

NUTRIENT STEWARDSHIP

A conceptual model to foster awareness and implementation



Phosphorus is a vital and irreplaceable resource to the agricultural production and therefore is an inseparable issue at the nexus food-water-energy. As we know its non-renewable reserves are decreasing in quantity and quality making it considered as a planetary boundary to human kind. Presently, phosphate demand has become another factor leading to global food inflation by forcing up fertilizers prices beside energy costs. In the long run, phosphate reserves will be completely depleted. Despite of its importance for crops production, phosphorus has been used wastefully for a century. Taking care about the phosphorus issue, is of strategic importance to food security while a key factor controlling water pollution with its multiple consequences. Thus, it is of paramount relevance to devise policies worldwide to close the bio-geo-economic flux of phosphorus and other vital nutrients. Maintenance of global food security will require a wise stewardship in different ways. Strategic investments on nutrient resources as phosphorus and potassium must be among them. Taking into account the relevance of this theme, we support the initiative to include the nutrient stewardship beside the issues food , water and energy. Indeed, this a more one valuable tool for ensure the pillars of sustainable development while providing synergic solutions.

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