

PROCEEDINGS OF  
THE 10<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF  
THE EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FEDERATION OF  
SOIL SCIENCE SOCIETIES

Soil, A Precious Natural Resource:  
Agricultural Ecosystems, Environmental Health &  
Climate Change

October 10 – 13  
Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel  
Colombo, Sri Lanka



and Southeast Federation  
of Soil Science Societies



Soil Science Society of Sri Lanka



Department of Agriculture



FAO Regional office for Asia  
and the Pacific



Department of Export Agriculture  
Sri Lanka



University of Peradeniya



## INDONESIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE (ISSS): PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES

**Suwardi<sup>1</sup>, Y.A. Temenggung<sup>2</sup>, and B. Mulyanto<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> General Secretary of ISSS, Bogor Agricultural University

<sup>2</sup> General Chairman of Indonesian Society of Soil Science (ISSS), National Land Agency

<sup>3</sup> Vice General Chairman of Indonesian Society of Soil Science (ISSS), Bogor Agricultural University

Headquarters: Gedung BPN RI, Jl. H. A Salim 58, Central Jakarta

Email: [suwardi\\_bogor@yahoo.com](mailto:suwardi_bogor@yahoo.com); [yuswanda@bpn.go.id](mailto:yuswanda@bpn.go.id); [bdmulyanto@yahoo.com](mailto:bdmulyanto@yahoo.com)

### Introduction

Indonesian Society of Soil Science (ISSS) is one of Indonesian professional organizations who have members of soil scientists and other professional related to soil sciences. ISSS was founded at Jakarta on 18 July 1972 with the members of about 2000 persons affiliated at universities, research centers, government institutions, private companies, practitioners of soil science. ISSS has head office at Jakarta with 19 region branch-offices spreading in all over the country. The vision of ISSS is become center of excellent for development and application of soil science and technology professionally for actualization of social aspiration of Indonesian such as stated in state foundation and constitution. The mission of ISSS are (1) to develop soil sciences in order land resources and other natural resources can support the sustainability of life; (2) to increase the application of soil science for development of land management in order Indonesian soil and water can be used continously for prosperity and welfare of Indonesian people. ISSS has Center Board that lead by General Chairman and assisted by six Vice Chairman. General Chairman is supported by General Secretary and General Finance Secretary for implementation of programs and activities. ISSS has 12 Divisions based on the variety of sciences developed by members of ISSS. Each division makes group discussion for solving specific problems. The divisions in ISSS are as follows (1) Development of Organization, (2) Institutional Cooperation, (3) Mechanical Physics and Soil Conservation, (4) Mineralogy Genesis, and Soil Classification, (5) Chemistry Biology and Soil Fertility, (6) Technology and Soil Engineering, (7) Agriculture, Forestry, and Environment, (8) Law, Social and Culture, (9) Housing, Mining, and Industry, (10) Survey, Mapping and Land Evaluation, (11) Spatial and Landuse Planning, and (12) Education and Research. ISSS is also has three Commissions for handling urgent problems those should be solved immediately. The three Commissions are Soil Nomenclature, Soil Classification, and Law and Act.

### Program

For achieving vision and mission of ISSS, some programs are created. ISSS has three programs namely **program** for development and implementation of soil science, **program** for development of member role, and **program** for development of institution. The **first program** for development and implementation of soil science consist of (1) Research in basic soil science such soil characteristics, soil processes, land degradation, soil quality, etc; (2) Research in related to environment sustainability: landuse and land management, climate changes, sustainable land management, spatial and landuse planning, etc; (3) Research in related to human dimension: social, economic, culture, law, land conflict resolution, land economics, land sociology; (4) Formulate the soil technology for improvement of land efficiency with consideration of environmental sustainability; and (5) Active in formulation of development policy related to natural and land resources including compiling laws and rules.

The **second program** for development of member role consist of (1) Development of education and training for increasing human resources capacity; (2) Organizing the symposium, seminar, workshop, colloquium for sharing information among members in development and application of technology; (3) Build up communication among members through information technology; and (4) Build up cooperation among ISSS members for doing professional activities.

The **third program** for development of institution covers (1) Development of the ISSS secretariat for coordination improvement of all ISSS members; (2) Development of network with many stakeholders to built up the mutual understanding; (3) Development of website and mailing list of ISSS; (4) Publication of the ISSS news; (5) Publication of the Journal of Indonesian Soil; (6) Organize the Annual scientific meeting; (7) Development of soil nomenclature, national soil classification, law and act related to soil; (8) Organize the 10th National Seminar and Congress of ISSS in 2011 at South Kalimantan.



### Activities of ISSS during the of Period 2007-2011

Based on 9<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Soil Science at Yogyakarta, in December 2007, Dr. Yuswanda A. Temenggung was elected as General Chairman for the period of 2007-2011. To achieve the vision and mission and for implementation of the programs, the general chairman has arranged the ISSS Center Board for 2007-2011. Based on the programs, the activities of ISSS during the period of 2007-2011 are as follows.

1. Round Table Meeting at Bogor, West Java Province in March 8, 2008. The Head of Advisory Board of ISSS, Joyo Winoto, Ph.D gave Keynote Speech with the theme of "Revitalization of ISSS to answer the national problems. Some 200 ISSS members including Advisory Board and Center Board Members attended that meeting. At that time, the General Chairman gave the honor to Prof. Go Ban Hong for his dedication for ISSS for very long time.
2. National Seminar of Mining Reclamation collaborated with Mine Reclamation Research Center, Bogor Agricultural University and other institutions. This seminar was conducted in May 22, 2008 at Bogor. Some ISSS members contributed papers in that seminar attending by 150 members. ISSS gave highlight the importance of land reclamation of ex-minedland for sustainable of land, water, flora and fauna environment as well as for production of food and energy.
3. National Seminar on Lowland for Sustainable Agriculture was conducted at Palembang, South Sumatra in 17-18 November 2008. The program covered Seminar with the topic of lowland followed by researchers from universities and research centres, land judging contest for peatland followed by students of department of Soils Science from 13 national universities, and field trip to the peatland reclamation area at Palembang.
4. Talkshow and National Seminar with the theme: The Role of Land Geo-spatial Information for Supporting Food and Energy Sovereignty in 4 March 2009 collaborated with Indonesian Survey Association organized. Some 250 members attended that seminar. The objectives of the talkshow and seminar are (1) to look for the solution alternatives for handling food and energy through optimalization of land geo-spatial information and (2) to strengthen the collaboration between Indonesian Society of Soil Science and Indonesian Surveyor Association for facing national problems related to sustainable geo-resources management.
5. National Seminar of Soil Science for presenting recent issues of soil problems. This seminar was conducted at Yogyakarta on 20-21 November 2009 attending by 200 members of ISSS. Some International keynote speakers were invited as keynote speakers. Indonesian government was supported the financial of this seminar especially for encouraging ISSS members to prepare and propose national and international publication.
6. Seminar of Merapi Eruption was conducted at Solo, 26-27 April 2011. At that seminar were discussed and collected how to rehabilitate and solve the problems after Merapi volcano eruption in the end of 2010. As we know that Merapi volcano is one of the World's most active volcanoes. At that time more than 100 people died and some 75,000 people have been evacuated from the area around Merapi volcano. At that seminar, some 200 persons were participated in presentations, discussion, and field trip.
7. 10th National Seminar and Congress of Soil Science will be conducted at Banjarbaru, South Kalimantan in October 2011. Besides presenting the papers, the new ISSS President in 2011-2015 period will be elected. Some importance results of National Soil Classification and Soil Science Nomenclature will be declared at the congress.
8. In 2013, ISSS is ready to become a host of ESAFS meeting in Indonesia. We invite all ESAFS members to attend the 11st ESAFS meeting in beautiful archipelago country of Indonesia.

One of the biggest issues related to the continuation of education of soil science in Indonesia is the decree of Directorate General of Higher Education (DGHE) to merger of study program of Soil Science, Agronomy, Pest and Disease to become study program Agrotechnology. Due to Indonesia is a country rich in natural resources and Soil Science is the basic science for managing natural resources, ISSS refused the above decree and asking to the DGHE for opening again the study program of Soil Science. The debate is still on going and we are continuing for obtaining best solution. Besides the above listed activities, ISSS publish news twice a year and Journal of Indonesian Soil twice a year. For making more intensive communication among members, ISSS uses mailing list group discussion. Hot issues related to soil sciences such as landslides, flood, earthquake, etc are continuously discussed through mailing list group discussion. Through this communication system, ISSS members can contribute their ideas for solving every problem for finding best solution in the real time.