



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

8 - 10  
September  
2021

VIRTUAL  
MEETING

# Pacific Soil Partnership

Mr. Peter Wilson

Pacific Soil Partnership Chair

**GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly**



# Some Pacific regional activities

- Generally low level of interaction with GSP and regionally due to ongoing covid19 restrictions
- ANZ Soil Science Conference, Cairns Australia June 2021, including virtual keynote by Ronald Vagas (thanks) and supported virtual registration by 15 Pacific /PNG participants
- Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture seminar series April- Dec 2021
- Pacific Week of Agriculture August 2021 support for soil research and data initiatives, including ACIAR funded project activity in Pacific and PNG



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

## KJWA Pacific Webinar 1

"Improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland"

15th April 2021  
2pm - 4pm Samoa Time

To pre-register and be part of this webinar go to  
[https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9zqWF7TuT324wAmIkq69YQ](https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9zqWF7TuT324wAmIkq69YQ)

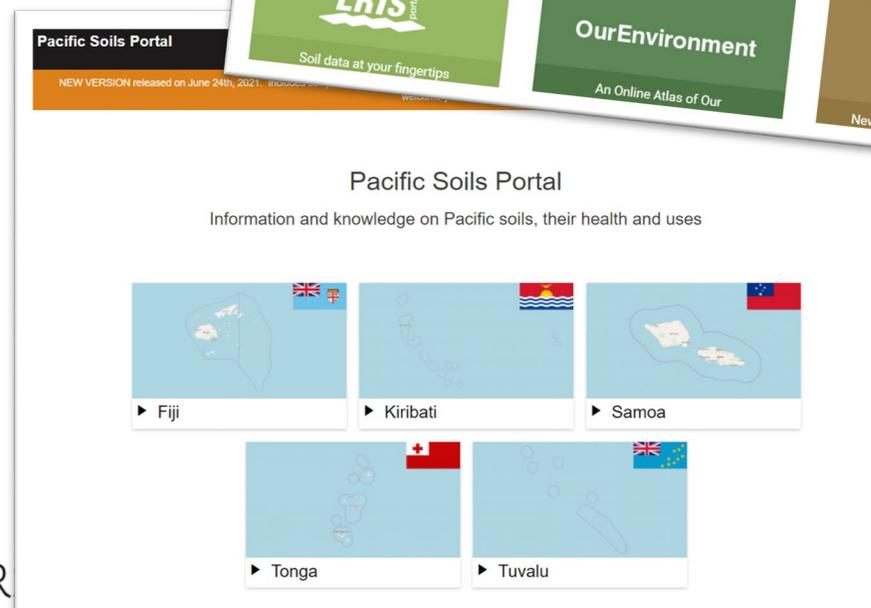
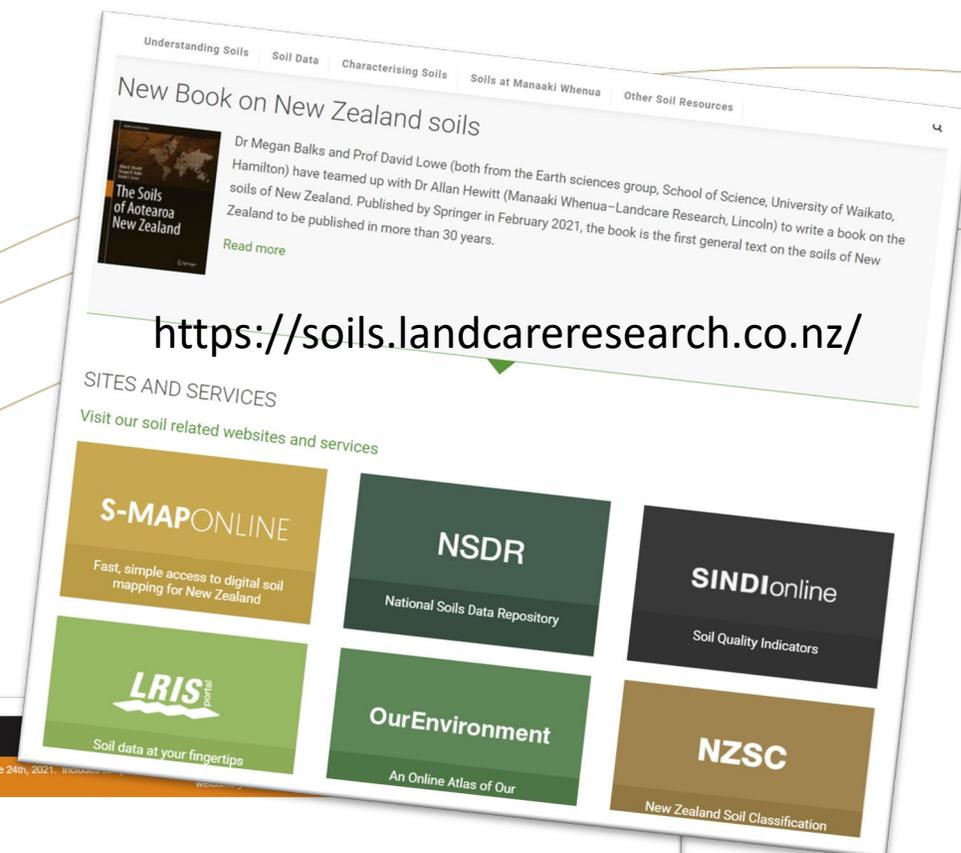
Time	Agenda	Presenter(s)
2:00 - 2:05pm	Welcome Remarks	FAO
2:05 - 2:20pm	Status of Soil Carbon for Pacific SIDS	Samoa - Tilafono David Hunter
2:20 - 3:00pm	Soil organic carbon experience from the ground in the Pacific - Kiribati on targeted compost - Fiji on Mucuna - Tonga on agroforestry	Kiribati - Dr. Rohit Lal Tonga - Mr. Taniela Hoponoo
3:00 - 3:10	Moving the SOC agenda forward	Dr. Siosua Halavatau
3:10 - 3:55pm	Panel discussions - How can we get countries to develop national policies on soil health?	Panelists: FSM - Ms. Marlyter Sylbanuz, Tuvvalu - Mr. Matio Lonatona, Vanuatu - Mr. Junior Salang, Cook Islands - Mr. William Wigmore
3:55 - 4:00pm	Summary and closing	FAO

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# New Zealand

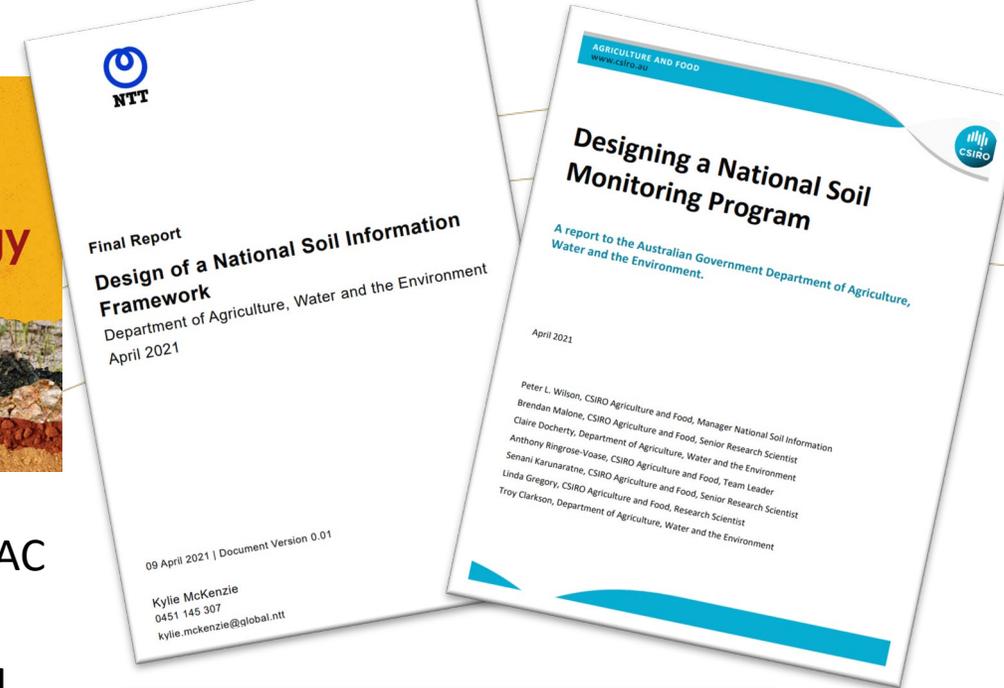
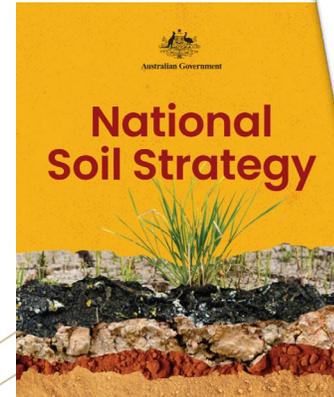
- Large uplift in **demand for high quality soil information** in New Zealand, driven by central Government policies
- **Soil mapping and characterisation – S-map** (the digital soil spatial information system for New Zealand) 12 new surveys, with up to 13 more large study areas to add
- added 300 reference sites and data from 123 soil surveys to the **National Soils Data Repository NSDR**
- Integrating **VisNIR and MIR** data into soil survey workflow, also developing a S-map FarmTest workflow to support farm scale soil mapping.
- Draft of new version of **NZ Soil Description Handbook**
- **Pacific Soils Portal** (ACIAR, CSIRO) – Updated Pacific Soil Portal was publicly launched to coincide with World Soils Day 2020 for review





# Australia

- **National Soil Strategy** – launched June 2021
  - prioritise soil health
  - empower soil innovation and stewards
  - strengthen soil knowledge and capability
- The Prime Minister announced the Honourable Penelope Wensley AC as the new **National Soils Advocate** on 28 August 2020.
- Key leadership role across the Pacific region with **ACIAR funded soil projects approved in the pacific islands and PNG**, aimed at developing and improving country and regional soil information systems, data and knowledge.
- CSIRO is trialling of GSP ISRIC developed **CountrySIS** packages for potential use and deployment across the region
- New Program to **re-develop the Australian National Soil Information System** – including increased data and capacity to undertake GSP related national assessments
- CSIRO developing a **Soil Spectral Analysis Platform**





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