

## ***Interactive comment on “Challenges of soil carbon sequestration in NENA Region” by Talal Darwish et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 6 March 2018

General comment: The manuscript analyzes the SOC/SIC content in the NENA region and present some options to improve SOC, which are useful for guiding decision making process, particularly at regional and maybe national level. however, the conclusion that the potential for carbon sequestration in NENA region is low needs some careful consideration: (a) due to the vast geographic area the NENA region is extended over, which make any slight potential per hectare is significant at regional level, and (b) because there are no scenarios presented to check what would be the potential if some sustainable soil/land management practices are introduced in the region. therefore, a careful consideration should be given to this conclusion, which might also influence important decisions to be made as sustainable soil and land management are considered within the climate change context.

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Specific Technical comments: The term resilience is used in various contexts throughout the manuscript (resilience to erosion, resilience to degradation), please check if the proper term would be "resistance".

Specific corrections In the abstract: the first word should be "Near" not "North" please spell out SIC please elaborate little on the socio-economic constraints

page 5: please check 60% of Jordan is medium productive is very high figure given that 90% of the country receives less than 200mm of annual rainfall.

page 11, second paragraph, need to link conservation agriculture with residue management, which is elaborated later but need to be emphasized here as well.

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Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/soil-2017-39>, 2018.

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