



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

22nd Working Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)

Global Soil Doctors Programme

4-6 March, 2025

FAO HQ
Mexico Room
(D211)

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TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS



Global Soil Doctors Programme progress

Global Overview	Women	Men	Total
Trainers	219	539	758
Soil Doctors	542	1525	2067
Farmers reached (estimate)	5578	9942	15520

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TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS

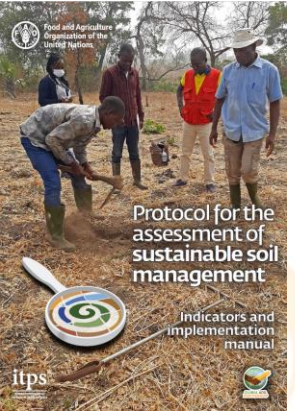
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Global Soil Doctors Programme progress

Countries implementing the Programme	27
UN Languages translated	4
Other Languages translated	21

- Implementations done last year : Cambodia, Thailand, Nigeria, Uzbekistan, Mozambique, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan and Argentina.
- Upcoming implementations : Uganda, Mauritania, Iran, Belize, Colombia
- New materials: Biodiversity posters update. Field exercises.



PROTOCOL FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT

Indicators and implementation manual

Objective:

To carry out a final validation of some specific points of the document, by experts from the ITPS and the GSP technical networks.

In particular, include the main contributors and reviewers of the paragraphs on soil sampling (chapter 2 and 4) and the Annexes 1 to 8.

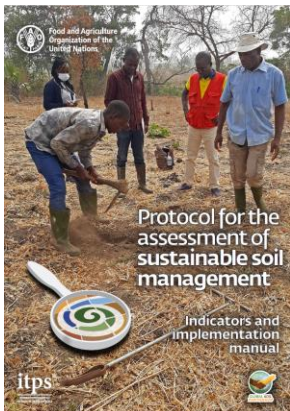
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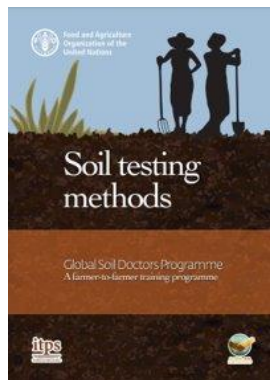
PROTOCOL FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT

Indicators and implementation manual



Timeline:

Activity	Technical support	Deadline
Agree on the timeline and template	Yuxin, Thorunn Carolina, Vinisa, Cruz	07/03
Send document for final validation by the GSP technical networks (see template below)	Yuxin Carolina, Vinisa, Cruz ITPS, GSP networks	14/03
Reception of comments	Yuxin Carolina, Vinisa, Cruz	04/04
Adjustments to the document and list of authors	Yuxin, Thorunn Carolina, Vinisa, Cruz	18/04
Adjustment of the preface	Yuxin, Thorunn Lifeng Li	18/04
Final edition	Isabelle Andy	02/05
Final layout	Isabelle Matteo	16/05
Publication in English	Yuxin, Isabelle Carolina	23/05



SOIL FIELD TESTING METHODS MANUAL

Global Soil Doctors Programme field exercises

Objective:

To develop a new version of the document, compiling scientific references to the exercises proposed and including it in the Annexes, as field exercises.

Editorial group and contributors:

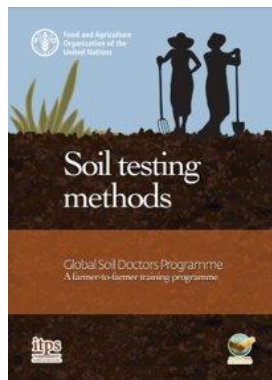
ITPS members and GSP technical networks and Global Soil Doctors Programme (GSDP) promoting institutions.

Soil physical properties

- Soil texture (P-01)
 - Ring method (P-01a)
 - Ring method advanced (P-01a-bis)
 - Ribbon method (NRCS) (P-01b)
 - Sedimentation method (P-01c)
- Soil structure (P-02)
 - VSA: Soil structure observation (P-02a)
- Soil aggregate stability (P-03)
 - Slake test (P-03)
 - Soil stability test (NRCS)
- Soil compaction (P-04)
 - Infiltration test (P-04a)
 - Penetration resistance
- Soil drainage (P-05)
 - VSA: Soil mottles (P-05)
- Soil moisture (P-06)
 - Feel and appearance method (P-06a)
 - Gravimetric water content (P-06b)
 - Volumetric water content
 - Soil moisture determination by tensiometer
- Bulk density (P-07)
 - Core method
 - Excavation method
 - Clod method
 - VSA: Soil porosity
- Soil profile observation (P-08)
 - Soil profile description
 - Soil profile changes
- Soil gravel content (P-09)
 - % Gravel content

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SOIL FIELD TESTING METHODS MANUAL

Global Soil Doctors Programme field exercises

The exercise has already started with INSAS, INSOP and NETSOB



Soil chemical properties

- Soil pH (C-01)
 - Soil pH meter method
 - Color cards methods
 - Soil pH test strip
 - Vinegar and baking soda test
- Soil organic carbon (C-02)
 - VSA: SOM color
 - SOM peroxide
- Soil salinity (C-03)
 - Electrical conductivity
 - Electrical conductivity using a saturated paste
 - Electrical conductivity using the 1:1 ratio method
 - Presence of sulphates and chlorides. (INSAS)
- Soil carbonates (C-04)
- Volcanic ashes (C-05)
- Soil pollution (C-06)- (INSOP)
 - Soil pollution screening checklist
 - Soil pollution colour and odour
 - Soil pollution screening by plant symptoms
- Soil nutrients

Soil biological properties

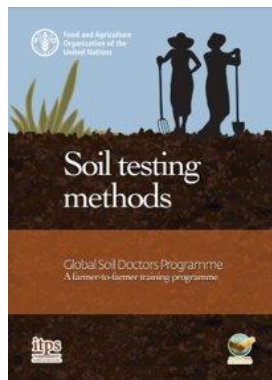
- Root development
 - VSA: Potential rooting depth
- Macroinvertebrates
 - Earthworm density
 - VSA: Earthworms
 - Pitfall traps (NETSOB)
- Litter decomposition (tea bag method)
- Active/labile carbon
- Soil respiration – soda lime

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Global Soil Doctors Programme field exercises

Timeline:

Activity	Technical support	Deadline
Agree on the timeline and table of content.	Yuxin, Thorunn Carolina, Vinisa, Maria, Janet	28/03
Send document for inputs to the GSDP promoting institutions, ITPS and GSP networks. Define the editorial group.	Yuxin Carolina, Vinisa, Maria, Janet, GSDP promoters ITPS, GSP network coordinators	04/04
Reception of inputs	Yuxin Carolina, Vinisa, Maria, Janet	23/05
Development of the document	Yuxin, Yusuf, Yi, Carolina, Vinisa, Maria, Janet. Editorial group	13/06
Review of the document	Yuxin, Thorunn, Yusuf, Yi, Carolina, Vinisa, Maria, Janet. Editorial group	04/07
Clearance of the document. Development of the preface	Yuxin, Thorunn Lifeng Li	25/07
Final edition	Isabelle Andy	22/08
Final layout	Isabelle Matteo	26/09
Publication in English	Yuxin, Isabelle Carolina	24/10

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Thank you

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