



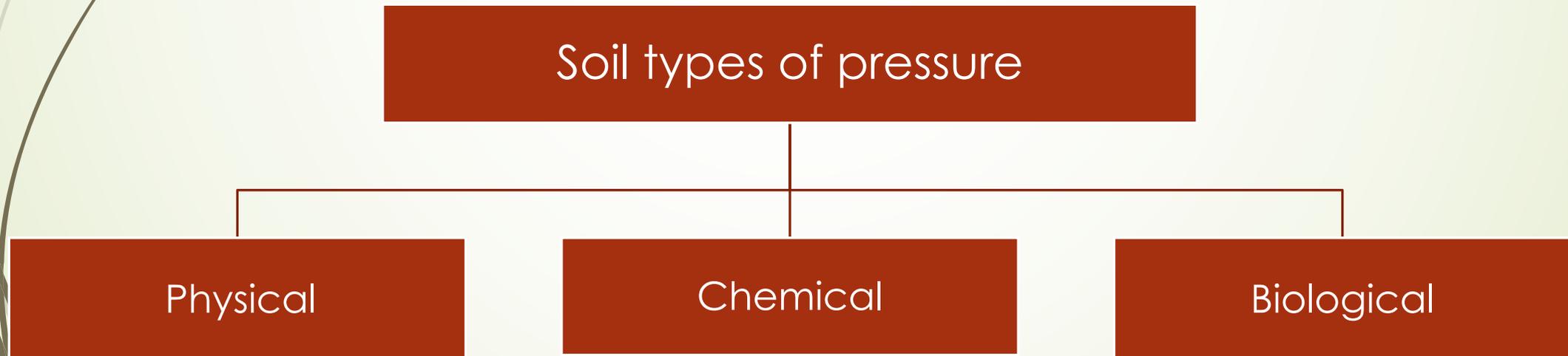
The needs that Soil partnership should cover in the Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH)

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02nd-05th October, 2022., Durres, Albania

Degradation processes and pressures on the soil

- Estimates are that around 33% of soil in the world is degraded
- Bosnia and Herzegovina is not spared from these processes and pressures on the soil



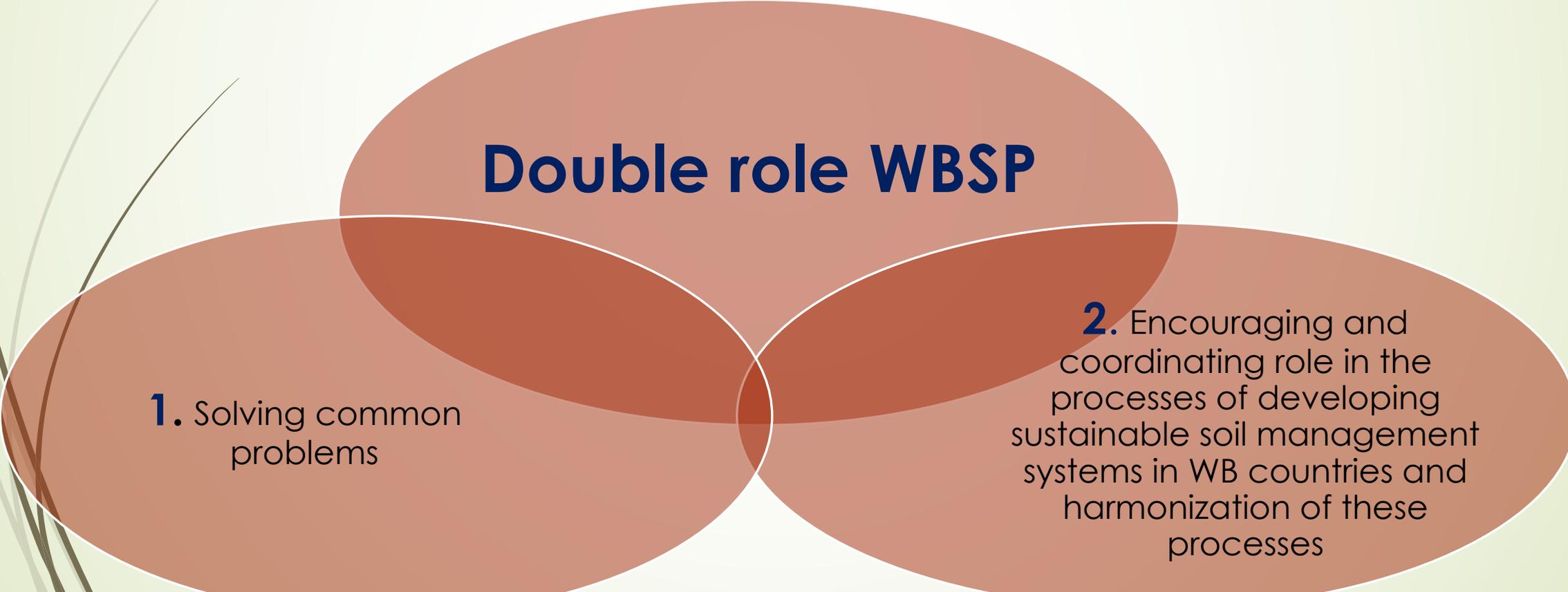
General assessment of soil state in WB countries

- The problems related to soils in WB countries are multiple and are exposed to numerous challenges.
- Some of these problems are very similar and common: degradation processes, low level of social awareness of the importance of soils, etc.
- Others are very different and specific for individual countries: implementing soil policies, legal regulations, development of institutional and human capacities for analysis and monitoring of the state of sustainable land management, etc.).

Possible ways to solve the problem

- ▶ Establishing a Soil Partnership for the countries of the Western Balkans (WBSP) to help solve specific problems
- ▶ WBSP could play a dual role in this process

Double role WBSP



1. Solving common problems

2. Encouraging and coordinating role in the processes of developing sustainable soil management systems in WB countries and harmonization of these processes



Proposal of activities

- ▶ Mediate and encourage the development of national soil policies, the adoption of the necessary legal regulations on soil and its sustainable management and protection, and the need for their adoption and harmonization with European standards (EU Soil Strategy until 2030, Soil Protection Act, Green Agenda)
- ▶ Work on establishing a transparent Information System for Monitoring Land Degradation (ISMLD) in the countries of the Western Balkans (WB)
- ▶ Working on harmonization of field, laboratory and analytical methods and soil data, as a precondition for the exchange of knowledge and experience in WB

Proposal of activities

- ▶ Encouraging the establishment of soil information systems in the countries of the WB, forming the necessary soil databases and their transparency (data on land cover, soil productivity, contamination, carbon stocks, etc.)
- ▶ Collection of information and data about the soils of the countries of the WB (agricultural areas, structure of crops, state of soil quality-fertility, drivers and degree of soil degradation. Consolidation and standardization of soil data.
- ▶ Work on targeted research in the region, that will contribute to solving problems of special importance for soils in the WB
- ▶ Raising the level of social awareness of the importance of soil as a non-renewable resource and the need for its protection and sustainable management (this goal can be achieved through the system of education, publishing guidelines and brochures on sustainable soil management and its protection and distributing them to target groups, making appropriate political decisions and measures, investments, etc.)

Proposal of activities

- Initiate and promote the idea of achieving neutral land degradation by 2030 (Obligation according to the UN Convention on combating desertification)
- Promote the land sales market and an effective soil quality management system
- Connection and cooperation with other international organizations and institutions dealing with the study of soil with the aim of transferring the latest knowledge and experience on sustainable soil management and its protection

Let's save our soil and make it healthier



Thank you for your
attention