

**15TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ISCO ON „SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY”**

The fifteenth congress of the International Soil Conservation Organization (ISCO) on soil and water conservation and management was held this year in Budapest between the 18th and 23rd of May.

The scope of the event is expressed in its informal title: „*Soil and Water Conservation, Climate Change and Environmental Sensitivity*”. According to the above mentioned topics, following sessions were on display during the conference:

Topic 1 Climate change and environmental sensitivity

- Climate change and land degradation
- Climate change and desertification in different environments
- Environmentally sensitive areas and their management

Topic 2 Land use change

- The role of land use change in soil degradation
- Deforestation, afforestation and forest fires

Topic 3 Water management

- Floods and their control
- Groundwater and its modelling
- Soil moisture dynamics
- Water management strategies
- Watershed management
- Water balance modelling

Topic 4 Soil erosion

- Measurement and modelling of soil erosion processes
- Gully erosion – forms and processes
- Wind erosion and its control
- Protection against water and wind erosion
- Mass movements

Topic 5 Salinization

- The role of environmental factors in salinization
- Secondary salinization
- Management of saline areas

Topic 6 Desertification

- Desertification processes in different environments
- Desertification indicators
- Desertification control

Topic 7 Other land degradation processes

- Extreme acidity
- Soil compaction
- Soil crusting

Topic 8 Soil rehabilitation and management

- Rehabilitation of degraded soils
- Management of degraded areas
- Farming techniques and productivity

Topic 9 Socio-economic aspects of land degradation

- Land degradation in the 3rd world
- Future of degraded areas
- Economic aspects of land degradation processes
- Economic aspects of control measures

Topic 10 Legislative and institutional aspects of soil and water conservation

- Legislative and legal problems
- Institutional organization of water and soil conservation
- Farming systems and soil and water conservation
- Training and research

(source: www.isco2008.com)