

Objective

The objective of this meeting is to discuss scientific challenges in soil science to make valuable contribution to global development among WUR-scientists.

We will discuss the need for good quality soil information and how this can be used in an efficient and correct way.

Plenary introductions are made by eminent, and internationally known scientists.

This event also introduces the new Management Board of ISRIC - World Soil Information.



ISRIC - World Soil Information

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Ground Truth



Date: 15th June 2009

Time: 12:30

Duivendaal 9

Wageningen, NL

Ground Truth

The current crises in the financial, energy and food sector have created a sense of urgency to seek for new concepts to pursue strategies for development and growth that are truly sustainable.

The awareness among policymakers, private enterprises and society is growing to make better use of the natural resources. Soil, water, atmosphere and biodiversity are amongst the precious resources that should be used to the benefit of human welfare. Their quality and quantity should be maintained at levels that allows



sustained exploitation for the coming generations.

The worlds' carrying capacity roots in the soil - the living skin of planet earth. Attention for soils has been dwindling, with overemphasis on erosion, contamination, desertification and compaction, threatening worlds' production capacity. There is a need, however, for *ground truth* and dialogue with stakeholders. How do we collect soil data, how is the information provided to the users, and what contributions can soil information make to sustain human welfare?

ISRIC – World Soil Information is an international institution and plays an important role in raising our understanding of global processes like food production, climate change, and in identifying options for agricultural development. At ISRIC, we realise that in modern society scientific input is essential and policy debates cannot be escaped. As *Nature* recently wrote: “..if responsible researchers do not offer their opinions on policy, others will.”

Schedule

12.30 - 13.15 Lunch

13.15-13.30 Prem Bindraban (ISRIC)
Objective of this Afternoon and Introduction New Board and Science Council

13:30 - 13:35 Wallie Hoogendoorn
(WUR, Chair Board of ISRIC)

13.35 - 13.50 Rudy Rabbinge
(AGRA - Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa)

13.50 - 14.25 Ratan Lal (Ohio State University)
The Role of Soils in Global Development Issues

14.25 - 14.55 Peter de Ruiter (WUR)
Opportunities for collaboration WUR & ISRIC

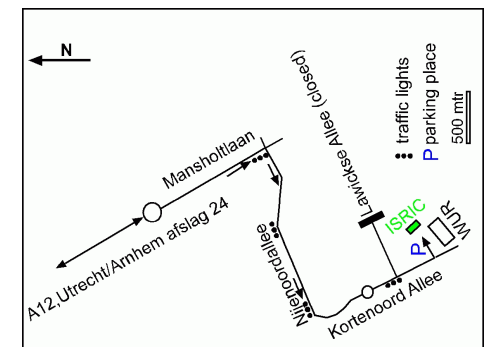
14:55 - 15:20 Alfred Hartemink (ISRIC)
The Need for Good Soil Information

15:20 - 15.45 Tea

15.45 - 16.15 Godert van Lynden (ISRIC)
The Use of Good Soil Information

16.15 - 17:00 Plenary Discussion
Chair: Prem Bindraban

17:00 - 18:30 Drinks and Snacks in the World Soil
Museum - Quick Tour



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