



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

8 - 10  
September  
2021

VIRTUAL  
MEETING

# North America 9th GSP Plenary Assembly Report - 2021

## GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP 9<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly





# North America GSP Contacts

- North America Co-chairs
  - Bob Turnock (Canada)
  - Dave Lindbo (USA)
- Pillar Chairs
  - Pillar 1 Soil Management - Kari Dunfield (Canada)
  - Pillar 2 Awareness and Outreach – Maja Krzic (Canada)
  - Pillar 3 Research – David Knaebel (USA)
  - Pillar 4 Information and Data – Bert Vanderbygaart (Canada)
  - Pillar 5 Harmonization – Dave Hoover (USA)

# Pillar 1 Soil Management Activities

- Continued involvement in the Black Soil initiative
  - GSP Black Soils publication
  - Keynote address at Black Soils Conference by USDA Secretary of Agriculture – Thomas Vilsack
- Completion of the salinized soils mapping project

# Pillar 2 Awareness and Outreach

- 2020 World Soil Day events
  - Soil health perspective and priorities to the North American Contingent of the GSP
  - Soil Health Research Forum - Behaviour Change, Baseline Data and Best Management Practices -  
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/alliance/soil-health-research-resources-and-videos>
- With SSSA to produce a Soil Poster for K-12 Students
- Outreach through NSTA, NCF Envirothon, and local groups
- Planning activities for 2021 World Soil Day

# Pillar 3 Research

- Coordinated response with the Tri-Societies on “Protocol for the assessment of sustainable soil management practices”
- A Coordinated Research Enterprise on Agricultural Soil Microbiomes and Soil Ecosystems Across USDA Research Locations at the Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity 19 to 22 April 2021. See: [Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(fao.org\)](https://www.fao.org/soil-biodiversity)
- Coordinating efforts of sample collection in North America with Diana Wall and Carlos Guerra of the Soil Bon See: <https://geobon.org/bons/thematic-bon/soil-bon/>
- Contributed to the 2020 FAO Report: State of Knowledge of Soil Biodiversity

# Pillar 4 Information and Data

- Continued cooperation on soil organic carbon sequestration potential mapping activities
- Canada is fulfilling the GSP criteria at 1 X 1 km scale and an effort at 250m X 250 m scale for cropland and grazing land areas
- Chapters on Soil Carbon Management - Urban Soils, Biochar, Zonal Tillage, Wind Breaks, Biomass Production, Orchard Recycling, etc.
- Participated in INSII and GLOSIS activities
- Provided update to FAO-COAG (NA) on GSP activities
- USA - NASEM workshop (2-4 March, 2021) – Dynamic Soil Information Systems



# Pillar 5 Harmonization

- Participated in GLOSOLAN laboratory testing and evaluation (RING Tests)
- Co-organized GLOSOLAN workshop on use of MIR
- USDA-NRCS making MIR operational for inventory/mapping
- Identified Regional Soil Laboratory Networks
- Online soil information on laboratories



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Thank you  
for your attention!

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