



Solidaridad



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**"REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE FOR
IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH,
ENHANCING CARBON
SEQUESTRATION, AND BUILDING
CLIMATE RESILIENCE"**

WORLD SOIL DAY 2024



**A JOINT INITIATIVE BY
ICAR-IISS, BHOPAL & SOLIDARIDAD**

 **06 DECEMBER, 2024**

 **SILVER JUBILEE HALL, ICAR CIAE
BHOPAL, MADHYA PRADESH**

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural sector is crucial for global food security and livelihoods but faces challenges from climate change, water depletion, soil degradation, and biodiversity loss, particularly in developing regions. To address these, adopting sustainable and smart agricultural practices is essential to improve resilience, increase farmers' income, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Soil, the cornerstone of food systems, is degrading rapidly—33% of the world's soils are already classified as degraded. Sustainable soil management could boost food production by 58%, and it is crucial as agriculture needs to grow by 60% by 2050 to meet the global food demand. Regenerative agriculture offers a promising solution, focusing on soil health, water retention, biodiversity, and carbon sequestration.

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE FOR IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH, ENHANCING CARBON SEQUESTRATION, AND BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE

On **December 6, 2024**, Solidaridad and ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal will jointly organize an **International Conference on "Regenerative Agriculture for Improving Soil Health, Enhancing Carbon Sequestration, and Building Climate Resilience"** in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**. The conference would aim to bring together key stakeholders from Government departments, ICAR institutes, Research Institutes, Academia, Industries, and the farmer groups to deliberate and discuss the latest developments and future directions in regenerative agriculture, with a focus on soil health, carbon sequestration and food security. The conference would be a full-day program featuring plenary sessions, group discussions, and experience sharing by the participants, stakeholders and beneficiaries.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- Raising Awareness:** Promote the importance of regenerative agricultural practices in maintaining and enhancing soil health.
- Knowledge Sharing:** Facilitate the exchange of innovative research findings, successful case studies, and best practices in regenerative agriculture.
- Encourage Policy Dialogue:** Engage in discussions on policy frameworks supporting sustainable agricultural practices and ecosystem services.
- Strengthen Partnerships:** Foster collaboration among scientific communities, industry leaders, policymakers, and farmers to promote regenerative practices.

THEMES

- Regenerative Agriculture Practices:** Overview of methods like agroforestry, cover cropping, crop rotation, and minimal soil disturbance.
- Soil Health and Biodiversity:** Role of healthy soil in sustaining ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Climate Resilience:** Role of regenerative agriculture in mitigating climate change through carbon sequestration and improved soil water retention.
- Sustainable Livelihoods:** Impact of soil health on farmer resilience and rural development.

OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER – DR. RATTAN LAL



Dr. Rattan Lal
Key Note Speaker

Dr. Rattan Lal, is a Distinguished University Professor of Soil Science and Director of the CFAES Rattan Lal Center for Carbon Management and Sequestration at The Ohio State University; an Adjunct Professor of the University of Iceland and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute; and a Visiting Professor at Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaiso, Chile. Dr. Lal is widely recognized globally as a pioneer in soil-centric agricultural management to improve food security globally and develop climate-resilient agriculture through soil carbon sequestration, sustainable intensification, enhancing use and efficiency of agroecosystems, sustainable management of soils, and soil health.

He served as President of the World Association of the Soil and Water Conservation, the International Soil Tillage Research Organization, the Soil Science Society of America, and the International Union of Soil Sciences, Vienna, Austria. He has served as a member of various U.S. and international committees, such as the Federal Advisory Committee on National Assessment of Climate Change, Senior Science Advisor to the Global Soil Forum of IASS, and the United Nations Food Systems Summit Science Committee.

Dr. Lal has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri Award of the Government of India, the World Food Prize, Arrell Global Food Innovation Award of Canada, Japan Prize, U.S. Awasthi IFFCO Prize of India, GCHERA World Agriculture Prize, and Glinka World Soil Prize of FAO, Rome, Italy.

ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS

The Indian Institute of Soil Science (ICAR-IISS, Bhopal), established on 16th April 1988 in Bhopal, is dedicated to enhancing soil productivity while minimizing environmental degradation. As a leader in soil research, it addresses critical challenges in soil fertility, crop production, and sustainability. ICAR-IISS, Bhopal excels in integrated nutrient management, enriched compost technology, soil fertility mapping, organic farming, carbon sequestration, and pollution control. Its work supports food security by improving soil health through efficient nutrient use and sustainable practices. The institute aligns its research with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing on zero hunger, climate action, and land conservation. ICAR-IISS, Bhopal promotes regenerative agriculture to enhance soil structure, organic matter, and climate resilience.

Solidaridad is a solution-oriented Civil Society Organization focused on empowering smallholders by promoting sustainable agriculture and strengthening Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and rural entrepreneurs. Our goal is to ensure sustainable production, supply chains, and livelihoods; addressing poverty, food security, and climate change. We collaborate with government bodies, research institutes, and businesses to support smallholder farmers in adopting regenerative and climate-resilient agriculture. Our regenerative agriculture programme revives traditional farming methods with scientific innovation, transforming farms and supply chains. We work with key stakeholders to promote better crop production, soil health, and water use through training, crop demonstrations, and expert advice, supporting 1.5 million farmers across India.

For More Information Contact

ICAR-IISS, Bhopal

Convenor

Dr. Siba Prasad Datta,
Director, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal
✉ director.iiss@icar.gov.in

Co-Convenors

Dr. Sangeeta Lenka
Principal Scientist, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal
✉ sangeeta_2@rediffmail.com

Dr. R Elanchezhian
Principal Scientist, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal
✉ elanrc@gmail.com

Organizing Secretary

Dr. Pramod Jha
Principal Scientist, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal
✉ jha_iari@yahoo.com

Dr. M. Vassanda Coumar
Senior Scientist, ICAR-IISS, Bhopal
✉ vassanda.coumar@gmail.com



SOLIDARIDAD

Convenor

Dr. Suresh Motwani,
General Manager, Solidaridad
✉ suresh.motwani@solidaridadnetwork.org

Co-Convenor

Dr. Mili Ghosh
Programme Manager
✉ mili.ghosh@solidaridadnetwork.org

Organizing Secretary

Mr. Himanshu Bais
Sr. Programme Manager
✉ himanshu@solidaridadnetwork.org

Co-Organizing Secretary

Ms. Anshu Shukla
Administrative Officer
✉ anshu.shukla@solidaridadnetwork.org

Ms. Prachi Chouksey
Communication Officer
✉ prachi.chouksey@solidaridadnetwork.org

Together for Regenerative Agriculture & Soil Health to bring the Change that Matters

Solidaridad Regional Expertise Centre (SREC)
Address: Shreenath Kripa Apartment (GF) D-26,
Kohe Fiza, Bhopal (MP), India

ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS)
Address: Nabibagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal -
462038, Madhya Pradesh, India

Secretariat Email: IISS.conf@nicoregenagri.org