



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP 10<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly



23-25  
May 2022

VIRTUAL  
MEETING

**International Network on Soil Biodiversity  
(NETSOB) and establishment of the Global Soil  
Health and Biodiversity Observatory (GLOSOB)**

**George Brown, Embrapa (Brazil)**





# Launch of the International Network on Soil Biodiversity

in the framework of the  
Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 | 14:00 CET

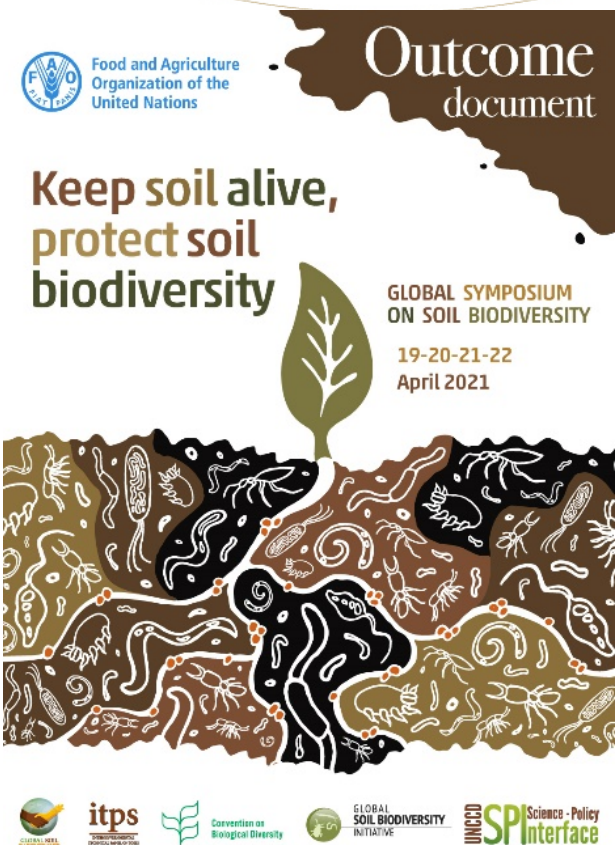


## NETSOB Objectives

- Support establishment of a **Global Soil Health and Biodiversity Observatory**;
- **Evidence for decision-making** in the field and at the policy level for sustainable use and conservation of SBD;
- **Strengthen knowledge** on soil biodiversity;
- Development of **internationally accepted bioindicators**;
- Contribute to **monitoring of soil biodiversity status and loss**;
- Promote **sustainable use of soil biodiversity and overall soil health**;
- Contribute to **adoption of good practices that enhance availability and safety of food**;
- Identify knowledge gaps and foster **cooperation in soil biodiversity research**.

# Key activities and working groups of NETSOB

Coordination: Peter de Ruiter (WUR) & Rosa Cuevas Corona (FAO)

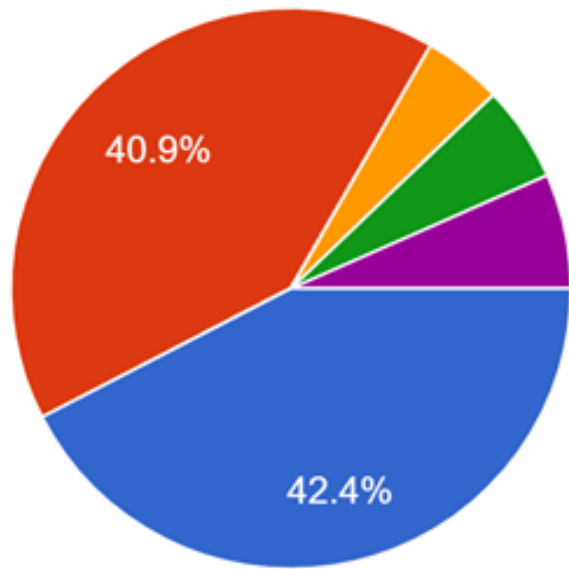


- **WG-1:** Develop guidelines for measuring, assessing and monitoring (MAM) soil biodiversity (Brown & Guerra)
- **WG-2:** Develop a field manual on soil biodiversity management that addresses soil biodiversity loss/conservation (Lindo & Battigelli)
- **WG-3:** Develop the methodology for the economic valuation of soil biodiversity (González & Montanarella)
- **WG-4:** Assess effective policies and legal instruments to curb soil biodiversity loss (Bagnara & Malorgio)



NETSOB registration form

# Participation: 922 NETSOB members from around the world



- GW-1 on measurement, assessment and monitoring of soil biodiversity
- GW-2 on sustainable use, management, and conservation of soil biodiversity
- GW-3 on the economics of soil biodiversity
- GW-4 on policies and legal instruments related to soil biodiversity
- I only wish to receive the news and updates from NETSOB

## Registration form:

<https://forms.gle/rdGLCPcADQW3sST96>

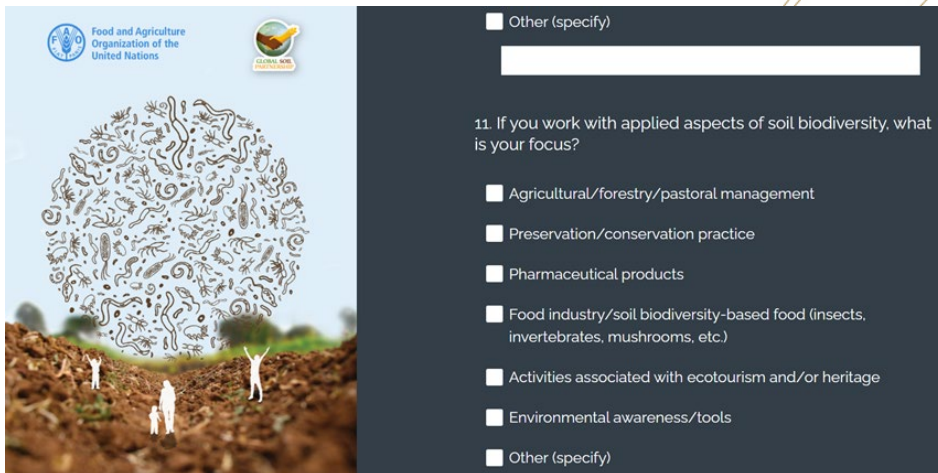


# Towards a global observatory...

**Global survey**  
**2696 responses**  
**139 countries**  
**1351 institutions**  
**March 10-31, 2022**

- 1) General information;
- 2) Microbes and microbial activity;
- 3) Microfauna (including Protists);
- 4) Mesofauna;
- 5) Macrofauna;
- 6) Megafauna;
- 7) Community level/functional assessments of soil biodiversity;
- 8) Soil biodiversity inventory/monitoring activities;
- 9) Ecosystem services, applications, and threats to soil biodiversity;
- 10) Education/Communication activities; and
- 11) Public policies related to soil biodiversity.

**Who is doing  
what, where  
when, how? +  
Policy issues...**



# Survey respondents:

Q5: Gender: **Female 37%, male 61%**

Q6: Representation: **Europe and Eurasia 39%, Asia 22%, LAC 17%**

Q10: Type of organization: **Educational 52%, research 35%, government 25%**

Q13: Level of work: **Local 57%, national 56%, regional 30%, global 19%**

Q14: Main land use system studied: **Annual crops 52%, native vegetation 40%**

Q11: Applied aspects : **Agricultural/forestry/pastoral management 75%,  
environmental awareness/tools 25%**

## Some key answers

**Q91: Does your country have national soil inventory on soil biodiversity?**

**Yes 24%, No 31%, Don't know 45%**

**Q92: Main biota involved:**

**Microbes 78%, microfauna 46%, mesofauna 45%, macrofauna 46%, megafauna 25%**

**Q108: Main practical applications of soil biodiversity assessed:**

**Bioindicators to assess soil health 57%, nutrient cycling 43%, other ES...**

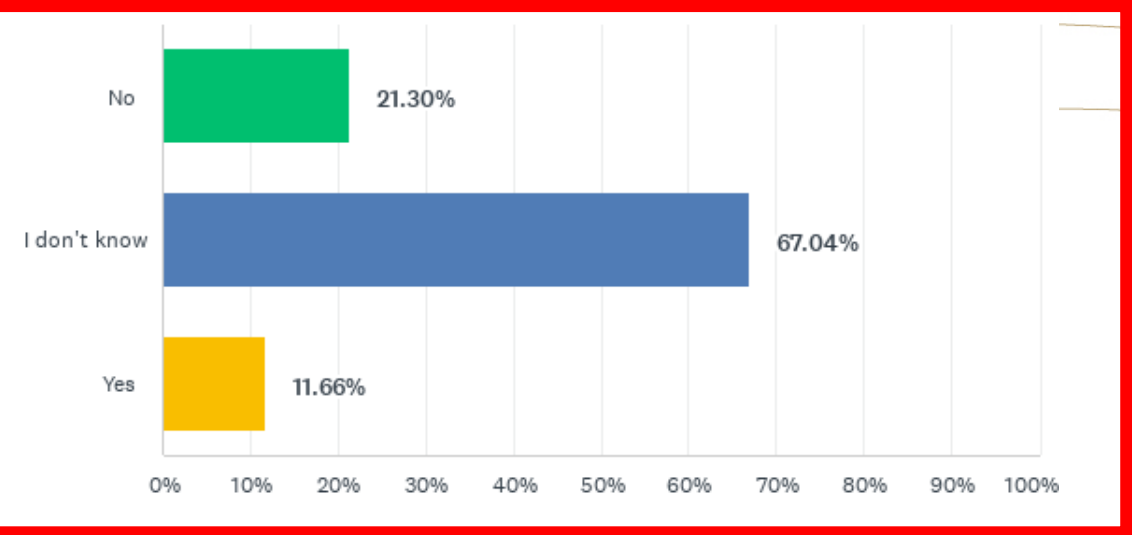
**Q110: What barriers to implement better soil biodiversity uses/applications:**

**Lack of financial resources 65%, Lack of information/knowledge 63%, policy/institutional constraints 42%**

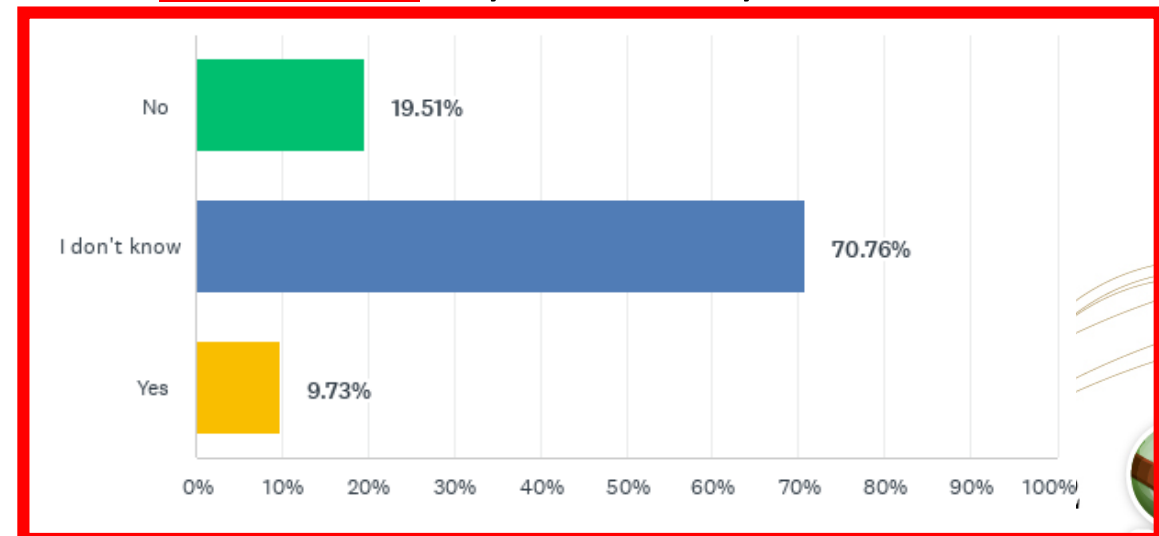
# Global Soil Health and Biodiversity Observatory (GLOSOB)

- Monitor and forecast soil biodiversity and soil health and serve as the framework for developing policies, promoting good practices, and developing national capacities on the state-of-the-art tools and methods on soil biodiversity and soil health assessment and maintenance.

Q122: International legal instrument to protect soils that is relevant to soil biodiversity?



Q121: National measures to protect soil biodiversity in your country?





# Requests to the Plenary Assembly

- Welcome the **establishment of NETSOB** and support its work plan;
- **Encourage countries and stakeholders to join NETSOB** and participate in its different activities to **strengthen knowledge** on the measurement, assessment, monitoring and sustainable use of **soil biodiversity**; and
- Welcome **the establishment of the Global Soil Health and Biodiversity Observatory (GLOSOB)** and encourage Members and resource partners to support it.



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# GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

## 10<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly

**Thank you for your attention!**

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GLOBAL SOIL  
PARTNERSHIP

**Rosalina González**  
**Luca Montanarella**  
**Gian Luca Bagnara**  
**Giulio Malorgio**  
**Zoe Lindo**  
**Jeff Battigelli**  
**Carlos Guerra**