



1. Title

Urban Soils-Properties, Functions and Evolution

2. Type

Working Groups Symposium

3. Organizer(s) & Convener

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4. Rationale

Soils in urban areas fulfill a set of primary functions of utmost importance in urban ecosystems. With the increase of population in cities, "urban soils" play fundamental roles and impairs the management in urban areas. Urban soils are a part of the answer imposed to humankind to meet major challenges (food, health, prosperity). It is only through a multi-disciplinary approach that urban soils will be better understood, and their use optimized to protect human health and quality.

5. Objectives

This symposium is submitted by the SUITMA working group (urban soils). As in previous IUSS congresses, symposium will be devoted to composition, properties and functions of SUITMAs as regard major issues related to global change. Also report of the recent SUITMA Conferences (Marrakech, 2011 and Torun, 2013 <http://www.suitma7.umk.pl/>) will be made.

6. Description

SUITMAs (Soils in Urban, Industrial, Traffic, Mining and Military Areas) are one of main components of the urban ecosystems. They are very diverse and heterogeneous, and fulfill primary functions of utmost importance. Symposium will allow to sharing recent knowledge about SUITMAs. Multidisciplinary research work will and role of soil science in the decision making process for urban land management be appreciated.

