



## Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

(22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350)

Ph 07 4639 2135; Email: [office@hopeaustralia.org.au](mailto:office@hopeaustralia.org.au)

Website: <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Householders.Options.to.Protect.the.Environment>

ABN 48 036 173 161

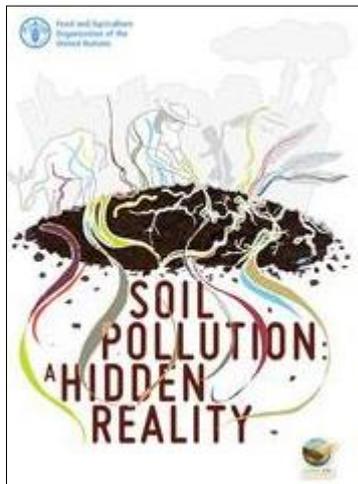
**Friday, 16 November 2018**

## MEDIA RELEASE

**World Soil Day, 05 December 2018**

When the word 'pollution' comes up, we typically think of air and water pollution. But there is one lurking culprit that is degrading our soils which in turn poisons the food we eat, the water we drink and the air we breathe: soil pollution. We hardly give any thought to the ground we stand on because the impact we make on it is invisible, but we are dependent on soil for food and our well-being. Soil erosion and poison leads to famine as soil also holds significant carbon, which is lost through erosion and in turn contributes to climate change.

#StopSoilPollution is this year's theme for World Soil Day 2018 (<http://www.fao.org/world-soil-day/campaign-materials/en/>). Hence, FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) seeks to raise awareness that most soil pollutants are from human activities such as unethical farming practices, industrial mining, untreated urban waste, etc. and we need to be part of the solution to #StopSoilPollution. Soils have great potential to filter and buffer contaminants but there is a limit to their capacity. If we do not combat this hidden danger together, our food security will be in peril as the world population continues to grow and expected to reach 9 billion by 2050.



HOPE Australia has an easily accessible list of resources on how you can be part of this movement. Otherwise, you can also check out here FAO's [website for World Soil Day to obtain materials](http://www.fao.org/world-soil-day/campaign-materials/en/) in various formats and numerous languages you can use to promote the much-needed conversation about World Soil Day. More materials will be added on the page leading up to December 2018. FAO is also active on many social media platforms which is listed at the bottom of [its page](#) to be part of the buzz about World Soil Day.

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135

Media release written by Judy Tan, HOPE volunteer Qld