this new synergy for regional cooperation.

The priorities of the West and Central Africa Soil Partnership are geared towards:





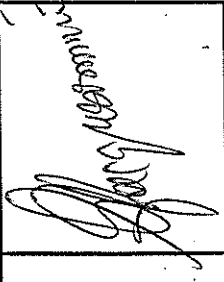




1. **building, sharing and transferring** consistent and updated national and regional soil information systems addressing all user needs and making use of the best science available.
2. **developing and implementing a training and capacity development** programme in all the soil applications for existing and new generations of experts in soil science and land management taking into account gender balance.
3. **guiding and enabling** the implementation of sustainable soil management and the restoration of soil health at all levels aiming at contributing to food security.
4. **addressing** soil degradation as the main driver of food insecurity and develop resilience towards climate change adaptation.




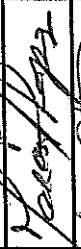



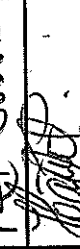

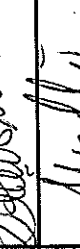
To achieve these goals, the participants agreed to develop plan of actions for the GSP pillars of actions for the “West and Central Africa Soil Partnership (WCASP)” within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP).

The WCASP will be operationalized by the setting up of a provisional secretariat and a steering committee that will directly facilitate activities under direct coordination with the GSP Secretariat.

Participants wish to thank FAO and partners for establishing the GSP and facilitating the launch of the WCASP and fully commit to its immediate implementation.

Accra, Ghana, 06/02/2013

Countries	Contact name	Institué	Email	Signature
Benin	Prof. Dr Ir. Igué Attanda Mouinou	Maitre de Recherches au CAMES Chef Division Inventaire et Evaluation des Ressources en Sol au Laboratoire des Sciences du Sol, Eaux et Environnement (Ex CENAP)/INRAB 01 BP 988, Cotonou Bénin	igue_attanda@yahoo.fr	
Burkina Faso	Dr Zacharia Gnanakambary, <small>Director General</small>	Bureau National des Sols, BP 7142 Ouagadougou	gnank_zach@hotmail.com	
Cape Verde	Isaurinda Baptista, Director of Research	Instituto Nacional de Investigacao Agrária (INIDA)-DESIRE Project	ibaptista@inida.gov.cv	
Cameroun	Dr. Martin Yemefack	President African Soil Science Society Senior Research Officer, Institute of Agricultural Research for Development, Yaoundé, Cameroun	Yemefack@alumni.irc.nl	
	Dr. Jacques Etame	President Cameroon Soil Science Society, Vice Dyen de la Faculte des Sciences de l'Universite de Douala, Maire de la Commune d'Edea 1	etame.jacques@yahoo.fr	
Tchad	Nadjiam Djirabayé	Laboratoire des Sols-Eaux et Plantes Institut Tchadien de Recherche Agronomique pour le Developpement, ITRAD	djibnsa@yahoo.fr	
Congo	Dr Jean de Dieu NZILA Director Jean Arsene Yamalé, Chef de Service de Pédologie	Centre de Recherche sur la Conservation et la Restauration des Terres (CRCRT), Brazzaville, Laboratoire des sols, des plantes et de l'eau. ICRA. Bangui	iddnzila@yahoo.fr arsenevamate@yahoo.fr	 
Central Africa Republic				

Cote d'Ivoire	Kassin Koffi Emmanuel	Laboratoire Central, Sols, Eaux, Plantes Centre National de Recherche Agronomique	kassin_emma@yahoo.fr	
Democratic Republic of Congo	Lunze Lubanga, Director Scientifique Yves Bagafo	INERA, Kinshasa Laboratoire d'Etude des Sols Institut de Recherches Agronomiques et Forestieres (IRAF) Libreville, Gabon	llunze@yahoo.fr kbaagafo@yahoo.com	
Gabon	Joseph F Jatta	Principal Agriculture Officer, Soil & Water Management Services	mhmma2008@yahoo.com	
Gambia	Dr Joseph Opoku	Soil Research Institute, CSIR, Kwadada-Kumassi	director@csir-soilresearch.org	
Ghana	Enging Director Ing. Fodé Sylla, Directeur	Service National des Sols (SENASOL), Guinee-Conakry	fodesylla243@yahoo.fr	
Guinee Bissau	Dr. Marcos Antonio Lopes	INPA	inpabis.pesquisa@yahoo.fr	
Equatorial Guinea	Antonio Micha Ondo Angue	Punto Focal Nacional UNCCD Dirección General de Medio Ambiente	ammicha025@gmail.com	
	Lorenzo Oyono Obama	Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Malabo, EG	lobamaquina@yahoo.com	
Mali	Mamadou Doumbia, Directeur de recherche	laboratoire sol-eau, Institut d'Economie Rurale BP 262, Bamako	mdoumbiakoniobla@yahoo.fr	
Niger	Salou Moussa, Chef de laboratoire	Laboratoire des sols, INRAN, BP 429 Niamey	salouymoussa@yahoo.fr inran@intnet.ne	
Nigeria	Olatunji Ojuola	Department of Agricultural Land Resources, Nigeria	Ojuolabode@yahoo.com	
Senegal	Mame Ndéné, Directeur General	Institut national de pédologie	ndenelo@yahoo.fr	
Sierra Leone	Dr Susan A. Robert	Sierra Leone Agriculture Research Centre, Freetown	susanrobert03@yahoo.com	