

Nanjing Communiqué on Asian Soil Partnership

Nanjing, China, February 11, 2012

We, the soil scientists from 16 Asian countries/regions along with international/national institutes and others with an interest in advancing the science and technology of soil information in Asia have assembled in Nanjing, China, from February 8th to 11th, 2012, to explore opportunities and applications of the emerging Global Soil Partnership(GSP). The meeting was hosted by the Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and sponsored by FAO and Chinese governmental institutions.

We have unique and diverse knowledge of the soil and land use of Asia that we share. We recognize the benefits to be gained from further sharing our information and data on soil survey, soil mapping and capacity development. During the four days of discussions, the participants highlighted the importance of sharing soil information regionally and globally, and with succeeding generations, to achieve food security, carbon sequestration, combating land degradation and to promote climate smart agriculture – the key components of sustainable development and poverty reduction.

Across the region, there is substantial variation in information, capacity, investment and environmental challenges. By working together, individual countries and Asia as a whole will improve soil security and benefit from this new regional cooperation.

We consider the priorities of this partnership should be:

- a) sharing and transferring soil knowledge and new technology within and beyond the region.
- b) providing soil information to all those with an interest in the sustainable use of soil and land resources.
- c) building consistent and updated Asian soil information systems and starting to contribute to the global soil information system through initiatives such as GSM.
- d) training new generations of experts in soil science and land management.

To achieve these goals, the participants agreed to establish the “Asian Soil Partnership” and support the vision and mission of Global Soil Partnership (GSP).

The Asian Soil Partnership will be initially operationalised by the setting up of a provisional secretariat and a steering committee to determine the rules of governance. The provisional secretariat will be located at the Institute of Soil Science, CAS, Nanjing, China.

List of the participants of the International Conference (Feb. 8-11, 2012, Nanjing)

Name	Country	Organization
Muhrizal SARWANI	Indonesia	Indonesian Center for Agric Land Resources Research and Development
Suk-Young HONG	Republic of Korea	National Academy of Agricultural Science, Rural Development Administration (RDA)
A.F.M. Manzurul HOQUE	Bangladesh	General Secretary, Soil Science Society of Bangladesh and Senior Scientific Officer, Soil Resources Development Institute
S.M. Imamul HUQ	Bangladesh	President, Soil Science Society of Bangladesh and Professor, Department of Soil, Water and Environment, University of Dhaka
Satoru MIURA	JAPAN	Head of Nutrient Dynamics Laboratory, Department of Forest Site Environment, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute
Yusuke TAKATA	JAPAN	Researcher, Natural Resources Inventory Center, National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences
Chencho NORBU	Bhutan	Director, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
Aniruth POTICHAN	Thailand	Advisor, Land Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Tien Minh TRAN	Vietnam	Head, Soil Genesis and Classification Research Department, Soils and Fertilizers Research Institute (SFRI)
Silvino Quevedo TEJADA	Philippines	Executive Director, Bureau of Soils and Water Management, Department of Agriculture
Rodelio Bello CARATING	Philippines	Senior Science Research Specialist, Bureau of Soils and Water Management, Department of Agriculture
Srimathie Priyanthika INDRARATNE	Sri Lanka	Senior Professor, Department of Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya; President of Soil Science Society of Sri Lanka
Ranjith Bandara MAPA	Sri Lanka	Senior Professor, soil database expert, Department of Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya
Dar-Yuan LEE	China Taiwan	Distinguished Professor, Department of Agricultural Chemistry, National Taiwan University; President of Chinese Society of Soil and Fertilizer Sciences
Zueng-Sang CHEN	China Taiwan	Distinguished Professor of pedology and soil environmental quality, Department of Agricultural Chemistry, National Taiwan University
Azman AB. RAHMAN	Malasia	Soil Resources Management and Conservation Division, Putrajaya, Malaysia
Ochirbat BATKHISHIG	Mongolia	Head of Soil laboratory, Soil Science Department, Institute Geography, Mongolian Academy of Sciences

Sovuthy PHEAV	Cambodia	Director of Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Jarwar Attar Khan	Pakistan	Soil Survey of Punjab
Yajna Gajadhar Khadka	Nepal	Chief Soil Scientist, Soil Science Division/Nepal Agricultural Research Council
Ganlin Zhang	China	Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Renfang Shen	China	Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Qiubing Wang	China	Shenyang Agricultural University
Kening Wu	China	China University of Geosciences
Michael GRUNDY	Australia	Node Leader of the Oceania node of GlobalSoilMap.net CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences
Alex MCBRATNEY	Australia	The University of Sydney
Gergely TOTH	Italy	Environment and Sustainability, JRC, Ispra
Tamás KISMÁNYOKY	Hungary	University of Pannonia
Jaume FONS	Spain	European Topic Centre on Land Use and Spatial Information
Hannes Isaak REUTER	Netherlands	ISRIC (International Soil Reference and Information Centre)
Prem Soebhaschander BINDRABAN	Netherlands	ISRIC (International Soil Reference and Information Centre)
Neil MCKENZIE	Australia	Executive Director, GlobalSoilMap.net, Chief of CSIRO Land and Water
Ronald VARGAS	FAO	FAO Land and Water Division (NRL)