INTRODUCTION

Nicolaus Copernicus University of Torun would like to invite you to join us for the 7th International Conference of the Urban Soils Working Group, SUITMA, of the International Union of Soil Sciences.

Share in the latest information and ideas from around the world in this exciting and important field. Urbanization indicator had raised from 25% in 1950 to over 50% at present, and probably by 2030 60 percent of world’s population would live in cities. It means that area of urban soils, is constantly growing. Passenger and cargo traffic growth result in construction of new roads, railroads and airports and thus the soils of traffic areas are also expanding.

SUITMAs (Soils in Urban, Industrial, Traffic, Mining and Military Areas) are one of main components of urban ecosystem. They are very diverse and heterogeneous, and fulfill primary functions of utmost importance. However, knowledge related to SUITMAs is still insufficient, which impairs the management of urban areas and limit the role of soil science in the decision making process for urban land management.

After successful events in Germany, France, Egypt, China, United States and Morocco, the 2013 conference in Poland will offer a further step forward in the knowledge of urban soils, focusing on the functions of SUITMAs in global change issues. It will feature current research from around the world, and panel discussions on topical issues. Not only are soil scientists invited, but members of other scientific communities (e.g. economists, lawyers, policy-makers, land planners) are most welcome to SUITMA 7.

Traditionally, SUITMA puts emphasis on local features of urban soils. In this objective, beside a three-day conference (16, 17 & 20 September 2013) held at Faculty of Earth Sciences of Nicolaus Copernicus University, located in UNESCO World Heritage city of Torun, two-day mid-conference field tours (18 & 19 September 2013) will be offered in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Province focusing on Technosols, one field tour would be dedicated to Northern Poland red brick gothic castles and one would be kayak trip through 3 lakes and Skarłanka river in Brodnica Landscape Park. A post-conference tour (20 - 24 September 2013) will be organized in Poland and Czech Republic focusing not only on urban and industrial soils of Central Europe but also with interesting social part (breweries visiting) included in the program and ending in Golden Prague, Czech capital.

We will be very pleased to invite you to participate in SUITMA 7 to share your ideas and experience for the benefit of urban communities and SUITMAs.

You are also welcomed to join SUITMA 7 group on Facebook to be instantly informed on news and updates concerning the Conference.

Jean-Louis MOREL Chairman of SUITMA
Ganlin ZHANG, Vice-Chairman of SUITMA
Przemyslaw CHARZYNSKI, Chairman of SUITMA 7
COMMITEES

Scientific Committee
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BEDNAREK Renata, Poland
BOULARBAH Ali, Morocco
BRETZEL Francesca, Italy
BURGHARDT Wolfgang, Germany
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MOREL Jean Louis, France
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NEHLS Thomas, Germany
NORRA Stephan, Germany
PINI Roberto, Italy
QIU Rongliang, China
SCHAD Peter, Germany
SCHWARTZ Christophe, France
SERE Geoffroy, France
SHAW Richard, USA
SIMONNOT Marie-Odile, France
SOBOCKA Jaroslava, Slovakia
VACHA Radim, Czechia
WESSOLEK Gerd, Germany
WU Qitang, China
ZHANG Ganlin, China

Organizing Committee
CHARZYŃSKI Przemyslaw, Copernicus University, Toruń (Chairman of SUITMA 7)
DĄBROWSKI Michał, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
HLADÍK Jiří, Research Institute for Soil and Water Conservation, Prague
HULISZ Piotr, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
JANKOWSKI Michał, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
MARKIEWICZ Maciej, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
MENDYK Łukasz, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
MICHALSKI Adam, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
SEWERNIAK Piotr, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
ŚWITONIAK Marcin, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
VACHA Radim, Research Institute for Soil and Water Conservation, Prague
THE CITY HOSTING THE CONFERENCE

Toruń is one of the oldest and full of historical monuments cities in Poland with the population over 205,000. It is a large centre of economic life, science, culture and a popular tourist destination. Lying on the Vistula River and the southern edge of the Chelmno Land (former Teutonic order localization) the city is an 800 years old. With its Hanseatic tradition, it has for ages played a major role in the commercial relationships between Northern and Western Europe on the one hand, and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe on the other hand. Today Toruń is the self-government capital of the Kuiavia-Pomerania administrative region.

Toruń, an old Hanseatic center, during the nearly eight centuries of its rich history played a significant role in creating political, economic and cultural history and tradition of Europe. Toruń’s surviving material and cultural heritage provides a conclusive proof of the former economic and political power of the city which was situated at the intersection of long-distance land and water trade routes. Since its foundation, Toruń had gradually developed into an increasingly bigger European trade center. As early as 1280, the city joined the Hanseatic League and maintained extensive and vigorous trade contacts with the whole of Europe, especially with Flanders, Westphalia, England, Red Ruthenia and Hungary.

Toruń’s Old Quarter is the world’s highest-class historical monument. Its spatial layout has survived intact since the Middle Ages. As a result, we can now admire the superb complex with its excellent mid-thirteenth-century urban solutions, which have remained unchanged for centuries.

To feel a medieval spirit and to see how do the real and original burgher houses, granaries, Gothic cathedrals look like one must visit Toruń on his own…

Toruń, one of the most beautiful historic cities of Poland, cut in the middle by the stately waters of the Vistula River, is located in an area, where ancient trade routes used to intersect. The Gothic buildings of Toruń’s Old Quarter, which won the designation of World Heritage Site from UNESCO in 1997, present proof of economic, cultural and intellectual ties of Toruń with the leading cities of Europe associated in the Hanseatic League dating back to the Middle Ages.

These traditional ties have been propagated to this day by the contemporary residents of the city of Copernicus.

The city, which has always been open to new ideas, being involved in multi-faceted discourses, gathered intellectual elites, providing them with great conditions for creative life.
This situation has remained to this day: Toruń is one of the most recognized academic centers of Poland. The Nicolaus Copernicus University, a successor of traditions of the Stefan Batory University of Vilnius, puts its primary focus on propagation and creative development of the fine arts, literature, history, and astronomy. The so-called Toruń school of preservation of cultural properties has been widely known throughout the world. Accomplishments of the Astronomical Research Centre of the University are highly regarded by scientists.

The unique and carefully cherished beauty of Toruń creates a spiritual climate facilitating artistic activity. That's why talented artists and culture propagators have settled here. Their activity in the field of art makes Toruń one of the European cities known for organization of prestigious music, theatrical and art festivals such as the "Europe-Toruń. Music and Architecture Summer Festival", "Probaltica" Music and Art Festival of the Baltic Countries, "Kontakt" International Theatrical Festival, International Biennal Exhibition of Children and Youth's Graphic Arts and other.

Nearly eight-centuries old Toruń teems with life. Its residents, predominated by young, educated and ambitious people, can be described by entrepreneurship, which is always appreciated here. It contributes to development of industry, trade and various services.

Toruń, with its everlasting beauty of medieval architecture, decorated with colorful palette of squares and gardens, a plethora of cozy cafes, restaurants and comfortable hotels, invites to its always open and hospitable gates.

We can assure you that once you visit the city, you will always try to come back here.
GENERAL INFORMATIONS

OFFICIAL CONGRESS LANGUAGE
The official language of the Congress is English. No translation service will be provided.

REGISTRATION DESK
Open on Sunday 15th September 2013 from 4.00 to 6.00PM (lobby of hotel Mercure Helios Toruń), Monday 16th September 2013 from 8.00AM to 5.00PM and Tuesday 17th September from 8.00AM to 1.00PM (main lobby of the Faculty of Earth Sciences Building)

BADGES AND CONGRESS KIT
Conference materials and Name badges will be provided on-site to all registered colleagues at the registration desk.

ORAL SESSIONS
The plenary room will be equipped with the beamer, notebook, microphones. The notebook will be equipped with the following software: Windows 7; MS Office 2010 (Power Point, Word); Adobe Reader X;

POSTERS
*Poster presentation numbers*
Poster presentation boards will be indicated by consecutive numbers.

*Poster set up and removal*
Posters should be mounted between 08.00 and 08.30AM and dismantled/removed after the evening poster session of the day of presentation. Early next day the posters still on the boards will be removed. Posters will be displayed in dedicated Poster Areas in the Faculty building. **The size of the posters should be 70 cm x 100 cm.**

LUNCHES
Hot meal will be provided to all registered participants on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Cold pocket lunches will be provided Wednesday and Thursday for mid-conference field trips.

COFFEE Breaks
Coffee, Tea, water and snacks would be offered during coffee breaks.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE
A certificate of attendance will be included in the congressional bag.

INTERNET
Wi-Fi Internet access for free will be available in the Faculty of Earth Sciences Building.

PARKING AREA
For participants arriving with car, a large parking area in front of Faculty of Earth Sciences will be available for the whole Conference free of charge.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS
Citizens of any member State of the European Union can enter Poland with a valid national identity document or passport. For citizens of other countries, a passport is required. To find out whether, you need a visa to enter Poland, please visit site of **Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs**. You will find there also information about nearest Polish Consulate and Visa application procedure. The organizing secretariat can issue, upon request, an official letter of invitation. Please apply to: **suitma7@umk.pl**.
SCIENTIFIC AGENDA

Conference topics include:

1. **Classification of SUITMAs**
   - Classification of Technosols in WRB 2014;
   - SUITMAs in Soil Taxonomy;
   - SUITMAs in national soil classification systems.

2. **SUITMAs as a resource of goods**
   - Soil diversity in urban areas (properties, soil types, mapping)
   - Urban agriculture
   - SUITMAs a resource for energy and non-renewable compounds, e.g. P, rare elements

3. **Degradation of SUITMAs and human health**
   - Contamination of SUITMAs
   - Direct soil-to-human transfer and impact of contaminants (pollutants, pathogens)
   - Water dynamics and quality
   - Remediation and restoration of SUITMAs

4. **SUITMAs and climate change**
   - Mitigation of GHG emissions
   - Carbon storage
   - Strategies to mitigate temperature variations in cities

5. **Biodiversity in SUITMAs**
   - Abundance and functions of organisms in urban soils
   - Evolution of SUITMAs, and impacts on biodiversity

6. **SUITMAs and culture**
   - Urban landscape (e.g. trees in cities, art, archeology)
   - Memory: soils of historical sites
   - Education and training.
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We cordially invite You to submit abstract or abstracts for Thematic Sessions included in the Scientific Program.

Abstract Submission

English will be the only official Conference and Abstract language. No simultaneous translation from/to other languages will be available. Abstract(s) submission for oral and poster presentations is possible only using on-line form, which is available on SUITMA 7 web site. If there would be problems with the on-line submission, notify the SUITMA 7 Secretary: suitma7@umk.pl.

In on-line form You will be requested to choose the symposium You consider appropriate for Your presentation and your preference for an oral or poster presentation. Your Abstract will be evaluated by the Convener(s) of your preferred session. The time available for oral presentations will be limited, thus, Conveners will decide about you submission to be presented as oral or poster presentation. Authors will be notified by the end of March 2013 about acceptance of Abstracts and assignment of presentation as oral or poster.

Oral and Poster Presentations

Each session will include oral and poster presentations. Oral and poster contributions are regarded as scientifically equivalent in the program. Only PowerPoint oral presentations will be possible. A beamer and a microphone will be available. The speakers should upload their presentations using on-line form before 9th September 2013. Posters should be placed in the assigned board in the morning of the day of the corresponding oral Session, and removed in the evening of the presentation day. All presentations (oral and posters) have to be in English. All accepted and presented Abstracts will be included in printed form to all SUITMA 7 registered attendants in conference bag.

Papers Publication

You are invited to prepare scientific paper based on Your presentation. It will be possible to publish the complete papers in:

1. special issue of Journal of Soils and Sediments. The JSS is devoted to soils and sediments; it deals with contaminated, intact and disturbed soils and sediments and is official Journal of SUITMA. JSS explores both the common aspects and the differences between these two environmental compartments. The range of research coverage includes the effects of disturbances and contamination; research, strategies and technologies for prediction, prevention, and protection; identification and characterization; treatment, remediation and reuse; risk assessment and management; creation and implementation of quality standards; international regulation and legislation. Submitted manuscripts will be subject to regular acceptance and review procedure.

2. special issue of Ecological Questions, which will be dedicated to SUITMA’s. As suggested by the title of the journal, EQ is a forum for an interdisciplinary debate which would raise difficult and controversial questions. The fundamental task set by the editors of EQ is to bring together and present a diversity of research connected with ecology (included soil science). The contents and the full texts of articles published in Ecological Questions are available in pdf format on-line.
FEES, SCHEDULE & PAYMENT

FEES

Early Registration
400 EUR
250 EUR – Students with valid ID (Proof of student status must be emailed to suitma7@umk.pl)
175 EUR - Non-conference accompanying persons (spouses, partners; covers welcome reception, Conference Dinner, Northern Poland red brick gothic castles and kayak trip in Brodnica Landscape Park Mid-Conference one-day tour).

Regular Registration
475 EUR
325 EUR – Students

Late Registration
550 EUR
375 EUR – Students

Conference Dinner (Tuesday evening 7:30-10PM)
40 EUR

Post-Conference Field Tour
470 EUR

SCHEDULE

September 2012 – Registration and Abstract Submission on-line form opens

15th February 2013 – Abstract submission deadline

30th April 2013 – Early Registration Fee Payment deadline

15th May 2013 – Post-Conference Registration and Payment deadline

15th June 2013 – Regular Registration Fee Payment deadline

15th June 2013 – Accommodation reservation deadline (number of available rooms in hotels/lodgings offering special, reduced rates for SUITMA 7 participants is limited, so Organizers reserve the right to terminate bookings earlier)

After 15th June 2013 – Payment of late registration Fee
PAYMENT

Payments can be made by:

**Credit Cards** (on-line form is available after registration)

**Bank transfer** in Euro payable to:

Nicolaus Copernicus University  
Gagarina str. 11  
87-100 Torun  
Poland

Bank Millennium S.A.  
S. Zaryna str. 2A  
Warsaw  
IBAN: PL 45 1160 2202 0000 0000 3174 8579  
SWIFT: BIGBPLPW

The bank transfer must indicate the title of the Conference ‘SUITMA 7’ and the name of the participant. **The sender must pay all bank charges.** Scan of the bank transfer have to be sent by email within 2 weeks after the registration, otherwise the form cannot be accepted.  
**Note:** If a proforma invoice is needed, please submit an e-mail request to: suitma7@umk.pl

INVOICES

Invoices will be handled by email or during the Conference.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

Cancellations must be sent as e-mail only to suitma7@umk.pl. Any refund will depend on the date of reception of the cancellation and on the following conditions:

By 31 May 2013: the refund will be 80% of the fee.
By 31 July 2013: the refund will be 50% of the fee.
After 31 July 2013: no refund of the fee.

CHANGES AND/OR AMENDMENTS

We reserves the right to make any changes for organizational or logistics reasons, which will be promptly notified to registered colleagues by e-mail.
ACCOMODATION

On-line booking for accommodation should be done together with the fee payment using the Conference On-line Form. Rooms at a discounted price have been booked by the Organization Committee in the city centre of Torun, in Old Town area. Four hotels of various categories have been reserved in order to suit all budgets. As the number of rooms available in each hotel is limited, rooms will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. Should all hotels offered be fully booked, the secretariat will suggest alternative accommodation options.

In order to avail the rates published below, you have to book through the secretariat and not directly with the hotel. In all hotels listed below breakfast and tax is included in the price.

**Hotel Mercure Helios****
Very comfortable four star hotel, 3 min. walk from old town.
Single room - 60 EUR
Twin/Double room - 80 EUR

**Hotel Filmar****
Elegance, good taste and care for even the smallest detail combine within four star hotel Filmar. Hotel is located a few-minutes walk from Old Town.
Single room - 55 EUR
Twin/Double room - 75 EUR

**Hotel Polonia***
Very nice three star hotel, located just at the entrance to old town in front of art nouveau theater building.
Single room - 40 EUR
Twin/Double room - 55 EUR

**Hostel & Hotel Przystanek**
Very nice hotel/hostel, in adopted 19th Century warehouse. All rooms was prepared in 2012 and have ensuite bathrooms. Located 5 min. walk from old town.
Single room - 30 EUR
Twin/Double room - 40 EUR
Triple room - 55 EUR
MID-CONFERENCE TOURS – 18th & 19th September 2013

Mid-Conference Tour 1 (18th September)
One day bus tour. Three Red brick Castles will be visited, in Kwidzyn, Malbork and Radzyń Chełmiński.

Mid-Conference Tour 2 (18th September)
PaleoTechnosols of Grodno - Lusatian fortified settlement from older part of Hallstatt period, Ekranic Technosols of Toruń Airfield, Urbic Technosols in Toruń Center, Linic Technosols on Toruń Strongholds.

Mid-Conference Tour 3 (19th September)
Soils of Military Training Field located in left-bank Toruń; Ekranic Technosols under cobblestone path by the Dybowski Castle; Spolic Technosols of industrial area of Inowrocław

Mid-Conference Tour 4 (19th September)
Kayak trip in Brodnica Landscape Park along Skarlanka river and 3 lakes (Zbiczno, Strażym & Bachotek). Easy route, no experience needed. Duration 3-4 h. Chance to watch lesser spotted eagle, great crested grebe, crane and many other bird species.
Post-Conference Tour - 21st - 24th September 2013

Day 1 - Saturday 21st

Day 2 - Saturday 22nd
Visiting soils in the area around Karvina and Orlova - the problems with landscape slumps under mining spaces (short visit of lopsided church), the revitalization of past agricultural objects in Tranovice. Lunch in microbrewery restaurant Avar. The dinner in JUHASZ pension.

Day 3 - Saturday 23rd
Morning departure by bus. Transfer to Olomouc, UNESCO Heritage town, old town visiting. Transfer to Middle Bohemian region (district Mlada Boleslav), situated cca 80 km form Prague (north direction). Visit to abandoned military range and military airport. Problems of soil contamination by petroleum hydrocarbons especially and reuse of these areas will be presented. Overnight in Detenice - the visit of the castle and castle brewery, the dinner.
Day 4 - Saturday 24th
Short bus trip to Nymburk for old town sightseeing, brewery visit & see the exhibition about world famous Czech writer Bohumil Hrabal in local museum. Transfer to Prague. Guided tour in old town. The dinner and accommodation in Praha.

Day 5 - Saturday 25th
Airport transfer or bus travel back to Toruń. If somebody would like to stay longer in Prague or explore Czechia out of capital organizers would be glad to help with sightseeing program and accommodation arrangements.

Mid-Conference Tours and Post-Conference Tour schedule is preliminary. Organizers reserves the right to make changes to the program and/or cancellations in case the minimum number of 15 participants for post-conference tour and 25 for mid-conference tours is not reached.