

# 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference Afro-Mediterranean Soils: Constraints and Potentialities for Durable Management



Marrakech, 2-3 December 2015

**H**ealthy soils are crucial for ensuring food and fiber productions, resilience, adaptation and mitigation to climate change and variability. These challenges are more alarming in Afro-Mediterranean countries. As global economic growth and demographic shifts increase in those countries, the demand for vegetation, animal feed and vegetation by products such as wood, soils are put under tremendous pressure and their risk of degradation increases greatly. In fact, desertification and soil degradation (erosion, salinization...etc.) are features of the landscape in those countries. It is of paramount importance to shift these trends by developing new vision including recent approaches and technologies for managing soils to better fertility and environment conservation.

Therefore, INRA Morocco and OCP Foundation will organise the first conference on Afro-Mediterranean soils, on the occasion of the International Year of Soils 2015. This conference focus on the threats and remedies needed for durable management of soil use and conservation.

High quality research papers on applications, management and sustainable development of soils in order to enhance food and nutrition security, mitigate and adapt to climate change, combat desertification and provide income generating activities are especially welcomed. Aspects relevant to extension programs aiming to develop and enhance soil fertility resilience through best management practices (BMP) are also accepted.

2015  
International  
Year of Soils



## Main topics of the meeting

- Soil classification and mapping.
- Soil fertility and crop fertilization.
- Impact of climate change on soil behavior and productivity.
- Soil contamination and decontamination.
- Soil salinity and management.
- Best soil management practices under irrigation.
- Soil as component of organic farming in the Mediterranean context.
- Soil erosion and desertification studies.
- Remote Sensing and GIS for soil research and mapping.
- Management of soil information.

## Oral and poster presentations

Interested participants should send their Extended Abstracts to the Scientific Committee of the conference. Only those relevant to the topics of the conference will be allowed for presentation.

**Instructions for preparation of Extended Abstracts:** Extended abstracts of both poster and oral presentations should not exceed 5 A4 size single spaced and justified pages (including tables, figures, maps, and references), using Times New Roman font. Left margins should be 3 cm while top, bottom and right margins 2,5 cm. They should include: Title: size 14, capital letters, bold and centered Name(s) of author(s): size 12, capital letters, bold and centered Author's affiliation: department (section, unit), institution, full address, tel/fax, and email. Size 12, small letters, italics, normal and centered Summary: size 11, italics Introduction: size 12, bold Text of introduction: size 12, normal Materials and Methods: size 12, bold Text of Materials and Methods: size 12, normal Results and Discussion: size 12, bold Text of Results and Discussion: size 12, normal Conclusions: size 12, bold Text of Conclusions: size 12, normal References: size 12, bold Text of references: size 12, normal Extended Abstracts should be sent to [afromedsoil2015@gmail.com](mailto:afromedsoil2015@gmail.com).

The organizers will publish a special issue of selected papers of this conference in a peer-referred journal. If this will be the case, selected authors will be notified to submit full papers.

More details and information on conference venue, scholarships and accommodations will be given in the next Announcement.

## Deadlines

Submission of extended abstracts: **October, 15th 2015.**

Notification of accepted abstracts: **November, 1st 2015.**