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Soil Salinity working group: the last updates

14th Working Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)

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itps

INTERGOVERNMENTAL
TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS

11 - 13 May 2021 | Virtual meeting



Salinity Working Group activity between the 13th and the 14th ITPS sessions

- Virtual meeting of Salinity WG (**April 1, 2021**)
 - Status of GSS map
 - Status on GSS report
 - Preparation to the 1st INSAS meeting
 - Concept note and key messages of the Global Symposium on Salt-Affected Soils (October 2021)
- Virtual meeting of Salinity WG (**April 8, 2021**)
 - The table of content of the GSS report revised
 - The Concept note of the 1st INSAS meeting and the workplan of INSAS were revised
 - The template of Case studies / Practices for GSAS symposium discussed

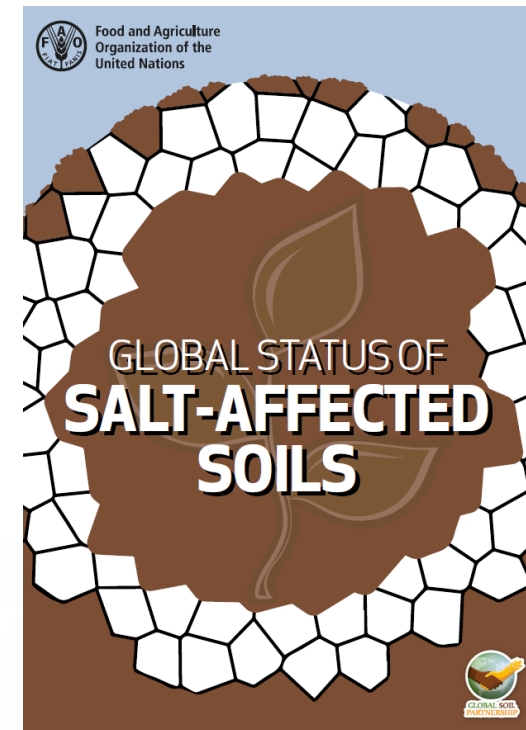
Key deadlines on the SAS activity in the GSP/ITPS

- GSSmap (launch in October 2021, during GSAS symposium)
- GSS report (launch in December 2021, during WSD 2021)
- INSAS (1st meeting in April and work of the WGs continuing since then)
- GSAS 21 symposium (20-22 October, 2021)
- World Soil Day 2021 (around December 5, 2021)

Global Status of Salt-Affected Soils

Countries with no response to GSSmap communication (64 in total)

- **Caribbean (10):** Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Haiti (No data), Belize, Other small Islands have no data (Guadeloupe, Dominica, Martinique, St. Lucia, Barbados, Grenada)
- **Latin America (6):** El Salvador (reported that they don't have salinity), Guatemala, Panama (don't want to participate), Honduras, French Guyana, Suriname
- **Africa (8):** Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Corte d'Ivoire, Congo (Brazzaville), (Angola, Central Africa, and Equatorial Guinea do not have focal points), Eswatini
- **NENA (7):** Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Yemen
- **Eurasia (6):** Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Georgia, Mongolia, Belarus
- **Asia (11):** China, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, South Korea, North Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam, Nepal, Bhutan
- **Pacific (2):** Australia, New Zealand
- **Europe (20):** England, Belgium, France, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Austria, Ireland, Romania, Bulgaria, Cypress, Israel, Netherlands



Global Symposium on Salt-Affected Soils

- Scheduled for **October 20-22, 2021, virtual format** (expecting for clearance by FAO)
- **Scientific Committee** of GSSAS 21:
 - ITPS Salinity WG (Jamal Khan, Ashok Patra, Rafla Attia, Megan Balks, Kutaiba Hassan, Edmon Hien, Rosa Poch)
 - representatives from the partnering organisations (government of Uzbekistan, IUSS, UNCCD, ICBA, WASAG, INSAS)
- **GSAS symposium structure:**
 - Theme 1: Assessment, mapping, and monitoring of salt-affected soils
 - Theme 2: Integrated soil – water – crop solutions in rehabilitation and management of salt-affected areas
 - Theme 3: Agenda for action to prevent, rehabilitate, remediate salt-affected soils and scale-up sustainable soil management practice

Global Symposium on Salt-Affected Soils (cont'd)

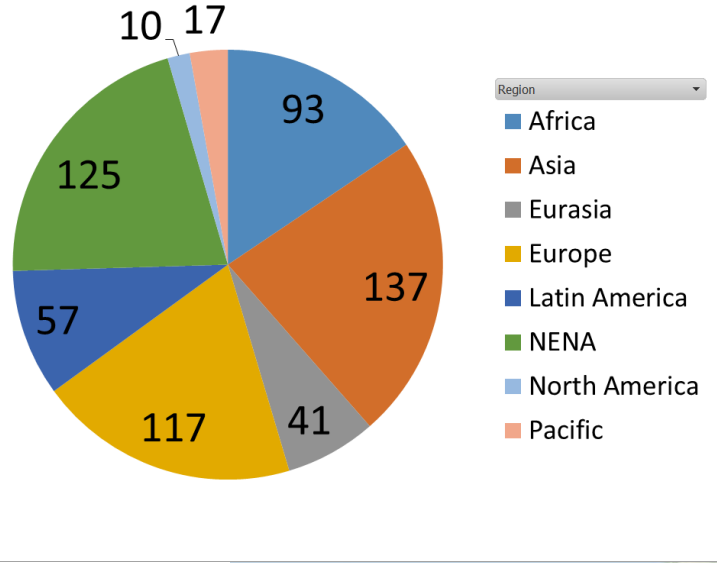
Abstracts	Case studies / Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ IMRAD structure✓ 3000 characters + references (up to 10)✓ DOI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Specific template✓ 4 pages (with the simple text adapted to general public)✓ DOI✓ Competition: 5 winners have a right to present a video-tour about Case Study / Practice



1st INSAS meeting

- INSAS invites **all partners of GSP** to join INSAS if they have interest to participate in the joint action to achieve the sustainable and productive management of salt-affected soils
- 1st meeting of INSAS took place **online on 14-15 April, 2021**
- INSAS has ~600 members from 121 countries (as of the end of April 2021)
- 1st meeting of INSAS was attended by **260 participants from 94 countries** including 190 members of INSAS and 72 non-INSAS participants from GSP/FAO, ITPS/FAO, other entities of FAO and other organizations
- The program, photos, video-recordings, presentations of the meeting are available online at:
<http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/insas/insas-first-meeting/en/>

Regional representation



Geographic coverage of INSAS



~600 members from 121 countries





Working groups of INSAS:

Working group	Number of participants	Number of countries
SAS&Assessment: Mapping, assessing and monitoring of salt-affected soils	92	48
SAS&SSM: Sustainable management of salt-affected soils (practices, policy)	112	65
SAS&Crops: Halophyte agriculture and salt-tolerant crops and plants	37	25
SAS&Water: Integrated soil and water management under saline/sodic conditions	88	48

* as of May 5, 2021



The work plan of INSAS for 2021 - 2022:

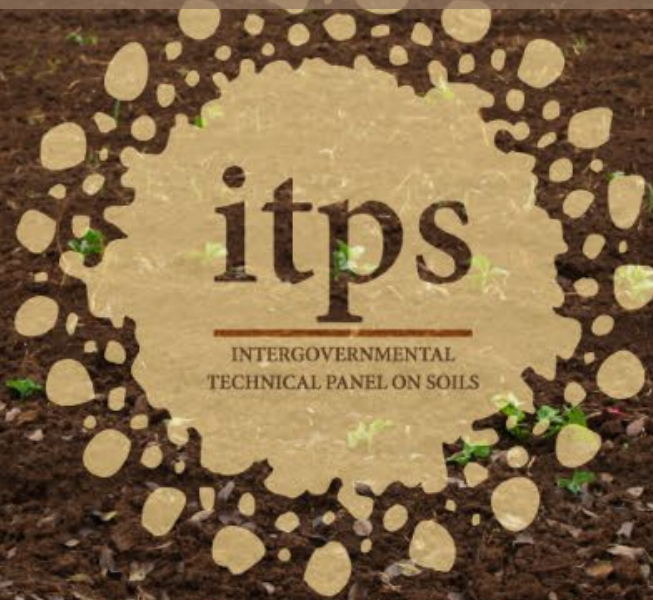
#	Activity	Working group
1	Standard Operating Procedures for salinity / sodicity / alkalinity measurements	SAS&Assessment (jointly with GLOSOLAN)
2	Harmonization of the criteria on the assessment of salt-affected soils	SAS&Assessment (jointly with GLOSOLAN)
3	Review and refinement of methodology for mapping salt-affected soils	SAS&Assessment (jointly with INSII)
4	Development of indicators and methodology for monitoring salt-affected soils	SAS&Assessment, SAS&Water (jointly with INSII)
5	Development of indicators of soil salinity for soil health, food security and desertification/aridization	SAS&Assessment
6	Inventory on sustainable management practices for saline and sodic soils	SAS&SSM
7	Development of the manual on sustainable management of salt-affected soils*	SAS&SSM
8	Support the Global Soil Doctors program and complement the soil kit with salinity meters/field methods	SAS&SSM
9	Develop an inventory of halophytic plants suitable for saline agriculture and salt-tolerant crops, update the FAO Irrigation and Drainage Paper 61 (2002)	SAS&Crops
10	Development of the manual on saline agriculture*	SAS&Crops
11	Development of water quality criteria for sustainable management of soils to avoid its salinization and sodification	SAS&Water
12	Guidelines for using brackish water	SAS&Water
13	Development of the manual on sustainable water management in saline/sodic environments*	SAS&Water

*It will be a part of one comprehensive manual



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Thank you for your attention!



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