



**CURRENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

The European Commission estimates that 60–70% of soils in the EU are unhealthy as a direct result of current management practices.



**PRESERVING SOIL FROM DEGRADATION**

Each threat represents a set of barriers and challenges to be overcome.



**PRIORITY SOIL CHALLENGE**

**Challenge #1**

Increasing organic matter and conserve peat soils.

**Challenge #2**

Soil water storage capacity.

**Priority barriers**

The lack of research funding and communication.

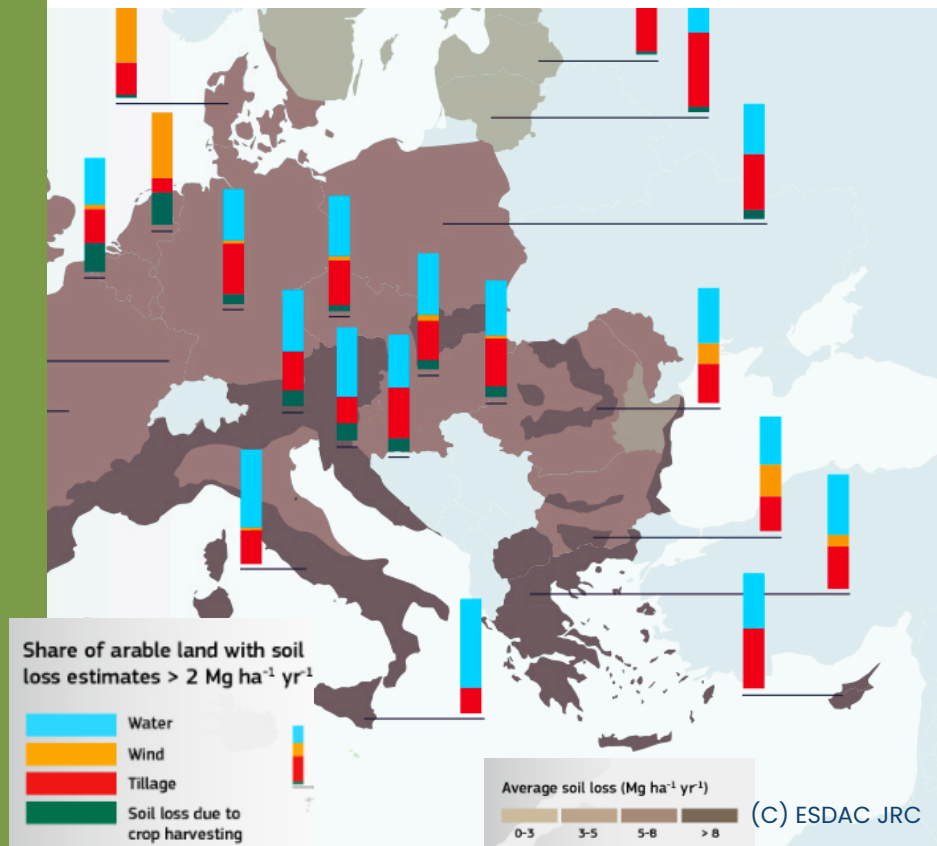


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**BARRIERS & OPPORTUNITIES OF SOIL KNOWLEDGE TO ADDRESS SOIL CHALLENGES**

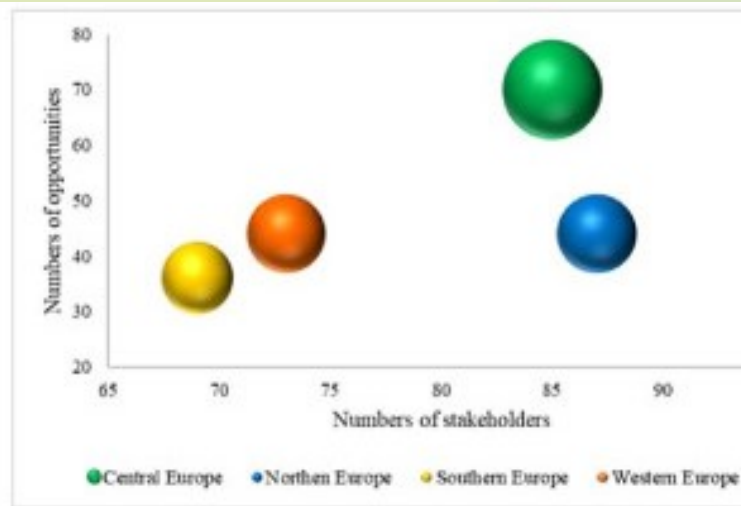
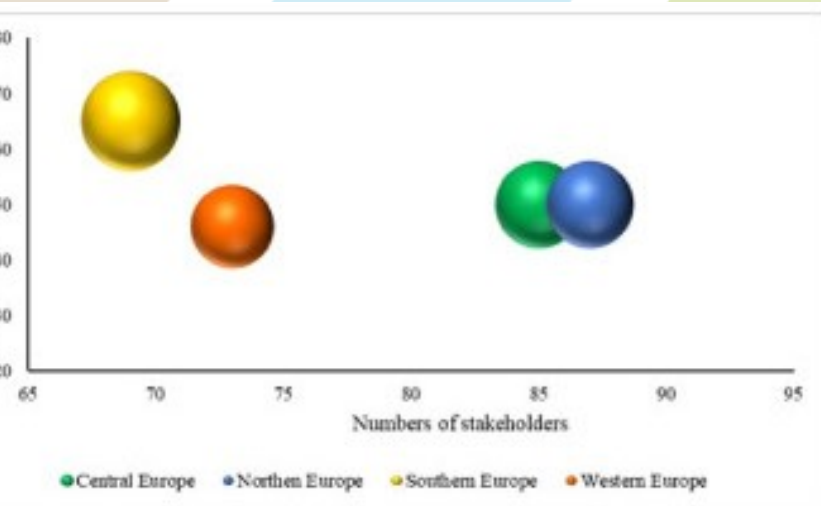
**STAKEHOLDERS' PERSPECTIVES ACROSS EUROPE**



**Major soil threats identified**

Soil erosion by water & wind, declines in soil organic matter in peat and mineral soils, soil compaction, sealing, contamination, salinization, desertification, and declines in soil biodiversity.

# EJP SOIL INNOVATION HIGHLIGHTS



## TOWARDS CLIMATE-SMART SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SOILS

EJP SOIL is a European Joint Programme on Agricultural Soil Management addressing key societal challenges including climate change and future food supply.

The goal is to improve the understanding of agricultural soil management by finding synergies in research, strengthening research communities and raising public awareness.

350+ scientists, 24 countries, addressing multiple aspects of soil management across different European agroecosystems.

## EJP SOIL STUDY - NATIONAL LEVEL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

*Survey in 20 countries: 314 stakeholders.*

*Aim to identify important barriers and challenges currently affecting soil knowledge but also assess opportunities to overcome these obstacles.*

*Significant room for improvement of knowledge production, dissemination & adoption.*

*The most important barriers identified are technical, political, social and economic obstacles.*

## TARGET EJP SOIL EXPECTED IMPACT AND MISSION SOIL OBJECTIVES

Fostering understanding of soil management and its influence on climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agricultural production and environment.

Mission Soil: Conserve SOC, soil structure and soil biodiversity

### HIGHLIGHT FACTS FROM:

Key findings from stakeholder consultations at the national level across 20 countries



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