

Supplementary Data

Figure S1: PCA graph of different chemical forms of all the PTMs for lower soil layer.

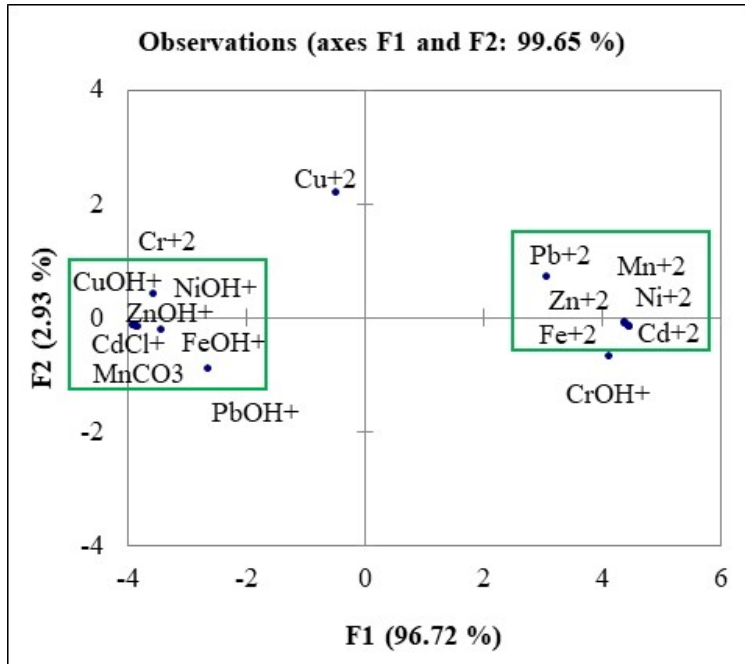


Figure S2: PCA graph of all the agronomic fields (F1-F15) for lower soil layers.

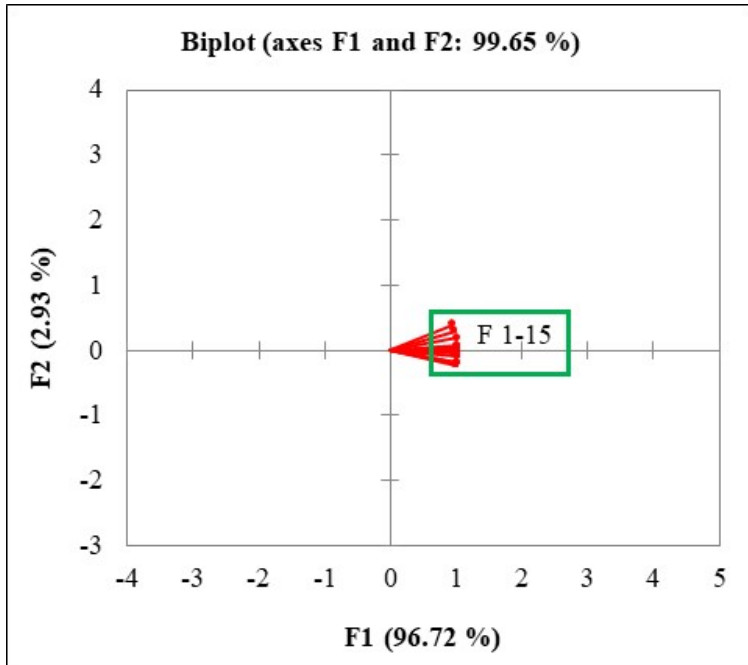


Table S1: Literature data regarding soil contamination by PTMs. Limit values obtained from (Antoniadis et al., 2019; Natasha et al., 2022).

| PTM | Area | Soil level | Limit | Times higher of limit | Reference |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Lead | Apalachicola Forest, USA | 221 | 60 | 3.7 | (Wu et al., 2022) |
| Lead | Cyprus | 7265 | 60 | 121.1 | (Christou et al., 2022) |
| Lead | Northwestern-Iran | 390 | 60 | 6.5 | (Khalilzadeh et al., 2021) |
| Lead | New York, USA | 1150 | 60 | 19.2 | (Egendorf et al., 2021) |
| Lead | Punjab, Pakistan | 88.6 | 60 | 1.5 | (Natasha et al., 2022) |
| Lead | Guangzhou, China | 168 | 60 | 2.8 | (Xiong et al., 2016) |
| Lead | Loiret, France | 236 | 60 | 3.9 | (Mombo et al., 2016) |
| Lead | Smelter, France | 2000 | 60 | 33.3 | (Xiong et al., 2014) |
| Lead | Northern France | 1176 | 60 | 19.6 | (Shahid et al., 2014) |
| Lead | Toulouse, France | 39800 | 60 | 663.3 | (Foucault et al., 2013) |
| Lead | Toulouse, France | 39250 | 60 | 654.2 | (Shahid et al., 2012) |
| Lead | Toulouse, France | 1830 | 60 | 30.5 | (Arshad et al., 2008) |
| Cadmium | Erbil City, Iraq | 23 | 1 | 23.0 | (Tariq, 2021) |
| Cadmium | Hamadan, Iran | 4.8 | 1 | 4.8 | (Kharazi et al., 2021) |
| Cadmium | China | 16 | 1 | 16.0 | (Yang et al., 2021) |
| Cadmium | Iran | 55 | 1 | 55.0 | (Khalilzadeh et al., 2021) |
| Cadmium | Shujabad, Pakistan | 4.3 | 1 | 4.3 | (Ahmad et al., 2021) |
| Cadmium | Pakistan | 35 | 1 | 35.0 | (Anwar et al., 2021) |
| Cadmium | Punjab-Pakistan | 5.6 | 1 | 5.6 | (Iqbal et al., 2021) |
| Cadmium | Vehari, Pakistan | 3.6 | 1 | 3.6 | (Sardar et al., 2020) |
| Cadmium | Guangzhou, China | 6.3 | 1 | 6.3 | (Xiong et al., 2016) |
| Cadmium | Vehari, Pakistan | 4.0 | 1 | 4.0 | (Shah et al., 2022) |
| Cadmium | Northern France | 300 | 1 | 300 | (Austruy et al., 2014) |
| Chromium | Erbil City, Iraq | 131 | 100 | 1.3 | (Tariq, 2021) |
| Chromium | Punjab, Pakistan | 153 | 100 | 1.5 | (Iqbal et al., 2021) |
| Chromium | Murrongoze River sediment | 367 | 100 | 3.7 | (Marove et al., 2022) |
| Chromium | Moatize River sediments | 135 | 100 | 1.4 | (Marove et al., 2022) |
| Chromium | Guangzhou, China | 417 | 100 | 4.2 | (Xiong et al., 2016) |
| Copper | Chile | 1106 | 100 | 11.1 | (Yáñez et al., 2022) |
| Copper | Iran | 1485 | 100 | 14.9 | (Khalilzadeh et al., 2021) |
| Copper | China | 3200 | 100 | 32.0 | (Zhang et al., 2022) |
| Copper | Punjab, Pakistan | 181.6 | 100 | 1.82 | (Natasha et al., 2022) |
| Manganese | Ethiopia | 17919 | 2000 | 9.0 | (Gemeda et al., 2021) |
| Nickel | Murrongoze River sediment | 83 | 50 | 1.7 | (Marove et al., 2022) |
| Nickel | Erbil City, Iraq | 108 | 50 | 2.2 | (Tariq, 2021) |
| Nickel | Hamadan, Iran | 84 | 50 | 1.7 | (Kharazi et al., 2021) |
| Nickel | Iran | 116 | 50 | 2.3 | (Khalilzadeh et al., 2021) |
| Nickel | Ethiopia | 475 | 50 | 9.5 | (Gemeda et al., 2021) |
| Nickel | Multan, Pakistan | 67 | 50 | 1.3 | (Anjum et al., 2021) |
| Arsenic | Punjab, Pakistan | 5.0 | 5.0 | 1.0 | (Natasha et al., 2022) |
| Arsenic | Vehari, Pakistan | 20 | 5.0 | 4.0 | (Natasha et al., 2021) |
| Arsenic | Jiangnan, China | 138 | 5.0 | 27.6 | (Lian et al., 2020) |
| Arsenic | Beijing, China | 288 | 5.0 | 57.6 | (Irshad et al., 2020) |
| Arsenic | Global | 1540 | 5.0 | 308 | (Hussain et al., 2021) |

Table S2: Soil attributes for upper and lower soil layers.

| Parameters | EC dS/m | pH — | Na meq/L | K meq/L | Ca meq/L | Ca+Mg meq/L | Cl meq/L | CO ₃ meq/L | HCO ₃ meq/L | OM % |
|--------------------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 0-15 cm | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean | 1.1 | 7.1 | 109 | 23 | 38 | 7 | 12 | 0.4 | 1.7 | 1.4 |
| Minimum | 0.3 | 2.3 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Maximum | 5.4 | 8.1 | 788 | 326 | 230 | 33 | 50 | 1.3 | 3.7 | 2.8 |
| 15-30 cm | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean | 0.9 | 7.1 | 88 | 19 | 31 | 5 | 7 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 0.9 |
| Minimum | 0.2 | 2.4 | 13 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Maximum | 4.2 | 8.1 | 313 | 400 | 87 | 37 | 34 | 1.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| <i>% variation</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>17</i> | <i>17</i> | <i>29</i> | <i>38</i> | <i>-6</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>36</i> |

Table S3: Chemical speciation of PTMs in different agronomic fields (F5-F15) in upper soil layer.

| PTM | Speciation | F-5 | F-6 | F-7 | F-8 | F-9 | F-10 | F-11 | F-12 | F-13 | F-14 | F-15 |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Pb | Pb ⁺² | 87.2 | 61.9 | 86.4 | 85.9 | 99.3 | 82.7 | 90.3 | 88.4 | 88.1 | 93.7 | 97.2 |
| | PbOH ⁺ | 11.9 | 34.7 | 12.1 | 13.4 | 0.5 | 16.5 | 9.1 | 11.0 | 11.2 | 6.0 | 2.6 |
| Cd | Cd ⁺² | 98.6 | 97.0 | 97.6 | 99.1 | 99.5 | 99.2 | 99.2 | 99.4 | 99.3 | 99.5 | 99.5 |
| | CdCl ⁺ | 1.4 | 2.9 | 2.3 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Zn | Zn ⁺² | 99.4 | 96.8 | 99.3 | 99.3 | 100.0 | 99.0 | 99.5 | 99.4 | 99.4 | 99.7 | 99.9 |
| | ZnOH ⁺ | 0.5 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Mn | Mn ⁺² | 100.0 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | MnCO ₃ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Fe | Fe ⁺² | 99.8 | 99.1 | 99.8 | 99.7 | 100 | 99.7 | 99.8 | 99.8 | 99.8 | 99.9 | 100 |
| | FeOH ⁺ | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Cu | Cu ⁺² | 29.0 | 10.3 | 39.6 | 43.5 | 99.1 | 22.2 | 49.7 | 54.5 | 39.2 | 74.5 | 97.1 |
| | CuOH ⁺ | 5.0 | 7.3 | 7.0 | 8.5 | 0.6 | 5.6 | 6.3 | 8.5 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 2.1 |
| Cr | Cr ⁺² | 2.2 | 0.5 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 38.0 | 1.5 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 4.6 | 4.6 |
| | CrOH ⁺ | 97.8 | 99.5 | 97.8 | 98.1 | 62.0 | 98.5 | 97.0 | 97.6 | 97.6 | 95.4 | 95.4 |
| Ni | Ni ⁺² | 99.9 | 99.7 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 100 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 100 | 99.9 |
| | NiOH ⁺ | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| <i>Average</i> | <i>M⁺²</i> | <i>77</i> | <i>71</i> | <i>78</i> | <i>79</i> | <i>92</i> | <i>76</i> | <i>80</i> | <i>80</i> | <i>79</i> | <i>84</i> | <i>87</i> |
| <i>Average</i> | <i>Others</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>18</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>13</i> |

Table S4: Chemical speciation of PTMs in different agronomic fields (F5-F15) in lower soil layer.

| PTM | Speciation | F-5 | F-6 | F-7 | F-8 | F-9 | F-10 | F-11 | F-12 | F-13 | F-14 | F-15 |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Pb | Pb ⁺² | 95.4 | 91.4 | 89.0 | 83.1 | 90.3 | 79.0 | 99.0 | 92.3 | 88.2 | 85.5 | 93.7 |
| | PbOH ⁺ | 4.1 | 7.9 | 9.7 | 16.3 | 9.3 | 19.9 | 0.8 | 7.2 | 11.2 | 13.9 | 5.9 |
| Cd | Cd ⁺² | 99.2 | 99.4 | 98.0 | 99.6 | 99.4 | 99.6 | 99.6 | 99.6 | 99.7 | 99.4 | 99.7 |
| | CdCl ⁺ | 0.8 | 0.6 | 2.0 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Zn | Zn ⁺² | 99.9 | 99.7 | 99.6 | 99.1 | 99.5 | 98.8 | 100.0 | 99.6 | 99.4 | 99.2 | 99.7 |
| | ZnOH ⁺ | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Mn | Mn ⁺² | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| | MnCO ₃ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Fe | Fe ⁺² | 100 | 100 | 99.9 | 99.7 | 99.8 | 99.6 | 100 | 99.9 | 99.8 | 99.7 | 99.9 |
| | FeOH ⁺ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Cu | Cu ⁺² | 87.8 | 70.1 | 58.7 | 41.5 | 55.1 | 20.0 | 98.3 | 71.2 | 43.8 | 33.1 | 80.3 |
| | CuOH ⁺ | 3.1 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 10.3 | 7.1 | 6.4 | 1.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 6.8 | 6.4 |
| Cr | Cr ⁺² | 2.9 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 2.9 | 1.2 | 27.8 | 3.8 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 4.7 |
| | CrOH ⁺ | 97.1 | 98.5 | 98.8 | 98.5 | 97.1 | 98.8 | 72.2 | 96.2 | 97.6 | 98.1 | 95.3 |
| Ni | Ni ⁺² | 100 | 100 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 100 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 99.9 | 100 |
| | NiOH ⁺ | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| <i>Average</i> | <i>M⁺²</i> | <i>86</i> | <i>83</i> | <i>81</i> | <i>78</i> | <i>81</i> | <i>75</i> | <i>91</i> | <i>83</i> | <i>79</i> | <i>77</i> | <i>85</i> |
| <i>Average</i> | <i>Others</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>14</i> |

Table S5: Pearson correlations among all the agronomic fields (F1-F15) for upper and lower soil layers.

| Variables | F-1 | F-2 | F-3 | F-4 | F-5 | F-6 | F-7 | F-8 | F-9 | F-10 | F-11 | F-12 | F-13 | F-14 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| F-2 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-3 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-4 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-5 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-6 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.98 | | | | | | | | | |
| F-7 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | | | | | | | | |
| F-8 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.00 | | | | | | | |
| F-9 | 0.81 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 0.90 | 0.89 | 0.81 | 0.91 | 0.91 | | | | | | |
| F-10 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.87 | | | | | |
| F-11 | 0.96 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.99 | | | | |
| F-12 | 0.96 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.98 | 1.00 | | | |
| F-13 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | |
| F-14 | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.92 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.96 | 0.96 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.98 | |
| F-15 | 0.87 | 0.89 | 0.89 | 0.95 | 0.94 | 0.87 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.97 | 0.92 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 0.95 | 0.99 |

Table S6: Pearson correlations among all the agronomic fields (F1-F15) for upper and lower soil layers.

| Variables | F-1 | F-2 | F-3 | F-4 | F-5 | F-6 | F-7 | F-8 | F-9 | F-10 | F-11 | F-12 | F-13 | F-14 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| F-2 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-3 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-4 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-5 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| F-6 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 0.98 | | | | | | | | | |
| F-7 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | | | | | | | | |
| F-8 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.00 | | | | | | | |
| F-9 | 0.81 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 0.90 | 0.89 | 0.81 | 0.91 | 0.91 | | | | | | |
| F-10 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.87 | | | | | |
| F-11 | 0.96 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.96 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.99 | | | | |
| F-12 | 0.96 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.95 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.98 | 1.00 | | | |
| F-13 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | | |
| F-14 | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.92 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.96 | 0.96 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.98 | |
| F-15 | 0.87 | 0.89 | 0.89 | 0.95 | 0.94 | 0.87 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.97 | 0.92 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 0.95 | 0.99 |

Table S7: Component factors (CF) of PCA for upper and lower soil layers.

| Variables | 0-15 cm | | 15-30 cm | |
|-----------------|---------|------|----------|------|
| | CF1 | CF2 | CF1 | CF2 |
| F-1 | 6.6 | 10.5 | 6.6 | 10.5 |
| F-2 | 6.7 | 7.7 | 6.7 | 7.7 |
| F-3 | 6.7 | 7.6 | 6.7 | 7.6 |
| F-4 | 6.9 | 0.0 | 6.9 | 0.0 |
| F-5 | 6.9 | 0.5 | 6.9 | 0.5 |
| F-6 | 6.5 | 11.0 | 6.5 | 11.0 |
| F-7 | 6.9 | 0.0 | 6.9 | 0.0 |
| F-8 | 6.9 | 0.0 | 6.9 | 0.0 |
| F-9 | 5.7 | 33.3 | 5.7 | 33.3 |
| F-10 | 6.8 | 2.0 | 6.8 | 2.0 |
| F-11 | 6.9 | 0.8 | 6.9 | 0.8 |
| F-12 | 6.8 | 1.1 | 6.8 | 1.1 |
| F-13 | 6.9 | 0.0 | 6.9 | 0.0 |
| F-14 | 6.7 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 7.4 |
| F-15 | 6.3 | 18.0 | 6.3 | 18.0 |
| Eigenvalue | 14.5 | 0.4 | 14.5 | 0.4 |
| Variability (%) | 96.7 | 2.9 | 96.7 | 2.9 |
| Cumulative % | 96.7 | 99.7 | 96.7 | 99.7 |

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