

Discussion Session for  
the Global Black Soil Distribution Map

**12<sup>th</sup> of October 2020**

13:00 – 15:00 PM (Rome Time – CEST)

Zoom platform

Registration here

Agricultural production on black soils constitutes an important source of food for many countries and for the world in general, and these soils are often recognized as inherently productive and fertile. They are extensively and intensively farmed and are increasingly used for crops, oilseed pulse production, pastures, ranges and forage systems. Thus, black soils are of particular importance globally because of their relevance to food security, agricultural sustainability and climate change. Given favourable climatic conditions, these soils are highly productive; however, they are also threatened by intensive agriculture practices and the consequences of climate change.

The International Network of Black Soils (INBS) aims to collaborate and share responsibilities in order to provide a coherent framework for joint strategies and actions. Black soils can be considered as non-renewable resources at the temporal scale of human activities. Given the great importance of black soils and their risk of severe degradation, it has become crucial to better understand the status of black soils in the world, including current management practices, drivers of change and future threats on the ground, as well as the policy of countries regarding the protection or sustainable management of black soils.

In the second workshop of the INBS in 2019, member countries discussed and agreed to develop a Global Black Soil Distribution Map (GBSmap), and all members are expected to contribute to this landmark outputs of the INBS<sup>1</sup>. Noting the importance of black soils and connecting it to the objectives of the INBS, it was suggested that the GBSmap be launched during the Third Workshop of the INBS, therefore a discussion session is needed to facilitate the development of the GBSmap.

**Purpose of the event:**

1. Introduce the methodology of the GBSmap.
2. Clarify authorship of the GBSmap.
3. Define the agenda for the development of the GBSmap.
4. Answer questions from member country contributors.

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<sup>1</sup> Second Workshop of the International Network of Black Soils. [Online] Available: <http://www.fao.org/3/ca7661en/ca7661en.pdf>

## Agenda:

### Session – 12<sup>th</sup> of October

#### 13:00 - 15:00 | the Global Black Soil Distribution Map

- **13:00 - 13:10 | Opening Remarks**, *Mr. Ronald Vargas*, Secretary Global Soil Partnership of FAO
- **13:10 - 13:20 | Introduction of the Global Black Soil Distribution Map** *Ms. Maria Konyushkova*, Member of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS).
- **13:20 - 13:40 | Introduction of the procedure for developing global soil map** *Mr. Yusuf Yigini*, Coordinator of Pillar 4: Information and Data, GSP, FAO.
- **13:40 - 14:10 | Introduction of the Methodology of the GBSmap**, *Mr. Marcos Esteban Angelini*, Coordinator of the GBSmap, Soils Institute, Natural Resources Research Centre, INTA.
- **14:10 - 14:50 | Discussion and Q/A**
- **14:50 - 15:00 | Conclusion**
  - Moderator: *Mr. Yuxin Tong*, Coordinator of the INBS, FAO
  
- [Documents of the black soils report and the GBSmap in terms of structure, template and methodology](#)
- [Report of the Second Workshop of the INBS](#)
- [Black Soil Definition](#)
- [INBS GSP webpage](#)