



Dear INSOP members,

As the year comes to a close, we take this opportunity to reflect on and summarize INSOP's work over the past 12 months. On behalf of the network Steering Committee and the Global Soil Partnership, we are grateful for your support and active participation in our collective efforts to combat soil pollution. We wish you and your families a healthy, successful, and prosperous 2025!

[SOP publication on heavy metal determination in phosphate fertilizers](#)

INSOP and the International Network on Soil Fertility and Fertilizers (INSOILFER) harmonize standard operating procedures (SOPs) for determining the analysis of fertilizers and making them available online – to all users for free.

[Education posters for Soil Doctors Programme on soil pollution](#)

Under the leadership of the Food Safety working group (WG), 56 members collaborated to develop two impactful soil pollution posters: '[What is Soil Pollution](#)' and '[How to prevent soil pollution on agricultural fields](#)'. These posters are integral to the Global Soil Doctors Programme and will serve as key resources for soil pollution education and training worldwide.

Soil remediation checklist

As part of the Remediation WG, 26 INSOP members from 19 countries participated in the peer-review process of the checklist for soil remediation document. The secretary has submitted the document for publication, and its release is expected in January 2025.

[SoiLEX updates with relevant soil pollution regulations](#)

INSOP members are updating the FAO [SoiLEX](#) platform with up-to-date legal instruments related to soil pollution prevention, monitoring, and remediation in each country as part of the Monitoring WG.

[INSOP Annual Meeting](#)

The annual meeting was held from 26 to 28 November 2025. During the meeting, the network's progress on various activities was reviewed, priorities for each WG were endorsed, and the FAO Technical Guidelines on Soil Pollution Assessment, Mapping, Monitoring, and Risk Communication were presented and explained.

[INSOP participation at the 10th CleanUp 2024](#)

The INSOP coordinator participated at the 10th International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference, CleanUp 2024, and delivered the prestigious Brian Robinson Commemorative Lecture titled "One Planet, One Health: Uncovering the Impact of Pollution from the Soil to the Soul."

[Workshop on threshold values for soil contaminants](#)

INSOP members, in collaboration with the [Common Forum on Contaminated Land in Europe](#) and the [ARAGORN project](#), held the first online joint workshop, presenting soil pollution threshold values from around the world. Participants agreed to continue gathering data, identifying countries with and without established threshold values, and extending the series of workshops into 2025 to allow more countries to share their insights.

SOP development for determining residue of pesticides in soil

INSOP members are developing the SOP to determine pesticide residues using QuEChERS and solid-liquid extraction methods. As of today, 49 soil laboratories from 14 countries have shared their method analyses. The SOP is scheduled for release in the first quarter of 2025, with training workshops on its implementation to follow.

INSOP Technical Guidelines on Soil Pollution Assessment, Mapping, Monitoring and Risk Communication

This year, the lead and contributing authors made substantial progress on the FAO Technical Guidelines for Soil Pollution Assessment, Mapping, Monitoring, and Risk Communication. The guidelines are currently under review and are expected to be published in 2025.

Kind regards,
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