



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat



SOIL Wins United Nations' Momentum for Change Climate Award

Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOIL, a non-profit research and development organization working in Haiti to design and implement climate positive sanitation solutions, has won the United Nation's 2018 Momentum for Change Award.

Momentum for Change is an initiative spearheaded by the UN Climate Change secretariat to shine a light on the enormous groundswell of activities underway across the globe that are moving the world toward a highly resilient, low-carbon future. Momentum for Change recognizes innovative and transformative solutions that address both climate change and wider economic, social and environmental challenges. Recognized as a Lighthouse Activity, SOIL's work is honored for being a practical, scalable and replicable example of a groundbreaking intervention to tackle climate change.

About SOIL

For over a decade, SOIL has been developing restorative solutions to the sanitation crisis in Haiti which demonstrate that it is possible to sustainably provide household sanitation services even in some of the world's most under-resourced, climate vulnerable urban communities. For a small monthly fee, SOIL provides over 6,500 people with household toilets and full waste treatment services, transforming waste into agricultural-grade compost in a process that respects World Health Organization standards. The more than 125 tons of compost SOIL produces annually is used to support agriculture and reforestation efforts in Haiti, ensuring nutrient recirculation, improving soil carbon sequestration, stabilizing soils, and reducing the impact of flooding and droughts.

By taking a holistic, ecological approach to sanitation, SOIL simultaneously tackles a growing urban public health crisis while cultivating resilience to the impacts of climate change in frontline coastal communities. SOIL's work is widely recognized as one of the most promising tests of the paradigm-shifting hypothesis that sanitation no longer needs to focus on waste disposal, but rather on the ecologically beneficial transformation and reuse of human waste to support planet health. Though SOIL's implementation efforts are limited to Haiti, its ultimate goal is to demonstrate on a global level that it is possible to provide access to sanitation solutions that enhance environmental resilience, create livelihood opportunities, and improve climate adaptation.

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