



1. Title

Understanding Acid Sulfate Soils: The Key to Their Proper Management

2. Type

Working Groups Symposium

3. Organizer(s) & Convener

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4. Rationale

Acid sulfate soils pose a serious threat to the environment in many parts of the world. Better management of these materials has been and will continue to be underpinned by the development of an improved understanding of the nature of these processes. This symposium will explore the latest developments in the understanding and management of acid sulfate soils.

5. Objectives

To present recent findings and issues within acid sulfate soil research including:

- updated classification approaches
- new developments in laboratory methods for assessment
- new approaches in the management of these soils
- the development of new tools for mapping the distribution of these soils
- improvements in our understanding of the environmental effects that can develop from these soils when mismanaged.





6. Description

Acid Sulfate Soils are widely distributed around the globe and their mismanagement has led to severe degradation of landscapes by processes such as acidification, release of toxic metals, and the de-oxygenation of waterways. The development of practical and effective management practices has been hindered by an incomplete understanding of the processes operating in these materials, and landscapes containing these materials, when disturbed. Better management of these materials has been and will continue to be underpinned by the development of an improved understanding of the nature of these processes. This symposium will 1) explore the latest developments aimed at exploring the processes that operate in acid sulfate soil materials after both disturbance and remediation practices have been imposed, and 2) examine new management options that have been developed from these new understandings

