## 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Soil Science Society of China & Symposium of Inheritance and Development of Soil Science held in Chongqing, China

2015 is International Year of Soils (IYS), as well as the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Soil Science Society of China (SSSC). To respond to the IYS and World Soil Day, and to increase the public awareness and understanding of the importance of soil for food security and ecosystem functions, the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SSSC & Symposium of Inheritance and Development of Soil Science was held from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December in Southwest University, Chongqing, China. More than 600 participants, including Prof. Qiguo Zhao and Prof. Zhaoliang Zhu, Academicians from Institute of Soil Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, attended the Symposium.



**Group Picture** 

The opening ceremony, held in the morning of 5<sup>th</sup> December, was presided by Prof. Feng Hu, vice president of SSSC. Prof. Renfang Shen, president of SSSC, Prof. Zhongmin Ding, vice president of Southwest University, and Mr. Minghui Ning, Crop Production Department officer of the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, delivered their speeches. The launching ceremony of the science book titled "Silence Soil" was held at the end of the opening ceremony. Prof. Ganling Zhang, one of the authors, gave a brief introduction of the book. He hope the book could help people better understand, love and protect soil.





Opening Ceremony and Symposium

The 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SSSC, presided by Prof. Xin Jiang, general secretary of SSSC, was held in the morning of 5<sup>th</sup> December. A documentary film, named "the Inheritance and Development of Soil Science in China" was shown for the attendees.

During the symposium, as much as 44 scientists gave their presentations, showing their most recent progress and achievements in different aspects of soil science. By the end of the Symposium, the 10<sup>th</sup> SSSC Award in Science and Technology (3 winners) and the 1<sup>st</sup> National Soil Judging Contest for College Students (7 group winners and 16 person winners) are awarded by Prof. Jianmin Zhou, the honorary president of SSSC and Prof. Renfang Shen, respectively.

The official closing ceremony of the symposium was held on 6<sup>th</sup> December. On the ceremony, Prof. Renfang Shen said "we should be proud for the past achievement. However, we still have the duty for the future development of soil science in China, even the whole world". He hoped that Chinese soil scientists should consider the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SSSC as a new beginning, face the new challenge in soil science, and work hard for the inheritance and development of soil science in China.