

World Soil Day 2021

Theme: "Halt soil salinization, boost soil productivity"

SUMMARY

ACTIVITY: Celebration of the 2021 World Soil Day (WSD)
LOCATION: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - Khartoum
DATE: 5th December 2021
TARGET AUDIENCE: Relevant Government Ministries/Agencies, Private Sector, Donors, Heads of UN agencies, Media, etc.

Background:

World Soil Day (WSD) is held annually on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources. An international day to celebrate soil was recommended by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002. Under the leadership of the Kingdom of Thailand and within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership, FAO has supported the formal establishment of WSD as a global awareness raising platform. The FAO Conference unanimously endorsed World Soil Day in June 2013 and requested its official adoption at the 68th UN General Assembly. In December 2013, the UN General Assembly responded by designating 5 December 2014 as the first official World Soil Day.

The Goal is to raise the awareness about:

- Soil salinization and sodification are major soil degradation processes threatening ecosystem and are recognized as being among the most important problems at a global level for agricultural production, food security and sustainability in arid and semi-arid regions.
- Salt-affected soils have serious impacts on soil functions, such as in the decrease in agricultural productivity, water quality, soil biodiversity, and soil erosion. Salt-affected soils have a decreased ability to act as a buffer and filter against pollutants. Salt-affected soils reduce both the ability of crops to take up water and the availability of micronutrients. They also concentrate ions that are toxic to plants and may degrade the soil structure.

Proposed Activities

WSD Event

- When: 5th December 2021
- Where: Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations - Khartoum
- Who: Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, FAO Khartoum, The French Embassy in Khartoum, University of Khartoum, Agriculture Research Corporation (ARC)
- What: Speech, presentation, video, distribution of Sudan Soil Atlas and Catalogue
- Invitees: Relevant Government Ministries/Agencies, Private Sector, Donors, Heads of UN agencies, etc.
- Media: Yes

The programme

Time	Activity
11:00 11:05	Registration
11:00 11:10	Welcoming Remarks by FAO Representative
11:11 11:20	Video
11:20 11:35	Presentation by Prof Doka
11: 36 11:40	Remarks by the French Ambassador H E Raja Rabia
11:41 11:46	Remarks by Vice Chancellor University of Khartoum Prof Fadwa Adel Rahman
11:47 11:50	Presentation of 100 copies of Sudan Soil Atlas and Sudan Soil Catalogue to University of Khartoum by French Ambassador
11:50 12:00	Vote of Thanks by Prof Abdelmoneum - Director General of Agriculture Research Corporation; Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
12:05	Photos

WSD Media

Within the event videos about soil will be played and some material will be distributed.