



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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

Recarbonization of Global Agricultural Soils (RECSOIL) progress and activities

4-6 March, 2025

FAO HQ
Mexico Room
(D211)

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RECSOIL pilot and partner projects

Preparatory phase:

- Kazakhstan
- Morocco

In discussion:

- Trinidad
- Russia

Partner projects:

- Argentina
- Cambodia
- Mongolia
- France and Belgium

RECSOIL-MEXICO

Agricultural activities: livestock;
annual crop and perennial crop
Participating farmers: 30-45
Total area: 250-340 ha
Approximate annual SOC
sequestration: 59 tCO₂e

RECSOIL-GHANA

Agricultural activities:
Cashew, soy, and shea
Participating Farmers: 45
Total area: 85 ha
Approximate annual SOC
sequestration potential: 45 tCO₂e

RECSOIL-ARMENIA

Agricultural activities: Forage crop,
pasture
Project Area and Participating
Farmers: 40
Total area: 100 ha

RECSOIL-UZBEKISTAN

Agricultural activities: Rangeland,
Irrigated cropland
Project Area and Participating
Farmers: 19
Total area: 1 566 ha

RECSOIL-COSTA RICA

Agricultural activities:
livestock
and coffee plantation
Total area: 500 ha
40 farmers
Approximate annual SOC
sequestration: 872 tCO₂e

RECSOIL-TOGO

Agricultural activities: grain and
horticulture; cashew
plantations; agroforestry
Total area: 250 ha
51 farmers
Approximate annual SOC
sequestration: 146 tCO₂e

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21st Working Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)

November 18-19-20, 2024



Pilot project progress

Costa Rica

- First **payments to farmers made under the ecosystem payment service** scheme created with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica
- Workshops held for the **implementation of SSM according to the Sustainable Soil Management Practice monitoring protocols** with positive feedback from farmers



Mexico

- Identification of **additional women farmers** to onboard as newly participating cohort
- Ongoing **SSM practice implementation**
- Creation and planned integration of **survey with socioeconomic indicators** with the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development of Mexico

Pilot project progress

Ghana

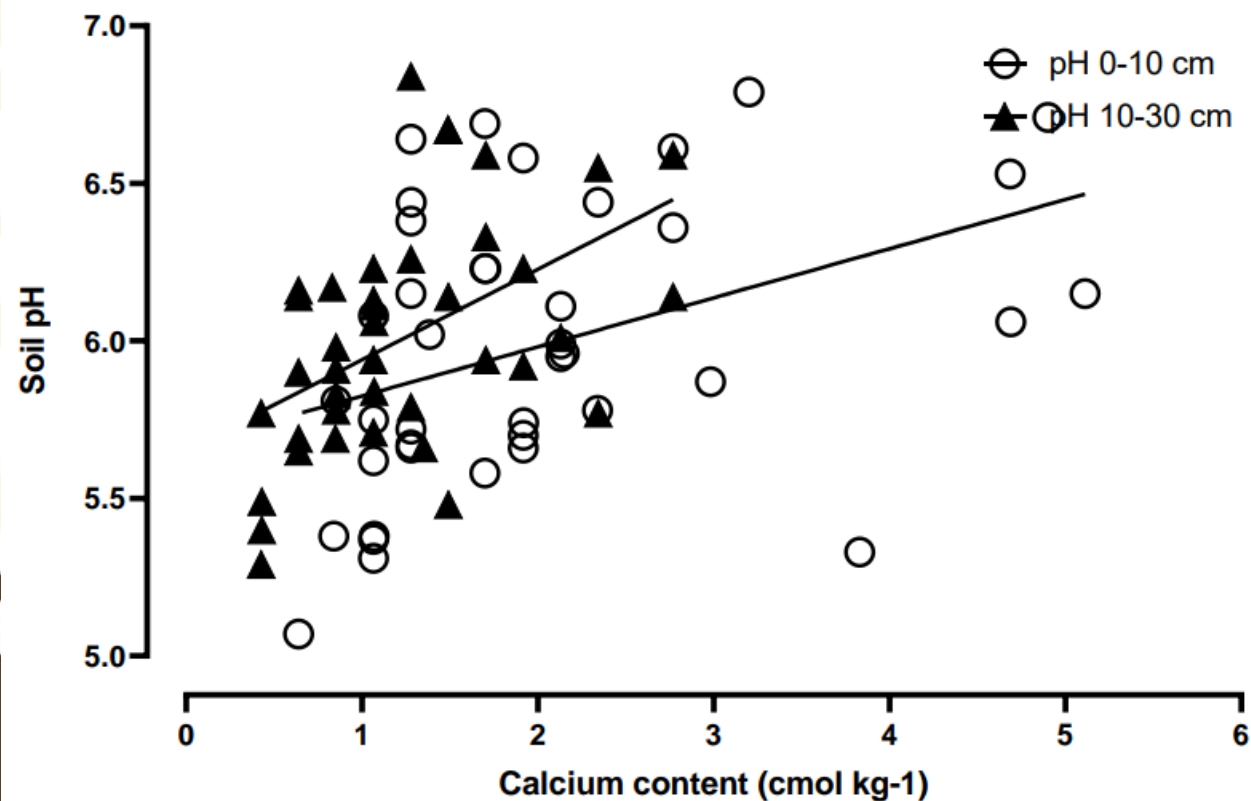


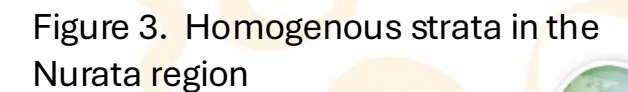
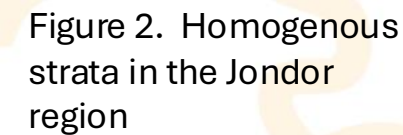
Figure 1. Calcium and acidity in participating farms

- **Analysis of soil results and refinement of SSM practice for implementation** for 40 participating farmers
 - Potential need for liming identified
 - Critical lack of N for SOC sequestration
 - Target pH and C:N ratios established for project area
- **Integration of RECSOIL tools and protocols** by the Soil Research Institute of Ghana in projects in neighboring areas for monitoring and measuring of soil indicators
- Identification of **additional farming communities for scaling up the pilot project** with newly participating farmers

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- 22nd Working Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)
4-6 March, 2025



Pilot project progress

Armenia

- **Training of technicians on monitoring plan design** for measuring and monitoring soil carbon and other indicators
- **Draft monitoring plan of target indicators** to address soil erosion, soil salinity and soil moisture loss in forage cropping and pasture systems
- Preparations for baseline assessment in April

Kazakhstan

- Recruitment of participating farmers and signed participation agreements
- **Training of technicians on monitoring plan design** for measuring and monitoring soil carbon and other indicators
- Selection of target educational materials for farmer training with a focus on **soil pollution management**
- Preparations for baseline assessment in June

Partner project pathway

Areas of Engagement

- Australia
- Argentina
- Belgium/ France
- Cambodia
- India
- Mongolia
- The Philippines
- Uruguay

Objectives

- Gather feedback on implementation of GSOC-MRV and RECSOIL tools
- Alignment with partner objectives (e.g. Science Based Targets)
- Identification of potential further implementation partners

Tool Development

- **Updates of the RECSOIL Technical Manual** based on feedback from private sector partners
- **Survey developed for the assessment of MRV** in ongoing soil carbon projects

Additional Tools for Review

Economic Impact Assessment

- **Assessment for the socioeconomic impacts of RECSOIL projects** – general, to be adapted for each project
- **Survey for the socioeconomic impact of RECSOIL pilot project in Mexico** – developed with RECSOIMEX partners for conducting interviews with participating farmers in Mexico

ENG: RECSOIL MONITORING PROTOCOL - IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE SOIL MANAGEMENT (SSM) PRACTICES – GENERAL SOCIO ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	Indicator	Verification Method	Assessment			Score
Socio-economic Indicators	Participation in community organizations, farmer groups, or cooperatives	• Field consultation	0 = No participation.	1 = Participation. Participates in a farmer organization or group.	2 = High Participation. Participates in two or more farmer groups.	
	Access and participation in Training and Technical assistance	• Field consultation • Certificates	0 = Null or very sporadic Does not have access to technical training programs; Has not participated in technical trainings in the last 3 years.	1 = Occasional training. Has participated in at least one training in the last 3 years. Receive occasional technical assistance.	2 = Regular training. Has participated in at least one training per year in the last 3 years. Gets regular technical assistance or advice.	
	Income from the activity	• Field consultation	0 = Subsistence - Low Subsistence Agriculture. Income is insufficient to cover basic expenses, relying mainly on assistance or other non-agricultural sources.	1 = Moderate Sells part of the production. The income allows to cover basic needs and some additional expenses or minor investments. 30-70% of total income comes from agriculture.	2 = Sufficient Most or all of the production is commercialized. 70% or more of the income comes from agriculture.	
	Market access	• Field consultation • Contracts	0 = No access The products are mostly consumed at the family or community level.	1 = Partial access The production is sold at local stalls or markets or to intermediaries, but without formal contracts.	2 = Full Access The products are sold in formal markets or in cooperatives, on a regular basis, with marketing or export contracts.	
	Income diversification	• Field consultation	0 = High Risk/ Low Diversification. Dependent on a single crop or product.	3 = Moderate diversification Income dependent on 2-3 crops, but within the same activity (e.g. 100% agriculture)	4 = High diversification. Multiple crops or products and combines different activities (e.g. crops, livestock, manufacturing)	
	Access to agricultural inputs (seeds, organic or inorganic fertilizers, pest control products, diseases, vaccines, etc.).	• Field consultation • Field verification	0 = No access.	1 = Limited access. Sporadic access (not every year).	2 = Regular access. No restrictions on annual access to agricultural inputs.	
	Access to machinery for labors	• Field consultation • Field verification	0 = No access.	1 = Limited access. Sporadic access (not every year) to machinery for main agricultural labors.	2 = Regular access. No limitations to regularly access the use of machinery for labors.	
	Access to financing or credit (if needed)	• Field consultation • Documentation	0: No access to financing.	1: Limited access. Occasional access to financing, with very limited conditions or high costs.	2 = Full access Access to personal loans or through cooperatives, with favorable conditions.	
	Generation of employment for the community	• Field consultation	0 = Does not generate employment (beyond their direct family)	1 = Generates temporary or seasonal employment (beyond your direct family)	1 = Generates stable and paid employment (beyond his direct family)	

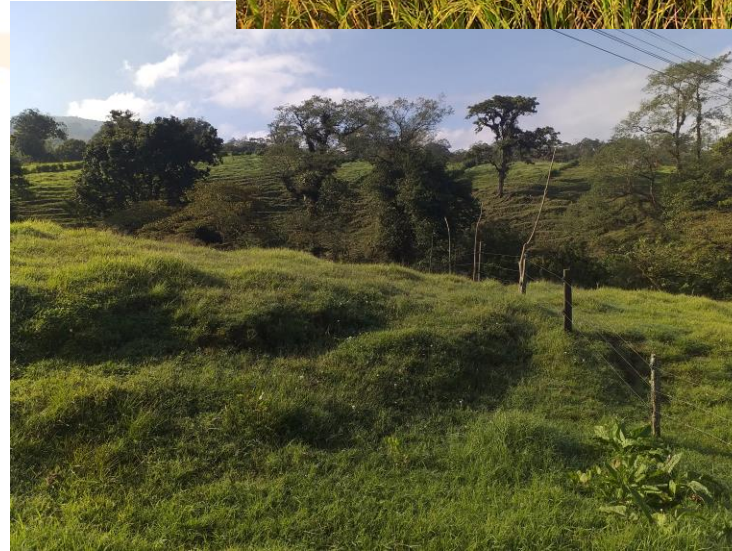
Additional Tools for Review

SSM Practice List

- **Streamlined list of SSM practices**
 - Easy to use list/ database
 - Harmonized terminology
 - Supported by case studies



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Thank you

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