

# Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribe

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW GOOD TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON HOST

The World's Newspaper

Tuesday, March 20, 2006

## *A social pact recovers the soil in Azerbaijan*

Josephine Santos  
*Herald Tribe Service*

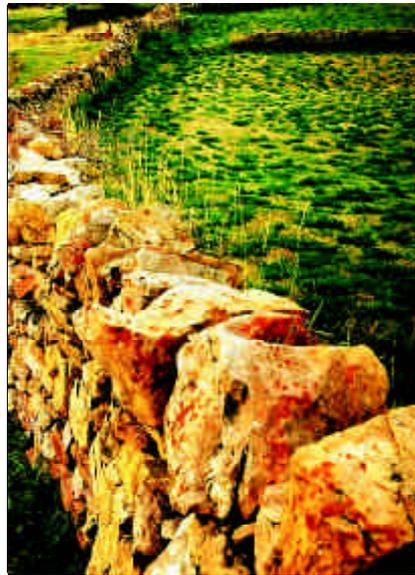
By means of a drawn-out process that has involved all the layers of society (national and regional authorities, producers and soil users, but also the scientific community and civil society), the Republic of Azerbaijan, on the banks of the Caspian Sea, is recovering large areas of soil polluted by the extensive use of pesticides on cotton crops. But the idea is not only to recover this land, but to develop a new sustainable soil management system. A series of policies are being deployed to ensure that all activities related with land use respect the criterion of sustainability.

A year after its creation, this

country was one of the first to ratify the *International convention on the sustainable use of soil and land management* approved by most countries and as yet ratified by a minority.

The country received aid from the World Soil Fund, created by donors and volunteers who have been working for years to preserve, restore and improve the situation of the land on our planet. For the WSF, soil is a universal heritage

of mankind, and one of the most important sources of life, the



preservation of which depends on human solidarity.

News item 19 inspired by the Proposals Booklet: **Save our soils to sustain our societies**, coordinated by Rabah Lahmar, Alain Ruellan and Mireille Dosso

**Collection of Desirable News (1)** inspired by 25 Proposals Booklets of the Alliance for a Responsible, Plural and United World, [www.alliance21.org](http://www.alliance21.org)

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