

## 21<sup>st</sup> WCSS

The World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS) is the main event of the IUSS. It takes place every 4 years and is open to all Members of the IUSS and other participants.



**Rio de Janeiro August | 12 - 17**

The 21st World Congress of Soil Science will be dedicated to the theme “Soil Science: Beyond food and fuel”. It will review the key role of soil science in answering some of the topical key questions regarding future food and water security, environmental protection and climate change mitigation.

The impressive scientific program will comprise 8 major conferences, 16 Interdivisional Symposia, 3 Innovation Technical Symposia, 73 Divisional Symposia, 53 Poster Sessions, 16 Symposia organised by the IUSS’ numerous Working Groups, plus Voluntary and Satellites Symposia. The programme is rounded off by social events, the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Soil Judging Contest, Soil Cinema and Soil Art to cite but a few.

There are more than 3,300 registered participants from 101 countries of which 42% are students. 3,200 abstracts have been accepted.

For further information go to [www.21wcss.org](http://www.21wcss.org) or contact Flavio Camargo, Vice President Congress, at [fcamargo@ufrgs.br](mailto:fcamargo@ufrgs.br)

### The Presidents Committee:

President, IUSS  
Rattan Lal  
Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science  
Director, Carbon Management and Sequestration Center  
The Ohio State University  
Columbus, OH 43210, USA  
[LAL.1@osu.edu](mailto:LAL.1@osu.edu)

President Elect, IUSS  
Takashi Kosaki  
Faculty of International Communication,  
Aichi University,  
4-60-6 Hiraikicho, Nakamura-ku,  
Nagoya 453-8777, Japan  
[kosaki8@vega-aichi-u.ac.jp](mailto:kosaki8@vega-aichi-u.ac.jp)

Past President, IUSS  
Rainer Horn  
Institute for Plant Nutrition and Soil Sciences  
Christian-Albrechts-University  
24098 Kiel, Germany  
[rhorn@soils.uni-kiel.de](mailto:rhorn@soils.uni-kiel.de)

Treasurer  
Andreas Baumgarten  
[andreas.baumgarten@ages.at](mailto:andreas.baumgarten@ages.at)

Vice President Congress  
Flavio Camargo  
[fcamargo@ufrgs.br](mailto:fcamargo@ufrgs.br)

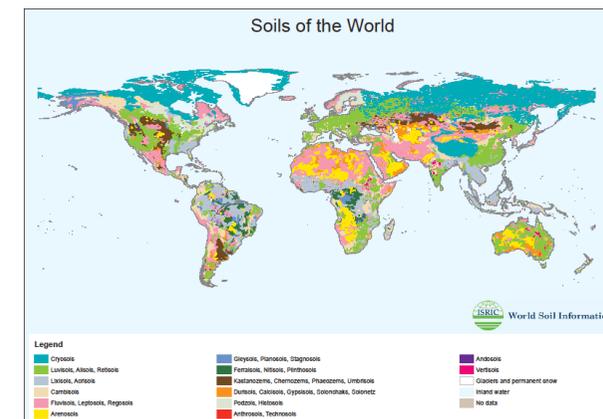
**IUSS Secretariat:**  
Secretary  
Sigbert Huber  
T: +43-(0)1-313 04/3670  
M: +43-(0) 664 80013 3670  
F: +43-(0)1-313 04/3533  
[iuss@umweltbundesamt.at](mailto:iuss@umweltbundesamt.at)

Spittelauer Laende 5  
1090 Vienna  
Österreich/Austria  
<http://www.iuss.org>



## International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS)

The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) is the global union of soil scientists. The objectives of the IUSS are to promote all branches of soil science, and to support all soil scientists across the world in the pursuit of their activities.



<http://www.iuss.org/>

## Introducing the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS)

The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) was founded as the International Society of Soil Science (ISSS) on 19th May 1924. The IUSS has been a scientific union member of ICSU (International Council for Science) since 1993; as of July 2018 ICSU will be called ISC (International Science Council).

The objectives of the IUSS are to foster all branches of the soil sciences and their applications, and to give support to soil scientists in the pursuit of their activities. In addition, the IUSS aims to put soils and soil science on the global agenda!

### Activities

IUSS takes action to advance soil science, including arranging of meetings, conferences and the World Congress of Soil Science;

It provides a structure for managing the science of soil science and arranges for the publication and distribution of material relevant to the interests of the Union, and its members as well as arranging for studies in particular fields, such as specific definitions, classifications and databases;

It establishes cooperation with other related organizations and represents Soil Science to a wide external audience.

### Organisation

The scientific activities of IUSS are undertaken through 4 Divisions (D) and each Division has 5 to 6 Commissions (C):

#### D1. Soils in Space and Time

- C1.1 Soil Morphology and Micromorphology
- C1.2 Soil Geography
- C1.3 Soil Genesis
- C1.4 Soil Classification
- C1.5 Pedometrics
- C1.6 Paleopedology

#### D2. Soil Properties and Processes

- C2.1 Soil Physics
- C2.2 Soil Chemistry
- C2.3 Soil Biology
- C2.4 Soil Mineralogy
- C2.5 Soil Physical/Chemical/Biological Interfacial Reactions

#### D3. Soil Use and Management

- C3.1 Soil Evaluation and Land Use Planning
- C3.2 Soil and Water Conservation
- C3.3 Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition
- C3.4 Soil Engineering and Technology
- C3.5 Soil Degradation Control, Remediation, and Reclamation
- C3.6 Salt Affected Soils

#### D4. The Role of Soil in Sustaining Society and the Environment

- C4.1 Soil and the Environment
- C4.2 Soil, Food Security, and Human Health
- C4.3 Soil and Land Use Change
- C4.4 Soil Education and Public Awareness
- C4.5 History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Soil Science

Divisions/Commissions are supported by a number of working groups dealing with specific topics.

### Awards and Prizes

The IUSS recognizes the work of distinguished soil scientists. Recognition can come in the form of IUSS Honorary memberships bestowed at each Intercongress meeting of the World Congress of Soil Science, or in the form of monetary awards granted at each WCSS: the IUSS-Dokuchaev for outstanding basic research in soil science, and the IUSS-Liebig for outstanding contributions in applied soil science. The IUSS Jeju Award, co-established in 2014 by IUSS and the Korean Society of Soil Science and Fertilizer (KSSSF), is given to a young and mid-career soil scientist who has innovative and outstanding accomplishments in education or research in soil sciences.

## How to become a member of IUSS

By becoming a member of IUSS you will become part of the global community of soil scientists. National Soil Science Societies may join as Full Members. Only one organization can join from each country. The individual members of a National Soil Science Society that is a Full Member of the IUSS will be members of the IUSS. Members have rights to attend all IUSS World Congresses of Soil Science and meetings, to receive IUSS publications through their National Societies and to vote for Divisional, Commission and Working Group officers.



Soils play a key role in addressing the major resource, environmental, health and social problems which humanity is currently facing. To increase the momentum of the International Year of Soils 2015, IUSS proclaimed the International Decade of Soils with the aim of ensuring that the significance of soils in maintaining healthy life and environment remains continually at the forefront of political and scientific planning and decision making.

To this end, a number of national and international activities have been launched including a competition for an International Soil Icon:



Other activities include a Soil Book series and a collection of personal histories to celebrate the IUSS Centenary in 2024.