



## GlobalSoilMap Consortium Meeting Agenda

November 12-14, 2015  
K.W. Neatby Building, 960 Carling Ave. Ottawa  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

### **Participants:**

Scott Smith - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada;  
Neil McKenzie - CSIRO Australia;  
David Lindbo - USDA-NRCS, USA;  
Thomas Reinsch - USDA-NRCS, USA;  
Philippe Lagacherie - INRA, France;  
Mike Grundy - CSIRO Australia;  
Rik Van den Bosch – ISRIC, Netherlands;  
Alex McBratney - University of Sydney, Australia;  
Glenn Lelyk - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada;  
Dominique Arrouays - INRA, France;  
Jim Thompson - University of West Virginia, USA;  
Zamir Libohova - USDA-NRCS, USA;  
Igor Savin - V. V. Dokuchaev Soil Science Institute, Russia

### **Meeting Summary**

GlobalSoilMap consortium convened in Ottawa on November 12-14, 2015 to discuss the current status of GlobalSoilMap activities and the future actions necessitated by the expiration of the GlobalSoilMap consortium Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the end of December 2015 and the upcoming December meeting of Global Soil Partnership in Rome.

The majority of the discussions focused on:

- (i) The future of GlobalSoilMap consortium – The meeting agreed for the continuance of GlobalSoilMap consortium by renewing the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), to expire at the end of December 2015, for a 5 year period. The meeting recognized the need for expanding the membership to national and

international institutions, individuals and countries alike. It also recognized the need for the establishment of clear membership rules and guidelines based on the principles of values, evidence based, collaboration, and transparency. The meeting also discussed the need for the establishment of a formal governance body or Executive Board to address day to day operations. The meeting also agreed to develop a plan for implementing a mixed model (top-down and bottom-up approaches) for developing the soil property grids. The flexible approaches would provide mechanisms that would allow counties that do not have capacities to provide the grids in the near future according to the specifications to utilize the grids generated from ISRIC or other neighboring counties given the national interests and local efforts for producing such grids are respected.

- (ii) The GlobalSoilMap Mandate under International Organizations. The participants agreed on the need to seek mandates from international organizations and societies such as International Union of Soil Scientists (IUSS); Group on Earth Observatory (GEOGLAM); GEOS, etc. The meeting decided to seek for the immediate recognition of GlobalSoilMap as a Working Group under the IUSS and established a temporary working group to lead the effort for drafting a Request for establishing an IUSS GlobalSoilMap Working Group by the end of November 2015.
- (iii) The GlobalSoilMap mandate under GSP: The meeting decided unanimously to seek a Mandate from the Global Soil Partnership to formalize the role of GlobalSoilMap consortium to develop, provide, and support the implementation of the GlobalSoilMap Specifications under Pillar 4 of Global Soil Partnership based on a bottom-up and/or subsidiary principles. The meeting discussed and agreed on the structure and content of the first draft which would focus on the (a) current achievements of GlobalSoilMap (Specification, Products, etc.) (b) common goals and interests of GSP and GlobalSoilMap; (c) lack of delivery mechanisms for the GlobalSoilMap soil property grids; (d) endorsement of ISRIC bid for supporting International Network of Soil Information Institutions (INSII) and the Global Spatial Soil Data and Information Centre (GSSDIC) as part of GSP.
- (iv) The approval of GlobalSoilMap updated Technical Specifications Version 2.3 and a summary of new publications and products to be posted as updates under the current website maintained by ISRIC.
- (v) The GlobalSoilMap would utilize the capacities of ISRIC to host its website on a short term basis and consider the University of Sydney on a long term bases upon the renewed Memorandum of Understanding.