



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Launch of the **International Network on Soil Biodiversity**

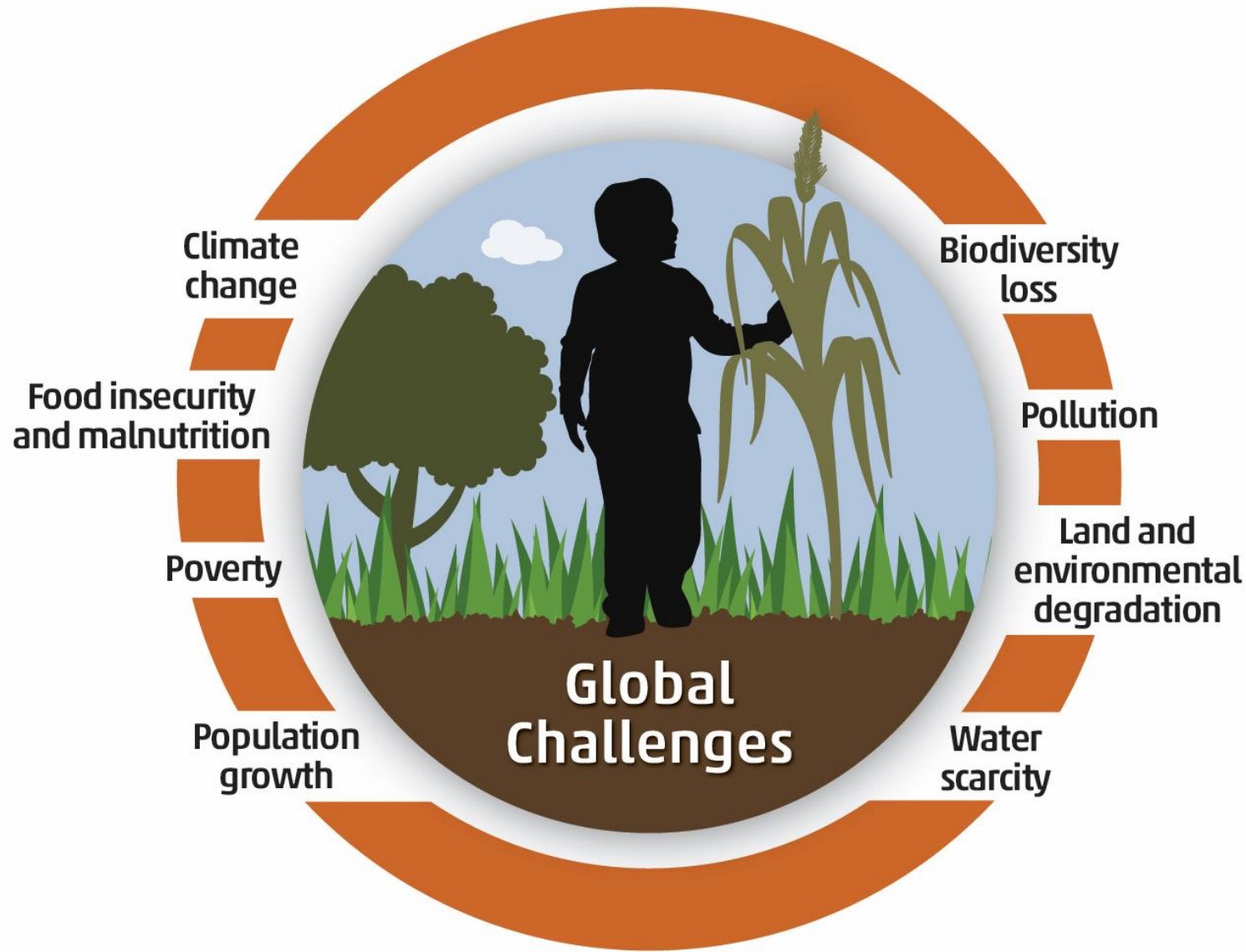
in the framework of the
Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory

3rd December 2021 | 🕒 14:00 CET
Online meeting


Introduction to the meeting: setting the scene

Ronald Vargas, Secretary GSP






Healthy soils (full of biodiversity) can contribute to address these challenges

 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Proceedings

Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity

GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM ON SOIL BIODIVERSITY
19-20-21-22 April 2021



Soil biodiversity in the global agenda



GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

Soil BON



GLOBAL SOIL BIODIVERSITY INITIATIVE

FAO STRATEGY ON MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY ACROSS AGRICULTURAL SECTORS



CBD



Convention on Biological Diversity

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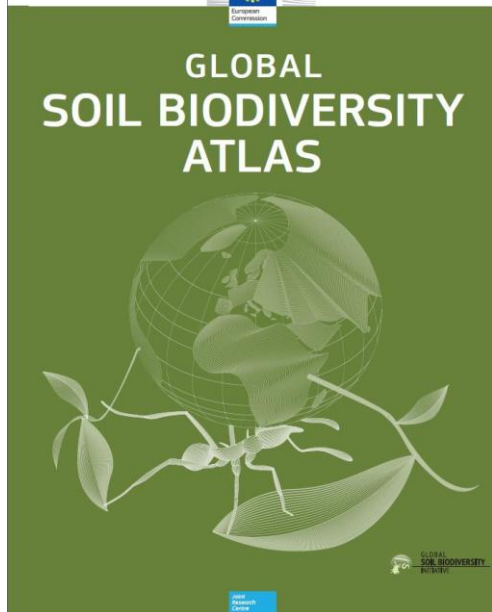
SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE


Twenty-fourth meeting
Venue and dates to be determined
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF SOIL BIODIVERSITY AND UPDATED PLAN OF ACTION



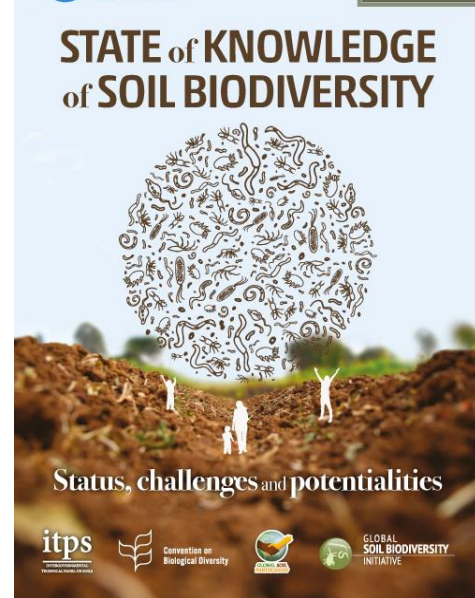
GLOBAL SOIL BIODIVERSITY ATLAS






 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Report 2020

STATE of KNOWLEDGE of SOIL BIODIVERSITY



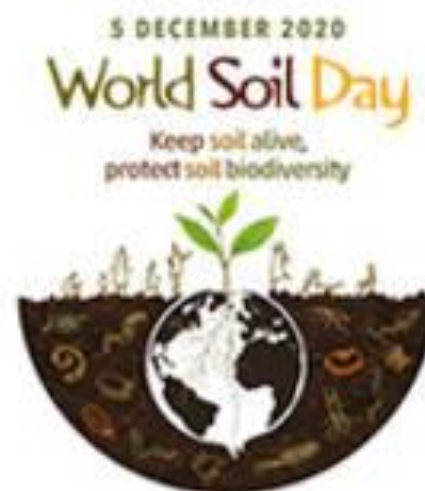
Status, challenges and potentialities

5 DECEMBER 2020

World Soil Day

Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity




BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION CARTAGENA PROT



Preparations for the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework

During the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework as a stepping stone towards the 2050 Vision of

Soil Biodiversity in action

- State of knowledge of soil biodiversity report 2020.
- World Soil Day 2020 “Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity”.
- Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity 2021 (GSOBI21).
- GSOBI21 Outcome Document.
- Implementation Plan for the International Initiative for the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity 2020.

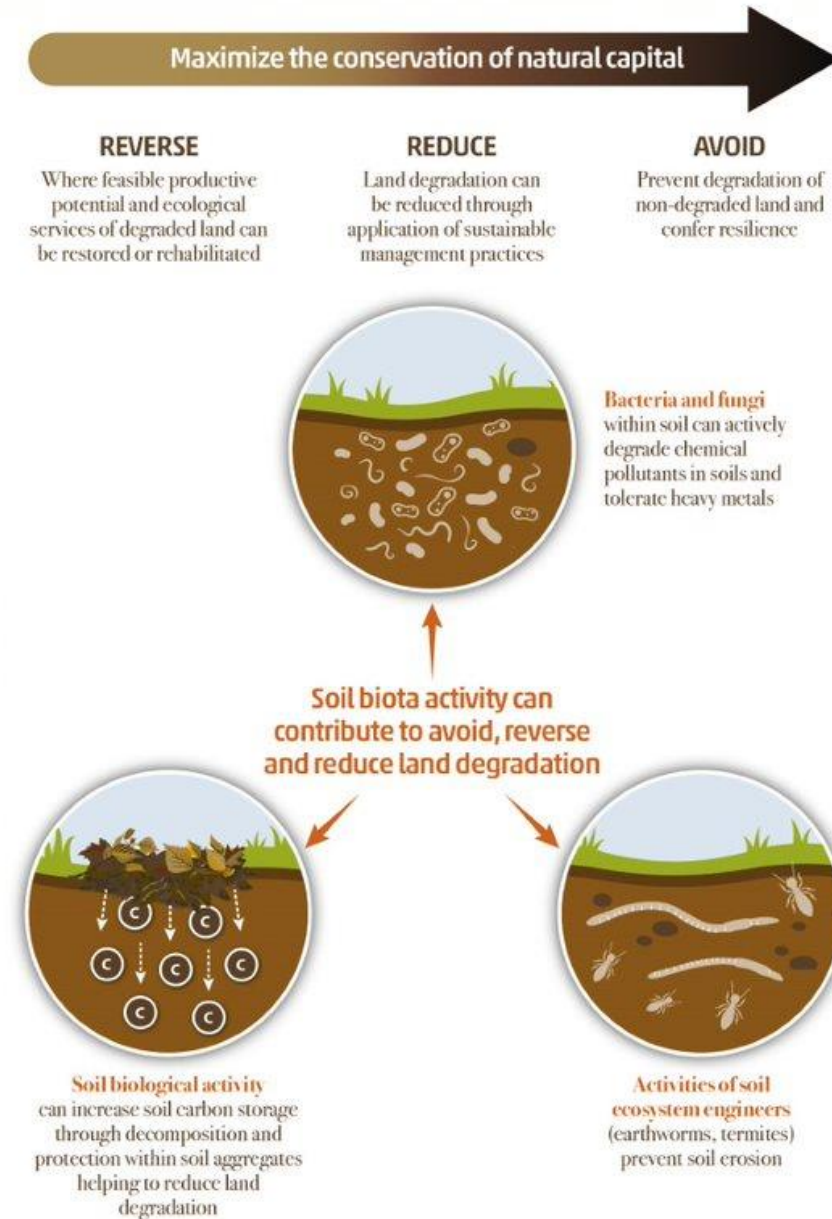


Launch of the **International Network on Soil Biodiversity** in the framework of the Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory | 3rd December 2021



What are the potentialities?

- **Food security and food safety:** improvement of agricultural production (biofertilizers, nitrogen fixation, pathogen control).
- **Biological control:** pests, diseases.
- **Environmental remediation (bioremediation):** bioaugmentation, phytoremediation, vermiremediation.
- **Climate change mitigation/adaptation:** carbon sequestration, GHG.
- **Nature-based solutions:** stimulate the growth and activities of soil fauna for ecosystem restoration.
- **Nutrition and human health:** vaccines, medicines, traditional medicine, microbiome.



What are the challenges and gaps?



- **Lack** of data/information on soil biodiversity at local, national, regional and global levels (not included in soil surveys).

- **Few countries** that maintain a national soil information system/monitoring that includes soil biodiversity.

- **Unavailable** global harmonized sampling, measurements and analysis protocols.

- **Strengthen** all groups (i.e., microbes and micro, meso, macro and mega soil fauna) with data and information.

- **Recognition** of Soil biodiversity in the 2030 and Post 2020 Biodiversity Agenda.

- **Weak capacity** development in the adoption of molecular tools and emerging novel technologies to contribute to human, plant and soil health.

- **Ecosystem restoration** does not include soil health and soil biodiversity considerations.

- **Microbiome investigations** for environmental management are still novel and highly experimental, yet they underline the need for conservation of entire soil biotic communities.

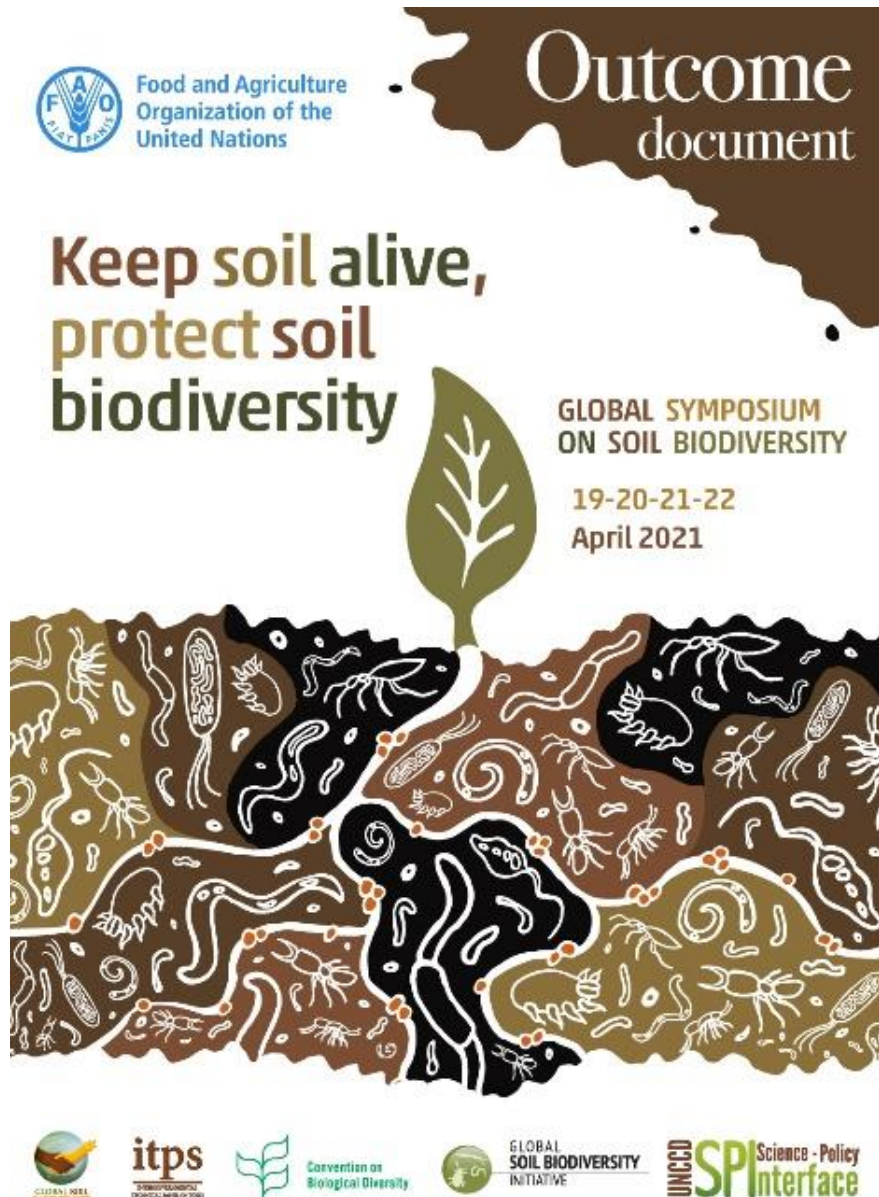
- **Need to invest** on research for soil borne diseases and scale up soil biodiversity responses for the Agricultural sector.

- **Need to scale up** bioremediation to address soil pollution.

- **Further work** is needed in terms of soil biodiversity and human health.

y | 3rd December 2021





- **Recommendation 1:** Establishment of the Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory.
- **Recommendation 2:** Development of guidelines for measuring, assessing and monitoring (MAM) soil biodiversity.
- **Recommendation 3:** Development and implementation of a capacity-building programme on soil biodiversity including national assessments, monitoring, good management practices and restoration.
- **Recommendation 4:** Development of a field manual on soil biodiversity management that addresses soil biodiversity loss/conservation.
- **Recommendation 5:** Development of a technical booklet about the main soil-borne diseases.
- **Recommendation 6:** Development of the methodology for the economic valuation of soil biodiversity.
- **Recommendation 7:** Performance of an assessment of effective policies and legal instruments to control soil biodiversity loss.

Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory (GLOSOB)

- The GLOSOB will aim to **monitor and forecast the condition of soil biodiversity and soil health** and will **serve as the framework for developing policies, promoting good practices, and developing national capacities** on the state-of-the-art tools and methods on soil biodiversity and soil health assessment and maintenance.

International Network of Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB)



- The NETSOB aims to **bring soil biodiversity experts and existing initiatives together** in order to become the critical mass that contributes to the implementation of the GLOSOB.



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Twenty-fourth meeting
Online, 3 May – 9 June 2021
Agenda item 7

REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF SOIL BIODIVERSITY AND UPDATED PLAN OF ACTION

Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

*The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,
Having considered the note by the Executive Secretary,¹*

1. Welcomes the draft plan of action 2020-2030 for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity as contained in the annex to the present recommendation;

2. [Takes note of] [also welcomes] the report entitled *State of Knowledge on Soil Biodiversity – Status, Challenges and Potentialities*,² prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils, together with the Global Soil Partnership, the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative, the European Commission and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and its summary for policymakers;

3. Also takes note of the outcomes of the 2021 Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity, jointly organized by the the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Global Soil Partnership, and the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils, together with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative and the Science-Policy Interface of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;

4. Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions III/11, V/5, [VII/23](#) and [X/34](#),

Acknowledging the importance of soil biodiversity in underpinning the functioning of terrestrial ecosystems and, therefore, most of the services it delivers,

Recognizing that activities to promote the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, and the ecosystem functions and services they provide, are key in the functioning of sustainable agricultural systems for food and nutrition security for all, for climate change



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Online, 3 May – 9 June 2021
Agenda item 3

POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THE REVIEW OF THE UPDATED GOALS AND TARGETS, AND RELATED INDICATORS AND BASELINES

Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting adopt a decision that includes the following elements, taking into account also the conclusions of the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework:

The Conference of the Parties

1. [Adopts the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework annexed to the present decision:¹]

2. *Decides* to use the period from [2011-2020], where data is available, as the reference period, unless otherwise indicated, for reporting and monitoring progress in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, [while *noting*][and *recognizes*] that baselines, conditions and periods used to express [different responsibilities,] desirable states or levels of ambition in goals and targets should, where relevant, take into account [historical trends,][historic loss,] current status, and future scenarios of biodiversity [, including available information on the pre-industrial period];

3. *Also decides* to consider a review of the monitoring framework in order to finish its development at its sixteenth meeting, and thereafter keep the monitoring framework under review, as appropriate;

4. [Further *decides* that the headline indicators will be used in [global assessments] to monitor progress towards the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, complemented, as appropriate, by the component and complementary indicators;]

5. [Also *decides* that the headline indicators [should] [will] be used by [all] Parties in their national reports for reporting on their implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, where technically feasible and as [appropriate][applicable][and in accordance with Article 20][and *encourages* the establishment of mechanisms to build capacity in developing countries to support filling monitoring and reporting gaps];]

Joining forces for soil biodiversity!



Global Soil
Biodiversity
Observatory
(GLOSOB)

