

Global Soil Partnership

for Food Security
and Climate Change
Mitigation and
Adaptation



GLOBAL SOIL
PARTNERSHIP



WHY A GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP?

CURRENT SCENARIO

Increasing land degradation, impacts of climate change, drought and desertification resulting in lower productivity of arable lands and ecosystem services.

TRENDS

Population growth and diet change require increased demand for food, water, fiber, forage, bioenergy and further environmental services.

SOIL RESOURCE

Acknowledged for its key role in ensuring food security and ecosystems services. Yet fragile resource because of its nature (non renewable on human time frame).

RESPONSES BY MAIN STAKEHOLDERS

Many efforts addressing soil resource, but mainly: fragmented, uncoordinated, not addressing current challenges, not involving local communities and institutions.

TOWARDS A GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

- A global Soil Partnership specifically addressing the linkages between food security, soil health and ecosystem services to promote innovative and sustainable solutions of low carbon emission agriculture and taking advantages of agro-ecological processes and outcomes.
- An enabling environment and specific expertise and fund raising capacity for sustainable improvements in soil and land management, allowing experience to be shared among farmers and scientists across countries and regions and promote win-win solutions.

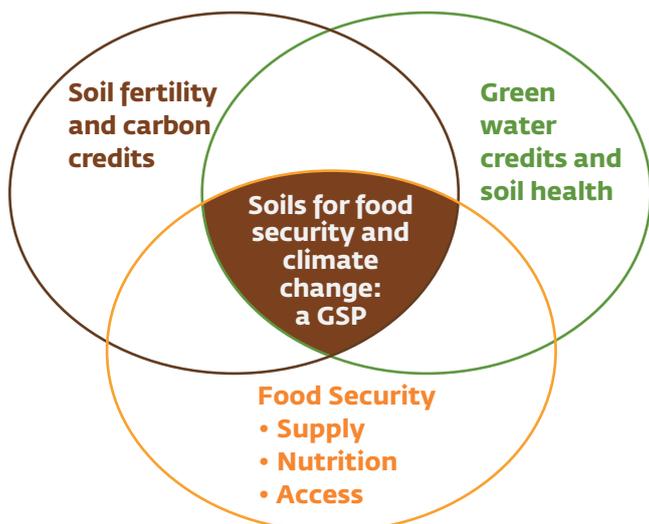
VISION AND MISSION

- The vision of the Global Soil Partnership is for a healthy and productive soils for a food secure world.
- The mission of the GSP is to build capacities and exchanges knowledge and technologies for sustainable management of soil resources at all levels to enhance food security in an era of climate change and propose national and international soil quality- soil health best practices, standards, guidelines and monitoring systems.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Through enhanced and applied knowledge of soil resources as well as improved global governance and standardization, the partnership will:

- create and promote awareness among decision makers and stakeholders on the key role of soil resources for sustainable development; address critical soil issues in relation to food
- security and climate change adaptation and mitigation;

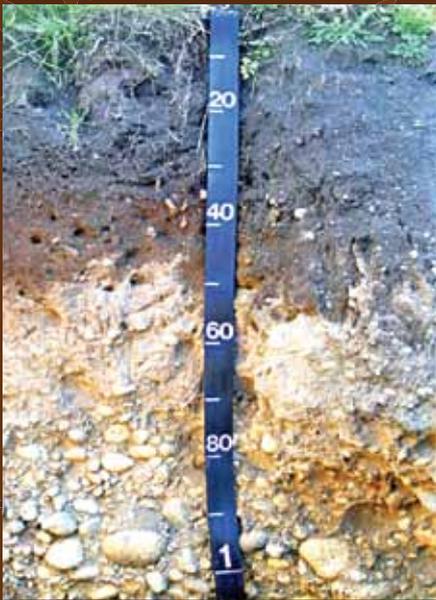


- guide soil knowledge networks and research through a common communication platform incorporating local challenges;
- establish an active and effective network for addressing soil crosscutting issues, and;
- develop global governance guidelines aiming to improved soil protection and sustainable soil productivity.

PILLARS OF THE GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

The GSP should address five main pillars of action:

- Harmonizing and establishing guidelines and standards of methods, measurements and indicators;
- Strengthening of soil data and information: data collection, validation, reporting, monitoring and integration of data with other disciplines;
- Promoting targeted soil research and development focusing on identified gaps and priorities and synergies with related productive, environmental and social development actions;
- Promoting sustainable management of soil resources and improved global governance for soil protection and sustainable productivity;
- Encouraging investment and technical cooperation in soils.



There is increasing degradation of soil resources due to population pressures, inappropriate practices and inadequate governance over this valuable resource. Soils can be considered as non-renewable in the time frame of human activities.

The GSP will aim towards collaboration and sharing of responsibilities so as to provide a coherent framework for joint strategies and actions.

The GSP should aim at facilitating the dialogue and interaction among the various users and stakeholders currently using soil resources.

The ultimate twinned goal of the GSP should be the sustainable and productive use of the soil resources of the world.

Soil resources are limited and need to be preserved for feeding the growing population of the world by 2050.