

BREAKOUT SESSION: ACCELERATING AND SCALING INVESTMENT IN SOIL HEALTH

Systemic transformation of the food system is urgently required to restore up to 6 billion hectares of agricultural land, which has been degraded by unsustainable farming practices. Land degradation poses significant risks to business. By 2050, global crop yields are estimated to decrease by 10% due to land degradation and climate change, in some regions even up to 50% reduction. The business case is clear, but financial and technical support is needed to transition to sustainable productive practices.

This session highlights soil health as a critical enabler of food system transformation, supporting climate adaptation & mitigation, soil productivity, producer resilience, food security, and biodiversity.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- There is global momentum for the private sector to invest in farmer-capacity building, knowledge and technological transfer, and payments for ecosystem services improving soil health.
- In agriculture, when you get soil right, you get many things right. In fact, regenerative agriculture has three key pillars: soil, biodiversity and water – and they are all interconnected. Increasing soil organic matter not only sequesters carbon but also improves water retention capacity, improves fertility, leading to higher productivity.
- Transition means change, and with change comes risk. We need more mechanisms that de-risk this transition for the farmers.
- Creating healthy soil requires working with a dynamic system and strong collaboration. There are many opportunities to harmonize commitments and signals to farmers.
- Soil health is the foundation of sustaining the agricultural value chain.

REFERENCES

- WBCSD's [Soils Investment Hub Website](#)
- [The Business Case for Investing in Soil Health](#)

More information
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