

‘Grassroots Request for Proposals (RFP)’ for Member-Driven Working Groups, Commissions, and Consortiums Submission Template

Background

The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) invites proposals from members to establish working groups, commissions, or consortiums that develop innovative initiatives to advance soil science and strengthen the Society’s long-term impact.

Selected proposals will receive tangible Society support in the form of: staff coordination and administrative assistance; communications and promotional support; access to SSSA programs, meeting platforms, and digital infrastructure; and direct assistance in developing external funding proposals to the Agronomic Science Foundation, federal agencies, and private sector sponsors.

Please note this is not a traditional grant where money flows directly to the applicant. Instead, it is access to the Society itself. Selected Working Groups will be able to leverage our contacts, networks, programs, outlets, and media to grow their ideas into lasting initiatives. Proposals will be reviewed by the SSSA leadership and board. We look forward to seeing your submission!

Proposal Guidelines

Submissions open June 1.

Submissions close July 15 at 11:59 pm Central.

Proposals will be awarded points in the following categories:

1. [Strategic alignment](#)
2. Innovation and originality
3. Impact on soil science
4. Sustainability and long-term potential
5. Feasibility
6. Member engagement

Proposals must be submitted through [this online form](#).

If you need to save your progress and return to finish it later, you can save your submission by hitting "submit." You will receive an email with a unique link to edit your submission.

When your submission is finalized, do not forget to check the final box on the form, "I confirm that my submission is final."

Proposal Submission Fields

1. Proposal title
2. Proposal lead
 - a. Name
 - b. Email
 - c. Affiliation
3. Additional working group members (include full names and email addresses for each additional member)
4. SSSA Divisions or Sections involved/targeted
 - a. Select all that apply from list
 - b. If no existing Divisions or Sections apply, select "Not applicable."
5. Division Chair support (if applicable)
6. Priority are
 - a. Innovation
 - b. Sustainability
 - c. Both
7. Concept description (2000 character limit)
8. Need or opportunity addressed (2000 character limit)
9. Proposed activities (2000 character limit)
 - a. List proposed activities in a bullet point format
10. Expected outcomes (2000 character limit)
 - a. Year 1
 - b. Year 2
 - c. Year 3
 - d. Years 4+
11. Long-term impact (2000 character limit)
12. Resources requested from SSSA (check all that apply)
 - a. Staff coordination and administrative assistance
 - b. Communications and promotional support
 - c. Meeting platforms or digital infrastructure
 - d. Proposal development support for external funding
 - e. Event or program logistics assistance
13. External partnerships or funding opportunities (2000 character limit)
 - a. List all that apply, along with any contacts or connections, if applicable