



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL SOIL PARTNERSHIPS: FOSTERING COOPERATION AND ACTION FOR SOIL HEALTH

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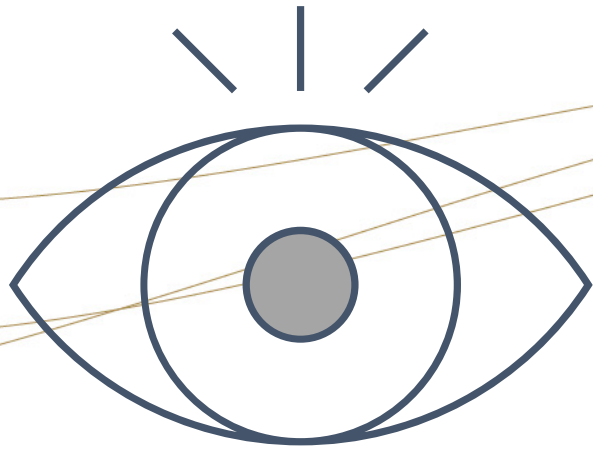
GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

FAO

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Survey



PURPOSE

is to gather valuable **feedback** and insights from National Focal Points involved in Regional Soil Partnerships (RSPs), in order to better understand their **experiences, challenges, and recommendations** for improvement.



AIM

is to enhance the effectiveness and impact of RSPs, facilitate **better collaboration and coordination** among members, and ultimately contribute to the successful implementation of the Global Soil Partnership's (GSP) goals and initiatives.

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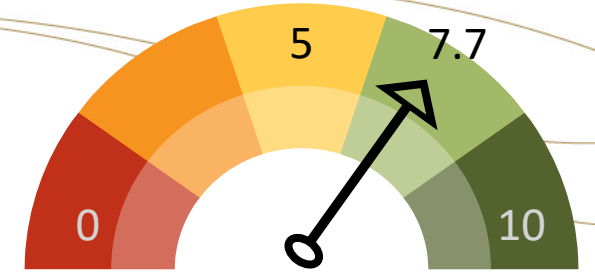
Participation

- **78** National Focal Points from all GSP Regions
- **58** countries + EU representatives

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Are RSPs Making a Difference?



Usefulness of RSPs >>> Rating: **7.7/10**

The results emphasise that...

- RSPs provide valuable support and meet stakeholders' expectations
- continued support for RSPs is important

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Enhancing RSPs' Effectiveness

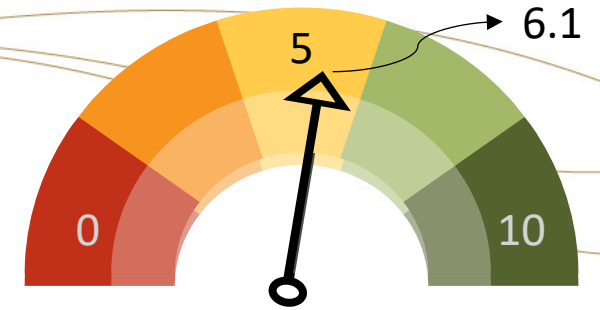
Making the most of RSPs?



YES: 48



NO: 30



Key Improvement Areas:

- Strengthen **regional cooperation** and active participation
- Tailor mission statements and **align regional interests**
- Enhance **planning, funding**, and programming
- **Improve virtual interactions** and support for focal points
- **Provide resources** for RSP meetings and activities

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Comments from Focal Points

01

Regionalise

*“Strategically assign a **mission** adapted for each region”*



02

Regionalise

*“Work is being done on important issues, but I feel that **interests** should be regionalized”*



03

More Engagement

*“More **interaction**, workshops to discuss the LAC **soil themes**, etc., in order to involve all countries”*



04

Funding

*“Local, national, and regional planning and allocation of **sufficient funds** and cooperation of regional countries”*



05

Funding

*“RSPs could contribute more to the GSP if **more resources** are provided to the RSPs, particularly to those with more limited resources”*



06

Funding

*“Suggesting the allocation of regional funds for **impactful projects**”*



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RSPs' Pivotal Functions & the new GSP Action Framework

Key Points

- ✓ Promoting sustainable soil management at all levels
- ✓ Collaborating with **GSP, FAO Regional Offices, and members**
- ✓ Supporting **research, capacity building, and project implementation**
- ✓ Tailoring the GSP Action Framework to specific **regional** policies and national soil conditions

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01

Regional Dialogue

“Facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation”



02

Localise

“Customize GSP Action Framework to regional contexts”



03

Capacity Building

“Enhance knowledge sharing and capacity building”



04

Representation

“Represent regional interests at the global level”



05

Funding

“Mobilize resources for projects and partnerships”

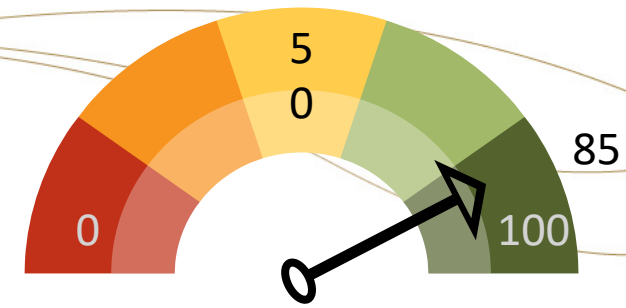


Comments from Focal Points

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The Importance of RSPs Governance



Should RSPs maintain their own governance?

Autonomy in decision-making: YES: 67, NO: 11 >> 85% YES

Key Messages

- Majority supports RSPs maintaining their governance structure
- Strengthening collaboration with relevant regional bodies

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Some Remarks from the FPs

- Involve regional partners in decision-making process
- Develop short- and long-term plans with regional partner inputs
- Conduct regular meetings (at least annually) and consultations
- Coordinate with national focal points and FAO regional offices
- Organize regional conferences, workshops, and trainings



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Focused Approach for RSPs: Specialized working groups and group chairs:

Should working groups and group chairs be elected for the different action areas?

YES: 64

NO: 11

- Majority supports electing working groups and group chairs for different action areas
- Targeting different soil related issues in order to achieve effective outcomes

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Empowering Regional Partners in Decision-making

How and when should regional partners be included in decision-making at RSPs level?

involving regional partners in short- and long-term plans, discussions, and consultations...

Empowering Regional Partners in Decision-making?

Annual forums, voting, and participation for collective decision-making.

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Collaboration: RSPs and Global Technical Networks

- Strong support for collaboration: YES: 77, NO: 1
- Information sharing and cooperation with global technical networks enhances RSPs' effectiveness



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RSPs Taking Charge with Specific Actions

In your opinion and in the understanding that each region has their own context and priorities, what specific actions should the Regional Soil Partnerships play?

- Developing regional activities within and beyond the scope of the GSP
- Fostering technical and scientific exchange
- Organizing engaging awareness-raising activities and campaigns
- Supporting resource mobilization, implementation plans, and collaboration
- Keeping countries informed and connected

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Conclusion

- RSPs: Crucial catalysts for improving soil management practices and promoting sustainable soil management
- Survey results can act as a valuable roadmap for strengthening RSPs and fostering global collaboration towards 2030

7 TAKEAWAY MESSAGES

- 1) Increased collaboration and communication:** strengthen cooperation among regional countries and facilitate knowledge sharing, experience exchange, and joint project implementation.
- 2) Adaptation to regional contexts:** RSPs should adapt global plans and guidelines to specific regional policies and national soil conditions, ensuring the most effective and relevant strategies are pursued.
- 3) Support for national soil institutions:** RSPs should provide support and build capacity for national soil institutions, helping to harmonize interventions and promote sustainable soil management.

7 TAKEAWAY MESSAGES

- 4) **Resource mobilization:** RSPs should play a key role in mobilizing financial resources
- 5) **Active engagement and participation:** RSPs should encourage active participation from all member countries, and influence the decision-making processes, fostering a sense of ownership and commitment.
- 6) **Addressing regional priorities:** RSPs should work to identify and address the specific soil-related challenges and priorities within their region, taking into account local needs and interests.
- 7) **Capacity building and training:** RSPs should focus on building capacity, offering training, and promoting best practices in sustainable soil management across the region.

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GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

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Thank you for your attention!

