



The Global Soil Partnership

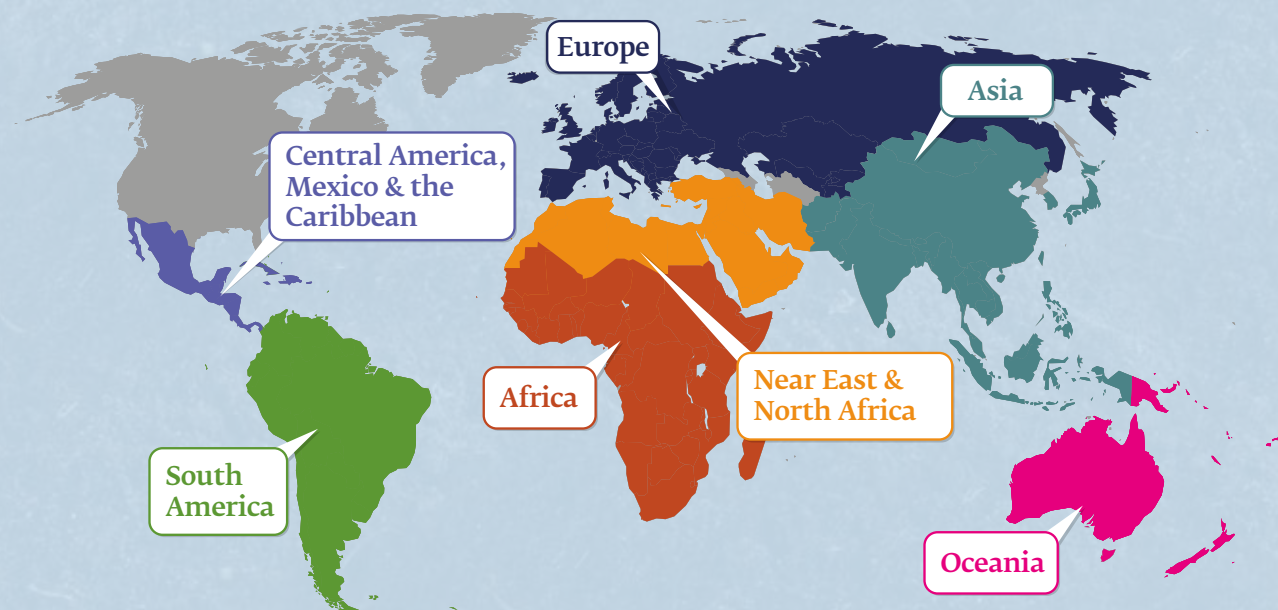
The goal of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) is to improve global governance of the planet's limited soil resources. There is no other way to guarantee healthy and productive soils for a food secure world, and sustain those essential ecosystem services on which our livelihoods and societies depend on, such as water regulation and supply of clean water, climate regulation, biodiversity conservation and cultural services, to name but a few.

The GSP focus of action is around five pillars:

1. Promoting sustainable management of soil resources.
2. Encouraging investment, technical cooperation, policy, education awareness and extension in soils.
3. Promoting targeted soil research and development.
4. Enhancing the quantity and quality of soil data and information.
5. Harmonizing methods, measurements and indicators for the sustainable management and protection of soil resources.



Regional Partnerships of the GSP





Why the Partnership

The premise was that the **maintenance of healthy soils** required for feeding the growing population of the world and meeting their huge needs for biomass, fiber, fodder, and other products **could only be ensured through a strong partnership-based initiative**. After an extensive consultative process the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) was established in December 2012.

As an 'interactive and responsive' partnership, based on the principle of voluntary participation, **the GSP is open to governments, regional organizations, institutions and other stakeholders** with interest in soils at various levels. FAO Members are partners by default, while other officially registered partners include international and regional organizations, universities, civil institutions, research centers, soil science societies, farmer associations, and donors.



The Global Soil Partnership Secretariat is hosted by the FAO who makes available staff and basic resources for its functioning. As the GSP activities should be supported by extra budgetary contributions, the 'Healthy Soils Facility' was established to allow a transparent resource mobilization. Soils are the foundation of food security and ecosystem services, fertile soils are not everywhere and require our care if to respond to the growing human challenges.

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MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.fao.org/globalsoilpartnership>