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THE HOME OF LIFE: I AM A LIVING SOIL

J. STUCHI¹, C.L. CAPECHE², M.P. PAGLIACCI³

Affiliations

¹ Embrapa Sede - Executive Board of Technology Transfer and Innovation, Brasília, BRAZIL

² Embrapa Soils - Technology Transfer Sector, Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL

³ Independent Professional, São Paulo, BRAZIL

Educating children and young people is a duty of science to promote the sustainability of the soil resource as a common good to be preserved. Constructing the knowledge of this audience focused on soil conservation offers society opportunities to learn how to care for our natural resources through a respectful balance with nature, fostering a culture of protection for our most precious asset, the origin of life. Within these principles, we understand that education plays a fundamental role in achieving a balanced planet for the living beings that inhabit it. In a playful and enjoyable manner, this special audience is invited to understand that within the soil live very small animals that play a vital role in ensuring we have clean water and food because they help us take care of this resource. Furthermore, we are responsible for caring for the soil along with these animals, as co-responsible for maintaining the different scales of life. In this way, we present an award-winning work that secured third place among the 97 competitors from 75 countries in the first edition of the competition promoted by the International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO/GSP), under the theme 'keep the soil alive, protect soil biodiversity.' The book provides a simple approach to the importance of the beings that are part of the biodiversity of the House of Life (the soil) for our larger home, planet Earth. Originally written and published by FAO in English, it has already been translated and published in Portuguese and Spanish, with the German version currently being finalized. It has reached over 276 institutions in more than 73 municipalities across over 21 states in Brazil, 15 countries, spanning 4 continents. These institutions have undertaken various educational activities with the book published by Embrapa, contributing to the popularization of soil science.

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