



## **Acid Sulphate Soils of Russia: undiscovered areas**

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The area of acid sulphate or thionic soils (ATS) in Russia still remains unknown. Fragmental studies reported the presence of ATS in costal and inland areas. The inland ATS include the soils of the sulphide ore deposits, metamorphic soils rich in iron and other metals' sulphides, hydrothermally altered rocks, and coal mine spoils. Surprisingly coastal sediments are less known as parent materials for ATS. The phenomenon might be ascribed to low temperatures in the Russian seas that did not favor sulphide formation in marine sediments. However, some old marine clays were reported to contain significant amount of iron sulphides, e.g. the sediments of the Littorina sea in the Baltic region. These sediments together present a still undiscovered area of ATS in Russia. The possible presence of these soils in other costal areas should be also discussed.