



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

5th Meeting of the **European and Eurasian Soil Laboratory Network** (EUROSOLAN)

18-19 October 2023



Improvement of Seed and Agro-
Chemical Laboratory and
Certification Services under the
Agrarian Services Agency in
Azerbaijan

Efforts related to EUROSOLAN

Mr. Namig Mammadov, FAO Partnership
and Liaison Office in the Republic of
Azerbaijan

EUROSOLAN

EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN SOIL LABORATORY NETWORK



Improvement of Seed and Agro-Chemical Laboratory and Certification Services under the Agrarian Services Agency, Azerbaijan (UTF/AZE/021/AZE)

Objectives

- the establishment of the national soil information system of Azerbaijan (AzSIS) for making soil information and datasets accessible for all stakeholders,
- to ensure the adequate inclusion of sustainable soil management principles and practices by agricultural extension services
- to allow farmers to adjust their activities and farming decisions to soil conditions,
- building the capacity of the Agrarian Services Agency (ASA) and **the 11 regional agrochemical laboratories affiliated to it in soil analysis and thus, to explore the possibility to turn ASA into an accredited laboratory.**

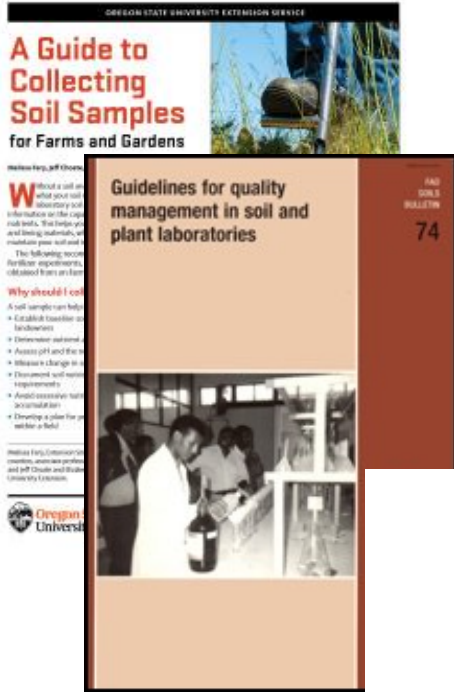
Current status of soil laboratories in Azerbaijan

Four areas of work were identified in the frame of UTF/AZE/021/AZE :

- **Regulations and circulars for the establishment and governance of laboratories.**
- **Improvement of physical laboratory conditions.**
- **Improvement of the devices and equipment available.**
- **Improvement of the laboratory staff quality.**

Proposal to focus on strengthening the capacities of the Central Laboratory first in order to build the capacity of other laboratories in the country and to become an accredited laboratory in the near future. The central laboratory will also lead the establishment of the **National Soil Laboratory Network of Azerbaijan AZSOLAN.**

Regulations and circulars for the establishment and governance of soil laboratories.



Requirements for the establishment of laboratory management guides and documents **(Step to modernization and accreditation for the coming years.**



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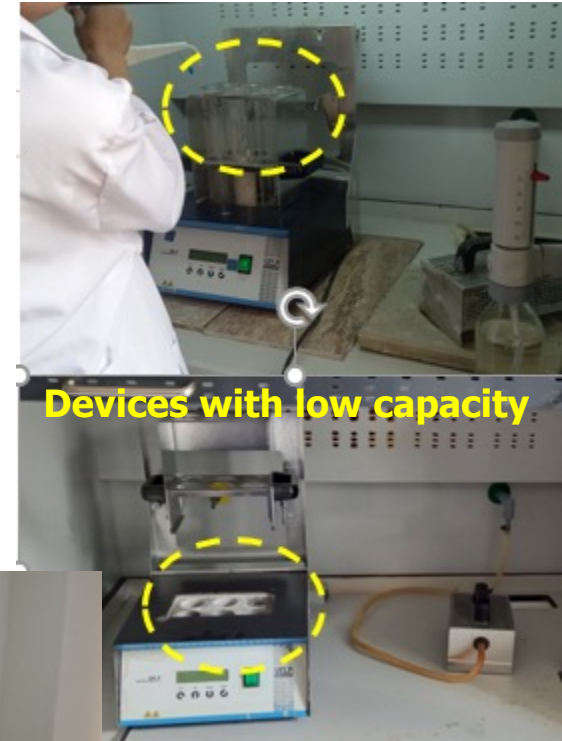
Improvement of physical conditions of soil laboratories in Azerbaijan

- Regeneration of laboratory units according to current demands in soil analysis
- Reassessment of occupational health and laboratory safety
- Planning divisional development of laboratories (adding new spaces for soil physical analysis or plant, fertilizer, water analysis etc)



Improvement of the devices and equipment available

- Repairing and maintaining inoperative equipments, tools etc.
- Removal for out of service equipments from laboratory
- Regular calibration
- Careful selection of local/regional vendors in terms of purchasing new equipments and their sustainable maintenance



Improvement of the laboratory staff quality

A well-organized laboratory management

- Laboratory manager
- Laboratory responsible
- Quality control responsible
- Sample registration staff (secretary)
- Analysis staff
- Farmer relationship (advising staff)
- ...

Trainings

- Laboratory management
- Laboratory safety
- Analytical chemistry
- Proficiency tests
- Internal test
- Equipment training
- GLOSOLAN-EUROSOLAN-NASOLAN



Communications among, ASA, laboratories and farmers

- Capacity development meetings
- Risk evaluation
- Innovative approaches (adoption of new analysis and technologies)
- Organizing farmer's day event (selection of role model or leader farmers)

- Increasing awareness on GLOSOLAN, its subdivisions and activities
- Establishment of national soil laboratory network and connect it to GLOSOLAN in long run

Works done so far..

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- A questionnaire to determine capacity of AZ soil laboratories (September 2022)
- A training on Modern Laboratory Management (March 27-30th, 2023)

has been done by a FAO international consultant on soil laboratories

Works to do..

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- Participation to GLOSOLAN PT 2023 on soil organic carbon (around 21 soil laboratories from various countries including Azerbaijan)
- Three soil laboratories (Central, Goygol and Şamaxı) are expected to participate to PT 2023



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A decorative graphic consisting of a series of squares and dots in shades of brown, orange, and grey, arranged in a curved path that suggests a map of Europe and Eurasia.

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A photograph showing a person wearing blue gloves working in a laboratory. They are using a pipette to transfer liquid into several small glass vials. A scale is visible in the foreground, and a larger glass bottle is in the background.

THANK YOU..

