



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

INSOILFER Working Group Meetings

Conclusions of INSOILFER Meetings

Mr. Yuxin Tong, GSP Secretariat

27-29
November
2023



Insoilfer
International Network on
Soil Fertility and Fertilizers





Goal

Address nutrient imbalances and promote the adoption of soils for nutrition concept for making soils healthy and fertile by 2030 as a contribution to the transformation of agrifood systems.



INSOILFER Working Group Meetings

27-29
November
2023

- Endorsement of goals and work plan
- Governance: Chair, 3 Vice-Chairs
- Technical Committees
- Reference institutions
- Potential collaborations and joint working groups



**Day
1**

WG1 Meeting
Soil fertility and nutrient
monitoring system
27 November

**Day
2**

WG2 Meeting
Sustainable soil fertility and
fertilizer management
28 November

**Day
3**

WG3 Meeting
Fertilizer safety and quality assessment
Debriefing meeting
29 November



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**WG1. Soil fertility and
nutrient monitoring system**

WG1. Governance

Vice-Chair

Dr. Ranjan Bhattacharyya,
India

Technical Committee

Ranjan Bhattacharyya, India

Nouira Mohamed Salah, Tunisia

Boukari Garba Seydou,
Nigeria

Masango Solomon Sone,

Adewale Moses Sedara, United

Johan Leenaars, Netherlands

Areas of work endorsed !

1

Improve the knowledge and enhancing/building capacities on soil fertility monitoring and soil nutrition plan development and evaluation.

2

Supporting the decision-making on soil nutrient management, soil nutrient budget, monitoring system, and climate change mitigation at global, national, and local scales

3

Establishment of a global soil nutrient monitoring system and promote a data-sharing partnership

WG1 Meeting Soil fertility and nutrient monitoring system



Key outcomes of expert discussion on WG1

- ❖ There are concerns among the audience regarding the availability of data for creating nutrient budget maps in the country level. Questions have been raised about the acceptable sources of data as well, such as whether it should exclusively come from the government or also include data from other sources.
- ❖ There was a proposal to consider data from small islands, which often exhibit significant variations in soil types and conditions. Additionally, there is limited funding available to support research in small islands.
- ❖ Call into collaboration between WG1 will support the activities of WG2.

WG2. Governance



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**WG2. Sustainable soil
fertility and fertilizer
management**

Vice-Chair

**Dr. Noura Mohamed Salah
Tunisia**

Technical Committee

Masango Solomon Sone, Cameroon

Karina Batista, Brasil

Gerardo Ojeda, Colombia

Attia Rafla, Tunisia

Armando Tasistro, United States

Roger Kogge Enang, Cameroon

Milton Ferreira de Moraes, Brazil

Ranjan Bathacharayya, India

Haitao Xiang, China

Areas of work endorsed !



WG2 Meeting Sustainable soil fertility and fertilizer management

1

Identification, description, and compilation of **locally adapted SSM practices** oriented to improve soil fertility, crop nutrition, and nutrient use efficiency

2

Avoiding underuse, misuse and overuse of fertilizers through the **optimization of nutrient use efficiency and fertilizer recommendations**

Key outcomes of expert discussion on WG2

- ❖ Proposition to consider the economic aspects of management practices due to observed conflict between profitability and sustainability in existing research.
- ❖ A plan will be put in place to create a comprehensive global database on management practices. This database will capture regional variations in climate, soil, and crop types, and will include input from diverse stakeholders, including both small and corporate farmers.
- ❖ Fertilizer recommendations will be formulated based on the global soil nutrient maps.
- ❖ Call for collaboration between two groups, with WG1 supporting the activities of WG2. This support will particularly focus on tasks such as data collection, sharing, and communication with institutions holding relevant data.
- ❖ The goal is to optimize the use of fertilizers to enhance nutrient use efficiency.

WG3. Governance



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**WG3. Fertilizer safety and
quality assessment**

Vice-Chair

Wesley Feldmann, South Africa

Technical Committee

Adele Muscolo, Italy

Gerardo Ojeda, Colombia

Kobusinge Aloys Nyabwisho,
Tanzania

Areas of work endorsed !

WG3 Meeting Soil fertility and nutrient monitoring system

1

Harmonization laboratory analytical protocols for the safety and quality assessment of fertilizers

- Sample preparation
- NPK
- Heavy metals
- Biofertilizers

2

Capacity development for quality assurance of analytical procedures and laboratory staff performance

- Ring test 2024 (NPK)
- Webinar series and trainings on quality assurance

3

Regulations and policies on the safety and quality of fertilizers

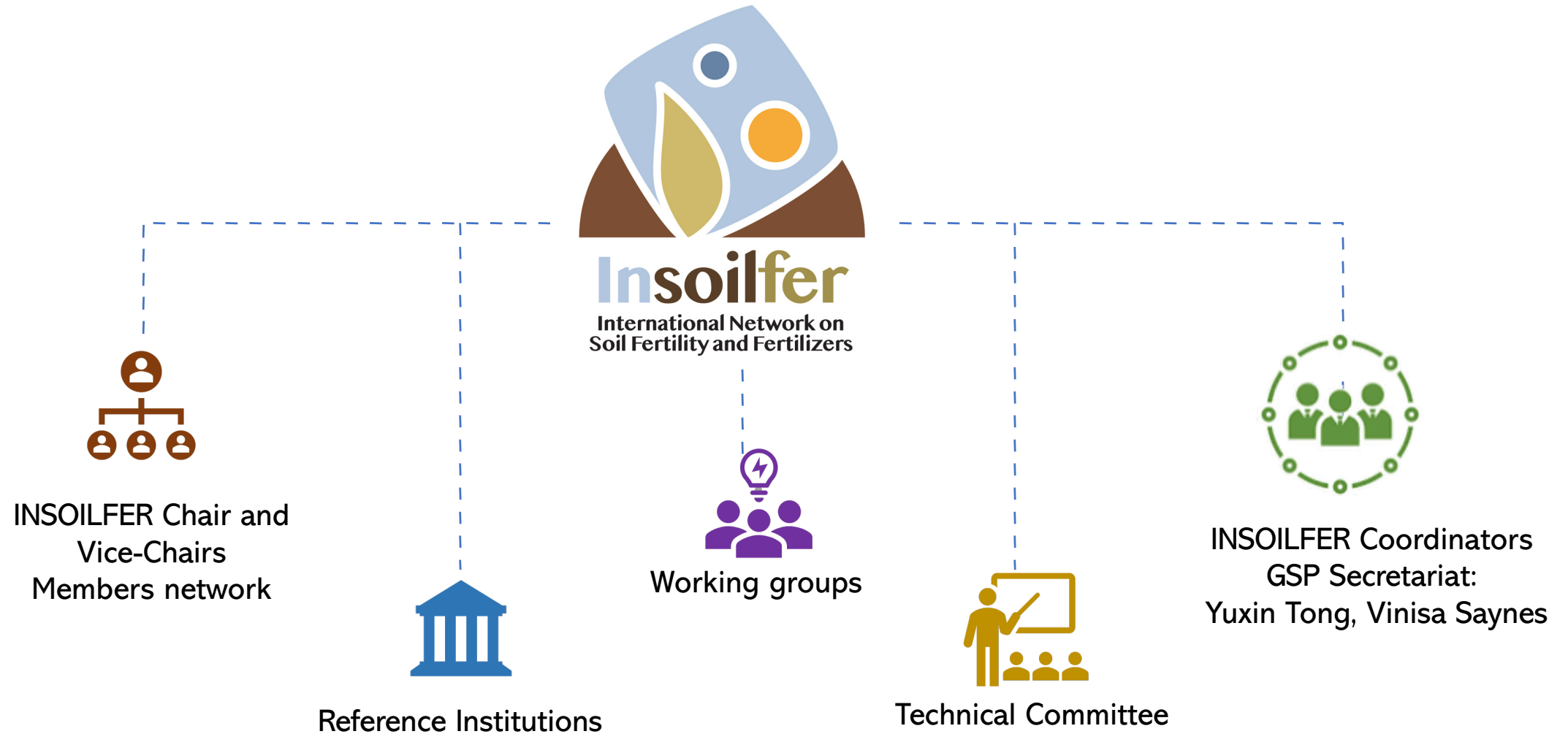
- Customs procedures
- Regulations and permissible limits for heavy metals



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INSOILFER structure



Way forward



- Develop documents of the three working groups including the objectives, workplan and way forward (including comments and suggestions made by the members during the meetings)
- WG annual meetings in 2024
- Update INSOILFER website
- Grow the network!



Each one of the members is important!