



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# 20<sup>th</sup> Working Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)

19-21 March 2024

## International Network on Soil Fertility and Fertilizers (INSOILFER): progress report

Georges Martial Ndzana  
INSOILFER Chair

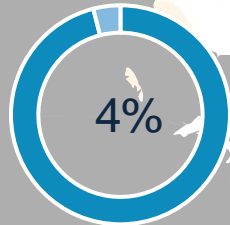
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
TECHNICAL PANEL ON SOILS

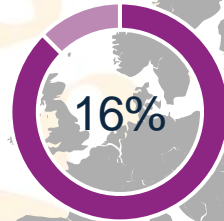


# INSOILFER in numbers

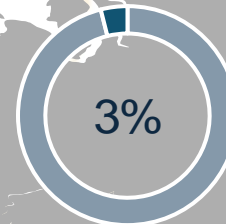
330 members  
83 countries



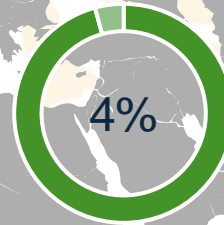
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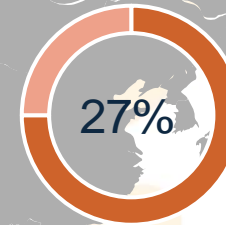
Europe



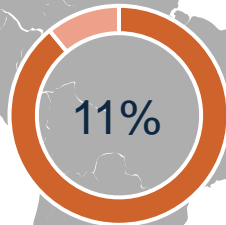
Eurasia



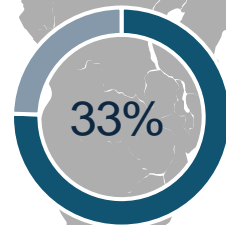
NENA



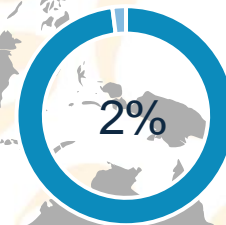
Asia



LAC



Africa

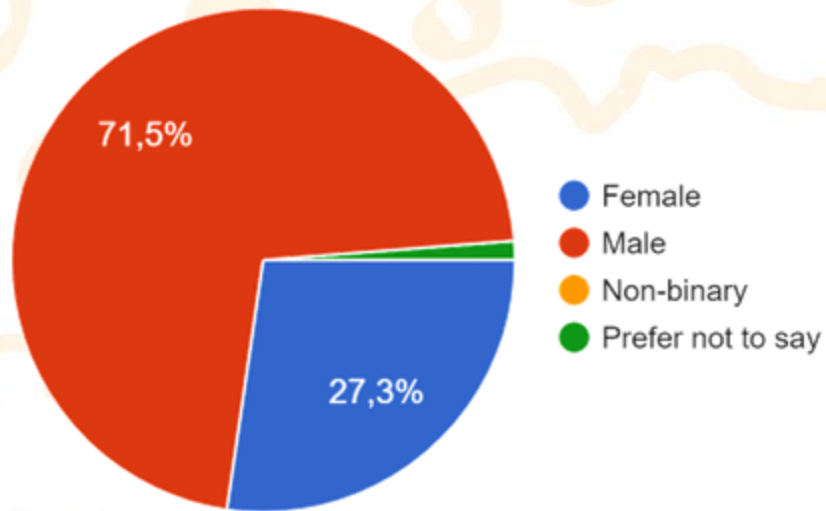


Pacific

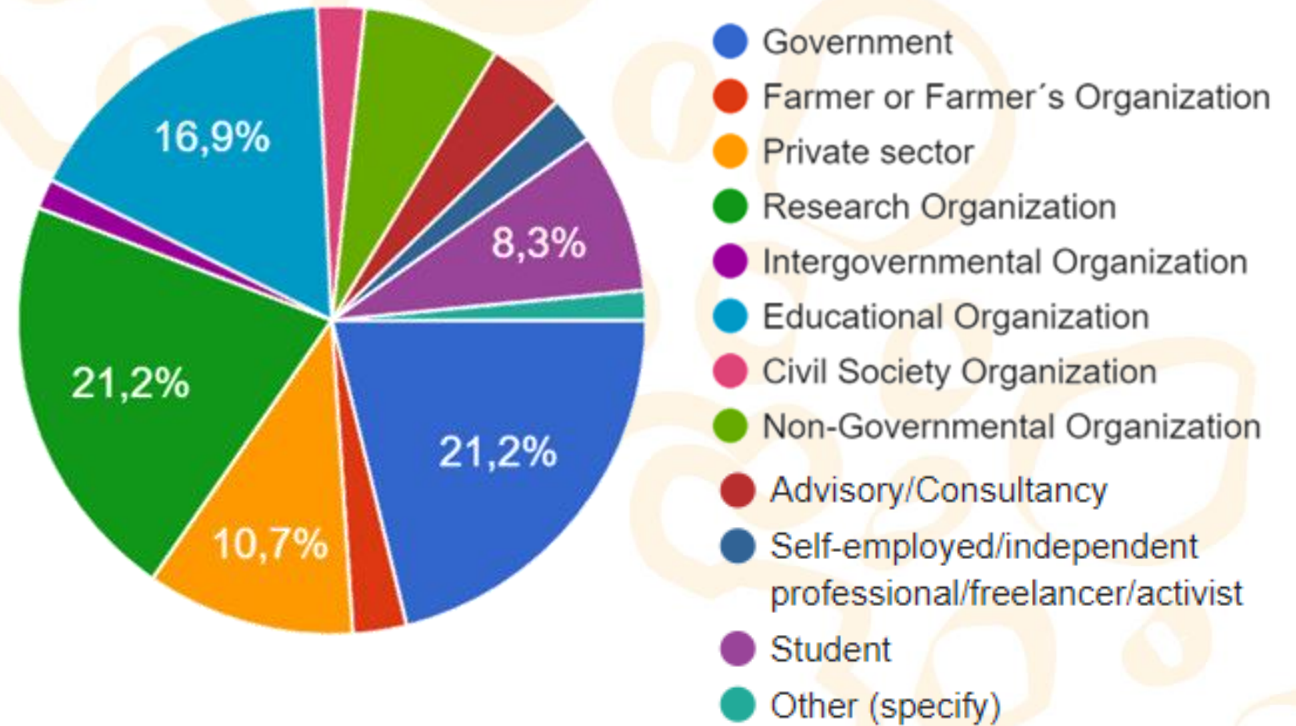
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# INSOILFER in numbers

## Gender balance



## Sectoral balance



- Government
- Farmer or Farmer's Organization
- Private sector
- Research Organization
- Intergovernmental Organization
- Educational Organization
- Civil Society Organization
- Non-Governmental Organization
- Advisory/Consultancy
- Self-employed/independent professional/freelancer/activist
- Student
- Other (specify)



## WG1. Soil fertility and nutrient monitoring system

Improving the knowledge on soil nutrient dynamics and nutrient budget in soil-plant system

- Obtaining reliable, updated, and readily available information on soil nutrient dynamics.
- Key indicators for monitoring nutrient movement to serve as the basis for nutrient balance development and mapping
- Supporting the decision-making on soil nutrient management, nutrient budget, and climate change mitigation
- Promoting collective ownership, openness, and innovation in creating novel data-sourcing pipelines



## WG2. Soil fertility and fertilizer management

# INSOILFER

## Working Groups

Promoting sustainable soil management (SSM) and sustainable fertilization practices are widely known and disseminated at the farm scale, emphasizing innovations that optimize nutrient use efficiency

- Identification, compilation, and promotion of successful field-tested and validated soil management practices proven to increase fertility, crop production, and crop yields in different types of soil, crops, and climates
- Identification and promotion of practices aimed at reducing greenhouse gases and atmospheric pollution, especially of water
- Establishment of an environmentally friendly and nutrition-sensitive (not exclusively yield-oriented) fertilizer recommendation system



## WG3. Fertilizer safety and quality assessment

Improving the quality and safety of fertilizers and alternative nutrient sources through capacity development

- Harmonizing laboratory analytical protocols for the safety and quality assessment of fertilizers
  - Sample preparation
  - NPK
  - Heavy metals
  - Biofertilizers
- Improving capacity development for quality assurance of analytical procedures and laboratory staff performance
  - Ring test (NPK)
  - Webinar series and trainings on quality assurance
- Promoting regulations and policies on the safety and quality of fertilizers



# INSOILFER governance



# INSOILFER activity report: First meeting of the Working Groups

## Milestones

- ✓ Initial work plans for each working group established and approved.
- ✓ Governance established: Chair, three network Vice-Chairs (leading each one of the working groups) and technical Committees for each of the working groups selected.
- ✓ Reference institutions for each of the working group established.



AGENDA

INSOILFER  
Working Group Meetings

27-29  
November  
2023



19-21 March 2024



# INSOILFER activity report: Inception Meeting



AGENDA

## Milestones

- ✓ Interaction and feedback from the INSOILFER steering committee.
- ✓ In order to identify where INSOILFER's activities fit in, the objectives, programs, and technical networks of the GSP were presented.
- ✓ Knowledge of the Chair, Vice-Chairs, and Technical Committee roles reinforced and clarified.
- ✓ The first activities agreed to start up with:

- Capacity building
- Trainings
- Publications
- Resource mobilization

- Meetings:  
Annual meeting  
Working Group Meetings

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# INSOILFER website update

## Global Soil Partnership

<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">Overview</a>	<a href="#">Partners</a>	<a href="#">Regional partnerships</a>	<a href="#">ITPS</a>	<a href="#">Technical networks</a>	<a href="#">Areas of work</a>	<a href="#">Soil Doctors Programme</a>	<a href="#">Resources</a>
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### International Network on Soil Fertility and Fertilizers

The International Network on Soil Fertility and Fertilizers (INSOILFER) aims to adopt and implement sustainable soil fertility management, avoid the underuse, misuse and overuse of fertilizers, and reduce the environmental and health impacts of unsustainable fertilizer use. INSOILFER also aims at channeling collective action towards sustainable soil fertility and fertilizer management, with the vision of achieving healthy and fertile soils by 2030 and contributing to the transformation of agrifood systems. For more information contact: [Vinisa.SaynesSantillan@fao.org](mailto:Vinisa.SaynesSantillan@fao.org) and [yuxin.tong@fao.org](mailto:yuxin.tong@fao.org).

### How to get involved

INSOILFER is in the ongoing construction process based on an inclusive and diverse community with various stakeholders with different perspectives on soil fertility and fertilizer management. The network welcomes participation from academia, government, farmers and farmers' associations, industry and private sector, laboratories, extensionists, and technicians. Membership in INSOILFER is free of charge, and active and voluntary participation from each member is encouraged. Please sign in to join the network.

[Join INSOILFER](#)

## INSOILFER functions and duties

<b>Why a network on soil fertility and fertilizers?</b>	+
<b>Goals of INSOILFER</b>	+
<b>The areas of work of INSOILFER</b>	+
<b>INSOILFER Governance</b>	+
<b>Why join INSOILFER?</b>	+
<b>How can I join INSOILFER?</b>	+

## First Meeting of the INSOILFER Working Groups

Zoom platform | 27-29 May 2022



### INSOILFER meetings



### “Soil health as a prerequisite for crop production: The relevance of organic fertilizers”

30 January 2024, 13:00 – 15:00 CET

The webinar will take place online on Tuesday 30 January 2024, 13:00 – 15:00 (Central European Time). It is the first in a series of webinars that will be organized by INSOILFER to ..

[Learn More](#)

[Presentations](#) | [First Meeting of the INSOILFER Working](#)

[Related documents](#)

## Global Soil Partnership

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## Presentations | Soil health as a prerequisite for crop production: The relevance of organic fertilizers Webinar

[Related documents](#)

- [Details of the event](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Recordings](#)
- [INSOILFER homepage](#)

### Opening remarks GSP Secretariat

- [Introduction to the webinar series: setting the scene](#) | Dr Georges Martial Ndzana, INSOILFER
- [The International Network on Soil Fertility and Fertilizers-INSOILFER: Goals and Potentialities](#) | Ms Vinisa Saynes Santillán, GSP Secretariat, FAO
- [“Soil health as a prerequisite for crop production: The relevance of organic fertilizers”](#) | Dr Adele Muscolo, University of Reggio Calabria, Italy
- Q & A session and open discussion

### Conclusions and closure of the webinar

## Recordings

### DAY 1

[Recordings](#)

[DAY 1](#) | [DAY 2](#) | [DAY 3](#)

## Contact

- [GSP Secretariat](#)



# Upcoming activities



## WEBINARS

- Topics to be collected
- Calendar under development
- One webinar per season per WG

## Capacity building



## TRAINING

- Topics to be collected
- Calendar under development
- In person training



## WG MEETINGS

- To be held in April
- Agendas under development within each WG

## Meetings



## ANNUAL MEETING

- Most likely in person
- Country to be defined
- End of 2024 or first semester 2025

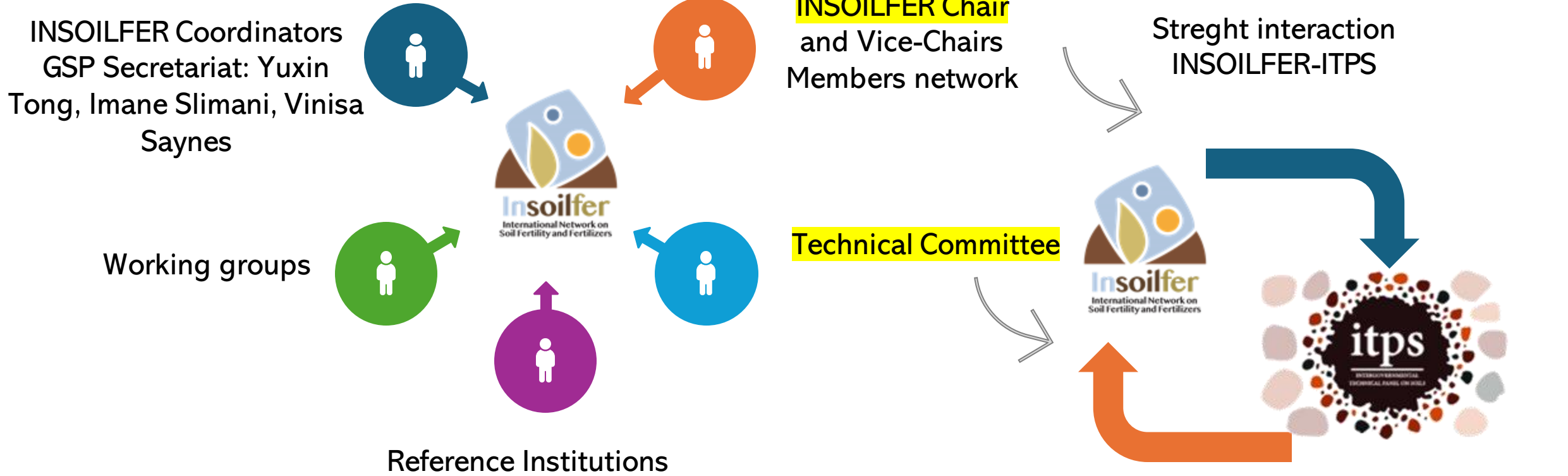
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# INSOILFER structure





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**Thank you!**

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