



WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

HOT NEWS

Issue 11, 2018



WASWAC HOT NEWS No. 11, November, 2018

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WASWAC President's New Year Message of 2019

Time does fly.

The year of 2018 will be passed and the new year of 2019 is coming up soon. Take this opportunity of saying goodbye to 2018 and welcoming the prosperous 2019, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciations to all WASWAC councilors, advisers, Regional vice-chairmen and all members.

Merry Christmas and happy new year to you and your family!

During this year, everything with our association was going smoothly. Under the strong support from all of you, WASWAC is becoming better and better. Thanks for the everything you have done for our association, not only including the efforts you have made for the development of related activities, but also referring to the contributions for the publication of official journals, for the involvement of conferences, for the suggestions to the improvement of WASWAC, etc. MANY THANKS!

**Thanks for the everything you have
done for our association's
development!**

I am happy to make a brief summary of 2018 and a general plan for 2019 as follows.

1. To hold the Second International Youth Forum of Soil and Water Conservation in Moscow

The second International Youth Forum of Soil and Water Conservation (2nd IYFSWC) with the title of "Climate Change Impacts on Sediment Dynamics: Measurement, Modelling and Management" was held in Moscow successfully during August 26-31.

✚ **137** participants from 14 countries including China, Iran, Morocco, Russia, Austria, Egypt, Italy, Nigeria, Serbia, Belgium, Germany, Japan, Poland and Ukraine have attended this forum.



✚ **10** young persons from 5 countries including China, Russia, Serbia, Iran, and Morocco won the Outstanding Youth Paper Award (DATUM).



- ✚ 6 outstanding scholars including Prof. Jean Poesen, Dr Peter Strauss, Prof. Helmut Habersack, Prof. Valentin Golosov, Prof. Lei Tingwu, and Prof. Miodrag Zlatic, were invited to provide all participants a very high-level academic keynote presentation.



- ✚ 2 scientific tour sites, including an observation site for different types of soil erosion (sheet, rill, ephemeral gully etc.) in the cultivated lands in the Central Russia and an artificial waterway linking Moscow to the Volga River to supply water to Moscow.



2. To hold the Global Soil Erosion Research Forum

The Global Soil Erosion Research Forum, initiated by World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC), Desert Net International (DNI), and Chinese Society of Soil and Water Conservation, was held in Yangling, Shaanxi, China, from September 12th to 14th, 2018. There were 274 delegates from 10 countries over the world to attend the Forum. The Presentations were focused on 3 themes 1) New challenges and potential opportunities in soil erosion research 2) Theories and applications of soil conservation and ecological restoration 3) Soil erosion risks and countermeasures in the Pan-Third-Pole region. Thorough exchanges and discussions the framework for cross-country collaboration and joint research projects of soil erosion and conservation were proposed.



In the closing ceremony of this forum, the State Key Laboratory of Soil Erosion and Dryland Farming on Loess Plateau was certified as the Soil Erosion Research and Training Base of the World Association of Soil and Water Conservation. After this Forum, some participants visited the relevant experimental facilities and bases around Yangling. Such visits were very helpful for the visitors to understand what research progress have been achieved by the

Institute of Soil and Water Conservation of CAS&MWR, in soil and water conservation, ecological restoration, dryland agriculture and water saving.



3. To publish the official journal quarterly

International Soil and Water Conservation Research (ISWCR), the official journal of WASWAC, was regularly published in 2018. 4 issues including 36 papers were presented to all readers of related topics. As one of the open-access journals, ISWCR has attracted more and more attentions across the world, 189 manuscripts have been received this year. The mock impact factor is increased to 2.039 (1.647 in 2017), the CiteScore (SCOPUS) has been reached to 3.58 (1.98 in 2017), both indices have been becoming important than ever before. We hope that all our members could submit the fresh research fruit to our journal, to help us make it inclusive by SCI as soon as possible. All papers' information are shown as bellow, the full text could be downloaded from the journal's website here

<http://www.keaipublishing.com/en/journals/international-soil-and-water-conservation-research/>

or our association's website here

http://www.waswac.org/waswac/ISWCR/A5911index_1.htm

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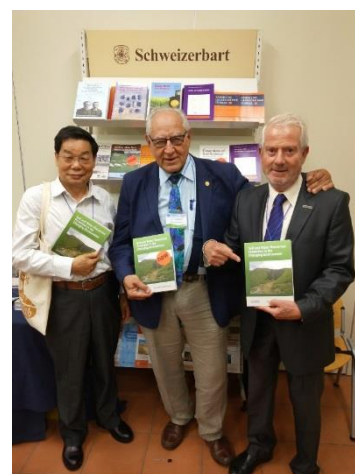
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4. To develop international cooperation and communications

A number of mutual visits have been used to strengthen or to establish the connections with related scientific bodies in 2018.

- ✚ At the invitation of European Society of Soil Conservation (ESSC) and Joint Research Centre (JRC), a delegation with the head of Prof. Li Rui Italy on 4-13 of June, 2018.



- ✚ A Czech delegation included with Professor Borivoj Sarapatka from Palacky University, Professor Miroslav Dumbrovsky from Brno University of Technology and Professor Jana Podhrazska from Mendel University visited the secretariat of WASWAC for technical exchange and future collaboration during September 17 to 18, 2018.



- ✚ On November 5, 2018, a Thailand delegation grouped by the Thailand Land Development Department and Naresuan University visited WASWAC to exchange and discuss related research and international exchange work on soil and water conservation.



- ✚ President Li Rui attended the Ceremony of World Soil Day 2018 and the symposium of “Healthy Soils: key solution for SDGs” in Thailand.



- ✚ President Li Rui visited Dr Samran Sombatpanit, the WASWAC Advisor and former President, and Councilors Dr Chinapatana Sukvibool and Dr Wanwisa.Pansak during his visit in Thailand in December 2018.



5. To organize a council meeting during the 2nd IYFSWC in Moscow

A short meeting attended by the councilors who participated the 2nd IYFSWC in Moscow was held in the morning of August 31.



6. To develop the routine works of Secretariat

The routine works of the secretariat of our association was going smoothly. Total 18 new members from Eritrea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand, Russia, Mongolia, and South Africa have been registered; Hot News was edited and sent to all our members; Project “Global soil erosion evaluation” was in progress; and to provide necessary help for the related training workshop held in Beijing in November, etc.

In the year of 2019, we will be very pleased to continue our efforts to WASWAC progress. We will organize the 4th WASWAC World Conference on November 5th-9th, 2019 in New Delhi, India. During this important conference, the new WASWAC Council for the term of 2020-2022 will be elected, the organizer for the 5th WASWAC World Conference will be confirmed, the winners for the awards will be evaluated, the proposed book of “Degradation of Soil and Water Resources: A Global Issue” will be published, etc. There will be a long way to go, it is not just for WASWAC, it also refers to the global soil and water conservation. Hence, I cordially hope that all our councilors and members could provide support as usual to help us make our association brighter, to make the strategies to



decrease soil erosion more effective, and to make the ecological environment more suitable for human's life.

Finally, with the arrival of 2019, wish all of you and all your families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

All the best,

Prof. Li Rui

President of WASWAC



Pay your attention to our association, and to be involved in our activities in 2019:

- To participate the 4th WASWAC World Conference in November 5th – 9th
- To recommend the candidates to win our awards
- To apply for as the organizer to hold our 5th WASWAC World Conference
- To vote for the new Councilors serving for the next term (2020-2022)
- To make contributions to the proposed book of “Degradation of Soil and Water Resources: A Global Issue”

MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR

WASWAC World Conference IV will be Held in 2019

Soil and Water Resources Management for Climate Smart Agriculture

and Global Food and Livelihood Security

At New Delhi, India, November 5th-9th, 2019



Natural resources, especially soil & water, are essential components not only of agro-ecosystems but also of the total biosphere. However, over the time, these resources have been degraded and depleted in the absence of judicious use, management and conservation. The degradation of soil and water resources has long been recognized as a primary threat to productive and sustainable agriculture. Ongoing climate changes have added complexities to the challenges faced by land users and policy makers, whether in developed or developing countries. This international conference, therefore, is intended to provide a forum, and perhaps an action plan, to address these global concerns.

The Soil Conservation Society of India (SCSI) will be hosting the conference from November 5-9, 2019 at New Delhi, India. For the first time, the World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC) and the International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO) will jointly plan the conference as the 4th WASWAC World Conference the 20th ISCO Conference, with SCSI hosting it as the 4th SCSI International Conference. The purpose of the conference can be fulfilled by addressing the themes and sub-themes listed below:

THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

1. Soil Degradation – inventorization, issues and Management

- a. Soil salinization, acidification, compaction (structural degradation), pollution – issues and management

- b. Urban soils and their management
- c. Soil quality challenges in resilient agriculture
- d. Soil erosion – modelling, innovations in management under different land uses
- e. Remote sensing and GIS applications for managing soil degradation
- f. Integrated watershed management
- g. Restoration of degraded soils

2. Water Resources Conservation and Management

- a. Conservation irrigation innovations for higher water productivity
- b. Conjunctive use of poor quality waters
- c. Low-cost groundwater recharge techniques
- d. Rain/runoff water harvesting in urban, peri-urban and rural areas
- e. Recycling of wastewaters

3. Sustainable Farming Systems vis-a-vis Climate Change

- a. Intensification of cropping systems for adaptation to climate change
- b. Integrated farming system for livelihood and natural resource security
- c. Biodiversity conservation through integrated farming system
- d. Coastal ecosystem management

4. Land Use Planning and Management under Changing Soil and Water Scenario

- a. Land management in mountainous, plateau, plains, desert, grassland, alpine regions
- b. Shifting cultivation – impacts, management
- c. Carbon sequestration potential of soils under different land uses and in agro-climatic regions

5. Biodiversity Conservation for Mitigating Climate change

- a. Aforestation and forest management for sustained rural livelihood
- b. Biodiversity conservation in different agro-ecological regions vis-a-vis climate change
- c. Agro-forestry systems – scope, issues and system combinations
- d. Protection and preservation of wildlife and flora & fauna in the adverse environmental conditions.

6. Socio-economic and Gender issues in Natural Resource Management

- a. Socio-economic constraints in soil and water conservation
- b. Socio-economic development and livelihood support to farming community.
- c. Women empowerment in natural resource management
- d. Role of women in environmental protection

7. Policy Interventions in Soil and Water Management for Global Food security

- a. Global policy framework for ensuring food, energy and livelihood security
- b. Community participation in conservation and sustainability interventions
- c. Irrigation development and rainfed farming systems
- d. Policy interventions on the use of groundwater

8. Bio-Industrial approaches to Watershed for Food and Livelihood Security

- a. Bio-industrial watershed management for enhancing income and employment generation
- b. Extension, Education and Training initiatives for promotion of soil and water conservation.
- c. Use of Bio-industrial waste for development and management of degraded Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Abstracts are invited on any of the above theme areas or other related areas. The abstracts should not exceed 500 words, should be typed in double space leaving 2.5 cm margin on all sides on A-4 paper. Three to five key words should be given below the abstract in italics. The font should be Times New Roman in 12 pt. size. The full papers of accepted abstracts shall be evaluated, edited and may be in the conference proceeding book. The full papers must be restricted to 10-12 pages typed in double space, 12 pt size A-4 paper in Times New Roman font including tables and illustrations. The abstract and full paper should be sent through e-mail aticscsi2019@gmail.com (WASWAC members please also send to wawac@foxmail.com) in MS word format. A committee will review the abstracts and decide about the nature of presentation (oral/poster). Author(s) will be intimated regarding the acceptance of the papers. Awards will be given for the best paper and poster presentation in each thematic area.



LANGUAGE

The Official language of the Conference will be English.

IMPORTANT DATES

Last date of Abstract submission	:	February 15, 2019
Intimation of acceptance of abstracts	:	March 15, 2019
Submission of full length papers	:	April 30, 2019
Last date for Registration (without late fees)	:	June 1, 2019

VENUE

The Conference will be organized at the National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110 012 (India).

TOUR

Tour and technical mid conference tour will be organized during the Conference for the participants. Pre- and Post conference Technical tours shall also be organized for interested participants.

WEATHER

The weather of New Delhi in November is mildly cool and pleasant. The mean minimum and maximum temperatures are 12°C and 24°C, respectively. However, the venue of the conference and International Guest House is in vast open area with lush green and Eco-friendly environment.

ACCOMMODATION

The Conference venue is located at the heart of the National Capital. A wide range of hotels are available within a short distance from the Conference venue. First-time visitors to India may find it more convenient to stay at the hotels which are within reasonable distance from the Conference venue. The tariff varies from ₹ 4,000/- to 15,000/- (US\$ 60 to US\$ 200) per room per day stay near National Agricultural Science Centre Complex, PUSA Campus, New Delhi. The organizers have negotiated with some of the hotels in vicinity and they agreed to offer discounts for the participants for the conference periods. The list of hotels and their contacts shall be made available on website for direct bookings.

VISA INFORMATION

All foreign nationals visiting India are required to possess a valid International travel document in the form of a National Passport with a valid visa. All individual visa seekers are advised to apply for the Indian visa, through online application link. For details please visit <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in>. However, a letter from organizers for visa shall be issued on request from individual after acceptance of abstract or confirmation of participant intending to participate in conference. The participant should provide complete address with proof and copy of passport/passport number etc.

TECHNICAL TOURS

The organizers will arrange for one day tours to site of erosion management in foothill region and ravine land management. Pre conference technical tour will be arranged in November 3-4, 2019 (Chandigarh/Agra), and post conference tour will be arranged during November 10-11, 2019 (Dehradun/Karnal). The details of the sites to be visited are as follows.

Karnal: A city located in National Capital Region in the state of Haryana, is known as the rice bowl of India. It is centrally located between Delhi and Chandigarh and is 123 km from Delhi. Central Soil Salinity Research Institute is located here pioneered in the rejuvenating the salt affected lands through advanced techniques and feasible approaches. It is an internationally recognised esteemed centre of excellence in salinity research. One can get live demonstrations of Integrated farming system & multi-enterprise model, agroforestry, conservation agriculture and drainage techniques for reclamation and management of salt affected soils and use of poor quality irrigation waters.



Dehradun: It is the capital city of the Indian state Uttarakhand located in the Himalayan foothills. It is the education hub in north India and famous Forest Research Institute and Anthropological Museum are located here. Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation

(IISWC) has its head quarters here. An exposure visit of participants helps to understand the experiences and impact of developing watershed in different sites in foothill region. IISWC (erstwhile CSWCRTI) is involved in development and dissemination of technologies for conservation of soil, water and other natural resources and their conservative uses. Particularly the participatory water resource development and participatory research executed by CSWCRTI as worth emulating interventions.

Agra: 200 km distance from New Delhi with driving time of 3 hours. Large scale land development works on Soil Conservation, rejuvenation and restoration of devastated ravine lands in the catchment of river Yamuna and Chambal.



REGISTRATION

Conference is open only for the registered participants. Registration fees details are presented below. (Kindly make sure to pay with additional transaction charges on your card, if any)

	US\$
Delegates	300
Delegates Members (SCSI/WASWAC/ISCO)	250
Accompanying person	200
Students	200

Registration fee includes: Conference kit, access to Conference sessions, daily Conference lunches and specified dinners. Also half day local site seeing tour is complimentary. Students are required to produce a valid identity card/ certificate from their Supervisor/Institute for availing the student discount.

Any WASWAC members who wants to get the discount of registration fee, should also send the registration information to the secretariat via waswac@foxmail.com

Payment of Registration fee

Confirm your registration by payment of non-refundable registration fee either by demand draft in favour of SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF INDIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2019 payable at New Delhi or through electronic payment. The bank details are as follow:

Name of the account holder	SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF INDIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2019
A/C No.	91531010001273
Bank Name & Branch	Syndicate Bank, NASC, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012
IFSC Code	SYNB0009153
MICR No.	110025175

Please ensure to attach bank/e-transfer details/challan/RTGS transfer details with registration application form at email: icscsi2019@gmail.com.

Note: On the spot registration fees via debit/credit card facilities will not be available.

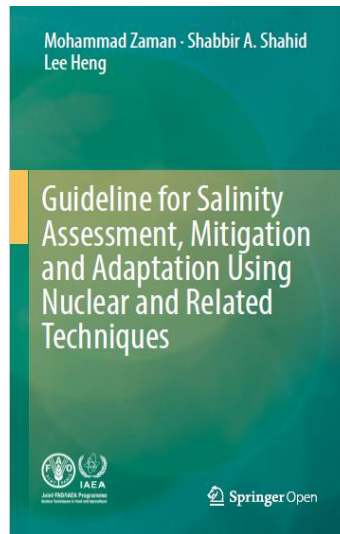
CONFERENCE UPDATES

Information contained in the circular and all updates are available at the website of SCSI <http://scsi.org.in> , Conference Website: <http://soilconservation.org>, and WASWAC official website: www.waswac.org

CONTACTS

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New Book



This open access book is an outcome of the collaboration between the Soil and Water Management & Crop Nutrition Section, Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna, Austria, and Dr. Shabbir A Shahid, Senior Salinity Management Expert, Freelancer based in United Arab Emirates.

The objective of this book is to develop protocols for salinity and sodicity assessment and develop mitigation and adaptation measures to use saline and sodic soils sustainably.

The focus is on important issues related to salinity and sodicity and to describe these in an easy and user friendly way.

The information has been compiled from the latest published literature and from the authors' publications specific to the subject matter.

The book is now available via the SpringerLink platform at

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-96190-3>

and is free to download for all interested readers.

From the book's dedicated webpage:

<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319961897>

It is possible for people to order a print version of the book and to download flyers for promotional purposes.

Countries Breathe Life into the Paris Climate Agreement

By Karl Mathiesen, Megan Darby and Sara Stefanini

At a summit in Katowice, Poland, nearly 200 governments agreed rules to put the historic pact into action, but failed to make strong push for faster emissions cuts.

At a moment of deep global division, governments have made a deal on climate rules that was immediately hailed as a victory for multilateralism.

The rules will define nations' responsibilities for tackling climate change, reporting their progress and upping their efforts for decades to come. They will put the 2015 Paris Agreement into action.

The build-up to the conference was dominated by major public concern after a UN science report found warming even 0.5C beyond today's global temperature would cause widespread damage and human suffering.

The first week of the meeting saw a bitter fight over the language used to adopt the report. Eventually, it welcomed its "timely completion", but not the findings. The US, Saudis, Kuwaitis and Russians resisted a full acclamation of the science.

Diplomats believe that the rulebook is a strong enough tool that, if it is coupled with political leadership, can prevent the worst impacts.

National climate pledges to date put the world on track for 3-4C of warming, double the target agreed in Paris. Many hoped for a political statement in Katowice urging governments to commit to increased ambition before 2020, which did not materialise.

The next stop on the climate roadshow is a summit in New York in September hosted by Guterres.

Details at:

<http://www.climatechangenews.com/2018/12/15/countries-breathe-life-paris-climate-agreement/>

WISH YOU A PROSPOUROUS 2019 !