



2015

International Year of Soils

healthy soils for a healthy life

PROTECT OUR SOILS

Our soils are in danger because of expanding cities, deforestation, unsustainable land use and management practices, pollution, overgrazing and climate change.

The current rate of soil degradation threatens the capacity to meet the needs of future generations.



The promotion of sustainable soil and land management is central to ensuring a productive food system, improved rural livelihoods and a healthy environment

WE DEPEND ON SOILS



Healthy soils are the basis for healthy food production



Soils are the foundation for vegetation which is cultivated or managed for feed, fibre, fuel and medicinal products



Soils support our planet's biodiversity and they host a quarter of the total



Soils help to combat and adapt to climate change by playing a key role in the carbon cycle



Soils store and filter water improving our resilience to floods and droughts



Soil is a non-renewable resource, its preservation is essential for food security and our sustainable future

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE YEAR



Raise awareness among civil society and decision makers



Educate the public



Support effective policies and actions for the protection of soil resources



Promote investment in sustainable soil management activities



Strengthen initiatives in connection with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) process and Post-2015 agenda



Advocate for rapid capacity enhancement for soil information collection and monitoring at all levels

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