



*Promoting  
the sustainable use  
and conservation of  
soil biodiversity*



Vol. 4 – March 2025

Dear NETSOB members,

This is your monthly update from the International Network on Soil Biodiversity - <https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/netsob/en/>. If you know someone interested in soil biodiversity who is not a member yet, they can join the network [here](#).

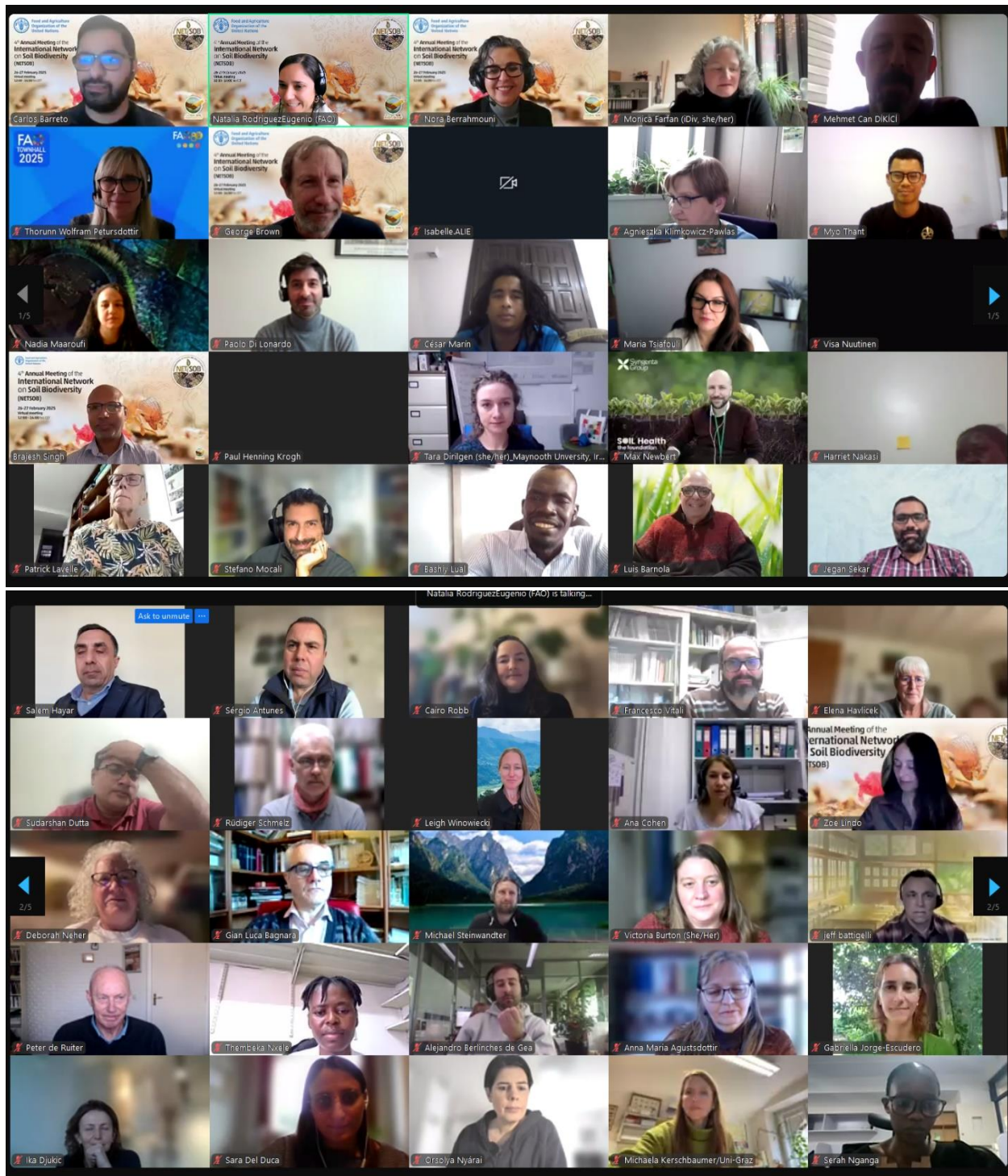


#### ★ **NETSOB 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – February 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>**

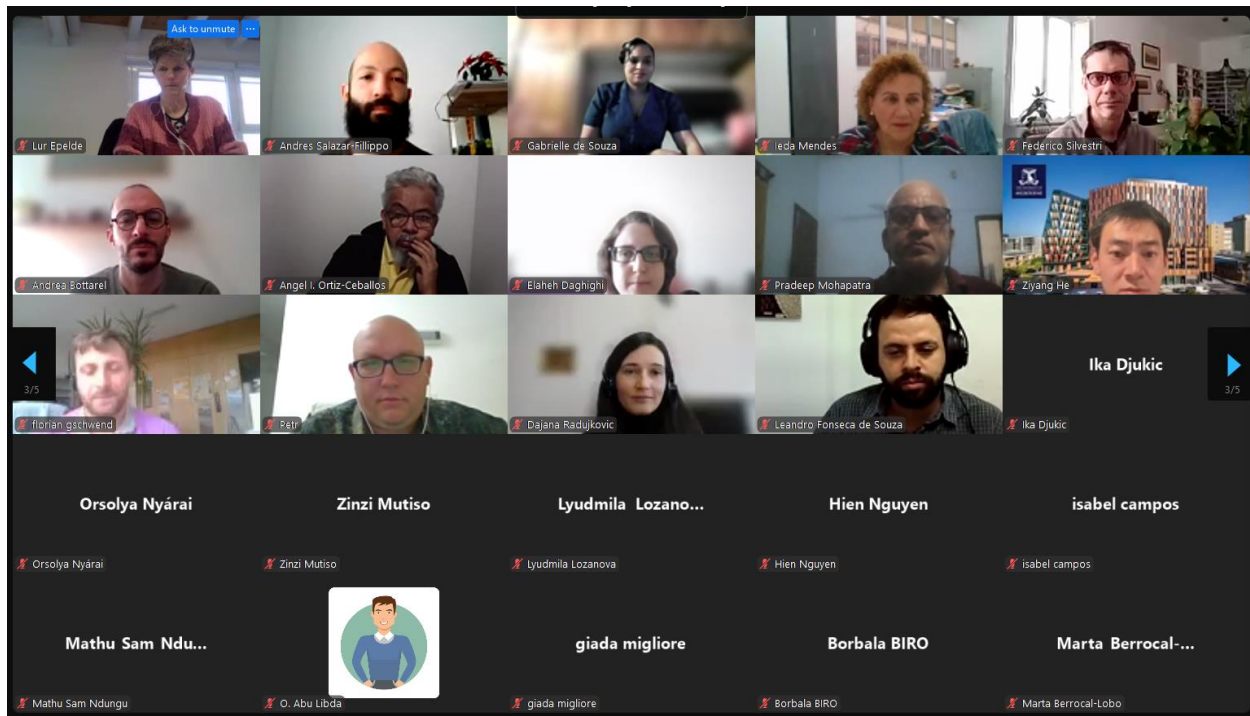
Thank you for attending the Annual meeting. The recordings are now available at <https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/resources/events/detail/en/c/1732439/>. We would like to thank our three great external speakers: Dr. Monica Farfan, Germany: Soils for Europe and Soil BON, Dr. Leigh Ann Winowiecki, Kenya: Coalition of Action for Soil Health and Dr. Paolo di Lonardo, Netherlands: Soil Health Benchmarks. Their contribution is invaluable to NETSOB.

The meeting lasted two hours per day from 26 to 27 of February 2025 and was attended by 182 participants from 66 countries, where 50% of individuals identified themselves as females, 49% as males, and 1% either non-binary or preferred not to disclose. In total, 544 individuals registered to the meeting.

Below you will find screenshots of Day 1:

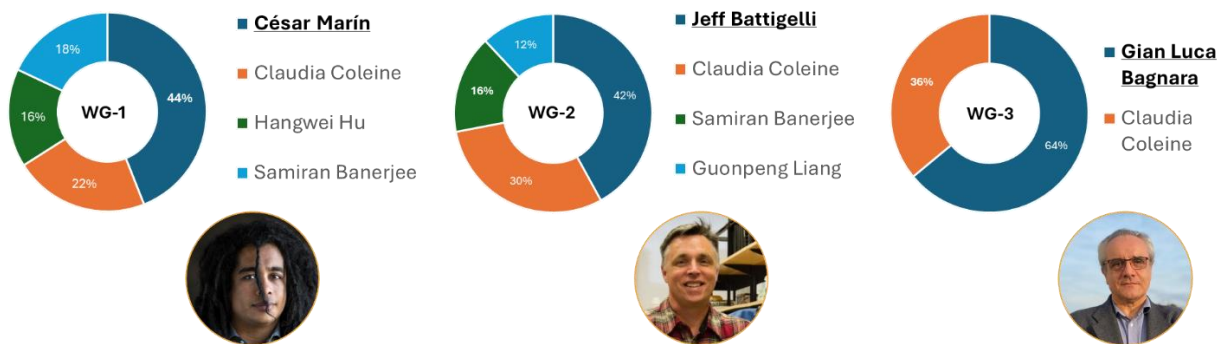


Do you have news or events to share with NETSOB members?  
Please contact [carlos.barreto@fao.org](mailto:carlos.barreto@fao.org)



### ★ NETSOB Vice-Chair elections – results

Congratulations to Dr. Marin, Dr. Battigelli and Dr. Bagnara, newly elected vice-chairs of NETSOB technical working groups. The results were announced during the Annual Meeting last month.





✦ **Global Survey – Best practices to conserve soil biodiversity and prevent soil biodiversity loss**

NETSOB Working group 2, now led by Dr. Jeff Battigelli (Canada), is still accepting responses to their survey on best practices. The aim of this survey is to gather information and examples of current practices and other land management systems applied to soil and their effects on soil biodiversity. You can contribute to the survey [here](#) or scanning the QR code. The deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



✦ **Standard operating procedure for soil enzyme activities**

A standard operating procedure for soil enzyme activities  $\beta$ -glucosidases, arylsulfatase, N-acetyl- $\beta$ -glucosaminidase, dehydrogenase, and phosphomonoesterases [has been published](#) by Dr. de Carvalho Mendes (Brazil) as an activity part of NETSOB Working group 1 in collaboration with the Global Soil Laboratory Network ([GLOSOLAN](#)). Other SOPs are available for download on their website as well.



Important soil biodiversity events are advertised in this space. The events below are **not** organized by FAO or NETSOB.

✦ **2025: From soil science to policy : Harnessing the biodiversity beneath our feet for a climate-resilient future**

This SOILGUARD event, hosted by the Forum for the Future of Agriculture, will provide a unique opportunity to spotlight the critical role of soil biodiversity in sustainable land management. Attendees will learn about the latest tools and methodologies for soil health evaluation, policy integration, and practical solutions. The event will aim to translate scientific findings into impactful policies through expert panels, innovative projects like SOILGUARD and others, and targeted sessions for diverse stakeholders. Focusing on a knowledge dialogue, actionable recommendations, and dynamic policy discussions, this conference aims to contribute to shaping the future of soil biodiversity strategies. This event takes place on **Monday, March 31, 2025** and more information can be found [here](#).

★ Webinar "Suelos y Biota Edáfica: Aproximaciones taxonómicas, fenotípicas y moleculares"

Event in Spanish on **March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Access it [here](#).



# SUELOS Y BIOTA EDÁFICA

## Aproximaciones taxonómicas, fenotípicas y moleculares

**24 MARZO | 10:00 - 12:30 H**

### PRESENCIAL + ONLINE

Sala de Graus | Facultat  
de Ciències i Biociències  
Universitat Autònoma  
de Barcelona 08193

**ENLACE DIRECTO  
AL WEBINAR**



**10.00 - 10.50**  
**SISTEMA SUELO**  
Formación, características y funciones  
**Agustín Rubio Sánchez** (UPM)

**10.50 - 11.40**  
**MICROBIOTA EDÁFICA**  
Diversidad e identificación taxonómica y funcional  
**Ana Rincón Herranz** (ICA-CSIC)  
**Marta Goberna Estellés** (INIA-CSIC)

**11.40 - 12.30**  
**FAUNA EDÁFICA**  
Caracterización, redes tróficas y amenazas  
**María Jesús Iglesias Briones** (U. Vigo)



The EGU General Assembly 2025 brings together geoscientists from all over the world to one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, planetary, and space sciences. The EGU aims to provide a forum where scientists, especially early career researchers, can present their work and discuss their ideas with experts in all fields of geoscience. The meeting will take place in Vienna, Austria & Online, **27 April–2 May 2025**. There are over 35 sessions directly or indirectly related to soil biodiversity:

- BG1.3 - [Nitrogen Cycling in the Anthropocene: Microbiological Processes, Land-atmosphere-Interactions and Global Change Feedbacks: A 10 years anniversary](#)
- BG3.4 | PICO - [Complex case studies for ecosystem responses to global change, climate and hydrological extremes](#)
- BG3.13 - [Mycorrhizal fungi in forest ecosystems](#)
- BG3.14 - [Deadwood in changing forest ecosystems: A Risk or Potential for Climate Resilience?](#)
- BG4.8 - [Earth Observation Data for Wetland Dynamics and Ecosystem Monitoring](#)
- BG6.2 - [Integrating Classical and Molecular Approaches for Assessing Soil Fauna: Challenges and Applications](#)
- BG8.1 - [Ecosystem Services and Climate Extremes in Anthropocene: Interactions and Research Gaps](#)
- BG8.3 - [Nature-based solutions at the landscape scale: tackling climate and biodiversity crises together](#)
- BG8.5 - [Enhancing science-based knowledge on forests' capacities to mitigate climate change](#)
- BG8.7 | PICO - [Modeling agricultural systems under global change](#)
- BG9.1 - [Remote Sensing Applications for the Biosphere](#)
- ERE1.5 - [Advances in Sustainable Nature-Based Carbon Dioxide Removals \(CDR\) : Technical Innovations and Global Impacts](#)
- ITS3.7/BG0.6 | PICO - [Biodiversity from a Geoscience perspective](#)
- NH10.3 - [Developing a risk reduction strategy for multiple slow-onset hazards](#)
- NH11.1 - [Geo-hydrological hazards and landscape evolution in climate change scenarios](#)
- NH3.13 - [Nature-based and bio-based or inspired solutions for geohazard mitigation on slopes and streambanks](#)
- NH3.15 - [Shallow landslides: monitoring, prediction, modeling](#)
- SSS8.4. [Soil health from a multifaceted perspective: Influence of land use and management, at various scales, on soil-plant-microbe interactions, soil organic and inorganic carbon and nutrients](#)
- SSS10.3 - [Modelling of soil structure and functions in response to extreme environmental events](#)

- SSS12.1 - [Soil health Intervention: Practical aspects to implement laws](#)
- SSS4.12 - [Soil biodiversity & agriculture: an intimate relationship](#)
- SSS4.13 - [Soil fauna as Engineers of Soil Sustainability in land use systems – Understanding of processes and the need of monitoring in Europe](#)
- SSS4.2 - [Plant - microbial interactions at soil interfaces: rhizosphere, detritusphere, \(bio\)-pores, and aggregates](#)
- SSS4.3 - [Arctic, Antarctic and alpine soil food web biodiversity and biogeochemical impacts](#)
- SSS4.4 - [The role of soil organisms in soil processes and functions](#)
- SSS4.7 - [Soil biodiversity and functioning in natural ecosystems](#)
- SSS4.9 - [Frontiers in soil biodiversity research – concepts, numbers, methods & more](#)
- SSS5.11 - [Interactions between minerals, organic matter, and microorganisms drive the formation and turnover of organic carbon in soil](#)
- SSS5.12 - [Biogeochemical processes controlling carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus and sulfur cycling in the soil-plant system](#)
- SSS7.1 - [Understanding biopathways of pollutants in soil-plant-systems for bioremediation and risk assessment](#)
- SSS7.5 - [Multidisciplinary tools and strategies for the management and rehabilitation of contaminated soils](#)
- SSS8.2 - [Pedodiversity: major driving factors and influences on ecosystem features](#)
- SSS9.12 - [Adaptation and resilience in agriculture: addressing climate change with science and technology](#)
- SSS9.23 - [Soil organic and inorganic carbon and nutrient measurement and modelling at various scales, and their role in the soil health from a multifaceted perspective](#)
- SSS9.6 - [Organic farming, Soil management and Healthy food](#)

✦ **International Soil Science Conference (SOILS 2025)**



The Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) will host the International Soil Science Conference (SOILS 2025) at Bertam Resort & Water Park, Penang, Malaysia, from **6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025**. SOILS 2025, themed “Soil Health for Sustainable Future: Bridging Soil, Agriculture, and Environmental Stewardship,” aims to foster discussions on tropical soil sustainability. This annual program is also attended by researchers, agronomists, and planters from the government and the private sector to share information related to soil management. More information at <https://www.msss.com.my/>



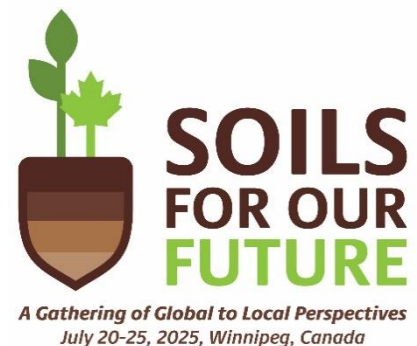
## ✦ Ecology of Soil Microorganisms 2025 – Networking across scales



The organizing committee is pleased to welcome you to the fifth conference on the Ecology of Soil Microorganisms to be held in Helsinki, Finland on **June 15<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. The previous meetings attracted participants from all over the world. The ESM conference is an interdisciplinary platform addressing questions related to individual microbes (archaea, bacteria, fungi, oomycetes, protozoa and viruses), microbial communities and their ecological networks. Modern genomic, transcriptomic and proteomic methods are linked with approaches based on soil chemical, biochemical and functional analyses, exploration of soil fauna and plant ecology. They cordially invite experts from all these disciplines to join them in Helsinki to promote state-of-the-art research in the field of soil ecology and enjoy the northern midsummer madness! Check more information at [https://www.lyyti.fi/p/Ecology\\_of\\_Soil\\_Microorganisms2025\\_9620/en/conference](https://www.lyyti.fi/p/Ecology_of_Soil_Microorganisms2025_9620/en/conference)

## ✦ Soils For Our Future 2025 Conference: A Gathering of Local Perspectives

The SOILS FOR OUR FUTURE 2025 Conference brings together three conference events: 5<sup>th</sup> Global Soil Security Conference, Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting, and International Union of Soil Sciences Division 1 - Soils In Space and Time Meeting. Hosted by the Soil Conservation Council of Canada and the Manitoba Soil Science Society. With over 700 researchers, industry members, leaders of farmer organizations, graduate students and other attendees, the SOILS FOR OUR FUTURE 2025 Conference provides global perspective to today's research to sustain our future. Spanning five days, the conference provides attendees of the events to meet in plenary/technical sessions with their individual organizations and for all to come together in keynote sessions, tradeshow, posters, workshops and field tours. Check more information at <https://site.phedloop.com/event/EVEYHOPOMAGWN/home>







# VII EUROSIL 2025 & X Congreso Ibérico de la Ciencia del Suelo

SEVILLE-SPAIN 8-12 SEP

The EUROSIL is the official meeting of the European Confederation of Soil Science Societies (ECSSS), it is among Europe's most important Soil Sciences events and offers a fantastic opportunity for knowledge transfer among the Soil Sciences community. The EUROSIL is held every four years and attracts a large audience of over 2500 participants who present their findings through oral and poster presentations across up to 10 parallel sessions. The event also features workshops, and an exhibition of products and services aimed at raising awareness in society, facilitating the exchange of ideas and information and creating business opportunities. Additionally, the Iberian Congress of Soil Sciences (CICS) will also be held during this edition of EUROSIL. More information at <https://eurosoil2025.eu/EUROSIL2025>

# ★ Biological Sciences and Environmental Solutions for the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) International Conference



## Invitation to Attend the International Conference on "Biological Sciences and Environmental Solutions for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" September 24–26, 2025 | Yerevan, Armenia

### About the Conference

The first "Biological Sciences and Environmental Solutions for the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" conference serves as a global platform to address the urgent need for sustainable solutions to the world's most pressing environmental and developmental challenges. The "BSES-SDGs" International Conference is dedicated to the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Faculty of Biology similarly the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Research Institute of Biology at Yerevan State University. Established in 1935, the Faculty of Biology traces its origins to the founding of the university. It serves as an Armenia leading scientific and educational center, training highly qualified specialists in various fields of biology. Alumni of the faculty are working in leading educational and research institutions all over the world. Biological and environmental sciences play a transformative role in tackling critical issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, food insecurity, water scarcity, and public health crises, all of which are central to the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This conference will collect together leading scientists, educators, policymakers, and practitioners from diverse disciplines to explore the intersection of biological processes, environmental management, and technological innovation. Through insightful discussions, groundbreaking research presentations, and collaborative sessions with main focus on practical applications and policy implications that align with the achievement of specific SDGs.

### Topics of Conference

Key themes of BSES-SDGs conference include all aspects of biological research: *Cell Biology, Genomics, Proteomics, Metabolomics, Systems Biology, Plant and Fungi Secondary Metabolites, Immunology, Neuroscience, Structural Biology, Animal and Plant Physiology, Bioengineering, Biotechnology, Evolutionary Biology, Bioethics, Plant Science, Microbiology, Zoology, Mycology, Molecular Biology, Biomedicine, Developmental Biology, Biostatistics, Biochemistry, Biophysics and Bioinformatics*. The key themes related to environmental solutions are: *Climate Science, Environmental Policy and Governance, Ecological Restoration, Ecological and Conservation Biology, Sustainable Land Management, Environmental Economics, Renewable Energy and Sustainability, Geospatial Science and Remote Sensing, Hydrology and Watershed Management, Environmental Toxicology, Energy Systems and Sustainability, Environmental Law, Waste Management and Resource Recovery, Eco-innovation and Green Technologies, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Carbon Management and Climate Finance, Air and Water Quality Management, Sustainable Fisheries and Marine Conservation, Agricultural and Crop Science, Environmental Health Science, Ecotourism and Sustainable Development for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*.

### Publication Opportunities

High-quality short papers, follow rigorous peer review, will be published in esteemed outlets, including books by *IGI Global (USA), De Gruyter Germany, AAP-CRC Taylor and Francis (USA), Wiley-Scrivener (USA)*. Selected papers will also be included for publication in prestigious journals such as *with impact factor in Q1, Q2 and Q3*. All publications will be indexed in world-renowned databases, including *Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar, and ORCID*.



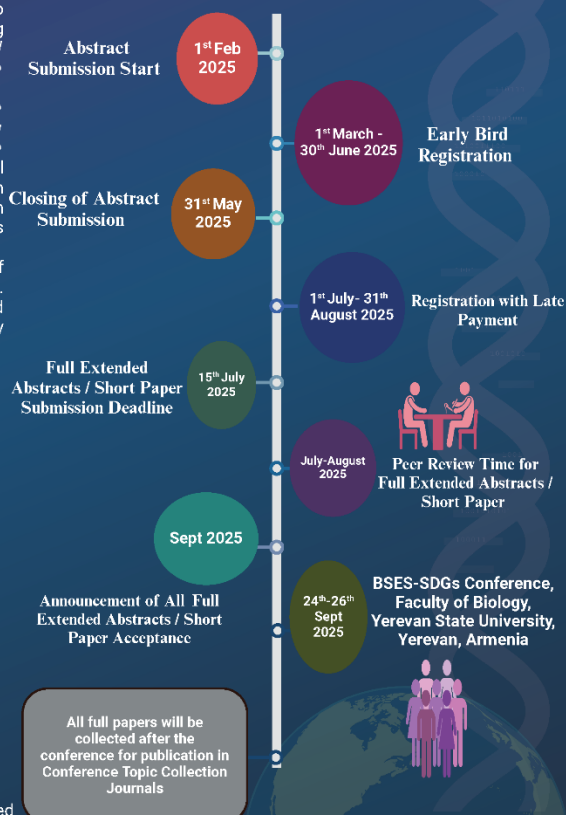
For more information, follow the conference link:

<http://bioenv-sdg.ysu.am>



[bioenv\\_sdg@ysu.am](mailto:bioenv_sdg@ysu.am)

### Timeline of Conference



"Join us in the vibrant city of Yerevan from September to 24-26, 2025, as we honour the extraordinary 90 year legacy of the Faculty of Biology and 10 year Research Institute of Biology at Yerevan State University Armenia—a legacy of excellence, innovation, and impact. Together, let us explore the transformative power of biological and environmental sciences in shaping a sustainable future for our planet and generations to come"

## ✦ Global Soil Biodiversity Conference 2026



The Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI) has hosted three previous Conferences in Dijon, France (2014), Nanjing, China (2017) and Dublin, Ireland (2023) each with 700-1000 delegates, and is the premier global conference dealing with soil biodiversity. The Local Organizing Committee is excited to welcome the world to Victoria, BC in 2026, and is preparing an exciting scientific program for the 4<sup>th</sup> Global Soil Biodiversity Conference (<https://globalsoilbiodiversity2026.org/>), which will serve as a pivotal platform for international collaboration and knowledge exchange. As Co-Chairs of the GSB 2026 Local Organizing Committee, Dr. Zoë Lindo and Dr. Carlos Barreto hope you can join them for this exciting scientific and social event.

**Call for symposia proposals for the 4<sup>th</sup> Global Soil Biodiversity Conference are now [open](#).**

**Proposals are due March 31<sup>th</sup> 2025**

The GSB 2026 Conference is coming up soon with only 14 months left until the conference. *Call for symposia proposals are [now open](#). Our keynote speakers have been announced [here](#).* Check out the [Program-at-a-Glance](#) to learn more about the format of the conference. For those traveling from outside of Canada, [check out the Travel and Visa tab](#) with important information on travel and visa requirements. Registration and abstract submission will open up soon; join our mailing list to stay up to date on the conference.