

5<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Patron in Chief:**

**Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali**, Vice Chancellor QAU

**Patron:**

**Prof. Dr. Safia Ahmed**, Dean Faculty of Biological Sciences,  
QAU

**Keynote Speakers:**

**Dr. Tariq Sultan**, Principal Scientific Officer, NARC

**Dr. Shahzada Sohail Ijaz**, PMAS

**Chief Organizer:**

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shujaul Mulk Khan**

**Organizers:**

- **Prof. Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad - Chairman**
- **Prof. Dr. Tariq Mahmood**
- **Prof. Dr. Abdul Samad Mumtaz**
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hasan Javed Chaudary**
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Farooq Munis**
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Umar Masood Qureshi**
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zafar**
- **Asst. Prof. Dr. Ghazala Mustafa**
- **Asst. Prof. Dr. Awais Rasheed**
- **Asst. Prof. Dr. Mlaka Saba**
- **Mr. Zeeshan Ahmad**
- **Mr. Abdullah**
- **Mr. Shahab Ali**
- **Ms. Sadia Jehangir**
- **Ms. Ujala Ijaz**
- **MPhil Students Plant Ecology Lab.**

# World Soil Day

**Halt soil salinization, boost soil  
productivity**

**Celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2021**

**Organized by**

**Department of Plant Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam  
University in collaboration with ORIC & PASTIC,  
Islamabad**



**Venue: BS Block Biological Sciences Auditorium,  
Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad**

# About World Soil day:

**History:** World Soil Day (WSD) is held annually on 5<sup>th</sup> December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and advocating for the sustainable management of soil and land resources.

To celebrate WSD as an international day was recommended by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002 under the leadership of the Kingdom of Thailand and within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership. The FAO Conference unanimously endorsed World Soil Day in June 2013 and requested its official adoption at the 68<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly. In December 2013 the UN General Assembly responded by designating 5 December 2014 as the first official World Soil Day. FAO has been supporting the WSD as a global awareness raising platform for all the stake holders since then formally.

**Objectives:** World Soil Day aims to attain global attention and bring the effects to light for everyone. Without soil, the ever-growing population will remain underfed since plants won't have any space to grow. World Soil Day demands that recognition and support for the management of soil along with its sustainable utilization. It aims for proper maintenance and care of soil all over the globe.

QAU celebrate the WSD on regular bases since 2015.

# Theme of World Soil Day 2021:

## **Halt Soil Salinization, Boost Soil Productivity**

➤ According to a report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) of 2018 at a Global level:

About 190 million acres are lost per year

- 150 million acres are damaged
- 5 billion acres are affected by salinity

Motive of the day is to raise awareness about maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being, by pointing out the dangers of soil salinity. Soil salinization and sodification are major soil deterioration processes threatening ecosystem and are recognized as among the most important problems at a global level for agricultural production, food security and sustainability in arid and semi-arid regions. World Soil Day 2021 and its campaign "***Halt soil salinization, boost soil productivity***" aims to raise awareness of the importance of mother soil by addressing the growing challenges in soil management, fighting soil salinization, increasing awareness about the soil and encouraging masses of the society to improve soil health and productivity.



# Poster Competition

*on*

## World Soil Day

**Venue:**

BS-Block Biological  
Sciences Auditorium,  
Quaid-i-Azam University  
Islamabad

**Organized by**

**Department of Plant Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam  
University in collaboration with ORIC & PASTIC,  
Islamabad**

**Theme:**

All entries must illustrate and reflect the thematic issue of Soil related issues.

**Requirements:**

Poster can be prepared/created 3 x 4 feet

**Participation:**

The competition is open to all students of any Department.

**Date and Time:**

7<sup>th</sup> December  
2021  
9:30 am.

# Program (07/12/2021)

Time (am)	Activity
9:15 - 9:30	Arrival of the guests, participants and students
9:30 - 9:35	Recitation of the Holy Quran – Qari Abdullah
9:35 - 9:40	Welcome to the guests Prof. Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Chairman Department of Plant Sciences, QAU
9:40 – 9:50	Introduction to the World Soil Day celebrations Dr. Shujaul Mulk Khan Department of Plant Sciences, QAU
9:50 – 10:15	Keynote Speech Dr. Tariq Sultan Principal Scientific Officer Land Resource Research Institute NARC Pakistan.
10:15 -10:40	Keynote Speech “Soil degradation countermeasures to ensure soil health and food security” Dr. Shahzada Sohail Ijaz Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.
10:40 -10:50	Address of Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali, Vice-Chancellor, QAU, Islamabad
10:50 -10:55	Vote of Thanks Prof. Dr. Safia Ahmad Dean Faculty of Biological Sciences, QAU
10:55 -11:05	Souvenir/Shields Distribution
11:05 -11:30	Posters presentation/ competition
11:30 -11:45	Awareness Walk
11:45	Refreshment and end of the event