



*Under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan
Ruler's Representative in the Western Region Abu Dhabi
Chairman Environment Agency Abu Dhabi*

First Announcement

**International Conference on Soil Classification and Reclamation of
Degraded Lands in Arid Environments**

AND

Launching of Abu Dhabi Soil Survey Report

17-19 May, 2010

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Organized by:

The Environment Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD)

The International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)

Background

The soils display extensive spatial and temporal variability in their properties, and therefore, their understanding, soil classification, land use management and reclamation are of prime importance. Soil information provides foundation for potential uses and problems that may arise and therefore is the key for policy and decision making, especially in arid regions facing severe water scarcity. The co-occurrence of the International conference and launching of the Abu Dhabi Soil Survey Report will provide excellent opportunities to the international scientific community to share the world soils information leading to proper land use management, and reclamation of degraded land in arid environments.

Objectives

- To bring forth and introduce Abu Dhabi Soil Survey Report to the Scientific Community at large.
- To discuss and review classification of soils and land use in arid environment.
- To examine advances made in soil salinity mapping, monitoring and land reclamation in degraded irrigated agriculture ecosystems.
- To review impacts of use of marginal water in agriculture and landscaping
- To identify research development (R&D) needs and utilization of database of soil survey and classification including policy and institutions.
- To bring together scientists, professionals and decision-makers to share knowledge and information on land use and planning.

Conference Structure

The Conference will include:

- Launching of the Abu Dhabi Soil Survey Report
- Plenary papers by invited speakers on a specific conference topic
- Submitted papers that have been selected for presentation at the conference
- Workshop on utilization of soil survey data in land use planning and policy implications
- A field trip to different soil types to agricultural production areas in Abu Dhabi

Scientific Sessions

1. Soil Survey and Classification Strategies and use in different agroecological zones
2. Advances in Soil Salinity Mapping, Monitoring and Reclamation
3. Land use planning and policy implications
4. Use of Marginal Quality Water in agriculture and landscaping
5. Research and Development/Innovations in Soil Classification and Reclamation
6. Workshop on Constraints, potential and use of soil survey database

Call for papers

The Scientific Committee invites international scientific community to attend international conference and present their work relevant to conference themes. The interested participants can send an abstract (300 words Arial 11, abstract title Arial 14 bold) through email to Chairman of Scientific Committee. The scientific committee will evaluate the abstracts and notify the acceptance or otherwise. The participants would then be requested to submit full manuscript for publication in conference book. All papers will be peer reviewed prior to publication in conference book, which will be distributed to registered participants on May 17.

Language

English will be the official language of the Conference with possibility for translation in Arabic for some presentations.

Important Deadlines

30 November 2009	Deadline for abstract submission
20 December 2009	Notification of abstract acceptance
15 February 2009	Deadline for submission of extended papers
30 April 2010	Final program notified to participants
17 May 2010	Conference starts

Conference Venue

The Conference will be held in a hotel in Abu Dhabi city.

Travel and Accommodation

- The Organizing Committee will be responsible for travel and accommodation expenses for invited speakers.
- The Organizing Committee will provide full or partial financial support for participants based on innovative research and quality of the paper submitted to the conference.
- To ensure participation from developing countries, financial support will be provided by the Organizing Committee to cover cost of ticket and accommodation.
- The Organizing Committee will assist in visa issuance and logistic support

Registration

Registration is free for all participants. Registered participants will be provided with conference material, abstract book, copy of conference proceeding, lunches and opportunity to participate in conference study tour.

Conference Committees

1. Conference Chair

HE Majid Al Mansouri, Secretary General, Environment Agency Abu Dhabi

2. Organizing Committee

- Prof. Dr. Ahmed Bashir (EAD), **(Chair)**
- Prof. Dr. Faisal Taha (ICBA)
- Mr. Abdalnasser Al Shamsi (EAD)
- Dr. Mohamed Dawood (EAD)
- Dr. Mahmoud A. Abdelfattah (EAD)
- Alicia Jimenez Al Mutawa (EAD)
- Laila Yousef Al Hassan

3. Scientific Committee

- Prof. Dr. Faisal Taha (ICBA), **(Chair)**
- Dr. Shabbir A. Shahid (ICBA)
- Dr. Mahmoud A. Abdelfattah (EAD)
- Dr. Michael Wilson (USDA)
- Dr. S. Prathapar (Sultan Qaboos University, Oman)
- Dr. Mohamed Al Mulla (Ministry of Environment and Water, UAE)
- Dr. Bill Porter (Department of Agriculture, Western Australia)
- Prof. Mahmoud Shendi (Fayoum University, Egypt)
- Dr. Taoufik Ksiksi (UAE University)

Registration Form

International Conference on Soil Classification and Reclamation of Degraded Lands in Arid Environments

AND

Launching of Abu Dhabi Soil Survey Report

Abu Dhabi City, 17-19 May 2010

Title:	Mr. Dr. Miss. Mrs
Surname:	
First names:	
Professional title and organization:	
Correspondence address:	
City:	
Country:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Participation intention Tick (✓) as appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> Oral presentation Δ <input type="checkbox"/> Field tour Δ <input type="checkbox"/> Participation only Δ
Title of the paper with complete authors names	

Correspondence:

All Correspondence concerning organizational matters should be addressed to:

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Khidir
Chairman, Organization Committee, ICSC
EAD, P.O. Box 45553
Abu Dhabi, UAE
E-mail: abashir@ead.ae
Fax : 024463339

All correspondence concerning scientific program (including abstract and papers) and financial support for presenting papers should be addressed to:

Prof. Dr. Faisal Taha
Chairman, Scientific Committee, ICSC
ICBA, P.O. Box 14660
Dubai, UAE
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Fax : +(971 4) 3361155

Environment Agency-ABU DHABI (EAD)



هيئة البيئة - أبو ظبي
Environment Agency-ABU DHABI

أبحاث • تنمية • حماية
RESEARCH • DEVELOPMENT • PROTECTION

EAD is a governmental agency established in 1996 with the overall function of protecting and conserving the environment as well as promoting sustainable development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The Agency is responsible for assisting the UAE Ministry of Environment and Water in implementing environmental laws and putting forth regulation orders in the capital. Every year, the Agency sets increasingly ambitious goals for itself to achieve the best possible results for the environment. EAD strives to provide a cleaner and healthier environment for the inhabitants of the Emirate.

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International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)



ICBA will help water-scarce countries improve the productivity, social equity and environmental sustainability of water use through an integrated water resource systems approach, with special emphasis on saline and marginal quality water. ICBA demonstrates the value of water resources for the production of economically useful plants and transfers the results of its research to national research services and communities. Significant support from donors and fellow researchers and partners in national programs have contributed to the success of the Center.

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