



wageningen conference
on applied soil science

— SOIL SCIENCE IN A CHANGING WORLD —



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

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Soil Science in a Changing World

18–22 SEPTEMBER 2011, WAGENINGEN





Conference Idea

- Tri-annual conferences on applied soil science in Wageningen
- Relatively small meeting (150 – 200 participants)
- Main aim is to provide a platform for:
 - Discussing the possible contributions of soil science in combating the challenges of our time: food security, climate change, loss of biodiversity, water resources.
 - Engaging in interdisciplinary exchanges of ideas, thoughts, and opinions.
 - Sharing knowledge of soils across the world, across science, and between science and policy.



Conference Format

- Thematic approach around global issues
- Thought provoking debates between keynote speakers
- Some confirmed keynote speakers are:
 - Prof. dr. Diana Wall
 - Prof. dr. Louisa Jackson
 - Prof. dr. Wim van der Putten
 - Prof. dr. Richard Bardgett
 - Director Ladislav Miko (DG Environment)
 - dr. Luca Montanarella
- Parallel sessions that contain oral presentations, master classes, and workshops



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Sunday (September 18th):

Arrival, Registration
Ice-breaker

Monday:

Full-day papers
Social event - TBA

Tuesday:

Field trip
conference dinner

Wednesday:

Full-day papers
Free evening

Thursday (September 22nd):

Half-day papers
closing lunch
Delegates depart



Topics

WATER RESOURCES

Blue and green water

- Water harvesting in dry lands,
- Scaling soil-hydrological observations to watershed scale water balances,
- Soils as physical and chemical filters,
- Optimizing water use efficiency.



BIODIVERSITY

Soils as a hotbed for life

- Land use change and its effects on soil,
- Climate change and soil biodiversity,
- Towards a DNA-repository for soil biological research.





Topics

FOOD SECURITY

Healthy soils, healthy people.

- Soil productivity/fertility,
- Combating the loss of fertile soil (erosion, desertification, salinisation),
- Soils and micro-nutrient content of home-grown crops,
- The role of organic matter for soil productivity.



GOVERNANCE AND POLICY

Soils on the global political agenda

- UN convention to combat desertification,
- EU Water & Soil directives: policy driven soil research,
- Millennium Development Goals (MDG's): the contribution of soil science,
- Ethnopedology: combining local soil knowledge and scientific soil knowledge.





Topics

CLIMATE CHANGE

Hot and humid, soils and moisture

- Desertification,
- Climate variability, increased soil transpiration,
- Waterproof delta: salt intrusion in coastal areas,
- Carbon sequestration, the role of soil and vegetation.





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DEADLINES

Deadline for abstracts:	30 March 2011
Replies to authors:	1 June 2011
Deadline for extended abstracts:	1 August 2011

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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