



Round Table for Young and Early Career Scientists

Young and Early Career Scientists Working Group
International Union of Soil Sciences

Lead Convener: Martha Daniela Bobadilla Ballesteros (UNAM Mexico).

Division 4: The role of soils in the environmental and social sustainability.

Participants: Bartłomiej Glina (Poland) Axel Cerón González (Mexico), and Laura Bertha Reyes Sánchez. (Faculty of Higher Studies of Cuautitlan, UNAM).

Justification:

The number of current challenges related to soil protection and sustainable land use, especially those linked to ongoing climate change and its effects on agriculture, food security, human health, social stability, and the global economy, require formal spaces within worldwide Soil Science Societies for the exchange of ideas, actions, and solutions among generations.

For this reason, it is not only a priority to educate children and young people but to support the development of early career scientists. Particularly, the International Union of Soil Sciences has declared the empowerment of young soil scientists a *high priority* since they are the upcoming generation in all the Soil Science Societies in charge of reaching their missions (Reyes-Sánchez, 2022).

The new generation of soil scientists plays a crucial role in the soil sustainability achievement, the strength of future Soil Sciences, and the development of the International Union of Soil Sciences itself. We need the commitment of young scientists and their active inclusion both in all our National Societies and the IUSS. In this way, we strongly encourage National Societies to involve young scientists in the study and research of such serious current soil issues *ibid*.

In the framework of the above-mentioned *high priority*, the IUSS established the “**Young and Early Career Working Group**” in 2022 as part of its structure in the Division 4. It is remarkable that young Mexicans represent one of the most energetic networks in the Group. According to the registration data, Mexico ranks first place by the number of young people registered with over 27% of the total.

Keywords: active youth, commitment, inclusion, interdisciplinary, awareness.

Aim:

Promote the inclusive participation and interdisciplinary discussion of young scientists from all fields of knowledge interested in contributing to the Mexican Soil Science Society by sharing ideas, knowledge, and necessary actions to be taken to achieve soil sustainability.

Organización:

The Round Table for Working Group of Young Soil Scientists and Early Career Soil Scientists will be in person and virtually to generate better links between young Mexican Soil Sciences Scientists and their peers in the 46 countries currently making up this IUSS Working Group. The event will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (15 to 19 GMT) on October 18, 2023, in Room 1 of the Exhibition and Congress Center at the University City of UNAM in Mexico City. Those interested in participating online from abroad must register to receive the electronic link to the emails: daniela.bobadilla@ciencias.unam.mx; bartlomiej.glina@up.poznan.pl; axelc@ciencias.unam.mx; or lbrs@unam.mx no later than October 15, 2023.

Martha Daniel Bobadilla Ballesteros, the Youth Action Commission Chair of the Mexican Soil Science Society, will present (15 minutes) the milestones achieved by Mexican young soil scientists. Subsequently, she will present and give the floor to the President of the IUSS Working Group for Young Soil Scientists and Early Career Soil Scientists.

Bartłomiej Glina from Poland and Axel Cerón González from Mexico, as current Chair and Vice-chair of this Working Group, will make a 40-minute oral presentation and a 10-minute session of questions from the audience which will be led by Daniela Bobadilla. **After the oral presentation, participation will be open to all people, and Daniela Bobadilla will organize the discussion.**

This Call also will be published in English and Spanish and disseminated internationally to encourage worldwide communication and active participation of young Soil Science scientists during the IUSS Centenary in May 2024 in Florence, Italy.

