ROADMAP FOR CARBON SCHEMES

EJP SOIL
Road4Schemes

THE PROJECT

Road4Schemes is a research project funded by the European EJP SOIL research program. The overall objective of Road4Schemes is to improve the foundation for advancing carbon farming across Europe.

Carbon farming has gained prominence as a mitigation option to reach targets set in the Paris Agreement and the European Green Deal. To achieve these targets, integrating research into policy design and implementation, ensuring mutual benefits for stakeholders, soils and society is helpful.
Road4Schemes aims to address these challenges and will:

(1) Assess the strengths and weaknesses of existing and planned schemes for carbon farming including respective tools for monitoring, reporting and verification;

(2) Assess stakeholders' perceptions and preferences with respect to strategies for scheme design and policy drivers and barriers;

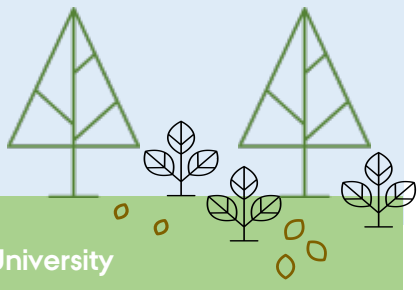
(3) Deliver a roadmap for developing and implementing contextually result-based schemes for carbon farming and additional ESS payments.

THE CONCEPT

Soil organic matter is important for soil fertility and vital for Earth's ecosystems. In recent years, the importance of retaining and improving soil organic matter are gaining salience also in the area of climate change mitigation.

Soils may both be a source of greenhouse gas emission as well as a sink of carbon. The carbon stored in the top 30cm soil layer represents 44% of the soil carbon pool and is affected by changes in land use and soil management. Following the signature of the Paris Agreement, Soil Organic Carbon sequestration has gained prominence as a climate mitigation option.

Soil carbon sequestration is driven by complex biological processes and characterised by a large spatial and temporal variability, which leads to high uncertainty. Yet, enhancing the potential of soils to store more carbon while maintaining existing SOC levels, especially on peatlands and other carbon-rich soils, is a key lever for mitigating climate change. However, there is a need for knowledge on how different countries design, implement and use carbon farming schemes and this knowledge needs to be shared across regions.



Project duration: 2 years
Budget: € 1.8 Million
Start: November 2021

Coordinator: Aarhus University
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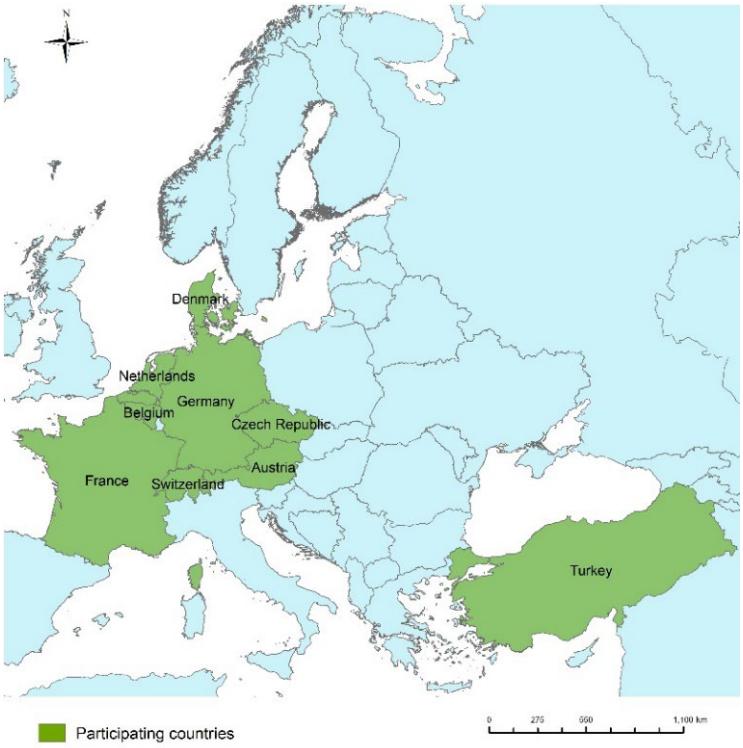
Find contacts for all partners:
www.ejpsoil.eu/soil-research/road4schemes



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CARBON FARMING

Carbon farming means taking actions that lead to an increase of the carbon content of the soil or to a decrease in carbon emissions, e.g. caused by oxidation, additional to standard soil management.

Scheme

A scheme is any voluntary agreement in which a farmer or a group of farmers commit themselves to apply carbon farming measures in return for a payment in any form.

PROJECT PARTNERS

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