**Session Proposal**

# Session Title

Managing water for managing soil health?

# Session Organizers

Chair of Session: Inviting other commissions for cooperation- leading the Session

Co- chair of Session: Lillian Øygarden. Chair of commission 3.2. Soil and Water Conservation. **Lillian.oygarden@nibio.no** or

# Co-chair of Session: Dorota Dec. Vice chair of commission 3.2 Soil and water conservation. Dorota.dec@uach.ch

1. **Session Description**

Soil health has been an important research topic for some years and is recognized important both for securing food production and for environmental influence. Especially, the function of organic matter for soil structure and the biological factors and functions have been focused. Mapping and development of indicators for soil health have included both physical, biological and chemical elements. Many projects investigate different soil management practices and how they influence on the soil health indicators.

This session invites for presentations about the broad importance of water and linkages to soil health. It includes wet and dry conditions and how water influence processes with improving soil health as well as how improved soil health can influence on nutrient utilization, runoff and nutrient losses. Perspectives are both the importance of the water factor for healthy soils and how this relates to building of soil structure that can reduce runoff, erosion and the transport of nutrients. It can involve processes at different scale from soil profile, connectivity and transport through the agricultural landscape to watersheds.

Determination of soil health indicators for the soils which present extreme properties (e.g Andisols, organic soils, and more) is also very relevant topic, considering the fact, that the increasing (intense) use and management of such agricultural soils and those with potential agricultural use can lead to deterioration of their functions and thus loss of their health.

We welcome presentations demonstrating and linking effects of managing water, agricultural managing practices as well as studies with modelling and decision support tools.

# Format

# The Session will be introduced by a key -note speaker followed by oral presentation and a discussion part by the end of the session

# Proposed Speakers

# Keynote speaker: Suggested- but not contacted. Ann Marcelle Lewandowski. Water Resources Center, Univ. of Minnesota, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108, USA. Email: alewand@umn.edu