

PARTNERING FOR A PAN-AFRICAN SOIL INFORMATION SYSTEM

Tuesday 7th May, 14:00 - 15:30

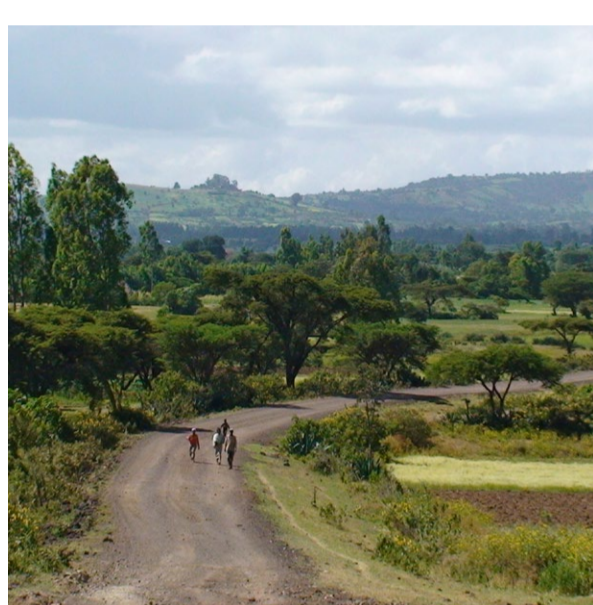
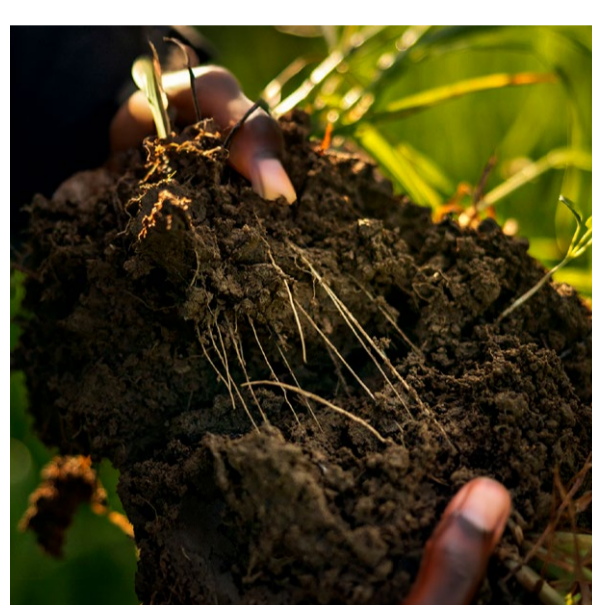
Tent 2, Kenya International Conference Centre (KICC) Nairobi, Kenya
Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health (AFSH) Summit

JOIN US FOR AN INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

Healthy soil is the foundation of sustainable food systems, sufficient crop production and resilience in the face of extreme climate events. Yet, Africa's soils are in crisis, suffering from loss of soil organic matter and fertility, water and wind erosion, soil acidification, loss of soil biodiversity, soil salinity, due to human activities, including intensive farming.

Accurate and timely soil data is key to improving our understanding of soil and enhancing soil health. Yet creating, operationalizing and maintaining continental, regional, and national soil health monitoring and soil information systems to inform investments and support decision making on sustainable soil management requires large-scale public private partnerships and data-driven platforms that integrate data from field and remote sensors. Such digital technologies have the potential to transform agricultural development and advance soil health. Farmers can receive granular insights, interpreted with the help of digital applications or the mediation of advisory service providers. Policymakers benefit from predictive modelling on soil erosion and salinization, enabling the design of appropriate policies.

In Africa, there is currently no comprehensive, consistent, and integrated soil information system that offers compatible information across datasets and geographies. Whilst public and private datasets exist, the high effort required to combine them to offer intelligence and critical knowledge for sustainable and productive agriculture is too high. Many stakeholders have been offering soil data and information products to the key stakeholders in the agricultural sector, including but not limited to FAO (INSII and GLOSOLAN), the CGIAR, ISRIC, and the Africa Soil Information Service (AFSIS). **There is a need and opportunity to establish interoperable national soil data infrastructures as a global common good to hold precise, local soil data securely and cost-efficiently to ensure enhanced soil health in Africa.**



ACTION UNDERWAY

This session will discuss work that is already underway and plans to scale and accelerate action in Kenya and Tanzania, interconnected into a Soil Knowledge Exchange network.

The discussions at this event aim to accelerate the operationalization of the Soil Knowledge Exchange.

SPEAKERS (tbc)

Leigh Ann Winowiecki
Global Research Leader:
Soil & Land Health
Co-lead:
Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health

Anne Beathe Tvinnereim
Minister of International Development Norway

Hussein Mohamed Bashe
Minister of Agriculture for the United Republic of Tanzania

Paul Ronoh
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries & Co-operatives, Kenya

Estherine Fotabong
Director of Agriculture, Food Security & Environmental Sustainability

Aggrey Agumya
Executive Director

Henry Kinyua
Advisor Crops & Value Chains, Presidential Economic Transformation Secretariat, Kenya

Salim J. Kinyimu
Director, Information & Communication Technology

Thomas N. Bwana
Director General

Geoffrey Kirenga
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Tor-G. Vågen
Principal Scientist

Parmesh Shah
Global Lead for Rural Livelihoods & Agricultural Jobs

Tawanda Hove
Senior Program Officer-Digital Agronomy

Ingvild Langhus
Senior Adviser, Department for Climate & Environment, Section for Food

Bernard Vanlauwe
Deputy Director, Director for Research for Development (R4D) of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture

Simone Sala
Director of Global Soil & Ecosystem Solutions

Øystein Botillen
Director, Strategic Partnerships

Manyewu Mutamba
Head of Agriculture

We look forward to your active participation!

