

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 5<sup>th</sup>Pacific Soil Partnership Meeting 12-13 April 2022

# National updates on soil: Australia



- Delivery of the National Soil Strategy 2021-2041.
  - The National Soil Strategy sets out how we will value, manage, and improve our soil over the next 20 years.
  - www.awe.gov.au/soils
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) funded 22 soil research projects in the Pacific, Southeast Asia and South Asia
  - Projects focused on improving the sustainability of soil management practices.
  - <a href="https://www.aciar.gov.au/program/soil-and-land-management">https://www.aciar.gov.au/program/soil-and-land-management</a>







- Cooperative Research Centre for High Performance Soils (Soil CRC)
  - <u>https://soilcrc.com.au</u>
- Soil Science Australia
  - <u>https://www.soilscienceaustralia.org.au</u>
- The National Soils Advocate to raise awareness of the vital role soils play and to provide advocacy on the importance of conserving and improving the health of Australia's soils.
  - www.pmc.gov.au/domestic-policy/national-soils-advocate
- Projects under ACIAR's Soil and Land Management Program aims to raise awareness of soil related issues across a diverse group of stakeholders including government ministries and agencies, research organisations, farmers, private sector, and other development partners.
  - ACIAR actively seeks opportunities for engagement with the general public on the importance of soils through various media channels in partner countries.



- National Soil Carbon Innovation Challenge to identify low-cost, accurate technological solutions for measuring soil carbon.
- ACIAR is funding soil research including:
  - developing knowledge and capacity in soil research,
  - extension models for improving soil management practices, and
  - soil information systems.





- National Soil Package measures.
  - Australian National Soil Information System (ANSIS) in partnership with CSIRO
  - Support for more soil testing
  - Reviewing existing soil data sources
- Soil Organic Carbon Monitoring Project.
  - to support partnerships between scientists, industry and landholders to develop and validate soil carbon measurement approaches
- ACIAR projects including:
  - The Pacific Soils Project which developed the Pacific Soil Portal



- CSIRO soil spectral analysis platform.
- ACIAR projects include soil spectral analysis and soil survey methodologies.
- Stakeholder consultation: harmonising Australia's approach.
  - long-term vision, place-based, evidence-based, partnership approaches, international lens, and valuing soil for environmental, economic and social wellbeing









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