LAND DEGRADATION AND HEALTHY SOILS: TOWARDS A GLOSSARY AND MONITORING SYSTEM

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Introduction The EJP SOIL programme

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« The many processes that drive the decline or loss in biodiversity, ecosystem functions or their benefits to people and includes the degradation of all terrestrial ecosystems ». IPBES





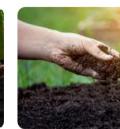
EU Science Hub - europa.eu

EurekAlert!

Healthy soils







« The continued capacity of soil to support ecosystem services »

Veerman et al. Soil Mission Board,







Age Old Nutrients







Grainews

UC Marin Master Gardeners - UC ANR



European Joint Programme

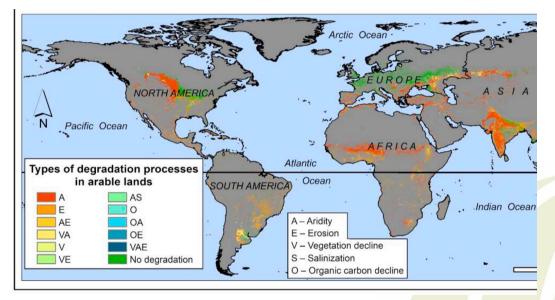




Target 15.3: "By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world."

"33% world soils are degraded" GSP, 2015





Prăvălie et al. 2021. Environmental Research



Soils are threatened: 60-70% of all soils in Europe are unhealthy as due to current management practices, pollution, urbanisation and the effects of climate change

glossary, indicators, monitoring systems



EJP SOIL: A Joint Programme

- **Co-fund action:** $\ \ \$ coordinated national research and innovation programmes
- Critical Mass: consolidation of transnational research- 24 countries, 26 partners
- **Public- public funding**: 50% EC 50% institutes
- Annual Programming: 2020-2025

Wide range of activities



Participant organisation name	Countr
Institut National de la recherche Agronomique (INRA)	FR
Wageningen Research (WR)	NL
BIOS Science Austria (BIOS)	AT
Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (EV-ILVO)	BE
Centre Wallon de Recherches Agronomiques (CRAW)	BE
Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS)	CZ
Aarhus University, Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture (AU)	DK
Estonian University of Life Sciences (EMU)	EE
Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE)	FI
Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut (vTI)	DE
Forschungszentrum Jülich (Jülich)	DE
Centre for Agricultural Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA ATK)	HU
Teagasc (Teagasc)	IE
Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA)	IT
University of Latvia (UL)	LV
Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry (LAMMC)	LT
Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO)	NO
Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation - State Research Institute (IUNG)	PL
National Institute for Agrarian and Veterinarian Research I. P. (INIAV)	PT
National Agricultural and Food Centre (NPPC)	SK
University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Centre for Soil and Environmental Science (ULBF)	SI
National Institute for Agriculture and Food Research and Technology (INIA)	SP
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)	SE
Agroscope (AGS)	CH
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies (TAGEM)	TR
Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI)	UK



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EJP SOIL: knowledge framework & expected impacts

knowledge sharing &transfer

knowledge harmonization, organization & storage

understanding of soil management for climate change mitigation, adaptation, sust° production & sustainable environment

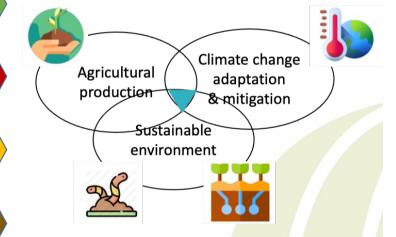
understanding soil carbon sequestration and its contribution to climate change mitigation

strengthening scientific capacities and cooperation

supporting harmonised European soil information

fostering the uptake of climate-smart sustainable soil management practices

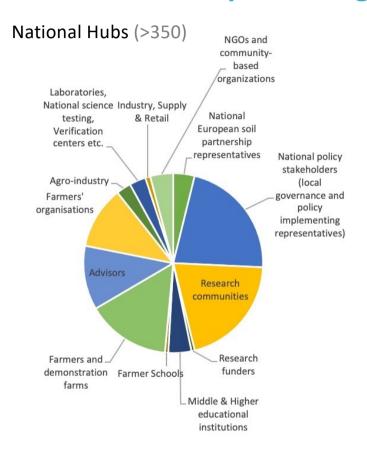
developping region-specific fertilisation practices

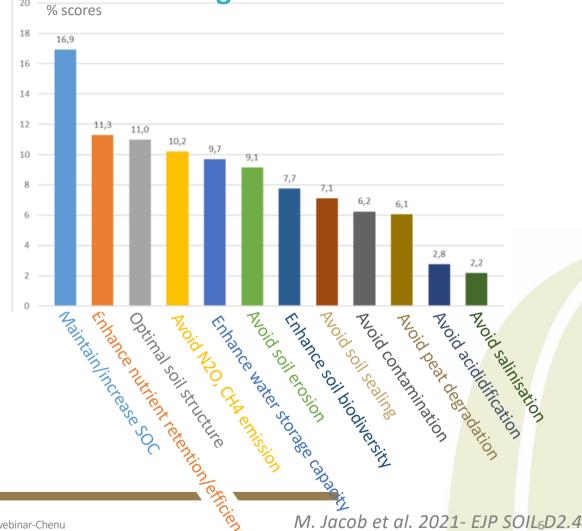






EJP SOIL: Perception of agricultural soil challenges

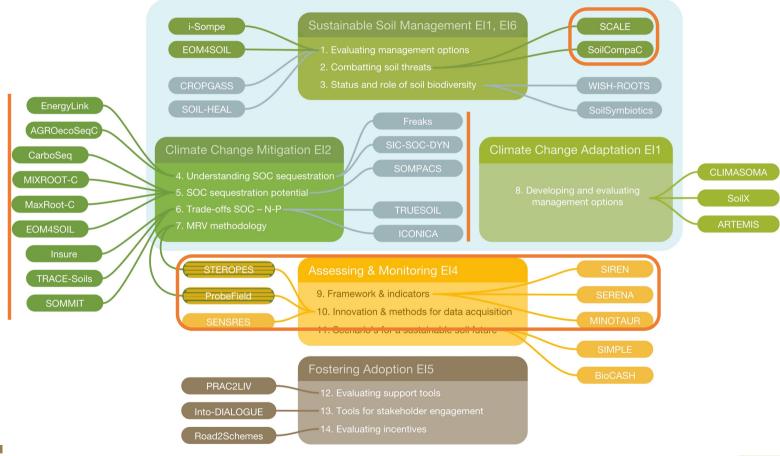








EJP SOIL research projects





Soil health and soil quality definitions

knowledge

Soil Health

Capacity

Faber et al. 2021

https://ejpsoil.eu/fileadmin/projects/ejpsoil/Policy_briefs/SIREN/SIREN_Policy_brief.pdf

Current soil status and ecosystem management limits provision

Context properties (e.g., soil type and land use) define potential at sustainable use

Unsustainable

(P,P, or P)

Reduction of ecosystem services provision can be linked to e.g. soil degradation, management practices, climate change...

Land use sustainability

in terms of people, planet, profit (P,P,P)

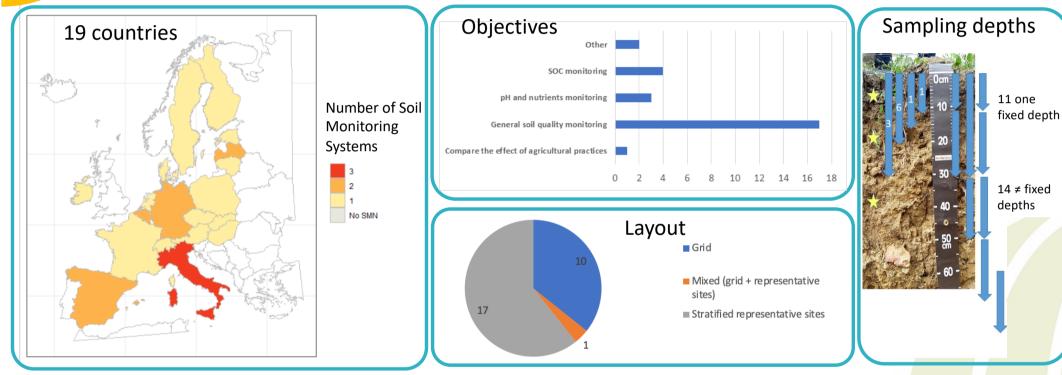
Increase of ecosystem services provision is possible by using e.g. fertilizers, pesticides, other management practices... that may lead to an increase in trade-offs to other ES, or to other people, elsewhere or later

Sustainable

(P,P, and P)



Taking stock: Existing national soil monitoring programmes



Soil monitoring systems with very diverse protocols and with different soil parameters monitored

EJP SOIL Deliverable D6.3, 2021

ongoing LUCAS – EJP SOIL National soil monitoring systems intercomparison





Indicators of soil health: Recommendations and way forward (Soil Health Law)

Project SIREN Stocktaking for Agricultural Soil Quality and Ecosystem Services Indicators and their Reference

Values Faber J. et al. 2022

- A Tiered system Tier 1- Tier 2- Tier 3
- Harmonization rather than standardisation
- Indicator selection process: top-down (policy relevant soil indicators for a given policy objective) rather than bottom-up
- Use the indicators already used by > 50% Member states as minimum dataset
- Stakeholders contribution to the development of indicators







Indicators of soil health: Recommendations and way forward (Soil **Health Law**)

Project SIREN Stocktaking for Agricultural Soil **Quality and Ecosystem Services**

Indicators and their Reference Values Faber J. et al. 2022

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EJP SOIL SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT THE EU SOIL HEALTH LAW

A POLICY WORKSHOP ON

European Joint Programme

With presentations from the EJP SOIL Projects





SCIENCE TO POLICY

https://ejpsoil.eu/science-to-policy



Stakeholde





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