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United Nations

# 15<sup>th</sup> Working Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)

## Soil Information & Data

ITPS - M. Costanza Calzolari, Lydia Chabala  
GSP Secretariat - Yusuf Yigini, Isabel Luotto, Christian Omuto,  
Guillermo Peralta  
Luciano di Paolo, Marcos Angelini, Moritz Mainka

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TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS

15 - 17 November 2021 | Virtual meeting



## GSP - Soil Information and Data

### Progress Report

#### 15th ITPS Session

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#### 1. 9th PA Decisions relevant to the soil information and data activities

##### GloSIS Development

- a. The PA acknowledged the efforts made by INSII members in raising awareness on data-driven and evidence-based decision-making, as well as in improving national capacities in digital mapping and modelling of soil properties. The PA also recognised the importance of improving countries' capacities to collect, store, share and use soil information and therefore called on donors to continue to invest in capacity building and development of GloSIS and National Soil Information Systems, especially in developing countries.
- b. GloSIS SDI (Spatial Data Infrastructure) development suspended due to the preparation of the new GSP Action Framework. *GloSIS 1.0 implementation will resume upon the endorsement of the GSP Action framework in June 2022*

##### GloSIS Data products

- c. The PA encouraged members to prepare national maps according to the technical specifications provided by INSII. The PA also approved the start of the preparation of the global maps on soil erosion and on soil nutrient budgets as part of the INSII work plan for 2021/2022.
- d. The PA appreciated the progress made in the development of the Global Soil Salinity Map (GSSmap) and the Global Black Soil Distribution Map (GBSmap), and encouraged the remaining countries to contribute their national maps to these important global efforts. The PA also welcomed the launch of the Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration Potential Map (GSOSeq) and acknowledged the in-kind effort

# GSP - Soil Information and Data

## Progress Report

### 15th ITPS Session

[LINK](#)

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# 9th GSP Plenary Assembly

## 8-10 September 2021

*Online*

Ninth Plenary Assembly of the Global Soil Partnership

September 2021



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## Global Soil Partnership Plenary Assembly

### Ninth session

Virtual, 08-10 September 2021

Progress of the GSP Technical Networks: for information and decision  
(GSPPA: IX/2021/9)

#### Executive Summary

- The International Network of Soil Information Institutions (INSII) is the network coordinating all soil mapping/information activities under the aegis of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP). Its ultimate goal is the establishment of the Global Soil Information System (GloSIS).
- The GSP Secretariat and INSII have developed and successfully tested the country-driven approach for GloSIS global soil information products. This approach places emphasis on country-level activities and soil information and data ownership. The GloSIS country driven global datasets include the Global Soil Organic Carbon Map (GSOCmap), the Global Soil Salinity Map (GSSmap), the Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration Potential Map (GSOCseq), the Global Black Soil Distribution Map (GBSmap) and the Global Soil Erosion Map (GSERmap).
- GSOCmap was released in 2017 and updated in 2019 and 2020. Other products are currently in different stages of development: GSOCseq is being launched during this 9th GSP Plenary Assembly, while the GSSmap will be launched in October 2021.
- To date, the GSP's Soil Information and Data Capacity Development Programme has reached more than 1000 national experts from 140 countries with training sessions on soil data management, digital soil mapping, soil modelling and product oriented (GSOCmap, GSSmap, GSOCseq, GBSmap).
- The Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN) was established in 2017 to build and strengthen the capacity of laboratories in soil analysis and to respond to the need for harmonizing soil analytical data. The network is currently made up of around 700 soil laboratories operating in more than 150 countries.
- During 2020 and 2021, the Regional Soil Laboratory Networks (RESOLANs) of Africa, Asia, Eurasia and Europe, Latin America, and the Pacific organized their annual meetings and revised

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GSPPA-IX/21/Report

## Ninth Session of the Global Soil Partnership Plenary Assembly

Rome, Italy, 8-10, September 2021



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[9th PA Official Documents](#)

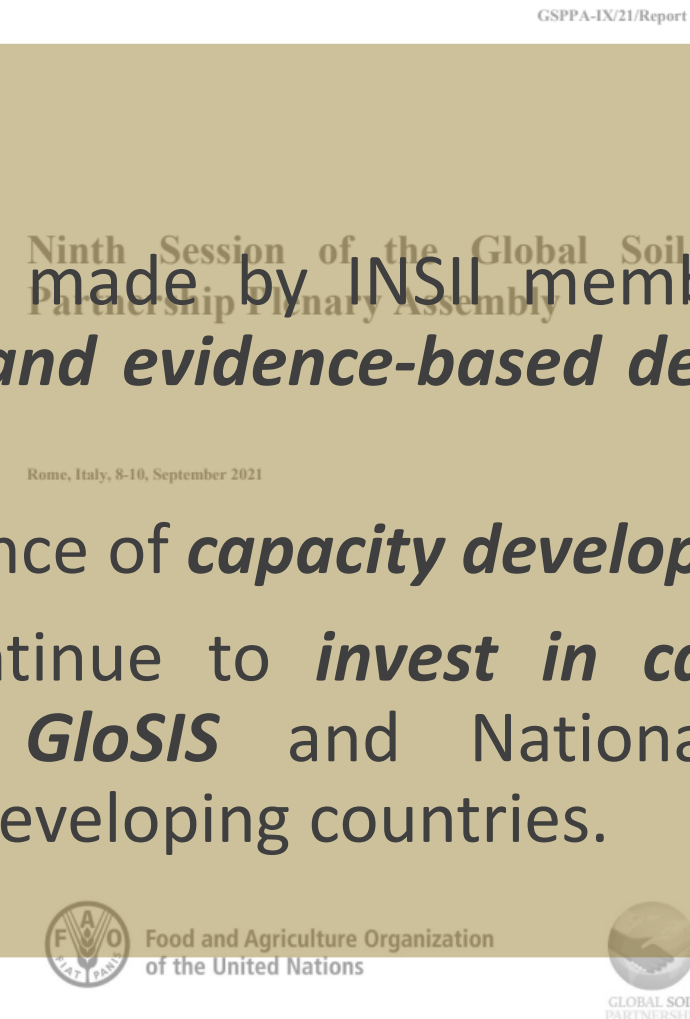
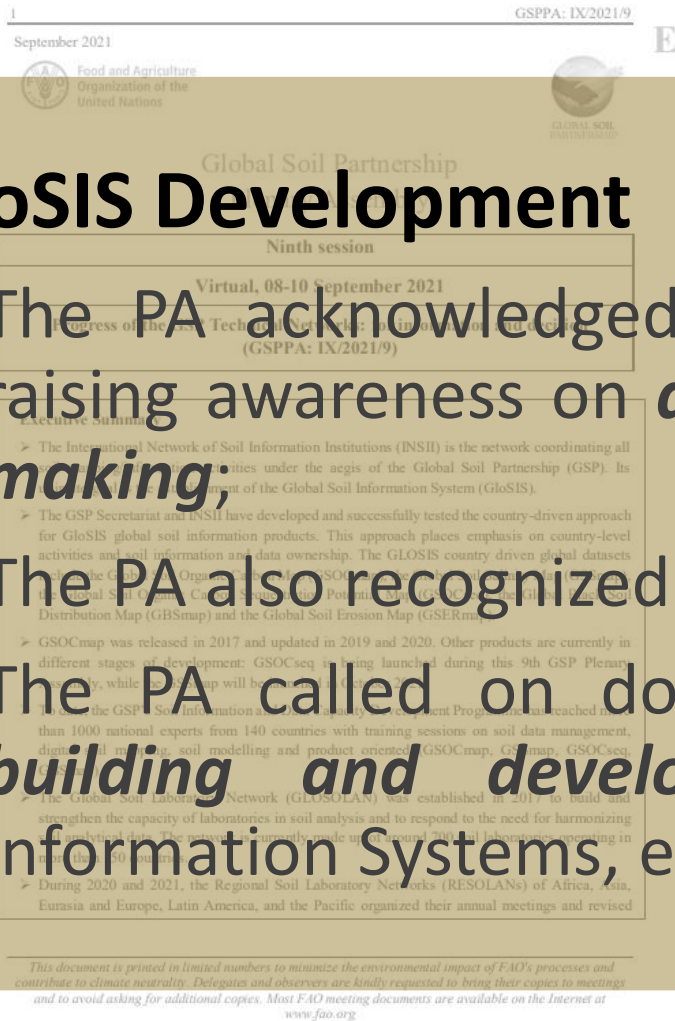
[9th PA Report](#)

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# GloSIS Development

- The PA acknowledged the efforts made by INSII members in raising awareness on ***data-driven and evidence-based decision-making***;
- The PA also recognized the importance of ***capacity development***;
- The PA called on donors to continue to ***invest in capacity building and development of GloSIS*** and National Soil Information Systems, especially in developing countries.

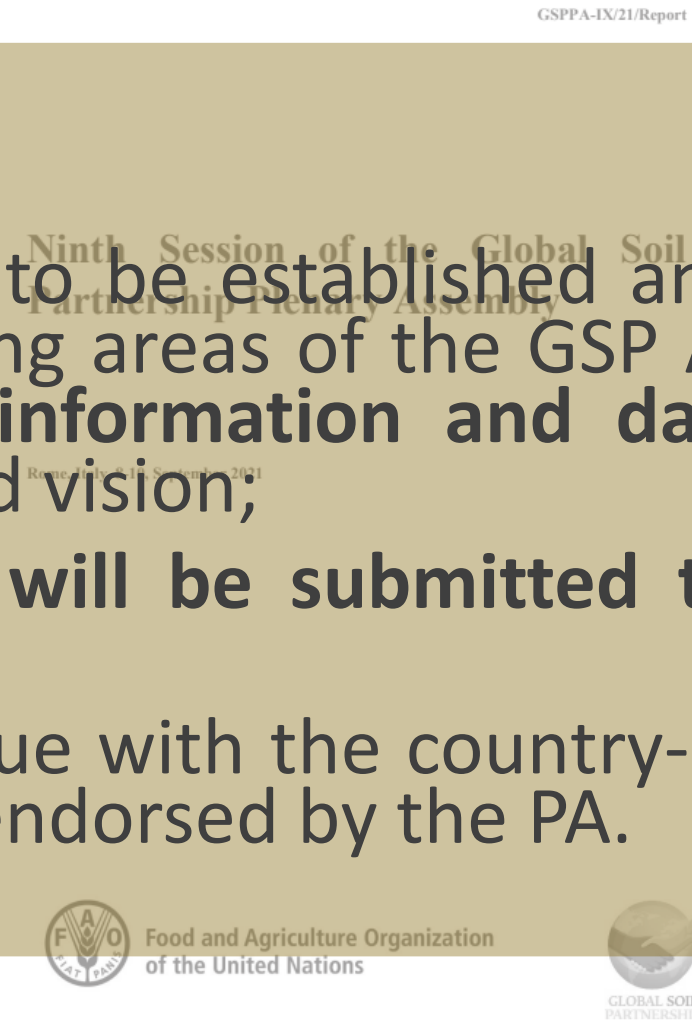
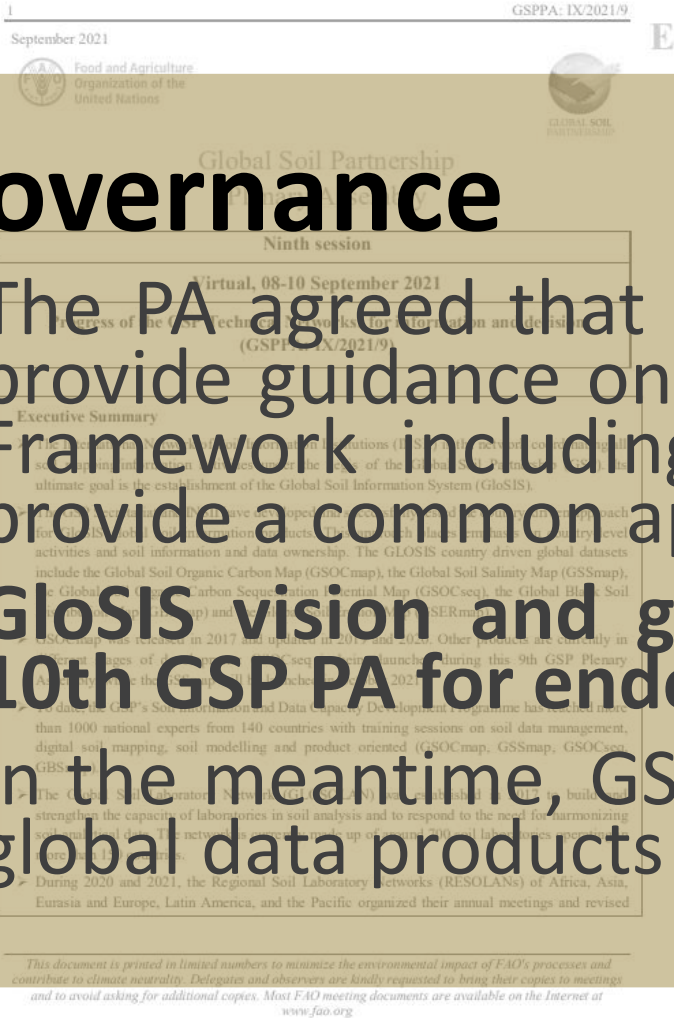


# GloSIS Data Products

- The PA encouraged members to prepare national maps according to the technical specifications provided by INSII;
- The PA also approved the start of the preparation of the global maps on soil erosion (GSErmap) and on soil nutrient maps;
- The PA acknowledged the progress made in the development of the Global Soil Salinity Map (GSASmap) and the Global Black Soil Distribution Map (GBSmap);
- The PA also welcomed the launch of the Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration Potential Map (GSOCseq);

# Governance

- The PA agreed that the OEWG to be established and will provide guidance on cross-cutting areas of the GSP Action Framework including the **soil information and data**, to provide a common approach and vision;
- **GloSIS vision and governance will be submitted to the 10th GSP PA for endorsement;**
- In the meantime, GSP to continue with the country-driven global data products that were endorsed by the PA.







# 7th INSII Working Session

## 9-11 November 2021

### Online





# In this Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> INSII

- 175 Registered Participants (130 attendees)
- 82 INSII Representatives + 104 National Experts
- All GSP Regions
- 90 Countries + EU

# Guest Talks



**12:30 - 12:50 - Scotland's National Soils Archive (*Guest Talk*)**

**Dr Allan Lilly** - Principal Soil Scientist / The James Hutton Institute Scotland, UK  
Presentation



**12:30 - 12:55 Cloud-based Geospatial Analysis (*Guest talk*)**

**Dr Serkan Girgin** - Center Of Expertise In Big Geodata Science (CRIB), University of Twente, The Netherlands



**11:40 - 12:00 Aging Soil Data (*Guest talk*)**

**Dr Marcos Angelini** - Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria (INTA), Argentina





# GloSIS-SDI



## GloSIS 1.0

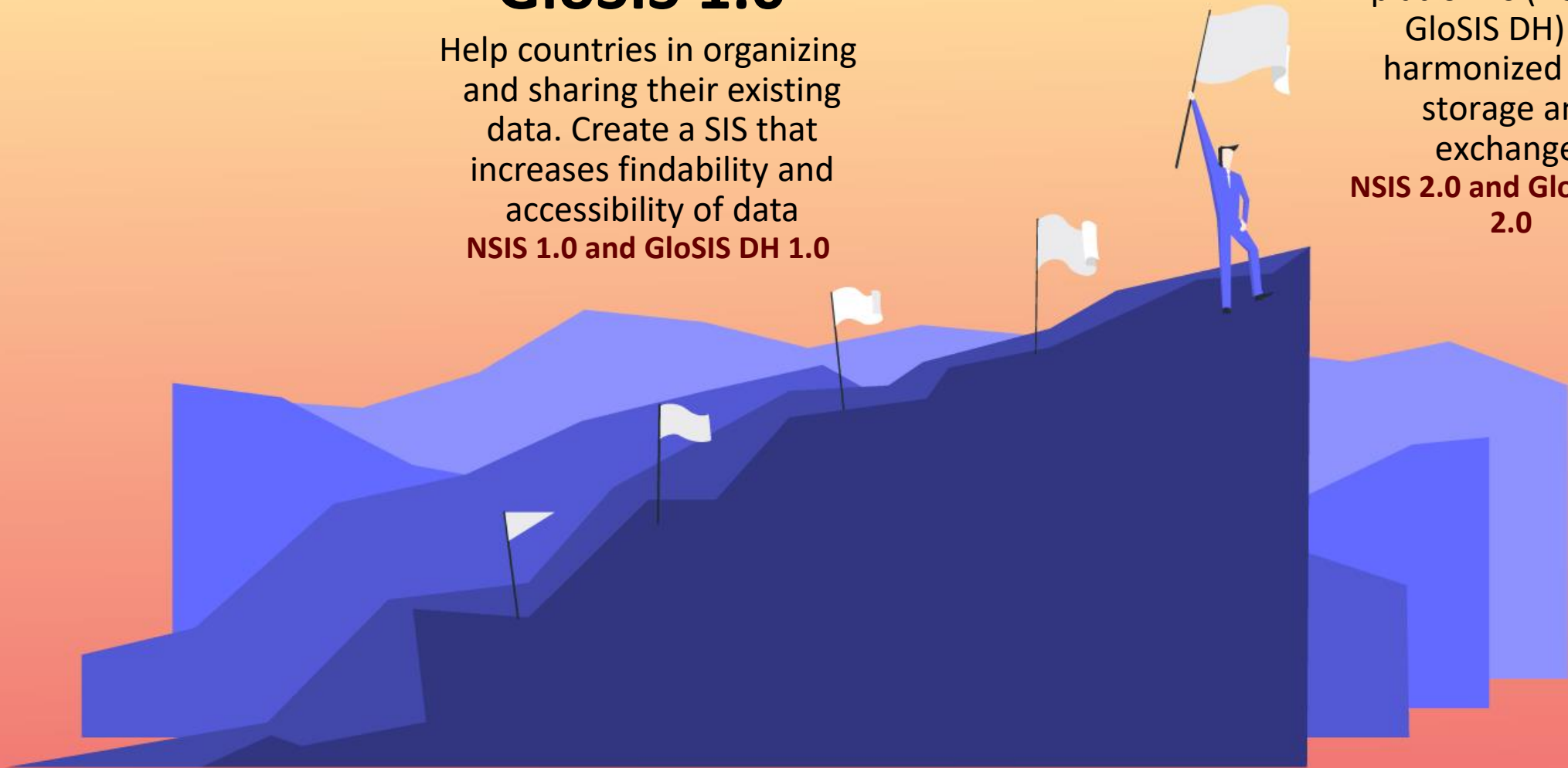
Help countries in organizing and sharing their existing data. Create a SIS that increases findability and accessibility of data

**NSIS 1.0 and GloSIS DH 1.0**

## GloSIS 2.0

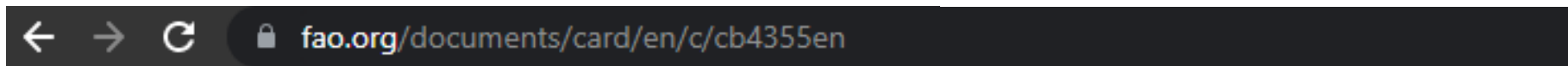
Full-fledged platforms (NSISs & GloSIS DH) for harmonized data storage and exchange.

**NSIS 2.0 and GloSIS DH 2.0**

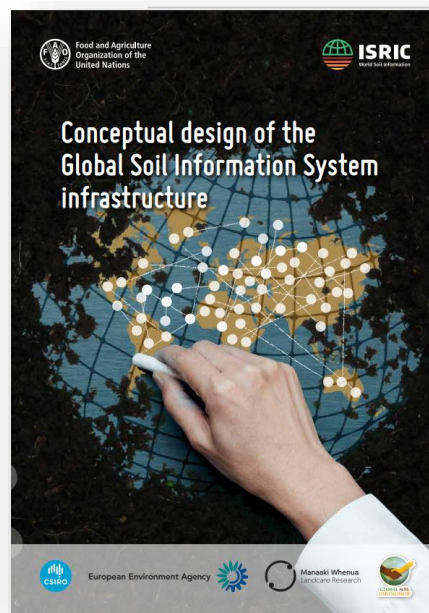




# GloSIS - Key DOCUMENTS



## Conceptual design of the Global Soil Information System infrastructure



**Year of publication:** 2021

**Place of publication:** Rome, Italy

**Pages:** #30 p.

**Author:** de Sousa, L., Kempen, B., Mendes de Jesus, J., Yigini, Y., Viatkin, K., Medyckij-Scott, D. Richie, A., Wilson, P. van Egmond, F. and Baritz, R.

**Publisher:** FAO and ISRIC

**Agrovoc:** [information systems](#); [soil profiles](#); [information infrastructure](#); [data management](#)

### Abstract:

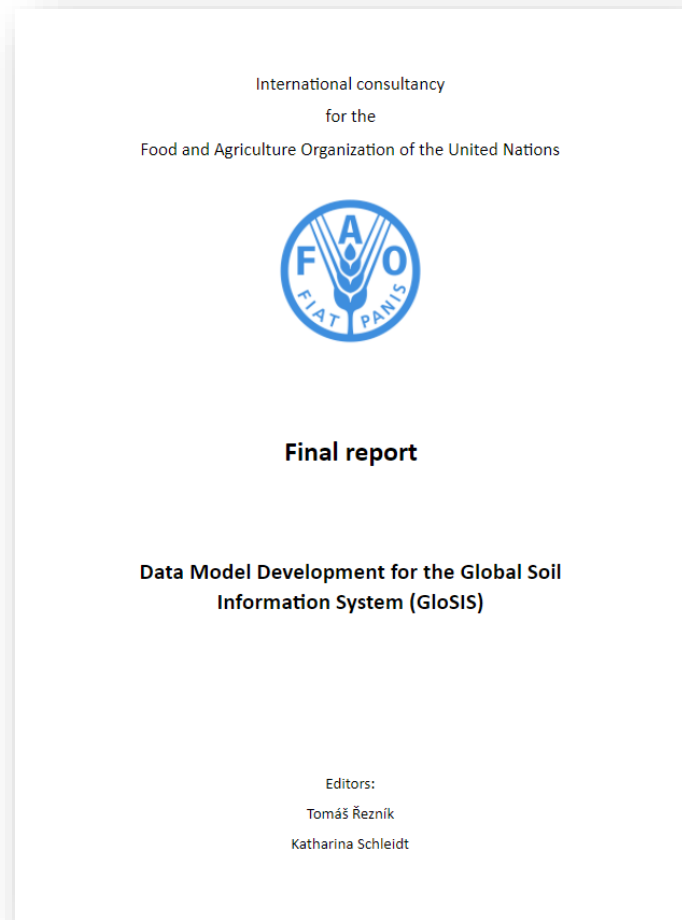
This document provides a proposal for the design of the GLOSIS infrastructure at higher level. It considers the required architectural and engineering building blocks. The architectural building blocks are mostly abstract, setting out structures and formalising knowledge into an information model. The engineering building blocks concern primarily the technologies that realise the structures set out in the architecture. It presents a number of implementing units and enumerates some of the technologies on which it may depend. The broad aim is to have an implementation that is lightweight, cheap and easy to deploy by data holders, while at the same time relieving data providers from technical details.

### Cite this content as:

de Sousa, L., Kempen, B., Mendes de Jesus, J., Yigini, Y., Viatkin, K., Medyckij-Scott, D. Richie, A., Wilson, P. van Egmond, F. and Baritz, R. 2021. *Conceptual design of the Global Soil Information System infrastructure*. Rome, FAO and Wageningen, Netherlands, ISRIC.

GloSIS Design Document, T1/T2 Specifications, GloSIS Data Model

# GLOSIS 2.0 - domain model and data exchange



GLOSIS domain model created by two leading experts, some remaining issues to be addressed



# GloSIS 1.0 - Beta Phase (National Systems and Discovery Hub)



**GloSIS Beta Testing Countries:** *Bolivia, Canada, Cape Verde, Fiji, Gambia, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Zimbabwe, ASP CESRA*

1<sup>st</sup> Beta Testing Countries Meeting (Jan'21)

2<sup>nd</sup> Beta Testing Countries Meeting (April'21)

# GloSIS | Beta (National Systems and Discovery Hub)

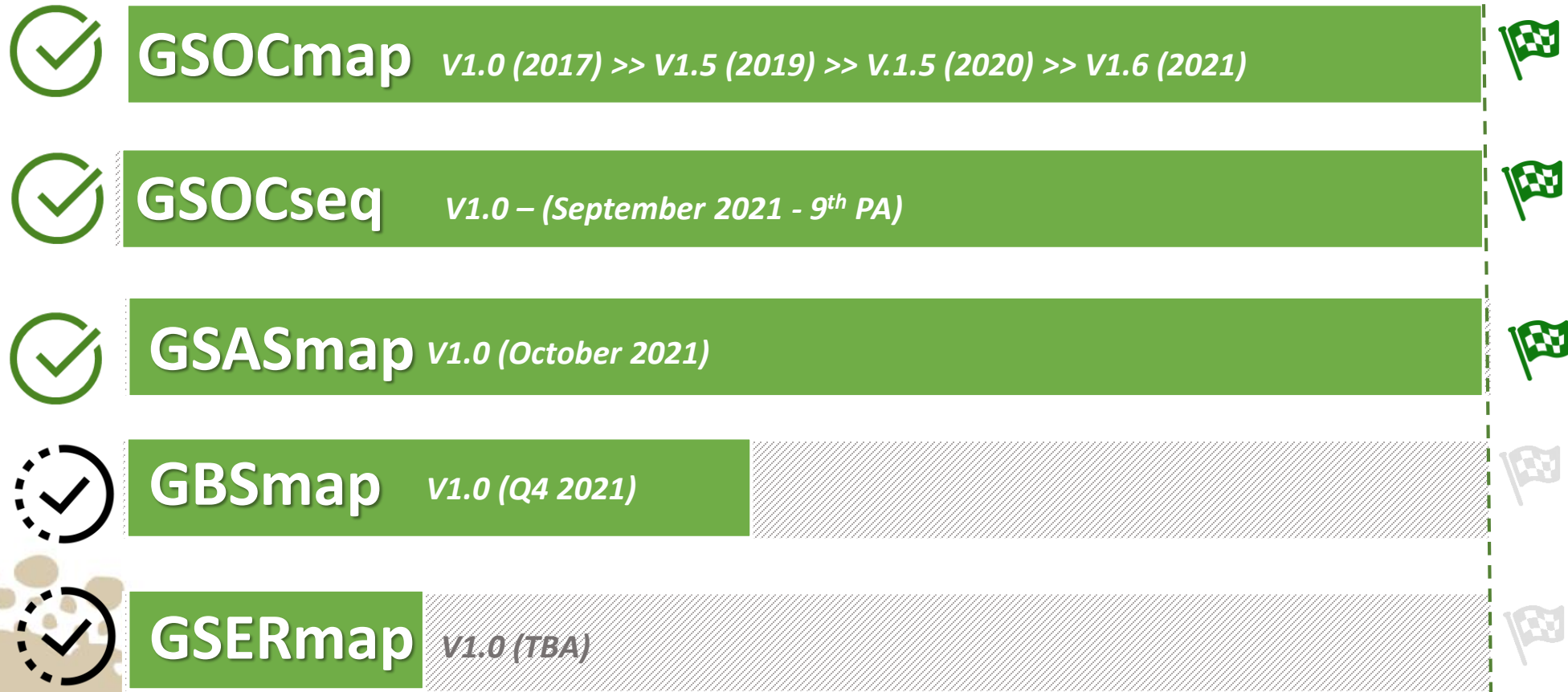
- We named the technologies for national soil information systems;
- We introduced GloSIS Instructions Guide and the software package to be used for National Soil Information Systems (*Open Source – [GeoNode](#)*)
- We introduced requirements for beta testing (Technical, Human Resources);
- Beta version GloSIS Discovery Hub has been developed (*Open Source – [GeoNetwork](#)*)
- GSP Consultancy to develop GloSIS Data Exchange Language



# GloSIS-Global



# GloSIS Global - Country Driven Global Datasets



# **GSASmap**

## **Global Salt Affected Soils Map**

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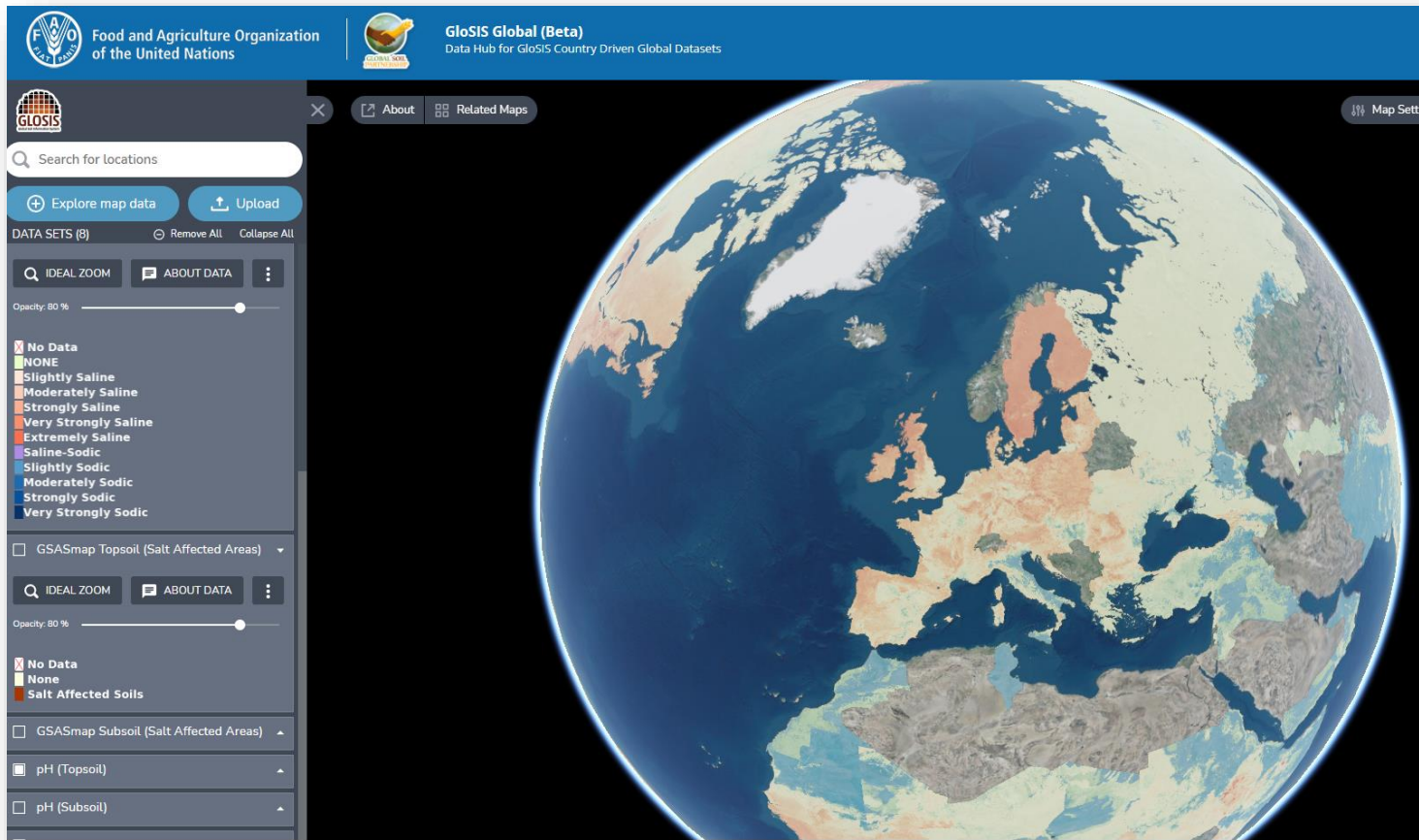
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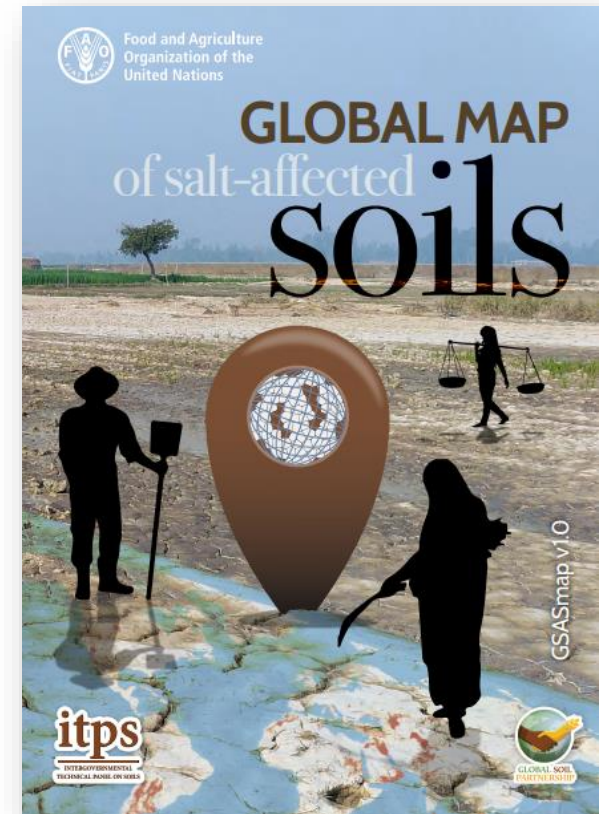
# GSASmap

<https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/gsasmap/en>



GloSIS Global Data Browser

## GSASmap Leaflet



# GSASmap – Way forward

## Global Salt Affected Soils Map

- Engage INSII members from countries with missing data for filling-in the gaps (Particularly **Central Asia, NENA, the Pacific**, etc.)
- Develop key GSASmap statistics identifying sustainable soil management practices to be adopted for control of salinization and sodification, conserve natural salt-affected ecosystems, and restoration of areas that had lost their original potential due to salt accumulation.
- Develop a framework for monitoring soil salinization and sodification and early detection particularly in agriculture areas.
- The map can support **evidence-based decision making** for interventions related to agro-food systems, climate change adaptation and irrigation projects.

# **GSOCseq**

## **Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration Potential Map**

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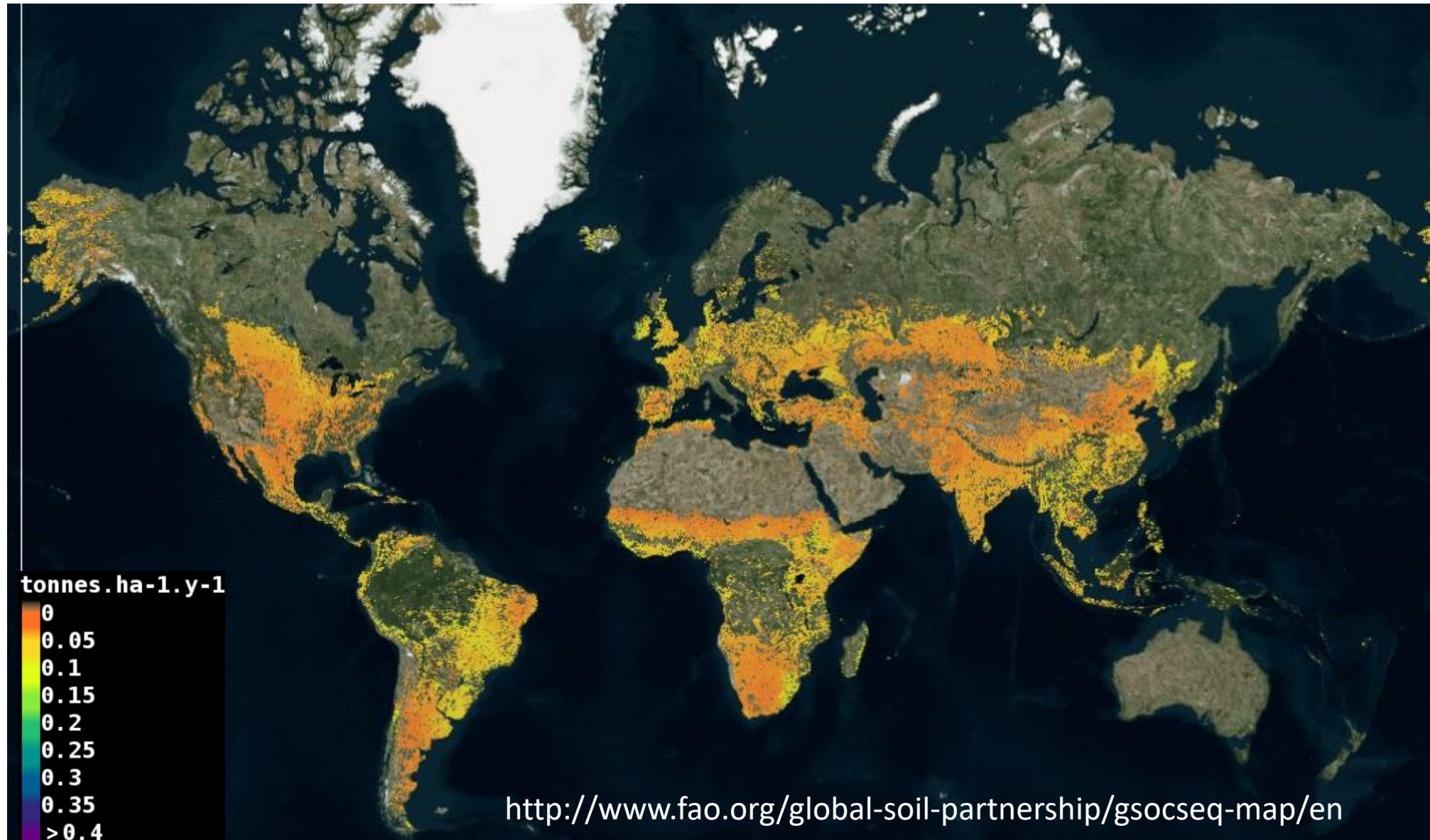


# GSOCseq data platform

Relative  
sequestration rates SSM1 >> SSM3  
tonnes.ha-1.y-1

## GSOCseq v1.0

- SOC sequestration (tC/ha/yr) SSM 1-3
- Agricultural lands (croplands + grazing lands)
- 20-year period
- Depth: 0-30 cm
- 1 x 1 km resolution



- **Regular Updates: GSOCmap and GSOCseq**
- Involve more countries
- Organize additional trainings/workshops
- Strengthen **Expert Network (expand expert GSOCseq working group)**
- Improve approach and GSOCseq versions:
  - **Country-specific SSM scenarios;**
  - Local scenarios/practices: **C input increments vs specific practices?**
  - **Climate Change**
  - Specific **conditions** (e.g. allophanic soils, salt affected soils)
  - SOC changes at **subsoil**
  - **Finer resolutions (1km >>> 250m >> 100m?)**
  - **Multi-model** approach?
  - **Improved production runtime**

# **GSOCmap**

## **Global Soil Organic Carbon Map**

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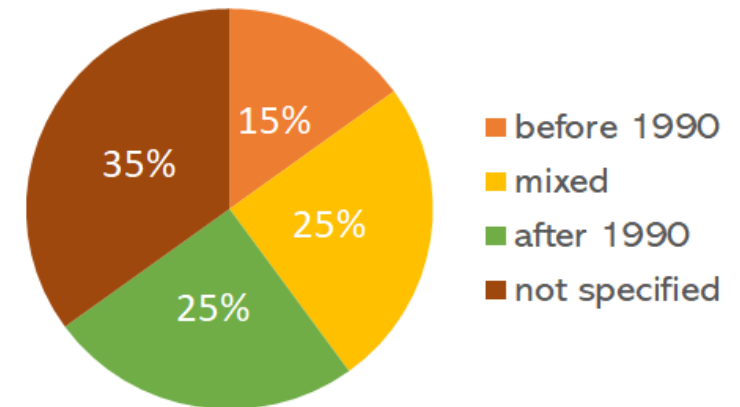
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# GSOCmap 2.0

- Mapping approach
- Harmonised Uncertainty assessment
- Temporal Harmonization
- Subsoil SOC Stocks



# **GSERmap**

## **Global Soil Erosion Map**

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Recommendation 1**

**Create an expert and multi-stakeholder working group to develop the methodology and guidelines for the preparation of the Global Soil Erosion map**

Proposed calendar of action is the following:

- 2019 – Phase 1 (Top-down): The global soil erosion sensitivity maps (water, wind and tillage) will be prepared using global datasets to be used for identifying hot spots. These maps will explore the spatial pattern of potential soil erosion sensitivity globally, identifying possible hot spots and allowing comparisons among different geographical areas.
- 2020 – Phase 2 (Country-driven): National scale maps describing soil erosion risk to the best of the country knowledge, available methods and input data. This can be done by combining the harmonized global soil erosion sensitivity maps with high detail national information on land use, land management practices, tillage operations (tillage intensity) and land use pressure indices derived by remote sensing data.

2021 onwards - Phase 3 (Action on the ground): While the first and second level products would provide information useful for global and national-scale analyses for eventually designing conservation practices, the third level product approach will generate new information on the occurrence of various soil erosion processes or adding information at the frontiers of tools and methods.

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- 2021 onwards - Phase 3 (Action on the ground): While the first and second level products would provide information useful for global and national-scale analyses for eventually designing conservation practices, the third level product approach will generate new information on the occurrence of various soil erosion processes or adding information at the frontiers of tools and methods.

### **Recommendation 2**

**Organize capacity development and training for countries to develop national soil erosion assessment, as well as the necessary data management and monitoring facilities**

This applies to all FAO member countries in need of such capacity. Priority should be given to countries lacking national information on soil erosion and using global datasets with focus on areas where data is missing. Developing monitoring systems for water, wind and tillage erosion would enable countries to obtain proper data and reduce the uncertainties and inaccuracy in existing global data.



fao.org/3/ca5697en/ca5697en.pdf



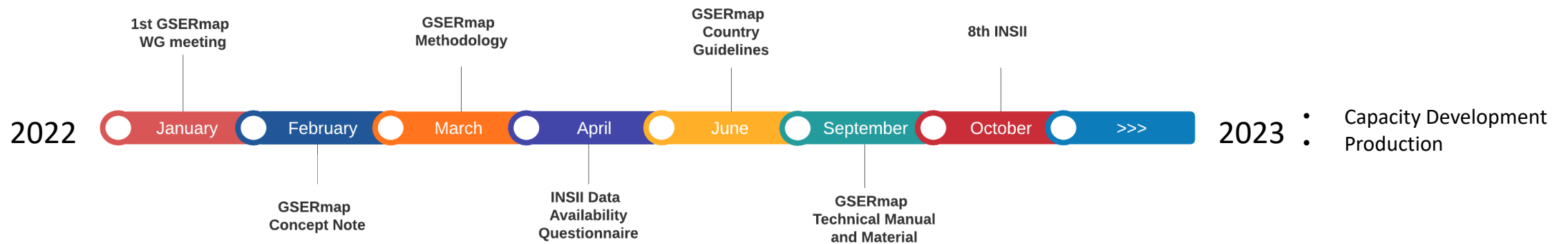
GSER'19 OUTCOME DOCUMENT



## GSERmap

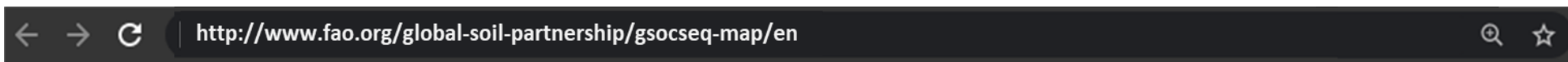
**R.1** - Create an expert and multi-stakeholder working group to develop the methodology and guidelines for the preparation of the Global Soil Erosion Map (GSERmap)

- 25 Scientist/experts expressed their interest to be in the working group during GSER'19
- The list to be expanded (INSII, ITPS ...)
- Kick-off in January 2022



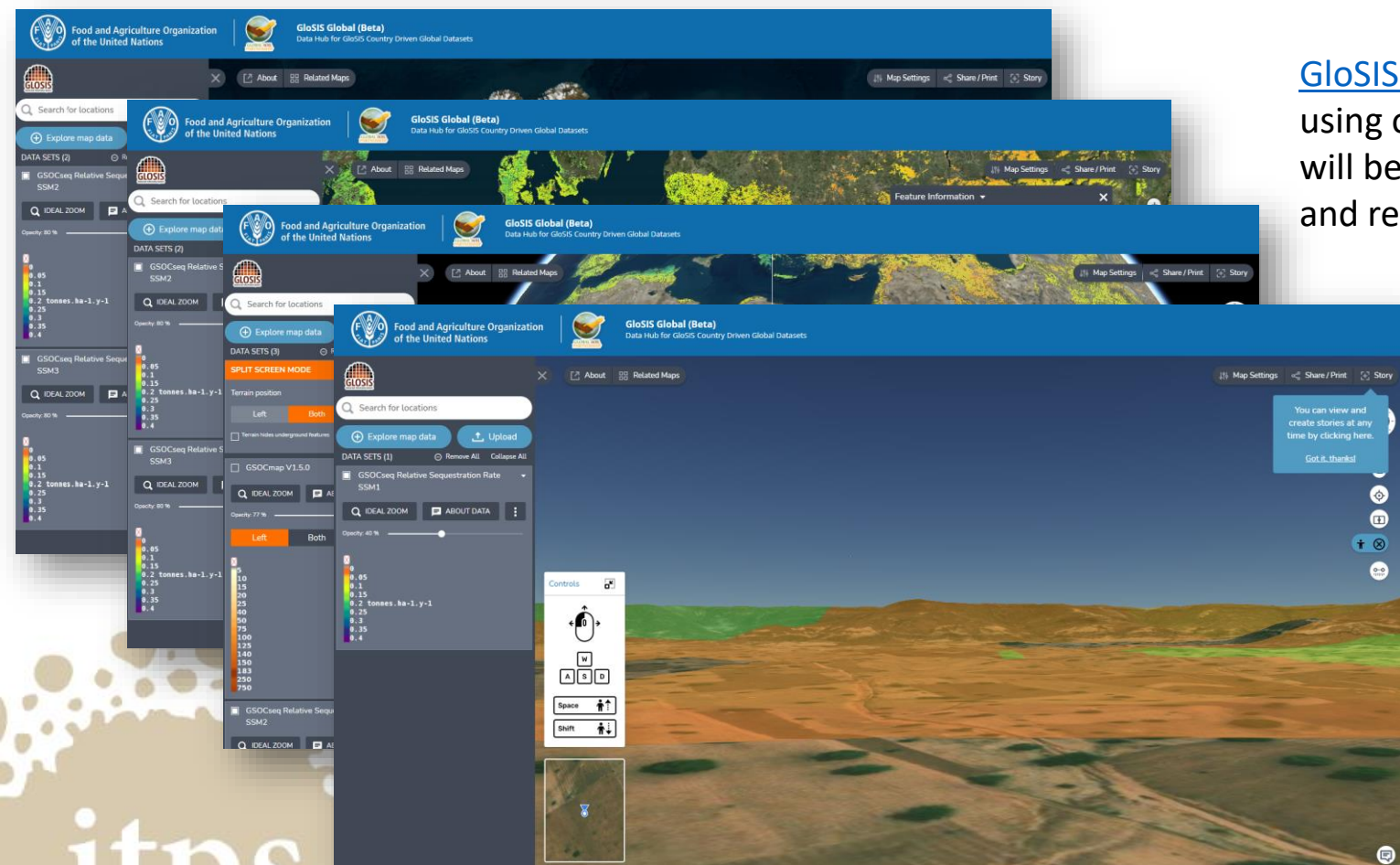
**R.2** - Organize capacity development and training for countries to develop national soil erosion assessment, as well as the necessary data management and monitoring facilities

# GloSIS Global - Launched

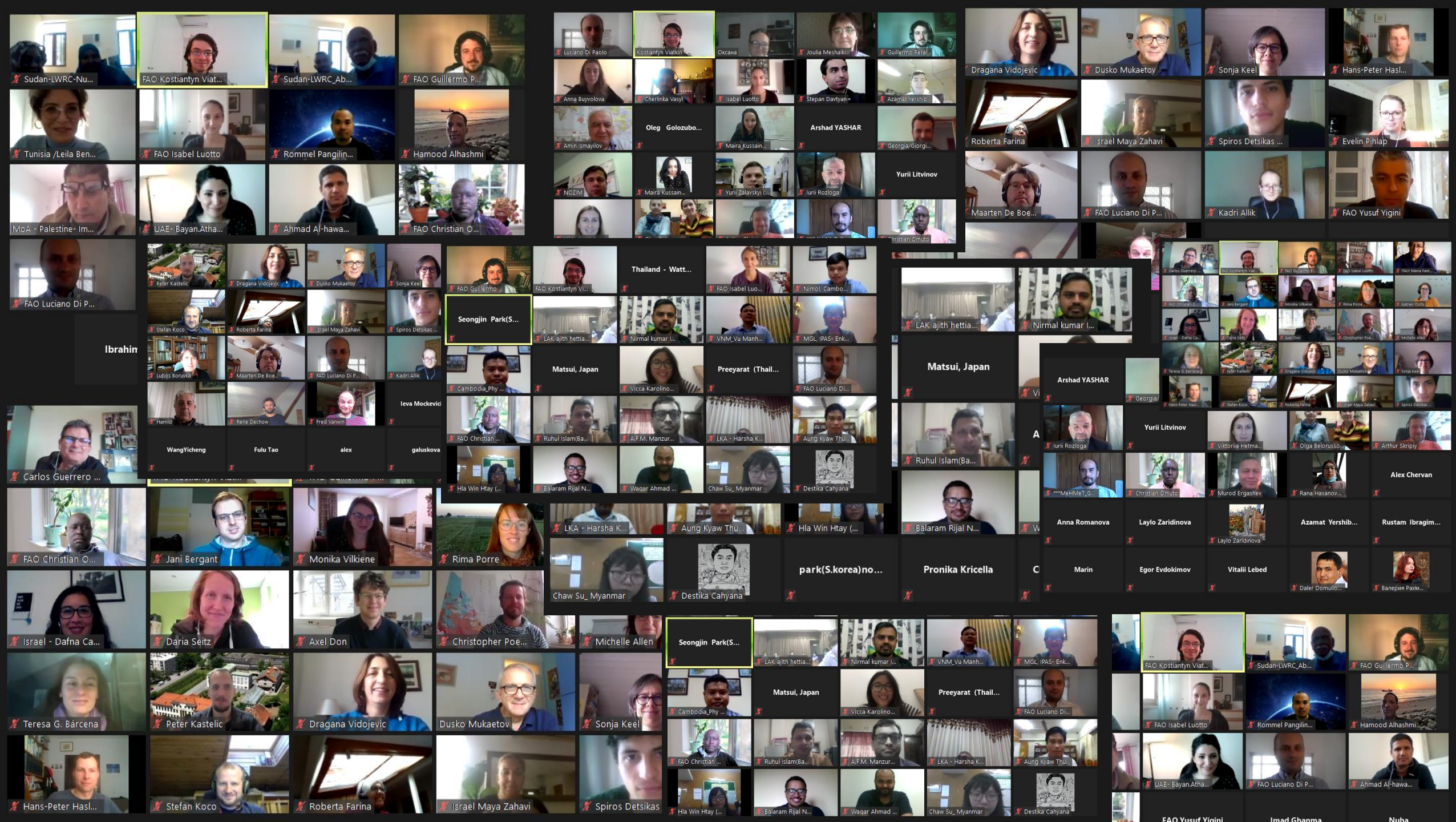


[GloSIS Global](http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/gsocseq-map/en) Web Platform developed by FAO/GSP using open source libraries ([TerriaJS/TerriaMap](#)) and will be housing GloSIS country-driven global datasets and relevant soil data;

- GSOCmap
- GSOCseq
- GSASmap
- ...
- HWSD - Harmonised World Soil Database Derivatives DSMW - Digital Soil Map of the World









# Capacity Development Programme

OUTREACH



## GSOCmap

- 110+ Countries
- 250+ National Experts



## GSSmap

- 120+ Countries
- 320+ National Experts



## GSOCseq

- 130 Countries
- 390+ National Experts



## GSP Digital Soil Mapping Trainings

- 90+ Countries
- 250+ National Experts

- **Training Sessions:** Global, Regional, National, One-on-One
- **Technical Documents:** Country Guidelines, Technical Manuals
- **Software/Data:** Tools, Scripts, input data
- **Financial Support:** Remained limited due to

140+ Countries

1100+ Experts

50+ Sessions

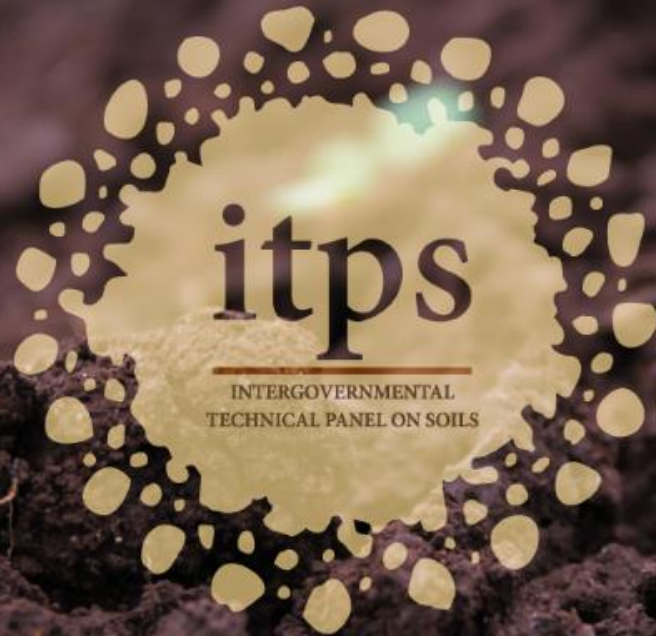
8 Regions





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# THANKS!



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