



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Centennial  
of the IUSS



International Union of Soil Sciences

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# THE STATUS OF THE WORLD'S SOIL RESOURCES REPORT 2025

## *Lunch Symposia*

Monday 20 May 2024 | 13:00 - 14:00

PALAZZO DEI CONGRESSI - SALA VERDE



## CONTEXT

Soils are a unique resource providing a wide range of services for ecosystem functioning and human well-being. Despite more than a hundred years of soil science history, we still do not fully understand the dynamics and status of the world's soils, and efforts to protect, conserve and sustainably manage this valuable resource have always been limited by knowledge.

In an effort to improve understanding of the status of this resource and to identify threats and activities leading to its degradation, the Intergovernmental Technical Panel of Soils (ITPS) supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Global Soil Partnership (GSP) embarked in 2014 on the preparation of a global assessment to enable countries to better understand what actions should be taken to promote sustainable soil management.

The Report on the Status of the World Soil Resources (SWSR) 2015 is a reference work and a milestone among the documents assessing global soil quality and soil health change. Its publication was possible thanks to the work of the first ITPS. Ten years later, in 2025, the ITPS and the GSP secretariat are planning to publish a second edition of the SWSR where all the scientific documents and publications reporting on the evolution of the status of soils and of the different soil threats will be taken into account, together with regional assessments, to know what has been the trend of the status of soils in these 10 years and where are we facing to.

## OBJECTIVES

This workshop aims to inform participants about the methodology and procedures that are being followed by ITPS and GSP to produce the second edition of this report, as well as to present some partial and preliminary conclusions of the regional assessments and of particular threats that endanger ecosystem functions such as global food and fiber production, biodiversity or water quality. There will also be space for discussion with participants and their perceptions of trends in the status of soils around the world.

## AGENDA

- **Why a 2nd edition of the SWSR report?**  
Rosa Poch (Chairperson, ITPS)
- **Structure and methodology of the SWSR report**  
Maria Konyushkova (GSP Secretariat)
- **Regional reports: Latin American and the Caribbean**  
Lucia Anjos (ITPS)
- **Soil threats: loss of soil organic carbon**  
Claire Chenu (ITPS)
- **Q&A**
- **Closure of the workshop**



The Global Soil Partnership (GSP) is a globally recognized mechanism established in 2012. Our mission is to position soils in the Global Agenda through collective action. Our key objectives are to promote Sustainable Soil Management (SSM) and improve soil governance to guarantee healthy and productive soils, and support the provision of essential ecosystem services towards food security and improved nutrition, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and sustainable development.

Land and Water division - Natural Resources and Sustainable Production

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[www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership](http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership)

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**

Rome, Italy



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