







# World Congress 2022: An update

31<sup>st</sup> July – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022 Glasgow, Scotland, UK



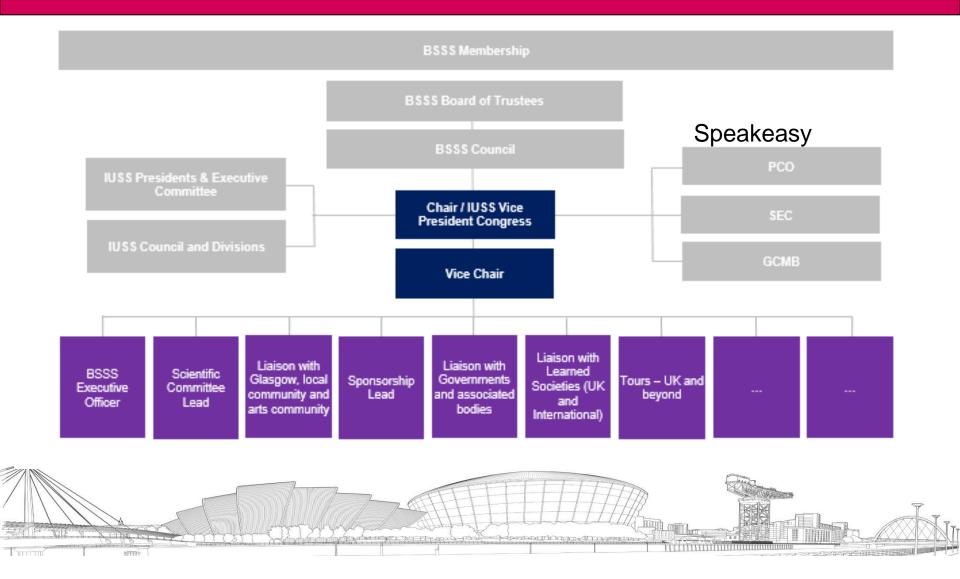








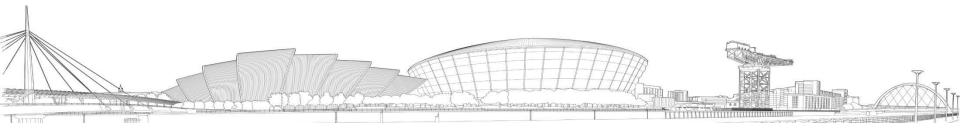
#### **WCSS 2022 Working Group**



### **Division Vice Chairs**

Division	Office	Name	Country
1 – Soils in space and time	Chair	Erika Micheli	Hungary
	Vice Chair	Matt Aitkenhead	UK
	Vice Chair	Jacqueline Hannam	UK
2 – Soil properties and processes	Chair	Ryusuke Hatano	Japan
	Vice Chair	Paul Hallet	UK
	Vice Chair	Leo Condron	New Zealand
3 – Soil use and management	Chair	Bal Ram Singh	Norway
	Vice Chair	Bob Rees	UK
	Vice Chair	Tom Aspray	UK
4 – the role of soils in sustaining society and the environment	Chair	Damien Field	Australia
	Vice Chair	Christine Watson	UK
	Vice Chair	Lorna Dawson	UK





### **Arts, Culture and Community component**

- Lots of Groups a
  - Scotland, rest
- In Glasgow, Ope
  - 'Is a group of soc operative principle
  - Essentially a grou of the relationship
  - Very well connected of social and envir



### Arts, culture and community component

# Glasgow is a classic post industrial city

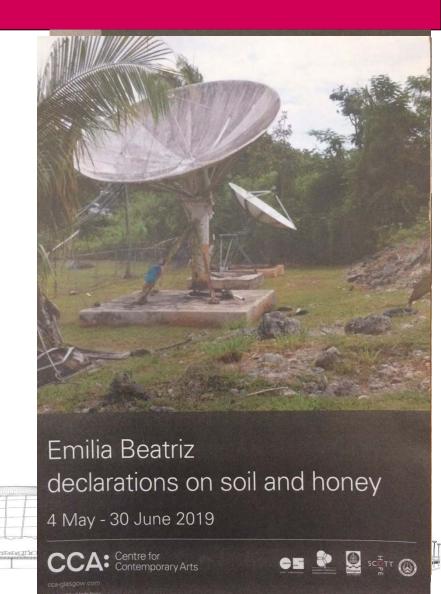
- Has the highest proportion of unused and/or 'derelict' land of any British city
- But increasingly been restored to productive use
- And recognising the benefits to health
- I would love to see a tour of community based initiatives within the host city





### Arts, culture and community component

- A number of potential venues in Glasgow have been visited by a group of UK based artists
  - Accompanied by Alex Toland from Berlin



#### Arts, culture and

 Other venues been involved producing rele material using other media fol Scotland becomes the first country in the history of countries to intentionally give back more to the Lifeweb than it consumes when the deep wealth of the country is understood to be in part a vast commons the topsoil as vital

The wealth becomes magnified when the topsoil is attended to beginning by transforming all organic waste into humus and continuing the regenerating of carbon in the topsoil mat while banning all inorganic fertilizer under these conditions highly productive farmlands moving towards the organic increase in size by 10% or more as does the production of food so too does the deep wealth of the nation

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magnified

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organic fertilizer

mlands

)% or more on of food

wealth of the nation



### Arts, culture and community component

First proposal is with ASCUS based in Edinburgh

http://www.ascus.org.uk/



In partnership with Soil Museum in the UAE

Sponsoring two artists in residence

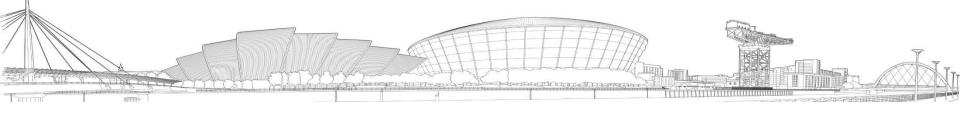
 Using Holyrood Park in Edinburgh as a case study

Currently seeking funding...



# Arts, Culture and community component

- So lots of ideas, enthusiasm, energy and people involved
  - And this is coming from the arts and creative sector as much as the soil scientists
- But perhaps we need to focus a little more.....
  - My suggestion is to use 'boundary objects' "conceptual entities that bridge different understandings of information by different user groups"
- So perhaps features common to humankind and soils
  - E.g.: porosity, preferential flows, function/dysfunction, connectivity/networks.....?



## And just announced......

- Glasgow will host COP26 at the same venue
- A great opportunity to flag up WCSS2022
- And the role of soils and land management in **CC** mitigation

# Go with the Flow: Caithness bog could be on a par with Pyramids

Scotland's next World Heritage site could be a huge bog few Scots venture to see. But, as SANDRA DICK

reports, it is a key weapon against climate change and nosts many rare birds

AS a child, Magi Sinclair heard stories about the bog. Its deep, black pools and oft, spongy moss might capture little legs. sucking them into its dark heart, perhaps not to be seen again.

The peatlands near her Caithness home nad an almost sinister side. They sprawled before her, acres of soft, dull land, no trees o relieve the flatness and with deep uddles that mirrored the grey Sutherland

A little intimidating from afar, but close was something entirely different. hirty-four species of sphagnum moss row across the Flow Country's vast area of blanket bog, every plant a collection of iny brushstrokes of colour, each stem and branch covered in individual tiny leaves

Among mosses, she found the fluffy white-tipped stems of cotton grass dancing wildly in the breeze, bog shrubs like bogbean spiky red Sundew and the deep surple flowers of butterwort cope.

More recently, her artist's eye absorbed he beauty of the bog again - its acidic errain, subtle shades and darting wildlife nd an astonishing ability to snare carbon and help restore balance in a modern world increasingly out of synch with

She said: "At first you notice that there ren't any trees, the peatlands are just this derness in the middle of nowhere. Then u get closer, you can see the plants, the le insects and the birds. Sit quietly and nd time watching, and the birds just up from the ground and fly off.

I grew up on the edge of the peatlands times it could be a dark place. The pools re several feet deep; if you step off at rtain parts it's really boggy. Children and imals could be stuck. My friends were en warned not to go."

The Flows she knows so well, are so ortherly and remote that most Scots unless they happen to fire up the car and oin the tourists tackling the North Coast



The dawn light reflects on some of the many pools among pest bogs in the Flow Country, in this instance at Forsinard Flows RSPB reserve, Sutherland





"The peatland takes up carbon from the atmosphere through photosynthesis. The conditions are cold and wet, carbon is turned to biomass and preserved as peat But if you start draining peatland, the carbon stored as peat is released much

faster into the atmosphere. "So, in good condition, the blanket boy can mitigate climate change, but distur

it will release carbon faster. Some fear it has already been subjecte to pockets of damage. Red deer trample and graze on the delicate plants, the historic creation of farming drains has dried the soil and introducing forests has eroded stretches of the fragile landscape Joe Perry, the Peatland Partnership

