



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



**4 June | 15:45 16:30**

**Ethiopia room**

**Water soil nexus:  
transforming soil health**

*Organizers*  
*OCP Group*

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**GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP | 12<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly**

03-05 June 2024





# AGENDA

## Background

The Global Soil Partnership (GSP) recognizes the urgent need to address these interconnected issues and feed a growing population while safeguarding our planet, it is imperative to address the nexus between soil health, water scarcity, and climate change. In Africa and beyond, closing the yield gap and empowering the agriculture sector to combat climate change through soil carbon sequestration and optimized water usage is paramount. However, this must be done while radically transforming farming practices to minimize environmental impact and ensure the resilience of ecosystems and communities.

Restoring or maintaining soil health is critical for decarbonizing agriculture, protecting biodiversity, and improving food quality. Soil organic carbon sequestration has the potential to absorb vast amounts of carbon from the atmosphere, making it a transformative climate solution and a valuable asset for farmers and the planet. Healthy soils can also shift agriculture's negative impact on nature towards a positive cycle.

15:45 - 15:55	Opening of the event and opening remarks, <b>Ms. El Asraoui Meriem, Chief Global Affairs at OCP Group.</b>
15:55 - 16:25	<b>Dr. Leonardus Vergutz</b> , Chief Innovation Officer at OCP Group <b>Dr. Rachid Mouseddaq</b> , Joint Researcher at ICARDA/INRA and the <b>Chair of the FAO-Global Soil Partnership/GSP-NENA</b> <b>Dr. Emilion Gonzalez-Sanchez</b> - University of Cordoba (Spain) - AEACSV - ECAF · Department of Rural Engineering
16:25 – 16:35	Closing remarks <b>Dr. Rattan Lal</b> , Director CFAES Dr. Rattan Lal Center for Carbon Management and Sequestration (Lal Carbon Center), Distinguished Professor of Soil Science at Ohio State University, Member Science Advisory Committee of the Chair of Critical Zone Sciences – UM6P, 2018 Glinka World Soil
16:35 - 16:45	Questions and answers Conclusions and way forward

**Moderator: Ms Natalia Rodriguez**, Land and Water Division, FAO

