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UNU-LRT

Land Restoration Training Programme



SOIL CARBON SEQUESTRATION A SOLUTION FOR CLIMATE, FOOD SECURITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Iceland, May 27 -29, 2013

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

**Soil Conservation Service of Iceland, Agricultural University of Iceland, University of Iceland,
UNU-Land Restoration Training Programme, European Society for Soil Conservation,
EC-Joint Research Centre, Global Soil Partnership, SoilTrec, and FSC-Sink network**

The aim of this conference is to highlight the growing importance of conserving and restoring soil organic carbon for a multiple of win-win benefits within various land type and land use settings. Carbon has a crucial role in soil fertility, and hence for food security, nutrient and water retention, biodiversity and ecosystem services. The conference will review the state of science and further knowledge needs involved. Among topics to be discussed are land use and land restoration practices that enhance SOM, how to verify carbon sequestration and linkages with UN-FCCC and other global goals, agreements, and negotiations. The question of how to increase flow of climate linked funding for restoration of soil and land quality will also be explored.

Iceland provides an appropriate setting for such a meeting. With a century long experience in battling land degradation it offers clear examples of how carbon sequestration can be an integral component in mitigating severe land degradation, restoring land quality and combating climate change.

On Sunday May 26 there will be an optional field excursion with opportunities to examine carbon sequestration issues, land degradation and restoration of land quality within the beautiful landscapes of Iceland. For the days of 27-29 May, papers and posters are welcome which address the various aspects of soil carbon sequestration. The conference will be followed by a training course for Early Stage Researchers organised by the FP7 Environment funded SoilTrEC project.

A circular with further information will be sent out soon, but in the meantime, please fill out and send us the attached Expression of Interest in Participation.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee
Andres Arnalds,
Soil Conservation Service of Iceland

LINKING SCIENCE, POLICY AND ACTION