



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## Soil and water Working Group scope

### International Network on Soil Pollution (INSOP)

*Channelling collective action towards Zero Pollution*

#### The Network

**The International Network on Soil Pollution (INSOP) has the overall aim of stopping soil pollution and achieve the global goal of zero pollution. To this end, INSOP works to improve knowledge on the full cycle of soil pollution, from assessment to remediation, as well as on the effect on environmental and human health and the provision of soil ecosystem functions and services. It also aims to strengthen technical capacities and legislative frameworks for the prevention of soil pollution, and promotes the exchange of experiences and technologies for the sustainable management and remediation of polluted soils.**

#### The scope

Most contaminants in aquatic ecosystems come from anthropogenic land-based sources. Therefore, soil management can have an enormous impact on water quality, including pollution. The overall objective of the soil and water Working Group (WG) is to raise awareness on the effects different contaminants of terrestrial origin could have on marine and aquatic ecosystems. Contaminants of concern such as plastic pollution of which 80% entering the ocean has a land origin, eutrophication and other land-based contaminants reaching the fresh and marine environments will be discussed and knowledge gaps addressed.

In collaboration with the assessment WG, the WG will create a knowledge exchange platform on the environmental and associated ecotoxicological risks on soil and water pollution. In addition, joint experts from the monitoring and remediation WG will work together to create a stronger regulation and policies which will protect and reduce the soil pollution impact on the aquatic environment.

Other tasks of interests and feasibility will be defined and agreed during the upcoming 'brainstorm' meeting which will be held in autumn 2022.

## **Deliverables**

- Awareness raising
- Terrestrial and marine pollution linkages
- Ecotoxicological knowledge gaps
- Finding contaminants of concern for marine life



