



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Jorge Battle-Sales International network of salt-affected soils (INSAS)

GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

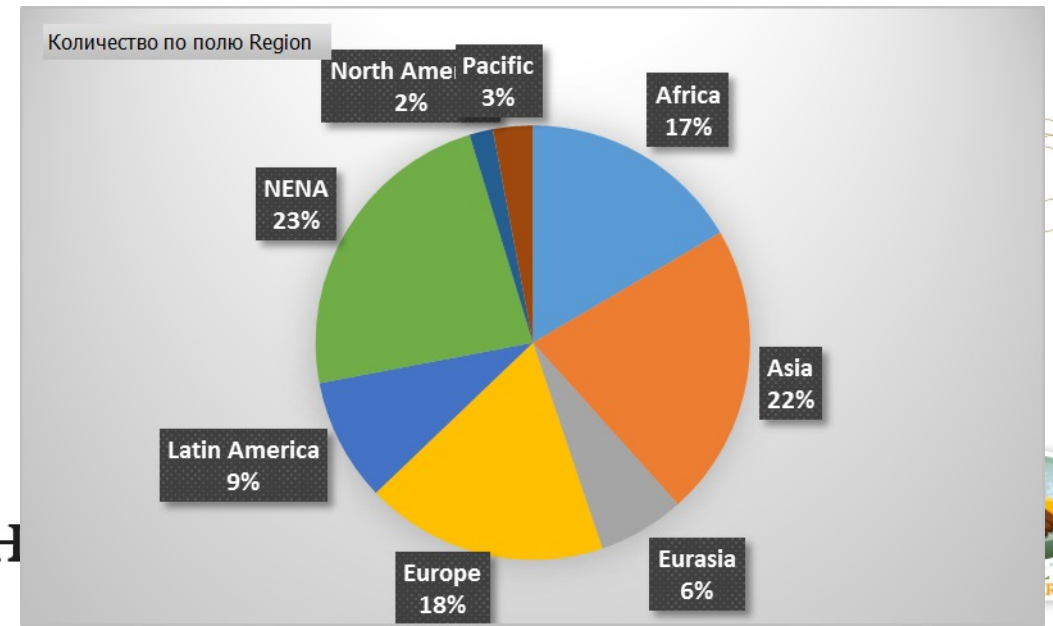
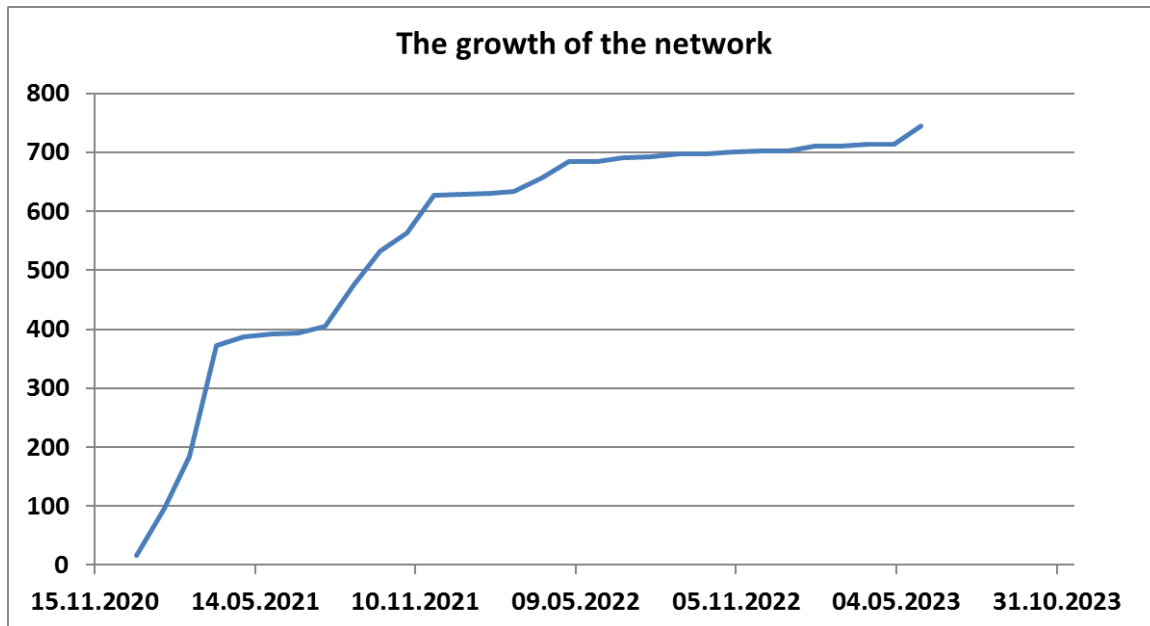
11th Plenary Assembly

12-14 July 2023



About INSAS

- INSAS was established in 2019 under the aegis of the Global Soil Partnership with the aim to **facilitate the sustainable and productive use of salt-affected soils** for current and future generations
- **First meeting of INSAS** took place on April 14-15, 2021 (virtual format) where the **governance** of INSAS was established and the **working groups** were formed
- At present, INSAS has **743 members** from **125 countries**



Working groups of INSAS

Working group	Activity	Number of experts	Number of countries represented
SAS&Assessment	Mapping, assessing and monitoring of salt-affected soils	142	59
SAS&SSM	Sustainable management of salt-affected soils (practices, policy)	157	68
SAS&Crops	Halophyte agriculture and salt-tolerant crops and plants	65	33
SAS&Water	Integrated soil and water management under saline/sodic conditions	135	60

Ongoing activities of INSAS

- **Global report** on the status of salt-affected soils;
- **Standard Operating Procedures** for salt-affected soils (jointly with GLOSOLAN);
- Series of **webinars** covering measurement, sampling, modeling and management of salt-affected soils;
- **Harmonized protocols** for soil salinity/sodicity sampling, mapping and assessment;
- **Database of good practices.**



Status with the Global Assessment of Salt-Affected Soils

Introduction
Chapter 1. Salt-affected soils: the global perspective
Chapter 2. Drivers of soil salinization and sodification
Chapter 3. Soil salinization and sodification
Chapter 4. Status of salt-affected soils
Chapter 5. Effect of salinization/sodification on food production, food security, and socio-economic situation
Chapter 6. Responses to the challenges
Conclusions

STATUS (as of June 16, 2023):

texts – 13 contributions

(38 authors)

questionnaire – 37 countries

(67 authors)

national reports – 39 countries

(205 authors)

GSAS questionnaire

Regional coordinators (in alphabetic order):

- Sanjay Arora (Asia),
- Raul Lavado (Latin America and Caribbean),
- Katarzyna Negacz (Europe and Eurasia),
- Stephen Roecker (North America),
- Ahmad Majar (Near East and North Africa),
- Mary Idowu (Africa),
- **missing (Australia and Pacific)**

Ready submissions

Africa

Benin
Cameroon
Djibouti
Ethiopia
Ghana
Kenya
Liberia
Mozambique
Nigeria
Sierra Leone
South Africa
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zimbabwe

Asia

Pakistan

Thailand

Europe and Eurasia

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Israel

Italy

Kazakhstan

Spain

Ukraine

United Kingdom

Latin America and the Caribbean

Argentina

Brazil

Colombia

Near East and North Africa

Algeria

Iran

Kuwait

Lebanon

Sudan

Syria

UAE

Yemen

TOTAL: 37 countries

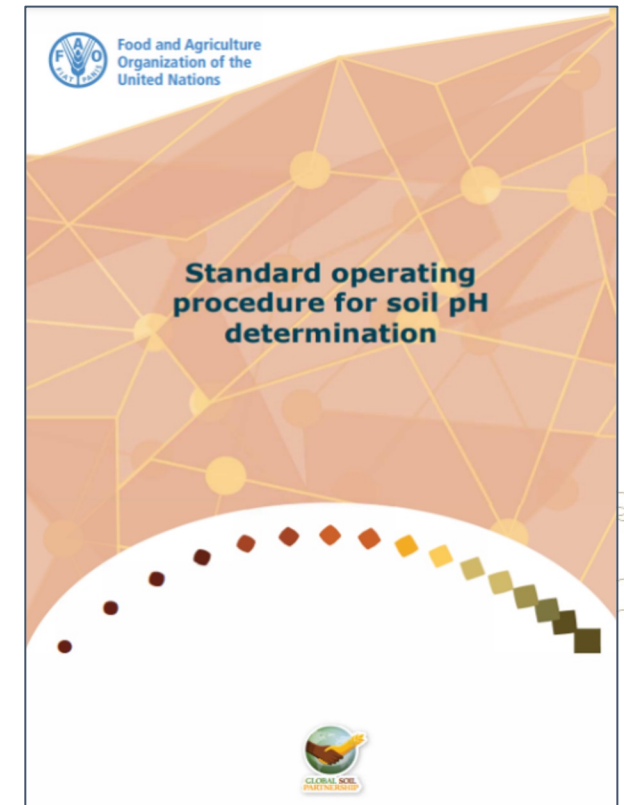
Timeline

March – September 2022	October 2022	November 2022 – February 2023	March – June 2023	July – August 2023	September – October 2023	November 2023	WSD-2023 (December 5)
Development of ToC and GSAS questionnaire	Call for contributions	Receiving questionnaire responses and chapters	Compiling a draft version	Revision by the editorial board and ITPS	Modification after revision, compiling a final version	FAO publishing system	Launch



Review of GLOSOLAN Standard Operating Procedures

SOP	Status
Boron by hot water extraction	Reviewed, under publication
pH determination	Reviewed, under publication
Saturated paste extract	review ongoing
Electrical conductivity (1:5)	to be reviewed



Second meeting of INSAS (Tashkent/Nukus, May 22-26, 2023)

- +150 in-person participants from 20 countries and +300 online participants from 50 countries
- Conference, technical sessions of INSAS working groups, trainings, field excursion to the dried bottom of the Aral Sea and halophyte farm
- The work plan of INSAS for 2023-2024 and onwards have been approved



Policy and governance of SAS: status quo

Status quo:

- State, non- and sub-state efforts to halt salinisation – more than 67 multi-stakeholder initiatives active in Europe such as EIP-AGRI Focus Group and SalFar Interreg Program
 - A lack of integrated policy or framework on international level despite links to thematic policies such as the Common Agricultural Policy, European Climate Pact, or Biodiversity and Soil Strategy for 2030.
- Pilot policy analysis and recommendations for Europe:
 - **include the SAS in the existing frameworks** such as the Common Agricultural Policy as Less Favoured Areas
 - **focus on equitable cost and benefit sharing** to ensure smooth transition to saline agriculture, **raising consumer awareness** of salinisation and **stimulating demand** for saline products via campaigns such as ‘Bread Good Story’.
 - **involve stakeholders in the co-creation** of the European saline agriculture policy
 - **support long-term orientation and regional and international networks** such as INSAS, WASAG and Saline Water and Food Systems Partnership
- ## Future steps for INSAS:
- SSM group to focus on bringing salinization on the policy agenda

Focal points and other partners of the GSP are invited to:

- encourage FAO Members facing soil salinity and sodification problems to contribute to the preparation of the Global Assessment of Salt-affected Soils report and to participate in other network activities aimed at the sustainable management and restoration of these soils where necessary; and
- encourage FAO Members facing soil salinity and sodicity problems and using brackish or sodic water for irrigation to join the *Global Campaign on Salinization*, the global commitment to the 2023 UN Water Conference's Water Action Agenda.



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