



UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science  
UCD Earth Institute

Soil Science Society of Ireland

# SOILS FOR SOCIETY

**A CONFERENCE TO MARK  
WORLD SOIL DAY**

**What Functions Do Soils Have?**

**Why Are Soils Important for Society?**

**How Do We Manage Soils Sustainably?**

**How Can Society Protect Soils?**

A one-day conference on the use, management and protection of soils. Aimed towards professionals, scientists, students, policy makers and citizens concerned with soils and their use and protection.

**BOOK  
ONLINE  
NOW**

Register your place by  
**30th November 2018**

**Wednesday 5th  
December 2018**

**09:00 – 16:00**

**Clinton Auditorium,  
University College Dublin,  
Belfield**

**ADMISSION FREE**

**For more information visit  
[www.ucd.ie/agfood](http://www.ucd.ie/agfood)**



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## Conference Programme

8:45	Registration opens		
9:30	Welcome to World Soil Day <b>Alex Evans</b>   Head, Head, UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science		
9:35	Opening <b>Orla Feely</b>   Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, UCD		
9:45	<b>SESSION 1</b> Chair: <b>Patrick Forrester</b> Soil Science Society of Ireland and Teagasc	Soil erosion and its implications for civilization and sustaining humankind: A perspective from the Middle East	<b>John Ryan</b>   formerly with International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Aleppo, Syria
10:15		The business case for soil	<b>Jessica Davies</b>   Lancaster University
10:45		Introduction to "The Soils of Ireland" book	<b>Lilian O'Sullivan</b>   Teagasc
10:55	Coffee break and poster viewing		
11:30	<b>SESSION 2</b> Agriculture, ecosystem services, engineering Chair: <b>Tasman Crowe</b> UCD Earth Institute	Soil and nutrient management for agricultural sustainability	<b>Paul Murphy</b>   UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science
11:45		Soil carbon sequestration	<b>Sharon O'Rourke</b>   UCD School of Biosystems and Food Engineering
12:00		The soil microbiome	<b>Fiona Brennan</b>   Teagasc
12:15		Challenges for soil management in Northern Ireland	<b>Suzanne Higgins</b>   Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, Belfast
12:30		Soil protection challenges in the Wolaita Region, Ethiopia	<b>Pat Gibbons</b>   UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and Wolaita University Ethiopia
12:45		Soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering	<b>Michael Long</b>   UCD School of Civil Engineering
13:00	Lunch and poster viewing		
14:00	<b>SESSION 3</b> Socio-economic, public and legal aspects Chair: <b>Helen Sheridan</b> UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science	Soils as natural capital	<b>Yvonne Buckley</b>   Trinity College Dublin
14:15		Functional land management	<b>Cait Coyle</b>   Institute of Technology Sligo
14:30		Soils and the sustainable development goals	<b>Michael Ewing</b>   The Environmental Pillar/Irish Environmental Network
14:45		Soil heritage	<b>Thomas Cummins</b>   UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science
15:00		Legal aspects of soil protection	<b>Andrew Jackson</b>   UCD Sutherland School of Law
15:15	Panel discussion Chair: <b>Ella McSweeney</b>   Journalist		
16:00	Wrap-up and close <b>Olaf Schmidt</b>   UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science		