



wageningen soil conference

SOIL SCIENCE IN A CHANGING WORLD

“Essentially, all life depends upon the soil ... There can be no life without soil and no soil without life; they have evolved together.”

— Charles E. Kellogg, USDA Yearbook of Agriculture, 1938

FIRST CIRCULAR

Soil Science in a Changing World

27-31 AUGUST 2017

WAGENINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS

Mankind is currently facing unprecedented challenges regarding food security, water resources, climate change and biodiversity. The participants of the 2015 edition of the Wageningen Soil Conference agreed that soils play a key role in confronting these challenges. In their resolution, they emphasized the important role of soil organic carbon for several soil functions, and that a professional communication strategy is needed to ensure that society benefits from soil-based solutions.

In 2017, Wageningen University & Research would like to invite you to the third edition of the Wageningen Soil Conference, to continue work on identifying actions for soil-based solutions that help achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, to initiate programs that aim at a lasting increase in soil organic carbon, and to develop narratives on soil-based solutions that are convincing to policy makers and other stakeholders.



Climate change. Food security. Water resources. Biodiversity. Land Functions.

Soil scientists have kept a remarkably low profile in the discussions on these topics that take place in international, multidisciplinary think tanks. In this conference we will develop narratives about soil-based solutions that are needed to participate meaningfully in these discussions. We want to develop these narratives in an interactive way, by top key-note speeches, challenging debates, inspiring workshops and master classes as well as oral and poster presentations by participants.

The Wageningen Soil Meetings aim to provide a platform for:

- Sharing knowledge of soils across the world and across science
- Engaging in interdisciplinary exchanges of ideas, thoughts, and opinions
- Thinking out of the box and being innovative and creative
- Developing narratives on soil-based solutions for global problems that are convincing policy makers and other stakeholders

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

With this conference we want to emphasize the importance of soil science for combating and mitigating the challenges of our time: food security, water resources, climate change, land functions, ensuring biodiversity and how to govern these issues and create policy for taking effective measures.

This will be the third edition of the Wageningen Soil Conference series. We have chosen a thematic approach instead of the disciplinary organisation of most conferences.



At the Wageningen Soil Meeting each conference day will be divided into two thematic parts. Each part will cover one of the global issues that will be addressed during the conference. The session will start with two key-note speeches followed by a lively debate between the two keynote speakers. Extended abstracts of both keynote speeches will be available for all prior to the conference through the conference website and in the conference program book.

The second part of each session will be organised in parallel sessions. Participants can attend one of the oral presentation sessions. In the program ample time will be allocated for poster contributions, discussion and meeting your peers.



The Scientific Program will be organized around six themes:

FOOD SECURITY

healthy soils, healthy people



- Soil productivity/fertility
- Soils and micro-nutrients
- Organic matter and soil productivity
- Soil Information to feed the world



WATER RESOURCES

blue and green water



- Water harvesting in dry lands
- Scaling soil-hydrological functions
- Soils as physical and chemical filters
- Optimizing water-use efficiency

BIODIVERSITY

soils as a hotbed for life



- Land use change and soil biodiversity
- Climate change and soil biodiversity
- Soil DNA-repository
- Soil contamination and soil eco-system functions

LAND FUNCTIONS

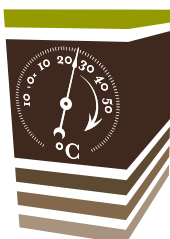
soil-scapes in the anthropocene



- Combating the loss of fertile soil
- Desertification
- Consequences of land use change
- Cascading carbon transport

CLIMATE CHANGE

soils and feedbacks



- Carbon sequestration
- Soil respiration and GHG emissions
- Changing farmers best practices
- Waterproof deltas

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY

soils on the global political agenda



- Soil Science and the Millennium Development Goals
- EU Water & Soil directives: policy driven soil research
- UN convention to combat desertification
- Soils in Horizon 2020



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Sunday (August 27th)	Arrival/registration, <i>ice-breaker</i>
Monday	Full-day papers
Tuesday	<i>Field trip</i> , conference dinner
Wednesday	Full-day papers, <i>free evening</i>
Thursday (August 31st)	Full-day papers, <i>closing drinks</i>
Friday (September, 1st)	Networking day/ <i>side events</i>

SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

AND PROCEEDINGS PUBLICATION

The proceedings of the conference will consist of a digital abstract book.

REGISTRATION COSTS AND PROVISION

The full registration costs for the conference will be 450 euro, this includes a delegate pack containing a conference bag with programme book, lunches and refreshments during the meeting. For students a reduced fee of 200 euro is available. Submitting an abstract is possible for a fee of 25 euro.

SOCIAL PROGRAM

A choice of various field trips will be offered on Tuesday. The topics of the field trips will be announced in the next circular.

We will also provide room for groups to work together. During the first edition of the Wageningen Soil Conference, such group collaboration resulted in the launching of the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (www.globalsoilbiodiversity.org).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Deadline for abstracts: 23 March 2017

Replies to authors: 8 May 2017

The website for abstract submission will be available soon.

Web: www.wur.eu/wageningensoilconference

VENUE AND HOUSING

Wageningen City of Life Sciences

Housing possibilities will be offered in the next circular.

