



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Global Soil Doctors Programme: implementation, impact and perspectives

FAO - GSP

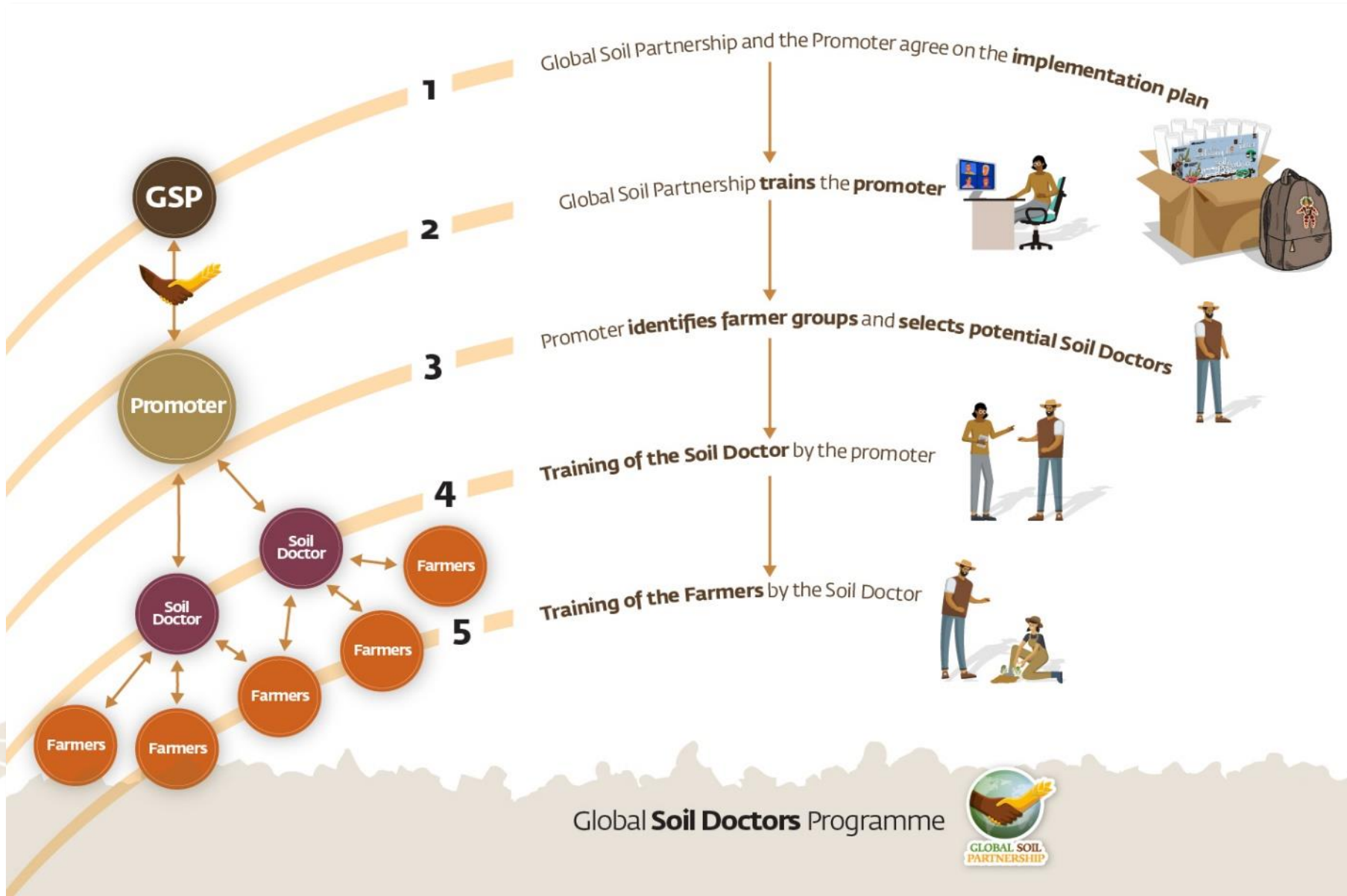
## 7<sup>th</sup> NENA Soil Partnership Meeting

22-23 March 2022



# Actors

# Roadmap





# The role of the promoting institution

- **Terms of reference**


List of criteria for the promoter selection, roles and benefits

- **Registration form**

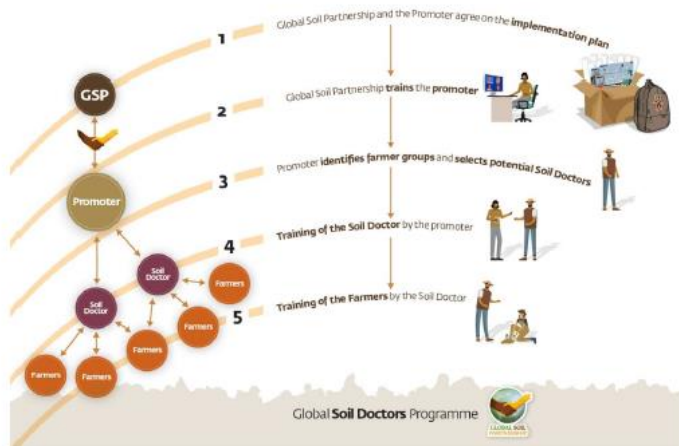
Formalization of the voluntary collaboration between GSP and the promoter


 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 



GLOBAL SOIL DOCTORS PROGRAMME  
PROMOTERS' TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToRs)

 The Global Soil Doctor Programme (GSDP) is a farmer-to-farmer training initiative that was developed by the Global Soil Partnership (GSP). The Programme aims to provide farmers with educational materials to learn about Sustainable Soil Management (SSM). The “champion” farmers – recognized as “Soil Doctors” – are selected to support and educate other farmers from their local community. This scheme creates a self-sufficient exchange process that promotes the practice of SSM.

The success of the Programme depends to a large extent on the existence of a promoter, a national institution or organization that facilitates the Programme and interacts with the GSP and all stakeholders. The promoter provides technical and financial support and ensures the sustainability of the Programme at the national or local level. The promoters are national figures from government agencies, extension services, academia, and non-governmental agencies (NGOs) that know and understand the local production and socio-economic conditions, challenges, and potential.



Global Soil Doctors Programme 

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## the Soil Doctors global programme FARMERS

### Promoters' registration form

The first step for the implementation of the Global Soil Doctors Programme (GSDP) at the local level is the identification of a potential Promoter. To determine your institution suitability in implementing the Global Soil Doctors programme, please read the terms of reference (included below). If you are interested in supporting the implementation of the programme in your country, please fill-in the present form. You will receive a CONFIRM of the registration by e-mail.

\*Campo obbligatorio

Email \*

Il tuo indirizzo email

Name of the contact person

La tua risposta

Position of the contact person

La tua risposta

Country

Scegli

Municipality

La tua risposta

# Implementation activities in the NENA

## Morocco

- First preliminary meeting with Dr Rachid Moussadek
- Way forward:



➔ Find a suitable promoter (extension service)

➔ Find the proper location where to implement a pilot in harmonization with existing projects

➔ Module, poster translation to local language, budget, size ...



# Implementation activities in other regions

## Mexico

<b>Promoting institution</b>	Programa Universitario de Estudios Interdisciplinarios del Suelo (PUEIS)
<b>Period</b>	November - Ongoing
<b>Module</b>	What is soil?
<b>N of trainers</b>	32
<b>N of participants at general meeting</b>	TBD
<b>N of Soil Doctors selected</b>	TBD



## Bangladesh

<b>Promoting institutions</b>	Ministry of Agriculture; Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC); Soil Resource Development Institute (SRDI)
<b>Period</b>	July- Ongoing
<b>Module</b>	Soil 4 nutrition
<b>N of trainers</b>	10
<b>N of participants at general meeting</b>	450
<b>N of Soil Doctors selected</b>	15

# Implementation activities in other regions

Mexico

*Farmers' training*



Soil Doctor trainer showing the poster on What is soil? ©Blanca Prado



Practical exercise on soil texture ©Ana Alejandra Valenzuela García



Practical exercise on soil pH determination ©Verónica Bunge Vivier

**Other pics at**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/faoofttheun/albums/72177720296280200>

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# Implementation activities in other regions

## Bangladesh *Farmers' training*



Soil Doctor trainer briefing about Soil Doctor  
©Parimal Biswas



Practical class on soil pH determination  
©Parimal Biswas



Soil Doctor Certificate distribution  
©Parimal Biswas

**Other pics at**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/faoofttheun/albums/72177720296232703>

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# Implementation activities in Asia

Mexico

*Training videos*





# Implementation activities in Asia

Bangladesh

*Training videos*



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# Implementation activities: Overview

Country	Promoter	Topic	Trainers	Farmers	Soil Doctors
Bangladesh	SRDI - DAE	Soils4nutrition	10	450	15
Bolivia	AOPEB - ELSEIBO	Fertilization	26	TBD	50
Burkina Faso	TBD	Soils4nutrition	TBD	TBD	TBD
Chile	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Colombia	AGROSAVIA	General	TBD	TBD	TBD
Gambia	SOIL SOLUTION	General	15	TBD	150
Kazakhstan	Farmers association	Salinity	10	200 to 300	50
Malawi	TBD	Soils4nutrition	TBD	500 to 800	TBD
Mexico	PUEIS	General	32	400 to 600	TBD
Morocco	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Thailand (Lancang-Mekong)	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
The Philippines	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

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# Communication and visibility

- New website to be released

Home Overview Partners Regional partnerships ITPS Technical networks Areas of work Resources

## Global Soil Doctors Programme

About the programme  
Implementation plan  
Pilot countries  
Educational Material  
How to get involved  
Publications and events

### Welcome to the Global Soil Doctors Programme

**A farmer-to-farmer training platform**

This webpage is designed as a **source of soil information and knowledge on the different components and aspects of the Global Soil Doctors Programme - a farmer-to-farmer training platform**, and the **importance of soil as a vital resource** for farmers, policy makers, development planners, agricultural extension workers, NGOs, private sectors and any other practitioners/interested stakeholder.

**Bangladesh**

Country	Bangladesh
Promoters	Ministry of Agriculture; Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC); Soil Resource Development Institute (SRDI)
N of Trainers	10
N of Soil Doctors	15
N of farmers trained	0
Resources	0
Contacts	email

23 March 2022



# Communication and visibility

- Highlights published

## Positioning the Soil Doctors Programme as a mechanism that matters

As the Soil Doctors Programme enters its second year, it has successfully scaled-up farmer-to-farmer training initiatives in Bangladesh, Malawi and Mexico. The Programme will continue to strike up robust partnerships for the benefit of smallholders, empowering them to scale-up cost-effective, sustainable soil management (SSM) practices.



### 27/01/2022 Empowering farmers to safeguard sustainable soils

The Global Soil Doctor Programme is a farmer-to-farmer training initiative. Global Soil Doctor Programme principles: preserve and contribute.

These pilot schemes have illustrated the importance of establishing the national promoter and the "champion" farmer – also known as other farmers in the local community.

Promoters are an essential component of the Programme in each country so that they can offer solutions from knowledge, experience and resources to extend them to their local communities. Promoters are often government agencies, national extension services, soil science societies, NGOs or farmers' associations.

## Thailand's testing kits empower farmers to monitor the state of their soils

### Getting the balance right: regulating soil pH values to improve agricultural production



23/02/2022 The Global Soil Partnership's (GSP) Soil Doctors Programme is upgrading the soil testing kits that are part of the Programme's educational materials thanks to a donation from the government of Thailand.

Earlier this month, Thailand donated 1,000 soil pH testing kits to the GSP to be distributed to farmers who are participating in the Programme, which currently spans Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina

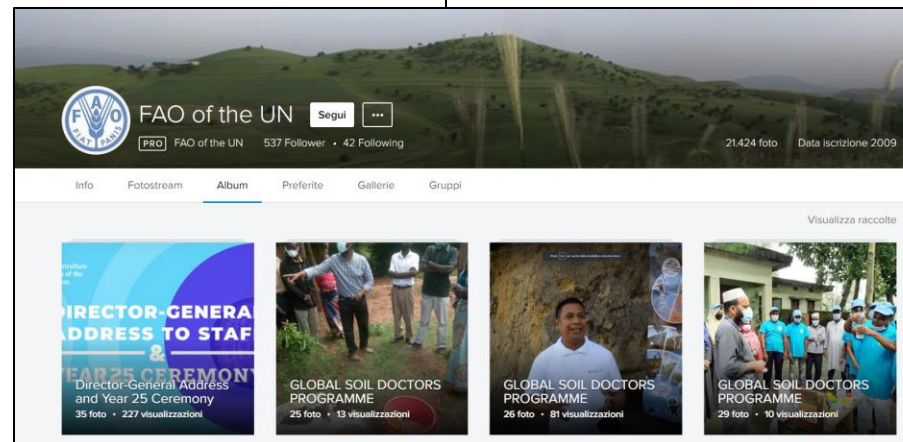
Faso, Colombia, the Gambia, and Mexico.

Other countries will be selected to engage over the course of 2022 so that the Programme can enhance its' capacities and extend the reach of sustainable soil management (SSM) to different regions around the world.

The Soil Doctors Programme started in Thailand in 1995 and is now being extended globally through the GSP. The Thai government has supported a number of the GSP's initiatives over the past ten years and is committed to soil health and SSM.

He was a passionate and recognised soil scientist, and the award – is held in his name.

- Media gallery updated regularly



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# Thank you !

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