**Session Proposal**

# Session Title

Past, present, and future of SUITMA (soils of urban, industrial, traffic, mining and military areas)

# Session Organizers

Prof. Kye-Hoon John Kim, The University of Seoul, [johnkim@uos.ac.kr](mailto:johnkim@uos.ac.kr) (Primary contact person)

Prof. Przemysław Charzyński, Nicolaus Copernicus University, pecha@umk.pl

# 3. Session Description

As a result of urbanization and industrialization, the urban population around the world has increased rapidly, but the traditional research subjects of soil science have been limited to agricultural land and forests. For this reason, even soil scientists call urban soils *terra incognita* (unknown land, unexplored territory). Soils that have been intensively managed and disturbed by human beings are called SUITMA (soils of urban, industrial, traffic, military and mining areas). SUITMA is also the name of a working group (WG) under IUSS. WG SUITMA has been actively working since its establishment in 1998. In 1998, SUITMA represented soils of urban, industrial, traffic, and mining areas. Then, military areas were added in 2003. SUITMA was nested in Division III of IUSS. WG SUITMA has held symposia during 7 WCSSs (world congress of soil sciences) from Montpellier, France in 1998 to Glasgow, UK in 2022. In addition, SUITMA has successfully held 13 conferences from Essen, Germany in 2000 to Pisa, Italy in 2025. SUITMA has prepared a turning point for a new leap forward by upgrading from a working group to a commission during the annual council meeting in December 2023, becoming Commission 3.7. In this SUITMA session, we will look back on SUITMA's footsteps since 1998, diagnose the current status of SUITMA, and discuss the direction in which SUITMA should move forward in the future.

# 4. Format

- Oral / poster presentations: topics related to state-of-the-art studies in SUITMA

- Panel discussions: Discussion for the better future of SUITMA

# 5. Proposed Speakers

1) Prof. Jean-Louis Morel, Emeritus Professor, Université de Lorraine

Memories of SUITMA

2) Prof. Przemysław Charzyński, Nicolaus Copernicus University

Communications of SUITMA by education

3) Prof. Anna Paltseva, Purdue University

Communications of SUITMA by outreach