

## **Response to reviewer's comments**

### **Editor**

Dear Authors,

The paper is now ready for publication after some technical corrections: please check the comments provided by Reviewer #2. From my side, I suggest adding the word "Vietnam" to the title and slightly adjusting it to "Predicting Soil Salinity in the Red River Delta (Vietnam) Using Machine Learning and Assessing Farmers' Adaptive Capacity"; the same in the abstract, since reading it, it is difficult to understand the location of the study area.

### **Responses:**

Thank you very much for your observation. We have revised the manuscript accordingly, adding "Vietnam" to the title and abstract as suggested.

### **Reviewer: 1**

1. You have added a well-written section explaining how the five FAO salinity levels were selected, along with a discussion of the prevalence of relevant land use (in particular rice and aquaculture) in the corresponding study areas. While this section provides greater clarity and improves the interpretation of the results, it reads as an ex-post explanation rather than a description of a methodological step. For this reason, I suggest moving this content to the Materials and Methods section.

### **Responses:**

Thank you very much for your observation. We have moved this sentences in the material and method section as suggested in line 161-167.

2. In the Results section, it could then be briefly referenced, allowing you to proceed directly to the presentation of the findings (i.e., the prevalence of different crops or at least rice within each salinity class) without repeating the full explanation.

### **Response:**

Thank you very much for this suggestion. We fully understand the concern about repetition; however, we decided to retain the explanation in the Results section because we believe it provides important context for readers to better interpret the findings, especially regarding the prevalence of rice and other crops in relation to different salinity classes. Many readers may consult the Results section directly without referring back to the earlier parts of the manuscript, so having this explanation available ensures clarity and coherence.