

# Soil Partners' Day

13 July 2023 | 10:00 11:00

German room

## Soil mapping for resilient agrifood systems Central America and Sub-saharan Africa (SoilFER)

GSP, USG and the 3 beneficiary  
countries (Honduras, Guatemala and  
Zambia)

**GLOBAL SOIL  
PARTNERSHIP**  
11<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly

12-14 July 2023



# AGENDA

## Background

The SoilFER project aims to address the fertilizer crisis by providing short to long-term solutions. The focus is on enhancing soil fertility and health and building resilience to shocks through the adoption of sustainable soil management practices, starting with those that can provide short-term results within a process. It starts with the use of modern tools and harmonized techniques and protocols to map soil nutrients and functional soil properties at a detailed level. This data is then transformed into decision-support systems addressing the judicious use of fertilizers according to the principles of the International Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Use and Management of Fertilizers. Other tools and applications are also developed to support smallholder farmers on the ground to enhance soil productivity while halting degradation, reducing emissions, and making an efficient use of fertilizers to build resilient fertile soils in the medium term.

The project proposes a framework of spatiotemporal national soil information, fertilizer decision-support and nutrient-monitoring systems and mechanisms to increase farmers' resilience to fertilizer crisis as well as to climate change. Farmers will have access to state-of-the-art tools, web-based applications, and high-resolution nutrient and nutrient budget maps for better and integrated nutrient management and optimized fertilizer use at field scale. This project supports national governments by providing a robust, rigorous, and a responsive framework for integrated soil nutrient management through up-to-date soil data and information at local, subnational and national scale. The SoilFER project is funded by the State Department of the United States and is implemented in Guatemala, Honduras and Zambia. The current side event will present the status of the SoilFER project and the activities in each country.

10:00 - 10:05	Opening of the event, <b>Mr Lifeng Li</b> , Director Land and Water Division, FAO
10:05 - 10:25	Opening remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Mr Rodney M. Hunter</b>, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Permanent Representation of the United States of America to FAO</li> <li>◆ <b>H.E. Olga María Pérez Tuna</b>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to FAO</li> <li>◆ <b>Ms Maria del Pilar Aguilar Guerrero</b>, Deputy Permanent Representative of of Honduras to FAO</li> <li>◆ Permanent Representation of Zambia to FAO (TBC)</li> </ul>
10:25 - 10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The SoilFER project: status and challenges, <b>Mr Ronald Vargas</b>, FAO</li> <li>◆ SoilFER in Guatemala, <b>Mr Rafael Lopez</b>, Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación</li> <li>◆ SoilFER in Honduras, <b>Mr José Adonay Melara</b>, Secretaria de Agricultura y Ganadería</li> <li>◆ SoilFER in Zambia, <b>Mr Stalin Sichinga</b>, Zambian Agricultural Research Institute</li> </ul>
10:45 - 11:00	<p>Questions and answers</p> <p>Conclusions and way forward</p>

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