



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Terms of Reference

Chair and Vice-Chairs

International Network on Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB)

The Chairperson of the International Network on Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB) will:

- I. Ensure that the [GSOBI21 Outcome Document](#) is executed and the NETSOB is established;
- II. Maintain active communication between NETSOB and the GSP Secretariat, in relation to the execution of the NETSOB activities as documented in the work plan agreed upon at the launch of the NETSOB;
- III. Chair the NETSOB meetings, ensure its work objectives and deliverables are met in time, and update the workplan when necessary;
- IV. Support the activities of each NETSOB technical working group;
- V. Oversee progress and link between NETSOB and other Networks (including maintaining active communication);
- VI. Oversee progress on downscaling NETSOB activities to the regional and national context;
- VII. Report (jointly with the GSP Secretariat and ITPS Chair) to the GSP Plenary Assembly about the NETSOB progress;
- VIII. Attend meetings of other relevant networks and events of interest to the success and visibility of NETSOB;
- IX. Facilitate the establishment and activities of the Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory (GLOSOP) in line with the GSOBI21 Outcome Document and the [Plan of Action of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity](#);
- X. Advocate for the mobilization of resources to execute the NETSOB activities as foreseen NETSOB work plan;
- XI. The NETSOB will meet once a year to review and agree on the workplan.

The Vice-Chairs of each technical working group (WG) of the NETSOB will:

- I. Chair the corresponding technical WG meetings, ensure its work objectives and deliverables are met in time, and update the WG workplan when necessary;
- II. Maintain active communication between each technical WG and the GSP Secretariat, in relation to the execution of the technical WG activities as documented in the work plan agreed upon at the launch of the technical WG;
- III. Oversee progress and link between the NETSOB technical WGs and other Networks (including maintaining active communication);
- IV. Report regularly about each technical WG progress to the NETSOB Chair;
- V. Report to NETSOB of progress done and changes in the work plan at the yearly NETSOB meetings;

- VI. Assist the NETSOB Chair in the establishment and activities of GLOSOB;
- VII. Support the NETSOB Chair in attending other relevant network meetings and events of interest when the chairperson cannot participate;
- VIII. WGs can meet regularly to advance the different activities as needed.

The mandate of the NETSOB governing team (Chair and Vice-chairs) will run for two years. Open election by the NETSOB governing team will be performed at the NETSOB meeting on the second year. As the case may be, the Chair may be supported/represented by any of the Vice-chairs in his/her activities and tasks.