



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

An illustration of two hands, one brown and one yellow, holding a golden wheat stalk. The background is a landscape with a dirt road, green fields, and mountains under a cloudy sky.

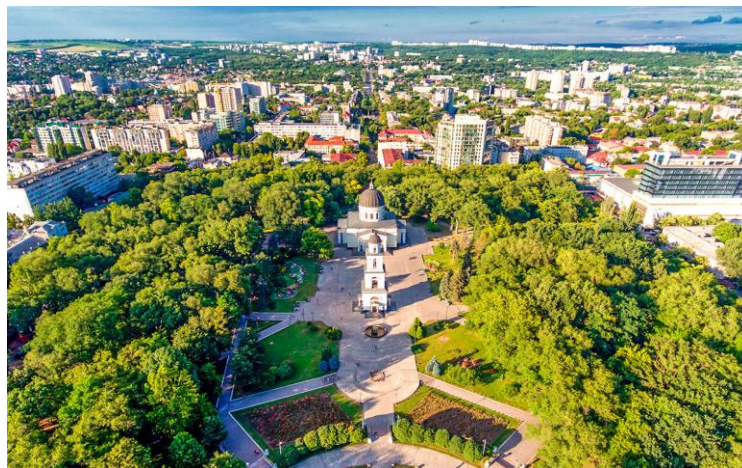
7th EUROPEAN SOIL PARTNERSHIP Plenary Meeting

Progress report on the Implementation of the Eurasian Soil Partnership regional plan activities in 2019-2020

10 SEPTEMBER 2020



General activities



- The Plenary Assembly of the EASP was held in Chisinau, Moldova, on September 30 – October 1 2019. An updated implementation plan for the period 2020-2023 and Chisinau Declaration was adopted there.
- The EASP Plenary Assembly was followed by the European RESOLAN and the 2nd Meeting of the International Network of Black Soils. The 3rd meeting of the International Network of Black Soils was planned to be held in Ukraine (September 2020), but due to a pandemic, it was postponed to May 2021.



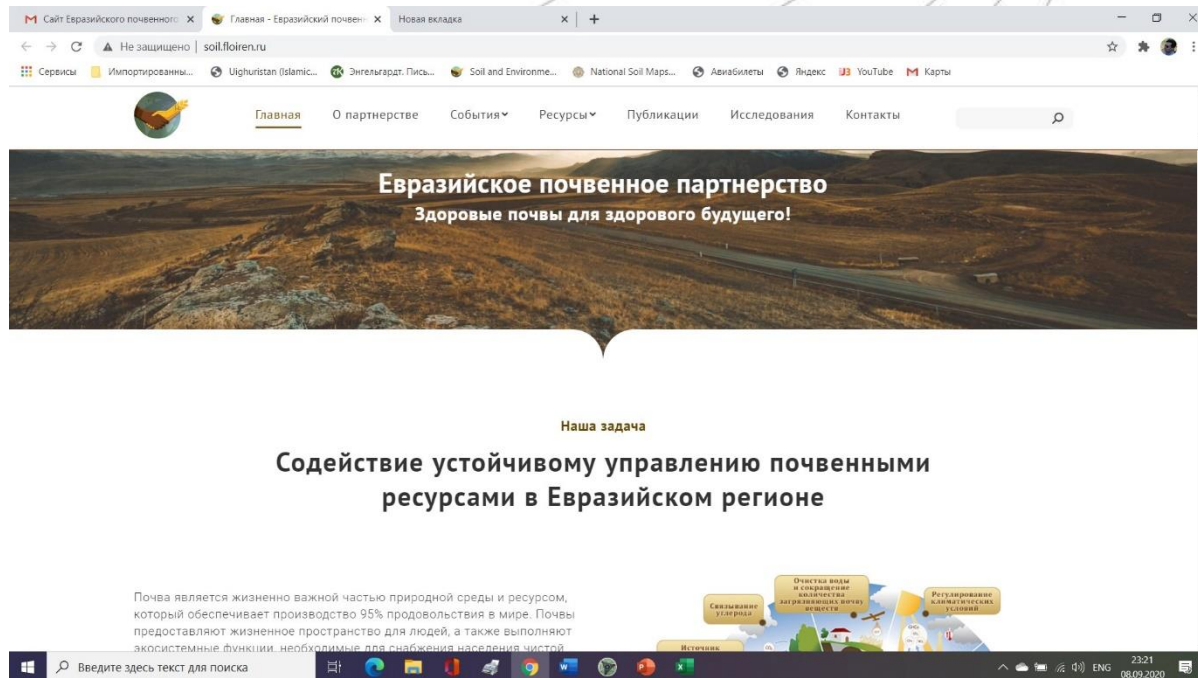
Pillar 1

- All countries are involved in activities and adhere to the recommendations of the VGSSM regarding ten major threats to soils.
- A guideline on sustainable land management (SLM) practices for agricultural universities in Central Asia are being prepared for publication together with ICARDA.
- A book on SSM in Eurasia is under preparation (to be published in October 2020).
- Official translations of VGSSM into Ukrainian and Turkish languages have been made and published in corresponding languages
- A National Action Plan for Sustainable Soil Management in Turkey has been developed



Pillar 2

- The Eurasian Soil Portal was updated; brochures, posters, calendars and animated products have been published, which contribute to raising awareness and spreading knowledge about soils



Pillar 2

- The Dokuchaev Central Soil Museum (St. Petersburg, Russia) developed a series of exhibitions devoted to the International Year of Periodical Table of Elements (UNESCO) – **“Chemical elements in soils”**
- GSP-supported development of virtual soil exhibition based on the Williams Soil-Agrochemical Museum (Moscow, Russia)



Pillar 2

- World Soil Day subregional celebration was held in Sochi (Russia) on the 5th of December 2019



- Also, festive events were organized in Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan



Pillar 3

- Collaboration has been established with international research programs, such as CIRCASA under the EU "Horizon-2020" Program.
- In Russia, a thematic call for research projects on soil resources was opened by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research in 2019 (each project lasts three years, 46 research projects were supported).
- In Ukraine, several soil projects were sent to the National Research Foundation competition in 2020.



Small research projects on soil salinity and SOC supported in Eurasia (1st round, 2019)

- **Fikrat Feyziyev (Azerbaijan): Assessing salt-affected soils in arid irrigated agricultural areas using remote sensing and GIS**
- **Karen Ghazaryan (Armenia): Groundwater and soil salinity in Ararat plain of Armenia: Assessment of status and development of tools for sustainable soil management**
- **Ermek Baibagyshov(Kyrgyzstan): Assessment of automorphically-saline soils in Naryn region of Kyrgyzstan and their improvement through using of compost**
- **Arkadiy Levin (Ukraine): Technology of organic and organo-mineral amendments production and application for soil organic carbon management**
- **Tatiana Ciollacu (Moldova): Testing and synchronized implementation of biophysical-technological procedures of amelioration of salt affected soils and chernozems on agricultural fields affected by halomorphism in the Republic of Moldova**



Small research projects on soil salinity and SOC supported in Eurasia (2nd round, 2020)

- Tatyana Khamzina (Uzbekistan): **Enhancing sustainable soil and agroecosystem management on salt affected landscapes in the Northern Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan**
- Samvel Sahakyan (Armenia): **To develop new methods of reclamation of secondary Saline-Alkaline soils using local wastes**
- Roza Orozakunova (Kyrgyzstan): **Preservation of black soils of the Eastern Issyk-Kul of the Kyrgyz Republic**
- Serghei Corcimaru (Moldova): **Microbiological tools for assessment and prediction of the impact of soil management on soil organic carbon in high-organic black soils of Moldova**



Pillar 4

- Under the leadership of the EASP Secretariat, national Soil Data Facilities (SDF) have been created in Russia, Moldova, Belarus and Azerbaijan. This work has become effective thanks to the close collaboration of the Secretariat with the NFPs.
- In Ukraine, the Soil Information Center of Ukraine was established based on NSC ISSAR (the leading Ukrainian partner of GSP) with the support of the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences and the Ministries of Ecology and Agriculture.



Pillar 4

- Capacity building for the introduction of digital soil mapping, saline soil management and SOC mapping with the participation of the EASP and GSP secretariats.
 - Soil data centre with the dedicated server having a permanent IP address and RDC (remote desktop control) was established in UZGIP Institute (Tashkent, Uzbekistan). Two workplaces organized for specialists from the GIS department. Raw data collected, including agrochemical observation data and vector spatial data.
 - National soil data centre (18.11.19) of Moldova was deployed and hosted by the EASP Secretariat (gis.soil.msu.ru)
- Training on soil data management was conducted.
 - Agricultural Observatory Training on 2-3 April 2019 was organized jointly by the Soil Science Department of Lomonosov Moscow State University and the World Bank;
 - The training was organized on soil data management in Tashkent, Uzbekistan and Chisinau, Moldova.



Pillar 4

- In March 2020, a training was held for the EaSP countries in Turkey to prepare national soil salinity maps as part of the preparation of the global saline soil map (GSSmap)
- Soil map of Kyrgyzstan 1:600.000 was digitized (https://gis.soil.msu.ru/soil_db/kyrgyzstan/)
- **ONGOING:** the EASP conducts a series of practical webinars on the development of national soil information systems (NSIS) or data-centers. About 30 participants of 7 countries (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation and Uzbekistan) attend the webinars (September 1-15, 2020)



Pillar 5

- The Regional Soil Laboratory Network (RESOLAN) for Eurasia and Europe was established through its first meeting in Chişinău, Moldova on 2-5 October 2019
- EASP specialists were trained at the GSP workshop on harmonization of laboratory soil research methods (GLOSOLAN) in Rome (28-30 October 2019), to facilitate the transfer of knowledge, skills and CD of EASP institutions.
- Some of the EASP soil laboratories took part in the GLOSOLAN ring tests and successfully passed certification (for example, Ukraine) and received the right to FAO support to improve their analytical equipment.



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Thank you for your attention

