

BLOCK A (9:00-10:45)

Using participatory design for developing farmer friendly tools for soil practices and schemes

Involved projects: ROAD4SCHEMES, IntoDIALOGUE, PRAC2LIV

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EJP SOIL aims to promote the use of regionally specific tools to provide either qualitative or quantitative information on agricultural soil-based ecosystem services, e.g., climate change. The trend is for more complex decision support tools (DSTs) that focus on both agricultural production and environmental services. However, the level of implementation of DSTs and guidelines for sustainable soil management in Europe varies considerably among farmers and regions. This may be partly due to different perspectives of land-users for, e.g., taking up C-farming practices and schemes as compared to monitoring bodies. Studies have identified a large variety in limiting factors for adoption of tools, including differences in advisory frameworks, country-specific data and calibration requirements, issues around language and farmers' ecological identity. Abstracts are invited to share the experiences of your projects in the end-users' involvement, as well as on the use of participatory design in the development and testing of DSTs.