



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# Promoting soils for better nutrition, better production and a better life

A renewed collaboration with Lomonosov Moscow State University

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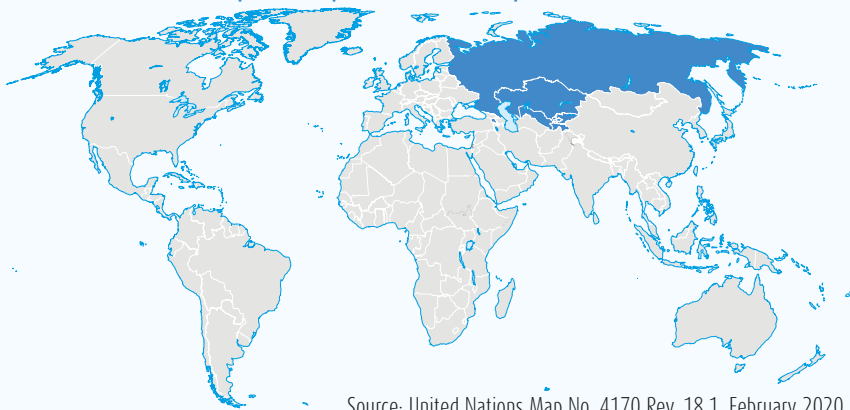
The partnership between the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) focuses primarily on the theme of soils, aiming to enhance each partner's impact on this important aspect of agriculture.

Soil sustains food and agriculture on a global scale and is crucial to conserving and developing human life.

Soil is indispensable in ensuring food security and good nutrition, and can potentially help mitigate the impacts of climate change.

The partnership aims to strengthen innovative agricultural knowledge systems, such as the Eurasian Soil Partnership Portal; and promote knowledge exchange and outreach by raising awareness of FAO's key themes, initiatives and capacity development.

■ Countries where the partnership activities were implemented



Source: United Nations Map No. 4170 Rev. 18.1, February 2020

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## PARTNERSHIP MILESTONES

- 2019** A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed between FAO and MSU, aiming to enhance information analysis for decision-making and policy formulation in the Eurasian region, with a particular focus on promoting the work of the European Center for Food Security (ECFS).
- 2022** A MoU Renewal is signed, reaffirming FAO and MSU commitment to the partnership for an additional three-year period. The renewed focus, in keeping with MSU's priority programs, is on soils; strengthening innovative agricultural knowledge systems; promoting knowledge exchange and outreach activities within the region; and analysing current trends in food security and nutrition in the Eurasian region.

## CONTRIBUTING TO



# KEY RESULTS

- 01** | The **Russian Soil Laboratory Network (RUSOLAN)** successfully launched in April 2022.
- 02** | The **Soil Atlas of Asia** launched on World Soil Day, December 2022.
- 03** | Co-publication “A Guide to Sustainable Land Management Practices in Central Asia in the Context of Climate Change” to be published in Russian in April 2023.
- 04** | Sixth **Eurasian Soil Partnership** plenary meeting held in 2022.
- 05** | Publication of the **Regional Soil Carbon Map**.



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## LOOKING FORWARD

The renewed partnership, which has been extended through to 2025, counts on FAO's guidance and active participation in developing educational and research programs to be offered by the MSU Soil Science Faculty. The partnership also aims to foster direct participation by the agro-industrial sector in the region in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition; conducting training courses, including online education; participating in the **Global Soil Partnership** and preparing events related to World Soil Day, which is celebrated every year on 5 December. The collaboration includes organization of the Eurasian Soil Partnership Plenary Meetings every two years (2023 and 2025).

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## AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Guidance and support provided by FAO when executing the Regional Implementation Plan of the Eurasian Soil Partnership. Joint efforts on consultation and methodological support in relation to the regional soil information system. FAO support to the MSU Faculty of Soil Science by providing recommendations for educational programmes and activities. MSU active participation in agribusiness round-table discussions to promote sustainable food systems and innovation. FAO advisory and expert assistance for annual meetings hosted by the MSU Agrarian Centre.

## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MSU

Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) is a major higher education institution in the Russian Federation, providing comprehensive study of food security and nutrition in the Russian Federation and its neighbouring countries. Its partnership with FAO, initiated in 2019, contributes to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 2 to end hunger and malnutrition. Topics of mutual interest include the agro-industrial complex in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in light of climate change; capacity development initiatives, including online education; the Global Soil Partnership as a means to further SDG15; and preparation of World Soil Day events in the Russian Federation and neighbouring countries.