



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Soil Partnership MEETING

2 May 2023

## STATUS OF THE WORLD SOIL RESOURCES REPORT 2025: UPDATES & WAY FORWARD

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# INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS (ASIA)



Jin Ke, CHINA



Jeyanny Vijayanathan, MALAYSIA  
Editorial WG SWSR 2025



Ranjan Bhattacharyya, India



Harsha Kumara Kadupitiya, SRI LANKA  
Editorial WG SWSR 2025



Nopmanee Suvannang, THAILAND

Soil Partnership Meeting | 2 May 2023



# DIVISION OF SUB REGIONS

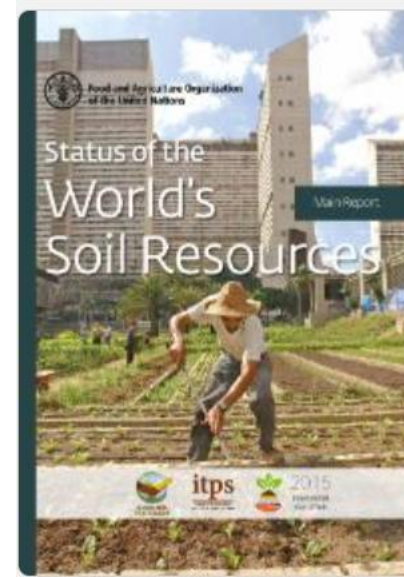
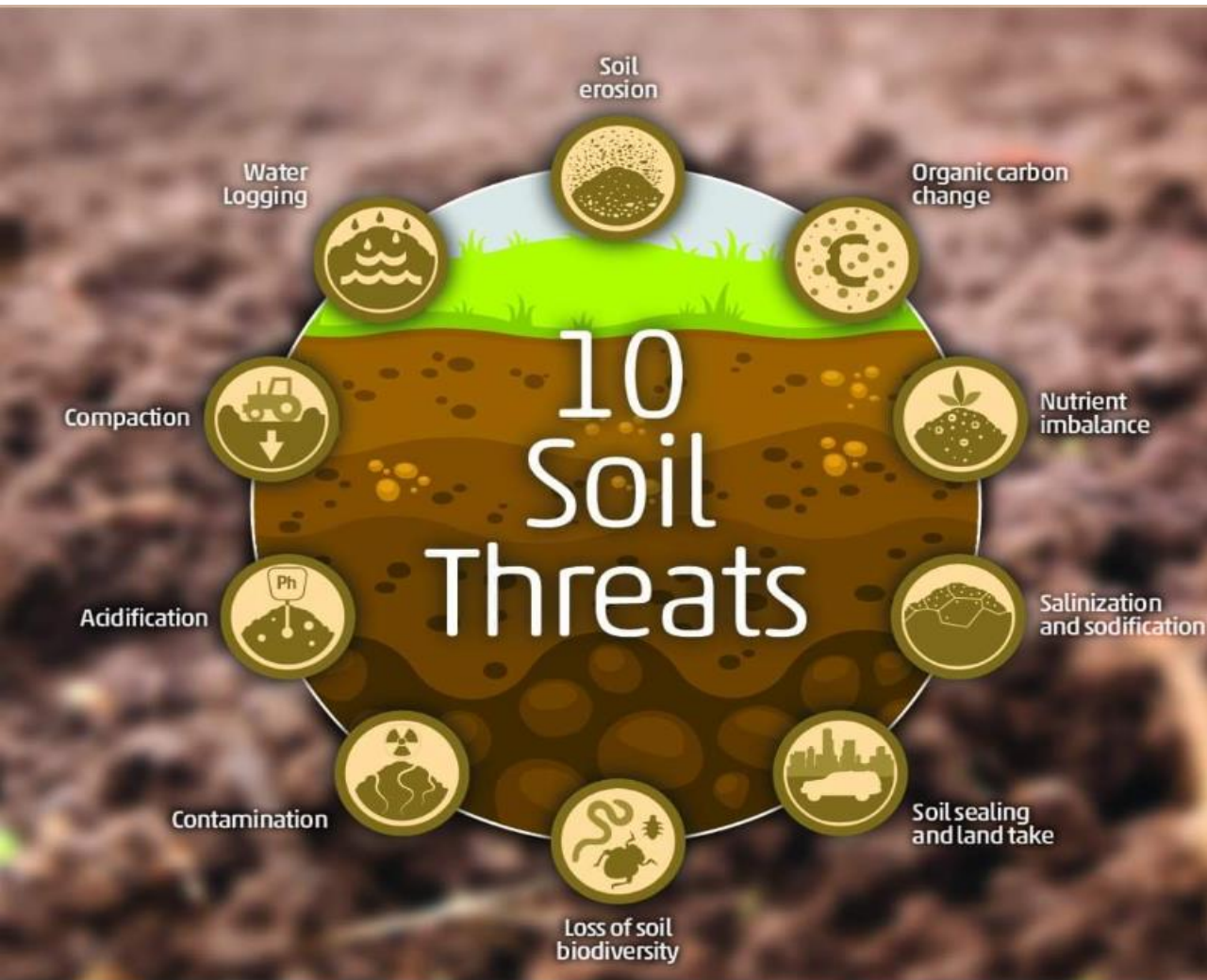
- SOUTH ASIA : Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh
  - EAST ASIA : China, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, Mongolia
  - SOUTH EAST ASIA : Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Indonesia.
- SOUTH ASIA : Ranjan & Harsha
  - EAST ASIA : Jin Ke
  - SOUTH EAST ASIA : Jeyanny & Nopmanee

# Overview of the Regional Assessment Chapters

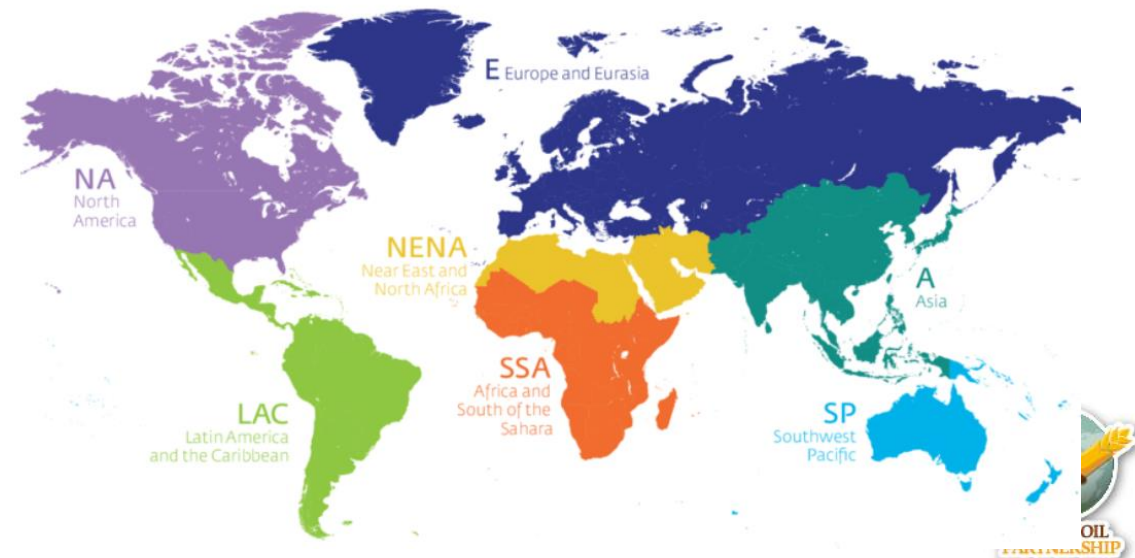
- Overview of the Regional Assessment Chapters
- The Regional Assessment Chapters for the 2025 Status of the World's Soil Resources report have three objectives:
- **1) to summarize new information (since 2015) on the major threats to soil functions,**
- **2) to assess the regional distribution of these threats and**
- **3) to identify sustainable soil management practises that can address these threats.**



# SOIL THREATS



<https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/c6814873-efc3-41db-b7d3-2081a10ede50/>



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## 8. Regional Assessment for Asia (25 pages)

- a) Content for section 8.1 and 8.2 will be provided by GSP staff.
- b) The specific subregions to be considered in section 8.3 were chosen by the Regional Assessment Panel for Asia.
- c) Not all threats are relevant for this region. The specific threats to be considered for each subregion will be selected by the Lead Author for that subregion working in consultation with the ITPS Lead Authors.
- d) Page limits are for text of approximately 700 words per page and do not include tables, figures or references cited.

### 8.1 Regional overview (2 pages)

- 8.1.1 Characteristics of region and subregions
- 8.1.2 Summary of status from 2015 SWSR Report

### 8.2 Changes in the direct and indirect drivers of threats to soil functions (3 pages)

- 8.2.1 Indirect drivers
- 8.2.2 Cropland, pasture and agroforestry management
- 8.2.3 Forest and tree plantation management
- 8.2.4 Grazing land management
- 8.2.5 Extractive industry development
- 8.2.6 Urbanization and Infrastructure development

Note: there are 20 pages in total available for sections 8.3 to 8.5

The specific countries in each subregion are:

South Asia: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh

East Asia: China, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, Mongolia

Southeast Asia: Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Burundi, Philippines, Indonesia.

### 8.3 Regional status and trend of threats to soil functions for East Asia

#### 8.3.1 Soil erosion

- 8.3.1.1 Water
- 8.3.1.2 Wind
- 8.3.1.3 Tillage
- 8.3.1.4 Mass movement
- 8.3.1.5 Root crop harvesting

#### 8.3.2 Soil carbon change

- 8.3.2.1 Mineral soils
- 8.3.2.2 Organic soils including wetland soils and permafrost
- 8.3.2.3 Soil inorganic carbon

#### 8.3.3 Soil biodiversity change

- 8.3.4 Nutrient mismanagement
  - 8.3.4.1 Nutrient surplus

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- 8.3.4.2 Nutrient mining
  - 8.3.4.3 Acidification
  - 8.3.5 Salinization and sodification
    - 8.3.5.1 Irrigation and drainage
    - 8.3.5.2 Alteration of hydrological conditions
    - 8.3.5.3 Coastal waterlogging
  - 8.3.6 Pollution
  - 8.3.7 Soil sealing and urbanization
  - 8.3.8 Other threats
- 8.4 Regional status and trend of threats to soil functions for South Asia
- 8.4.1 Soil erosion
    - 8.4.1.1 Water
    - 8.4.1.2 Wind
    - 8.4.1.3 Tillage
    - 8.4.1.4 Mass movement
    - 8.4.1.5 Root crop harvesting
  - 8.4.2 Soil carbon change
    - 8.4.2.1 Mineral soils
    - 8.4.2.2 Organic soils including wetland soils and permafrost
    - 8.4.2.3 Soil inorganic carbon
  - 8.4.3 Soil biodiversity change
  - 8.4.4 Nutrient mismanagement
    - 8.4.4.1 Nutrient surplus
    - 8.4.4.2 Nutrient mining
    - 8.4.4.3 Acidification
  - 8.4.5 Salinization and sodification
    - 8.4.5.1 Irrigation and drainage
    - 8.4.5.2 Alteration of hydrological conditions
    - 8.4.5.3 Coastal waterlogging
  - 8.4.6 Pollution
  - 8.4.7 Soil sealing and urbanization
  - 8.4.8 Other threats

## 8.5 Regional status and trend of threats to soil functions for Southeast Asia

- 8.5.1 Soil erosion
  - 8.5.1.1 Water
  - 8.5.1.2 Wind
  - 8.5.1.3 Tillage
  - 8.5.1.4 Mass movement
  - 8.5.1.5 Root crop harvesting
- 8.5.2 Soil carbon change
  - 8.5.2.1 Mineral soils
  - 8.5.2.2 Organic soils including wetland soils and permafrost
  - 8.5.2.3 Soil inorganic carbon
- 8.5.3 Soil biodiversity change
- 8.5.4 Nutrient mismanagement
  - 8.5.4.1 Nutrient surplus
  - 8.5.4.2 Nutrient mining
  - 8.5.4.3 Acidification
- 8.5.5 Salinization and sodification
  - 8.5.5.1 Irrigation and drainage
  - 8.5.5.2 Alteration of hydrological conditions
  - 8.5.5.3 Coastal waterlogging
- 8.5.6 Pollution
- 8.5.7 Soil sealing and urbanization
- 8.5.8 Other threats

## 8.6 Trends in sustainable soil management (1 page)

- 8.6.1 Examples of promising trends in sustainable soil management
- 8.6.2 Impediments to adoption of sustainable soil management
- 8.6.3 Strategic roadmap for Asia

# INCLUSION OF EXTRAORDINARY THREATS

- The structure of the SWSR 2025 report is built around the long-standing threats to soil functions (specifically soil erosion, loss of soil organic carbon, nutrient mismanagement, salinization and sodification, soil pollution, loss of soil biodiversity, and soil sealing and urbanization).
- Several Editorial Working Group members have pointed out, however, that there are threats to soil functions that do not readily fit these categories.
- Two examples that have been raised are conflict soils (i.e, soils that are altered by war or are currently within war zones) and massive surface disruptions for resource extractions (i.e, the disruption associated with the oil sands/tar sands of western Canada). Readers of the report probably would expect these to be included in the report but they are not currently included.



# AUTHORS & RESPONSIBILITY

## Roles and Responsibilities for Lead Authors

The lead authors are the most important contributors to each Regional Assessment. **The lead authors will provide scientific guidance and leadership in the development of the Regional Assessments.**

There are different types of lead authors for the 2025 Status of the World's Soil Resources Report. **ITPS Lead Authors** have overall responsibility for the chapter of their region. **Lead Authors for Subregions** are appointed for regions that have decided to have subregions (such as Asia) and they have responsibility for their subregion. **The specific roles and responsibilities for each type of lead authors follow.**

Both lead authors and contributing authors will be identified in the citation for each chapter. Lead authors will be listed first, followed by contributing authors.

### ITPS Lead Authors

All of the ITPS members for a region are ITPS Lead Authors for their region. **The ITPS member(s) from each region who sits on the SWSR Working Group** has the lead role in coordinating the work of the ITPS Lead Authors with the Managing Editor through their participation in the monthly Working Group meetings.

# AUTHORS & RESPONSIBILITY

Specific roles and responsibilities for **ITPS Lead Authors**:

## Before and during writing of the Regional Assessment Chapters

1. Decide on the page limit for each subregion (within the overall page limits specific in the Table of Contents) and notify the Managing Editor about the page limit decision.
2. Identify preeminent scientific experts to be lead authors for each subregion.
3. Liaise with the scientific experts to secure their agreement to serve as lead authors.
4. Inform the SWSR 2025 Working Group of the experts that have been selected as Lead Authors for Subregions.
5. Work with the Editorial team to ensure that all deadlines are met.

## After submission of content from Lead Authors for Subregions

6. Ensure that the evidence used by authors is clearly stated and correctly cited in the text.
7. Ensure continuity and consistency across the sections for their region and adherence to the editorial guidelines, including page limits.
8. Contribute to and coordinate the writing of introduction and conclusion for their chapter.
9. Respond to comments of the expert reviewers and work with the Review Editor to ensure that comments have been satisfactorily addressed.

# AUTHORS & RESPONSIBILITY

## Lead Authors for Subregions

The Lead Authors for Subregions are selected by the ITPS Lead Authors for their region.

### Before and during writing of their sections

1. Working with the ITPS Lead Authors, Lead Authors for Subregions will identify preeminent scientific experts to be contributing authors for the specific threats to soil functions for their subregion. Contributing authors will prepare technical information in the form of text, graphs or data for assimilation by lead authors into the draft section. Contributing authors will report to the lead authors of their section.
2. Liaise with the scientific experts to secure their agreement to serve as contributing authors.
3. Ensure that evidence used by authors is clearly stated and correctly cited in the reports.
4. Ensure continuity and consistency across the designated sections and adherence to the editorial guidelines, including page limits.
5. Ensure that deadlines are met.
6. Review at least two other sections of the report.
7. Respond to comments of the ITPS Lead Authors, Managing Editor and Review Editor and work with the Review Editor to ensure comments have been satisfactorily addressed.

### After content for the chapter has been finalized

The ITPS Lead Authors and the Lead Authors for Subregions are members of the Regional Assessment Panel for their region along the Chair of the Regional Soil Partnership for their region. The members of the Regional Assessment Panel will

1. Rank the threats to soil functions for their region and provide a brief rationale for the ranking based on evidence presented in their chapter.
2. Participate in the writing of the section of the Summary for Policymakers for their region.



# MECHANISM OF CHOOSING LEAD/CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

- Invitation letter to the Secretary of East & South Asia Federation of Soil Science to provide the name of active contributing co-authors.
- Suggestions by ASP & ITPS on possible authors
- All decisions on authors will be vetted through ITPS Asia team based on author CV and requirements for the SWSR 2025
- After selection, letter invitation will be prepared by the Managing Editor



# TEMPLATES

No	Threats to soil function	Area distribution (ha)			Impact (please make with 'x')			Remarks	State references that cites this threats in your sub-region (journal/book/link/etc)
		2015	2020	2023	Level 1 Low	Level 2 Moderate	Level 3 High		
1	Soil erosion								
2	Nutrient imbalance								
3	Organic carbon change								
4	Loss of soil biodiversity								
5	Compaction								
6	Sealing & land take								
7	Salinization & sodification								
8	Contamination								
9	Soil acidification								
10	Waterlogging								
11	Others (specify)								
<i>Remarks: You may state direct or indirect impacts such as reduced crop yield/degradation/loss of settlement etc</i>									



# TEMPLATES

## CV for Contributing Authors

### CURRICULUM VITAE

Name	:	
Designation	:	
Position	:	
Office Address	:	
Telephone No. (Office)	:	
E-mail Address	:	
Academic Qualification	:	
Field of Specialization/ Research Interest	:	
Working Experience	:	
Professional Affiliations (International/National/Regional)	:	
Publications (Books and Journals), Summarize no of books/journals	:	
Awards and Honours (if applicable)	:	
Available to contribute to soil threats related to	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Soil erosion</li> <li>- Salinization &amp; sodification</li> <li>- Organic carbon change</li> <li>- Contamination</li> <li>- Sealing &amp; land take</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of soil biodiversity</li> <li>- Soil acidification</li> <li>- Nutrient imbalance</li> <li>- Compaction</li> <li>- Other threats</li> </ul>
Available to contribute with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Writing of case studies/stories</li> <li>- Writing of full sub-chapters</li> <li>- Provision of pictures</li> <li>- Provision of maps</li> <li>- Review of chapters</li> <li>- Other: please specify</li> </ul>

# DOCUMENTS NEEDED BY THE ITPS

- Completed CV of potential authors
- List of threats by sub regions/countries
- UPDATE
- CV's : Thailand (1), Malaysia (1), Japan (2), Pakistan (1), India (2), Mongolia (1)





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