



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



4 June | 14:00 14:45

Ethiopia room

The role of healthy soils in food systems transformation

Organizers

*GEF Food Systems Integrated Programme
Soils4Nutrition project funded by BMEL
Germany*

GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP | 12th Plenary Assembly

03-05 June 2024





AGENDA

Background

Healthy soils play a critical role in transforming food systems, as they are the foundation on which sustainable agriculture thrives. Beyond merely supporting plant growth, healthy soils facilitate nutrient uptake, water retention and carbon sequestration, all essential components for robust crop yields and ecosystem resilience. They also harbour a wide range of micro-organisms crucial for nutrient cycling and pest control, promoting natural balances that reduce the need for synthetic inputs. As global demand for food increases and environmental pressures intensifies, it is imperative to recognise the critical role that healthy soils play in shaping resilient and equitable food systems capable of meeting the challenges of the future.

The collaboration between the Food Systems Integrated Programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Soils4Nutrition project, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), represents an important step towards addressing the complex challenges facing our food systems. By pooling the knowledge and resources of these two initiatives, there is a great opportunity to promote sustainable agricultural practices, improve soil health and enhance nutritional outcomes. This collaboration can serve as a model for leveraging partnerships to create lasting impacts on food security and environmental sustainability.

Moderator: Mr Lifeng Li, Director, Land and Water Division ,FAO

<p>14:00 - 14:15</p>	<p>Opening remarks by:</p> <p>H.E. Joachim Bleicker, Ambassador. Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to FAO</p> <p>H.E. Don Miguel Jorge García Winder, Ambassador. Permanent Representative of Mexico to FAO</p> <p>Mr. Peter Umunay, Senior Environmental Specialist, Lead for Food Systems, GEF Secretariat</p>
<p>14:15 - 14:35</p>	<p>Round table: The role of healthy soils in food systems transformation,</p> <p>Mr. Rodrigo Osorio, GSP focal point, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. Chile</p> <p>Dr. Nicole Wellbrock, GSP focal point, Thuenen institute, Germany.</p> <p>Land Development Department, Thailand (TBC)</p> <p>Mr. Rodgers Zabiti, GSP focal point, Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI)</p>
<p>14:35 - 14:45</p>	<p>Questions and answers</p> <p>Conclusions and way forward</p>

