

The First Annual Meeting of the International Network on Soil Erosion Programme

Yangling, China 27–31 October, 2026



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About INSER 2026

The First Annual Meeting of the International Network on Soil Erosion (INSER) will bring together experts to strengthen international cooperation on soil erosion assessment, monitoring, modelling, conservation and policy. Soil erosion is one of the most widespread forms of land degradation, threatening agricultural productivity, food security, water resources, biodiversity and ecosystem resilience. Climate change, unsustainable land management and increasing pressure on natural resources are further intensifying these challenges.

Endorsed by the 13th GSP Plenary Assembly and launched in September 2025, INSER is a Global Soil Partnership technical network dedicated to collaboration and knowledge exchange on soil erosion. Since its launch, three thematic Working Groups have been established, with online technical meetings involving experts from 72 countries. The annual meeting will also provide an opportunity for expert consultation on the Global Soil Erosion Map (GSERmap), including its methodological framework, technical specifications and Country Guidelines.

Hosted in Yangling, on the Chinese Loess Plateau, the meeting will also offer opportunities to learn from a world-renowned region for soil erosion research, conservation and ecological restoration through technical sessions and field visits.

Objectives

1. Review INSER progress and develop the INSER Work Plan 2026–2027, including priorities for the three Working Groups aligned with GSP and ITPS priorities.
2. Facilitate exchange across the three Working Groups and identify technical issues, good practices and opportunities for collaboration.
3. Consult experts on the GSERmap and refine its methodology, technical specifications and Country Guidelines, supporting a harmonized, country-driven approach.
4. Identify priorities for international cooperation, technical collaboration and capacity development in support of soil erosion assessment and management.

Expected outcomes

1. An agreed Work Plan 2026–2027 for INSER with priorities, responsibilities, timelines and measurable milestones for the Working Groups.

2. Enhanced technical exchange and collaboration, with key issues, good practices, gaps and priorities identified.
3. Technical recommendations and an implementation roadmap for the GSERmap, including methodology, specifications, Country Guidelines and milestones for country engagement and data contributions.
4. Agreed priority areas for international cooperation, technical collaboration and capacity development under INSER.



Conference Information

Date: 27–31 October, 2026

Venue: Yangling International Convention & Exhibition Center Hotel

Organizers:

Land and Water Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
International Network on Soil Erosion (INSER) of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP)
Northwest A&F University (NWAUFU), China

Hosting Institutions:

College of Soil and Water Conservation Science and Engineering, Northwest A&F University

Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Ministry of Water Resources

State Key Laboratory of Soil and Water Conservation and Desertification Control, Northwest A&F University

Co-hosts:

Overseas Expertise Introduction Center for Discipline Innovation on Soil and Water Conservation and Eco-civilization Development (111 Project)

Committee on Soil Erosion and Soil Conservation of Soil Science Society of China (SSSC)

Water Resources Bureau of Yangling Agricultural High-tech Industries Demonstration Zone

Soil & Water Conservation and Sustainability (SWCS) Editorial Office

Shaanxi Provincial Society of Soil and Water Conservation

Organizing Committee Members

Chairs:

Pute Wu Professor, President of Northwest A&F University (NWAUFU)

Nora BERRAHMOUNI Deputy Director, Land and Water Division, FAO

Rachid Moussadek Professor, Chair of INSER, GSP, FAO

Members:

Hongming Zhang Hao Feng Xiaolong Wang Diyi Chen

Xinrong Li Rui Li Zhe Qiao Fei Wang

Secretariat:

Feinan Hu Peng Jiang Hongbin Li Sizhe Li

Haijing Shi Pengfei Wang Wenbin Wu Shiwei Yang

Mu Yue Tabin Zhang Xiaoping Zhang



Guidelines

1. Registration & Sign-In

Time

09:00 -21:00, 27 October, 2026

Location

Hotel Lobby, Yangling International Convention & Exhibition Center Hotel. (No. 1, Xinqiao North Road, Yangling Demonstration Zone, Shaanxi Province, China)

Sign-In Procedures

Registration & Check-in → Provide your name → Obtain your badge → Obtain Registration bag → Completed

Registration Bag

Registration bag includes a badge, meal vouchers, a conference program book, a notebook, a pen, a gift, etc.

On-site Registration & Payment

On-site registration opens during the conference period. After registration, you may also obtain the conference bag with materials and enjoy the same rights with online registered and paid participants. On-site payment is available during the conference period. The Organizing Committee provides several payment ways, including Ali Pay, WeChat Pay, POS machine and cash.

If you wish to pay by cash on site, please prepare in advance. You can exchange RMB at the airport or at big banks nearby at your convenience.

2. Presentation & Venue

Presentation

Please note that the reports should be copied onto the dedicated computer in the meeting room half an hour before the formal presentation.

Standard Presentation for Parallel Session (15 minutes); Poster Presentation (2 minutes).

Venue

Plenary Hall: East Hall 2nd Floor

Zoom link: https://fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HkNp1FYpToupzpR5KHOZOA#/

Meeting ID: 957 6321 3330

Password: 26566591

Session 1 (WG1): West Hall 2nd Floor

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/89288620221?pwd=qCClWbBYKyVzfcO9uCO0F47iZ3BAku.1>

Meeting ID: 892 8862 0221

Password: 908015

Session 2 (WG2): East Hall 3rd Floor

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85777384823?pwd=36OJHb1pAtnCO4Ck7wyAaKzxVTaag9.1>

Meeting ID: 857 7738 4823

Password: 871091

Session 3 (WG3): West Hall 3rd Floor

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/84791899695?pwd=XevWHV9cPw6FRnN4ZcqlDtIGrzgua7.1>

Meeting ID: 847 9189 9695

Password: 995470

3. Restaurant

Breakfast: West restaurant 1st Floor (Having meals with your room card).

Lunch and Dinner: Chinese restaurant 2nd Floor (Having meals with a meal voucher)



4. Airport Picking-up Service

To help you reach the conference venue smoothly, we are pleased to offer complimentary shuttle service from **Xi'an Xianyang International Airport** (the nearest airport to Yangling) on **27 October, 2026**, between **09:00 and 21:00**. Please note the pickup sign of “**INSER 2026**” at the arrival area in the airport.

5. Safety & Emergency Reminder

Please take good care of your personal documents, mobile phones, laptops and other valuables during the conference to avoid loss.

Familiarize yourself with the emergency exits and fire-fighting facilities of the venue. In case of emergencies such as fire and equipment failure, please follow the unified command of on-site staff and evacuate orderly in accordance with emergency procedures, without crowding or rushing.

6. Medical Service

The hotel is equipped with medicines for common diseases and accidental injuries. In case of physical discomfort or unexpected special situations during the conference, please contact the onsite staff immediately for assistance.

Hospital Nearby: Yangling Demonstration Zone Hospital (3.2 km, 9 minutes by car)

7. Weather

During the conference period, the weather in Yangling is mostly cloudy. Please wear warmer clothes.

Date	October 27, 2026	October 28, 2026	October 29, 2026	October 30, 2026	October 31, 2026
Weather	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Rainy	Rainy~Cloudy
Temperature	6 ~ 13°C	13 ~ 17°C	12 ~ 18°C	13 ~ 20°C	9 ~ 17°C

8. Hotel WIFI

Public Wi-Fi Name (SSID): Hotel-Wifi-New

Password: N/A (direct connecting)

Room Wi-Fi Name (SSID): Room Number

Password: Room Number +00000

9. Contact Information

Hotel: Jiangwen Li, Phone: +86-13308346356, E-mail: ljw0077@nwafu.edu.cn

Registration & Financial Consultation:

Jiaxi Wang, Phone: +86-17629262976, E-mail: wangjiaxi@nwafu.edu.cn

Transportation: Tibin Zhang, Phone: +86-18710602545, E-mail: zhangtubin@163.com

General Consultation: Feinan Hu, Phone: +86-18509297861, E-mail: hufn@nwafu.edu.cn



Agenda of the Conference

Time (GMT+8)	Agenda Item	Presenter
Day 1 – Tuesday, 27 October 2026 Yangling International Convention & Exhibition Center Hotel		
Arrival of participants		
Day 2 – Wednesday, 28 October 2026 Opening of the first INSER annual meeting (Moderator: Hongming Zhang)		
08:30–08:35	Opening remarks	FAO Land and Water Division, Nora BERRAHMOUNI
08:35–08:40	Welcome remarks	Northwest A&F University, TBC
08:40–08:45	Remarks from the Ministry of Water Resources, China	Ministry of Water Resources, China. Zhidong Luo
08:45–08:50	Remarks from INSER Chair	INSER, Rachid Moussadek
08:50–09:10	Group Photo	All participants
09:10–10:30	High-level Session 1: Global Soil Erosion Challenges and Priorities for International Cooperation (20 min per presentation) • Pasquale Borrelli: Beyond soil loss modelling: The far-reaching environmental impacts and costs of soil erosion • Lillian Øygarden: Climate changes in Nordic climate- challenges for seasonal erosion and conservation measures. • Xinhua Peng: How does conservation tillage mitigate soil erosion driven C loss in Northeast China? • Gerd Dercon: Nuclear fingerprints in the anthropocene: Quantifying soil erosion and proving conservation success with isotopic tracers	Moderator: Hao Feng Venue: Plenary hall/online
10:30–11:00	Tea Break	
11:00–12:40	High-level Session 2: Global Soil Erosion Challenges and Priorities for International Cooperation (20 min per presentation) • Zhidong Luo: Progress and Achievements of Soil and Water Conservation in China • Valerii V. Demidov: Soil-cartographic method for grouping lands by the degree of soil erosion and designing anti-erosion measures • Ganlin Zhang: Towards global and regional high-resolution soil information systems for sustainable soil management • David Lobb: Soil erosion remains the greatest threat to soil function globally • Rui Li: Opportunities, challenges and action initiatives for global soil erosion mitigation	Moderator: Fei Wang Venue: Plenary hall/online

12:40–14:00	Lunch	
14:00–15:45	INSER Annual Meeting – Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions (15 min per presentation) Session 1 (WG1): Advances in Soil Erosion Measurement, Modelling, Mapping and Monitoring (Moderator: Baoyuan Liu) • Duihu Ning (China): The matching among methods, precision, and investment need to be considered for the global soil erosion assessment • Lamane Houda (Morocco): Climate change, soil data resolution and erosion modeling in Morocco • Arunyawat Sunsanee (Thailand): National soil erosion assessment and mapping in Thailand: Methodological challenges and lessons learned • Zhuoli Zhou (United Kingdom): Satellite retrieved soil surface dynamics reduce the extent and frequency of sediment flux with implications for early warning systems • Mahrooz Rezaei (Netherlands): Erosion: Towards a harmonised framework for soil erosion monitoring and modelling across Europe • Andrey Zhidkin (Russian Federation): Field verification of erosion models under varying conditions of relief, lithology, soils, and land use history Session 2 (WG2): Advances in Soil and Water Conservation Practices (Moderator: David Lobb) • Artemi Cerdà (Spain): Chipped pruned branches to control high erosion rates in citrus plantations. The CONERO research project contribution in Eastern Iberian Peninsula • William H Blake (United Kingdom): From erosion evidence to management action: case studies using nuclear and isotopic techniques • Zoungrana Nouhou (Burkina Faso): Impacts of agricultural land restoration techniques in savanna ecosystems: Lessons learned from Zitenga, Burkina Faso • Ali Akbar (Pakistan): Evaluation of conservation agriculture practices for improving soil health and water-use efficiency in irrigated croplands of South Punjab, Pakistan • Chao Qin (China): High-fidelity research methodology for soil and water conservation on the Loess Plateau: A new paradigm, typical applications, and scaling pathways • Mahasin Ali Mohamed (Sudan): Sudan natural resources conservation: A review of challenges and nature base solutions in semi-arid region-Sudan- Gedarif State experience	Venue: Parallel Session /online



14:00–15:45	Session 3 (WG3): Economic Valuation, Legislation and Policy for Soil Erosion Management (Moderator: Lillian Øygarden) • José A. Gomez (Spain): A geospatial framework to evaluate the contribution of the common agricultural policy to combating desertification in Mediterranean olive landscapes: A pilot study in Southern Spain • Fei Wang (China): Co-evolution of soil and water conservation policy and human–environment linkages in the Yellow River Basin since 1949 • Hossein Asadi (Iran): Towards a framework for estimating the economic, social, and environmental costs of harvest erosion • Ian Hannam (Australia): Soil law and policy - Challenges and opportunities • Ivan Vasenev (Russian Federation): Soil erosion control for sustainable land management and regenerative agriculture in Russia	Venue: Parallel Session /online
15:45–16:00	Tea Break	
16:00–17:30	INSER Annual Meeting – Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions (continued) Session 1 (WG1): Advances in Soil Erosion Measurement, Modelling, Mapping and Monitoring (Moderator: Yuxin Tong) • Colazo Juan (Argentina): Digital soil mapping of wind erodibility in Argentina: comparison of two wind-erodible fraction equations • Peter Strauss (Austria): Seasonal effectiveness of a grassed waterway in a small Austrian catchment • Chunmei Wang (China): Global multidimensional and dynamic gully mapping: framework and recent progress • Sadeghi Seyedhamidreza (Iran): Operationalizing the soil erosion elasticity initiative for prioritizing erosion-prone regions • Xihua Yang (Australia): An integrated source-to-sink modelling framework for assessing sediment dynamics at the watershed scale • Mohammed Haroun (China): From Soil Intelligence to Food Security: A Proposed National Soil Information System (NSIS) Integration Framework Session 2 (WG2): Advances in Soil and Water Conservation Practices (Moderator: Janet Nabwami) • Anani Ogou (Cameroon): Soil health assessment of maize-bean, potato, and 4-year fallow agrosystems in the highlands of the West Menoua Division in Cameroon, Central Africa, under current climatic conditions • Zihao Cao (China): Reconstructing 60-year soil organic carbon storage in karst watersheds in Southwest China • Samuel Francke Campaña (Chile): Development of a soil regenerative restoration model adapted to Semi-Arid Zones, with emphasis on gully-eroded granitics soils in Chilean “Badlands” • Rutebuka Jules (Rwanda): Rwanda’s erosion-control experience shows that participatory, integrated, context-specific landscape management reduces erosion, restores land, and strengthens livelihoods and resilience. • Zarrinabadi Ehsan (Canada): Soil landscape restoration of eroded hilltops improved crop productivity and soil organic carbon stocks in Manitoba, Canada	Venue: Parallel Session /online

16:00–17:30	Session 3 (WG3): Economic Valuation, Legislation and Policy for Soil Erosion Management (Moderator: Rachid Moussadek) • Nunzio Romano (Italy): Beyond soil loss mapping: A composite indicator framework for assessing soil erosion risk and prioritizing conservation actions • Majub kuku Alesam (Kenya): Community-led soil and water conservation practices for restoring degraded landscapes in refugee-hosting areas of northwestern Kenya • Sanjay Arora (India): Degradation of Land resources in relation to soil erosion and agricultural productivity in foothills of Northwest Himalayas • Samuel Francke-Campaña (Chile): Three decades of lessons learned in Chilean legislation erosion control programs: Restoring degraded soils over B and C horizons • Yahya Parvizi (Iran): A comprehensive framework for economic valuation of soil erosion in Iran: Assessing on-Site and off-site damages and the economics of soil conservation	Venue: Parallel Session /online
18:30–20:30	Welcome Dinner	Hosted by NWAFU
Day 3 – Thursday, 29 October 2026 INSER Annual Meeting – Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions (15 min per presentation)		
09:00–10:30	INSER Annual Meeting – Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions (continued) Session 1(WG1): Advances in Soil Erosion Measurement, Modelling, Mapping and Monitoring (Moderator: Xinhua Peng) • Batsaikhan Nyamdavaa (Mongolia): Understanding soil erosion in Mongolia: Evidence from the Gobi Dust-Source region • Sulaeman Yiyi (Indonesia): Soil erosion in Indonesia: present status and future direction • Bedada Abebe (Ethiopia): Historical and future trends in soil erosion under climate and land use/land cover change in the Upper Awash Subbasin, Ethiopia • Gloutney Alexis (Canada): A worldwide tillage erosivity coefficients database to foster tillage erosion modeling • Xiaoping Zhang (China): Rapid investigation of soil conservation measures from high resolution imagery to achieve regional soil erosion map by using sampling method Session 2 (WG2): Advances in Soil and Water Conservation Practices (Moderator: Farid Eltom Abdallah) • Mustafa Firuza Begham (Malaysia): Soil erosion in Malaysia: current status, driving factors, impacts, and mitigation strategies • Singh Raman Jeet (India): Conservation tillage-based Arundo donax agro-geotextiles enhance productivity and profitability of sloping croplands in the Indian Himalayas by reducing soil erosion and improving soil organic carbon • Tamrat (Ethiopia): Expansion and development of bamboo in Selected Woredas in Bench Sheko Zone, Southwest Ethiopia • Sheng Li (Canada): How effective are spring reduced tillage and alternative crop rotations for water erosion control in potato production systems in Atlantic Canada? • Tavares Jacques (Cabo Verde): Soil and water harvesting strategies as climate smart agriculture practice to tackle soil erosion, improve	Venue: Parallel Session /online



09:00–10:30	food security, and farmer’s resilience in Cabo Verde archipelago – Study case of the watershed of Ribeira Seca Session 3 (WG3): Economic Valuation, Legislation and Policy for Soil Erosion Management (Moderator: Pasquale Borrelli) • Colazo Juan (Argentina): Soil conservation laws in Argentina at the national and provincial level: the case of La Pampa's soil law for wind erosion control in peanut cropping • Ven Dr Sumedh Thero (India): Buddhism views on soil and water conservation practices • Parvizi Yahya (Iran): Theoretical foundations for assessing the economic costs of soil erosion damages in Iran • AbdelRahman Mohamed (Egypt): Comparative assessment of soil erosion dynamics and land suitability in North Sinai and the North Coast of Egypt • Seraphine Noumbo Kenfack (Cameroon): Advances in soil and water conservation practices in Cameroon: A synthesis of local evidence and adoption challenges	Venue: Parallel Session /online
10:30–11:00	Tea Break	
11:00–12:30	INSER Working Group Discussions on Work Plans, progress, key outcomes and priorities (WG1, WG2 and WG3)	Moderated by Working Group Leads Venue: Parallel Session/online
12:30–14:00	Lunch	
14:00–15:00	INSER Working Group 1 Reports: progress, key outcomes and priorities; GSERmap Technical Consultation	Moderator: Rachid Moussadek Presenters: WG Leads Rachid Moussadek /Baoyuan Liu /Farid Eltom Abdallah /Fei Wang Venue: Plenary hall/online
15:00–15:30	INSER Working Group 2 Reports: progress, key outcomes and priorities	
15:30–16:00	INSER Working Group 3 Reports: progress, key outcomes and priorities	
16:00–17:00	Tea Break+Poster	
17:00–17:15	Endorsement of the INSER Work Plan (2026–2027) and Working Group Activities	Moderator: Yuxin Tong Presenter: Rachid Moussadek Venue: Plenary hall/online

17:15–17:35	Soil Erosion Research and Conservation on the Loess Plateau: Experience from Northwest A&F University • Long-term soil erosion monitoring and research • Soil and water conservation and ecological restoration practices • Capacity development and institutional support for INSER and opportunities for future collaboration • Technical background for the field visits	Moderator: Rachid Moussadek Presenter: Fei Wang Venue: Plenary Hall /online
17:35–18:00	Wrap-up and Closing Session Remarks from FAO Land and Water Division (NSL) Remarks from INSER Chair Remarks from Dean of College of Soil and Water Conservation Science and Engineering, NWAUFU	Moderator: Rachid Moussadek Venue: Plenary Hall /online
Day 4–5 – Friday- Saturday, 30-31 October 2026 Technical Field Visit – Soil Erosion Research, Conservation and Ecological Restoration on the Loess Plateau		
08:30-18:30	• Visit to representative experimental stations and long-term soil erosion monitoring sites • Demonstration of soil and water conservation practices and ecological restoration • Exchange with local researchers on monitoring approaches, research findings and practical applications	Moderator: Xiaoping Zhang Binbin Li

Poster session 1: Day 3 – 16:00–16:30, Thursday, 29 October 2026
Moderator: Janet Nabwami, Haijing Shi

Name	Title of abstract	Affiliation	Country
Abdulvahed Khaledi Darvishan	Comparative contribution of planted and natural forest to sediment yield using biological indicators of TOC and n-alkanes	Department of Watershed Management, Tarbiat Modares University	Iran
Burkhard Wilske	The sustainability approach to ameliorate acid soils of the tropics using biochar-based fertilizer within ISFM	DBFZ German Biomass Research Center – Dept. Bioenergy Systems, Leipzig	Germany
Chappell, Adrian; Huang, Xiaozhong	Northern China dust is driven by secular changes in land surface resistance not wind speed alone	Chappell, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Cardiff University	UK; China
Chengyuan Wang	Temporal parameters shape land degradation neutrality assessment. The 12-19 year is the most robust window, improving the consistency and reliability of global land degradation monitoring.	School of Forestry, Northeast Forestry University	China
Das Sukanto	Resolving field-scale wind erosion from satellite imagery: An empirical assessment of detection limits	Soil Erosion and Feedbacks, Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research ZALF e.V	Germany
Jian'en Gao	Simulation of the impacts of different typical cascaded soil and water conservation engineering modes on watershed water and sediment transport	College of Hydraulic and Hydroelectric Engineering, Shaanxi A&F Technology University	China



Guanfang Sun	Quantitative contributions of soil erosion factors to the spatial distribution of soil organic carbon in the Yellow River Basin: Machine learning prediction and interpretability analysis	College of Soil and Water Conservation Science and Engineering, Northwest A&F University	China
Hasnain Md.	Coupling flood forecasts with fertilizer-timing advisories to reduce flood-driven nutrient loss in Bangladesh's Char and Haor smallholder systems	EcoSynth Solutions, Dhaka, Bangladesh	Bangladesh
Hasnain Md.	Integrated soil erosion control and nutrient conservation in flood-prone agro-ecosystems: combining urea deep placement with climate-smart conservation practices	EcoSynth Solutions, Dhaka, Bangladesh	Bangladesh
Islam Khater	Effect of seasonal tillage on some soil properties, energy parameters and productivity under reclaimed soil	1-Islam Khater, Yellow River Delta Intelligent Agricultural Equipment Industry Academy-China	China
Kayitha Vilakar	Carbon management index distinguishes contrasting land management systems: A framework for assessing soil conservation potential	Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Karnataka	India
Kerstin Wilde	Fertilizer regime change with biochar	DBFZ German Biomass Research Center	Germany
Konstantine Bziava	Application of machine learning algorithms (Random Forest) for debris flow susceptibility mapping: A case study of Ambrolauri Municipality (Western Georgia)	Department of Hydrotechnics and Civil Engineering, Faculty of Construction, Georgian Technical University	Georgia

Poster session 2: Day 3 – 16:30–17:00, Thursday, 29 October 2026
Moderator: Janet Nabwami, Haijing Shi

Name	Title of abstract	Affiliation	Country
Mónica Avilés	Spatial analysis of soil organic carbon using remote sensing in an arid agricultural region of northwestern Mexico	Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Autonomous University of Baja California	Mexico
Nabil Aouichaty	Mapping and assessment of water erosion potential in the upper the Assif Melloul catchment using the RUSLE model combined with remote sensing and GIS	Hassan First University of Settat, Faculty of Sciences and Techniques, BNRNE Laboratory, Settat	Morocco
Reza Bayat	Characterization of gully erosion and stabilization strategies in Loess Lands of Chat Gonbad, Iran, using field survey and UAV	Soil Conservation and Watershed Management Research Institute, Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization	Iran
Sahar Babiker A. Abdalla	Soil organic carbon accounting in diverse cropping systems using an adapted RothC model: evidence from Sudan	Dryland and Water Harvesting Research Centre, Agricultural Research Corporation, Khartoum	Sudan

Sidra Sohail	Microbial network modules are closely associated with soil multifunctionality in terraced and check-dam land-use types on the Loess Plateau	College of Soil and Water Conservation Science and Engineering, Northwest A&F University	China
Sidra Sohail	Soil physical habitat is a stronger correlate of bacterial community structure than soil chemistry in engineered Loess Plateau landscapes	College of Soil and Water Conservation Science and Engineering, Northwest A&F University	China
Suhua Fu	Interactive effects of slope gradient and rock fragment cover on soil erosion on short slopes	Beijing Normal University	China
Tamrat Sinore	Mitigating land degradation through soil and water conservation in Ethiopia: A recent synthesis of practices, gaps, and pathways	College of Soil and Water Conservation Science and Engineering, Northwest A&F University	China
Yan Zhang	Erosion responses of terrace–gully systems to an extreme rainstorm and associated hydro-topographic factors in the hilly-gully region of the Chinese Loess Plateau	Beijing forestry university	China
Yassine Bouslihim	Mapping soil structural condition through spatial patterns of aggregate stability	National Institute of Agricultural Research (INRA), Rabat	Morocco
Yevhenii Ulko	Optimising crop rotations for soil erosion management and resilience of agriculture	National Scientific Center "Institute for Soil Science and Agrochemistry Research named after O. N. Sokolovsky"	Ukraine
Yulei Ma	Changes in above- and below-ground properties and implications for soil and water conservation in the divergent shift of hillside alpine meadows	State Key Laboratory of Soil and Water Conservation and Desertification Control, Northwest A&F University	China
Zahra Gerami	Effects of wood vinegar on soil hydrological response and erosion under simulated rainfall	Soil Conservation and Watershed Management Research Institute	Iran

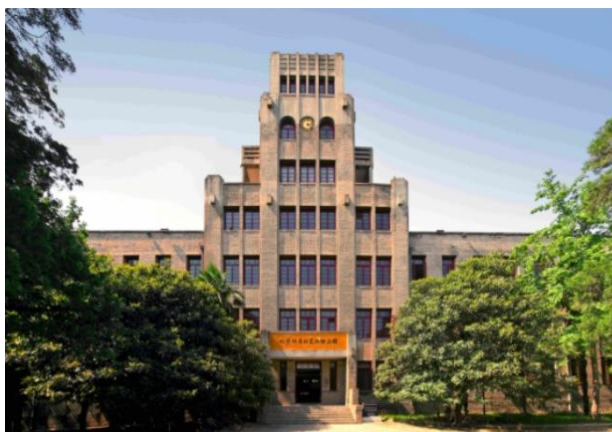
Introduction of Northwest A&F University



Northwest A&F University (NWAUFU) is located in Yangling, Shaanxi Province, the birthplace of Chinese agricultural civilization and today's Yangling Agricultural Hi-tech Industries Demonstration Zone. NWAUFU is a key national comprehensive university under the administration of the Ministry of Education and supported by the "Project 985" and "Project 211". It is one of the universities listed in the National "World-class University and First-class Discipline" Project. In 2022, NWAUFU was listed in the second round of national "Double First-class" universities, with its 2 disciplines listed in the "Double First-class" disciplines.

The University originated from National Northwest Junior College of Agriculture and Forestry founded in 1934, which was the earliest institution of higher agriculture and forestry education in northwest of China. Since its establishment, NWAUFU has been closely bound up with the fate of the nation and its people, and assumed the major responsibilities of rejuvenating northwest of China, boosting agricultural prosperity and cultivating talents. In September 1999, to implement the strategy of Large-scale Development of Western China and promote the coordinated reform of the science and education system, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council made overall plans to merge

7 teaching and scientific research institutions, Northwest Agricultural University; Northwest Forestry College; Institute of Soil and Water Conservation, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) & Ministry of Water Resources (MWR); Northwest Institute of Water Resources Science, MWR; Shaanxi Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Shaanxi Academy of Forestry; and Northwest Institute of Botany, CAS and formed today's Northwest A&F University, jointly constructed by the Ministry of Education, Shaanxi Province and CAS. NWAUFU has since been entrusting a mission to support and lead the development of modern agriculture in arid and semiarid areas. In 2019, the Ministry of Education and other 6 ministerial-provincial institutions jointly issued guidelines to further support NWAUFU to accelerate its construction of world-class agricultural university, endowing new development opportunities to NWAUFU.



The past years since the university's establishment have witnessed generations of its faculty and students practicing the university motto of "Sincerity, Simplicity, Bravery and Perseverance" and upholding the philosophy of "The people are the foundation of the country; the food is the foundation of the people; the education should prioritize the moral virtues and the development should start with

grounded basis". Inheriting the ambition of Hou Ji from time immemorial and practicing "Farming Teaching" in modern way, NWAUFU has formed the spirit of "taking root in Yangling, giving prime concern to the country, working on farm fields, engaging in the cause of agriculture, rural areas, and farmers, braving hardships and pursuing excellence" and the scientific culture of "unity, truth-seeking, tenacity and self-confidence". The university sticks to the development path of integration of industry-education-research, and has made significant contributions to China's agricultural modernization, scientific research and education.

Adhering to the principle of "making down-to-earth researches and achieving top-notch innovations", aiming for the frontiers of international science and technology, and centering on national strategic demands and regional development needs, NWAUFU has positively conducted basic research and applied technology research oriented towards agricultural production. It has formed distinct features and advantages in research fields such as crop genetic breeding & disease and pest control, soil and water conservation & ecological restoration, efficient agricultural water use in arid areas, breeding & cultivation of economic forest and fruit cultivars, livestock and poultry breeding & healthy husbandry, agricultural biotechnology, protected agriculture engineering, and viticulture & enology. Since its founding, NWAUFU has cumulatively acquired more than 6,000 sci-tech achievements in various areas, among which over 1,800 are awarded. Outstanding sci-tech accomplishments include "Bima-1", the most widely planted wheat variety in China, "Xiaoyan-6", the leading replacement distant hybrid wheat variety in China, and "Qinguan", the independently cultivated and most widely planted apple variety in China. The direct economic benefit of promoting and commercializing these achievements values over 300 billion yuan. Since the merger of seven institutions in 1999, firmly bearing in mind the national mission of serving the sustainable development in the arid areas, NWAUFU has always stood on the front-line of the Large-scale Development of Western China, the Belt and Road Initiative, and the Rural Revitalization Strategy. The university has cumulatively won 44 national sci-tech awards, host and completed 99 research projects achieving first prizes at the provincial and ministerial level, and obtained 2,078 national authorized invention patents. A series of key technologies for high-quality, efficient and green production of apples on the Loess Plateau has supported and led Loess Plateau to become the worldly recognized and largest high-quality apple production base in China. The soil erosion control technology system has solved the global conundrum of ecological environment construction on the Loess Plateau, and helped push Shaanxi's "green territory" 400 kilometers to the north and played an important role in the national project of Returning Farmland to Forest (grassland).

Introduction of State Key Laboratory of Soil and Water Conservation and Desertification Control



The State Key Laboratory of Soil and Water Conservation and Desertification Control (SKLSWCDC) is an application-oriented research laboratory established in 2025 through integration and reorganization. It is based on the former Key Laboratory of Soil Erosion and Dryland Agriculture on the Loess Plateau and is supported by Northwest A&F University. The laboratory focuses on major national scientific and technological needs related to ecological civilization construction and concentrates on cutting-edge developments and industrial needs in the fields of soil and water conservation and desertification control. It covers four research directions: soil erosion and intelligent soil and water conservation; land desertification processes and remediation and restoration; mechanisms and simulation of ecohydrological processes in vulnerable areas; and improvement of ecosystem functions and green development in fragile areas. The laboratory develops innovative theories and technologies for soil erosion and desertification control, analyzes the coupling and synergistic mechanisms among all elements of the complex ecosystem in ecologically fragile areas, reveals multi-force composite erosion mechanisms, develops regional soil erosion models, and

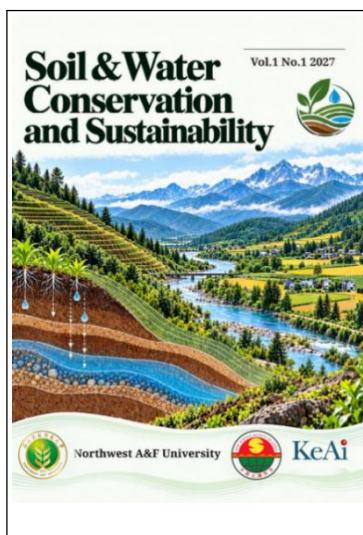
addresses key technical challenges in the utilization and functionalization of desert resources, thereby providing scientific and technological support for the “Three-North” project and the Yellow River strategy.

The laboratory draws on six advantageous disciplines and 12 platform bases of the university, including Soil and Water Conservation and Desertification Control, Agricultural Resources and Environment, Forestry, Grassland Science, Agricultural Economics and Management, and Agricultural Hydrology Engineering. Currently, more than 130 scientific and technical personnel are engaged in research related to soil and water conservation and desertification control. Among them are one member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, one member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, and 38 national-level talents. The laboratory is a high-level talent base for research on soil and water conservation and desertification control in China. Over the past 10 years, it has undertaken more than 600 research tasks, including those under the National 973 Program, the National 863 Program, and the National Key R&D Program. It has received 27 national and provincial-level science and technology awards, including one National Natural Science Award, one National Science and Technology Progress Award, and 25 provincial and ministerial-level science and technology achievement awards.

The laboratory has indoor simulation research and analysis/testing platforms at the national leading level, such as an artificial simulated rainfall hall, an artificial simulated runoff hall, and an artificial simulated drought hall. It has also established field observation and research stations covering the main types of soil erosion in China; among them, the Loess Plateau station has a field network observation and research system for soil and water conservation and ecological restoration. It also houses the Loess Plateau Science Data Center, which covers six categories of datasets—including basic geography, soil erosion, and ecological environment—at different spatial scales in key water erosion areas across China.

Call for Papers

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Prof. Dr. Xinrong Li

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF · CHINA

Northwest A&F University | State Key Laboratory of Soil & Water Conservation and Desertification Control

As a Distinguished Core Researcher at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), he received the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars. He leads the NSFC Innovation Research Group and the MOST Key Domain Innovation Team.

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160+ **47**
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Welcome to Soil & Water Conservation and Sustainability (SWCS), a high-profile, peer-reviewed international scientific journal dedicated to publishing high-quality and innovative research at the intersection of soil erosion, desertification, non-point source pollution, water quality, nature-based and new conservation technologies, carbon sequestration under climate change, and their integration with sustainable economic and social development.

Mission

“Our mission is to disseminate new knowledge and technologies in soil and water conservation and desertification control, and to promote sustainable economic and social development.”

Aims and Scope

AIMS

SWCS aims to serve as an international platform for exchanging scientific advances in soil erosion, desertification, soil and water conservation, land degradation control, and ecological restoration from a broad perspective; to promote interdisciplinary research to mitigate soil erosion, safeguard soil and water resources; to support sustainable agriculture management, combat desertification, and to advance socioeconomic sustainable development. It also aims to bridge high-quality research and key stakeholders to advance the sustainable use and management of soil and water resources.

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The journal focuses on soil erosion and desertification processes, modelling, monitoring, and risk assessment with an integrative approach. It covers the protection and sustainable management of soil and water resources, including sediment and nutrient transport, water quality degradation and agricultural nonpoint source pollution, innovative technologies and methods of soil and water conservation and desertification control, ecological restoration, carbon sequestration and climate adaptation and mitigation, and related efforts toward sustainable land management and socioeconomic development.

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Manuscripts may be submitted via the journal website or designated editorial email; authors are requested to prepare their manuscripts using the journal template, available on the website, and follow standard international academic formatting conventions. These preparation points are intended as a concise author-facing summary; detailed requirements will follow the journal template and final Guide for Authors.

Submissions should make a clear scientific contribution beyond a purely descriptive or local case study. For modelling studies, adequate calibration/validation and interpretation are expected; review articles should provide critical synthesis and new insight rather than bibliometric description alone.

EDITORIAL CONTACT

swcs@nwafu.edu.cn

lixr.swcs@nwafu.edu.cn

joseagomez@ias.csic.es

flizh@ms.iswc.ac.cn

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