

# INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SOILS SOIL FACTS SHARED BY FAO

2015 has been declared the [International Year of Soils](#) by the 68th UN General Assembly. The IYS aims to be a platform for raising awareness of the importance of soils for food security and essential eco-system functions. The International Year of Soils will involve governments, institutions and other stakeholders at various levels.

The campaign of the International Year, launched by the FAO Director-General in December 2014, underlines that healthy soils are related to positive effects on food security and nutrition, climate change adaptation and mitigation, essential ecosystem services, poverty alleviation and sustainable development. *Healthy soils for a healthy life* is the motto for the International Year of Soils which aims to promote awareness on the fundamental roles of soils for human life. Maintaining healthy soils required for feeding the growing population of the world and meeting their needs for biomass (energy), fibre, fodder, and other products is at the core of the guiding principles for the establishment of a Global Soil Partnership.

The Soils Portal managed by FAO, *is designed as a source of soil information and knowledge on the different components and aspects of soils and the value and importance of this vital and finite resource for policy makers, development planners, soil science experts, agricultural extension workers, academic/institutions and other practitioners.* In the Soils Portal different useful documents and materials are published.

In particular the Infographic sections present important information and facts about soils, available also in PDF version.

## To know more

[FAO Soils Portal](#)

[International Year of Soils Portal](#)

[Soil Map of the World](#)

[FAO Fact Sheets](#)

[Materials for Global Soil Partnership](#)

