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Mission Soil Platform

Roxana Vilcu
ECORYS



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Who we are



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Mission Soil Platform

- **Duration:** January 2023 – December 2025
- **Service contract** with REA and DG AGRI
- **Aim:** to support the roll-out of the Mission Soil and its activities

Consortium



Olivier Chartier
Project Director



Ieva Spudyte
Project Coordinator



Roxana Vilcu
Core Team



Giulia Martino
Core Team



Eleonora Santoni
Core Team



Nedyalka Dimitrova
Mission project portfolio



Daniel Nigohosyan
Tracking Mission progress



Sophie Ittner
Promoting Mission Soil communities



Naomi Nakamoto
Communication and outreach



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Key activities



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Mission Soil Platform's activities



Support in the coordination of Mission Soil activities
(e.g. meetings, contact facility)



Monitoring Mission Soil progress
(incl. the creation of a dashboard)



Development of a Mission project hub



Stakeholder engagement activities
(Mission Soil Manifesto and Mission Ambassadors)



Creation of synergies between Mission Soil-funded projects through clusters



Communication & outreach activities

Mission Soil Manifesto

- The aim of the Manifesto is to mobilise stakeholders and citizens who want to become part of a vibrant community that cares for soil health.
- Entities (signatories) and individuals (friends of the Mission) can sign.
- The manifesto was launched in April 2023.



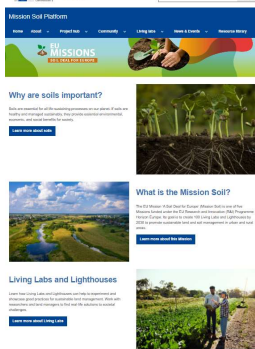
Sign the Mission Manifesto today!



1 year of Mission Soil Platform

Launch of the website

www.mission-soil-platform.ec.europa.eu



Issue N 1
July 2023

Issue N 2
November 2023

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Newsletters
>2500 subscribers

Photo competition

>50 participants



European Mission Soil Week 2023

21-23 November 2023, Madrid



16 plenary sessions



8 breakout sessions



>90 speakers



>300 onsite
>640 online

Download the report of the event!



Next steps in 2024

- Launch of a **Mission project hub & dashboard** to monitor the Mission progress.
- Roll out of **Clusters** to strengthen the collaboration between Mission Soil-funded projects.
- Mission **monitoring** reports.
- Selection of **Mission Soil Ambassadors** and support their engagement activities.
- Many **communication and outreach** activities such as podcasts, newsletters, articles, videos.
- **Stay tuned for European Mission Soil Week 2024!**



Thank you!

Get in touch with us.

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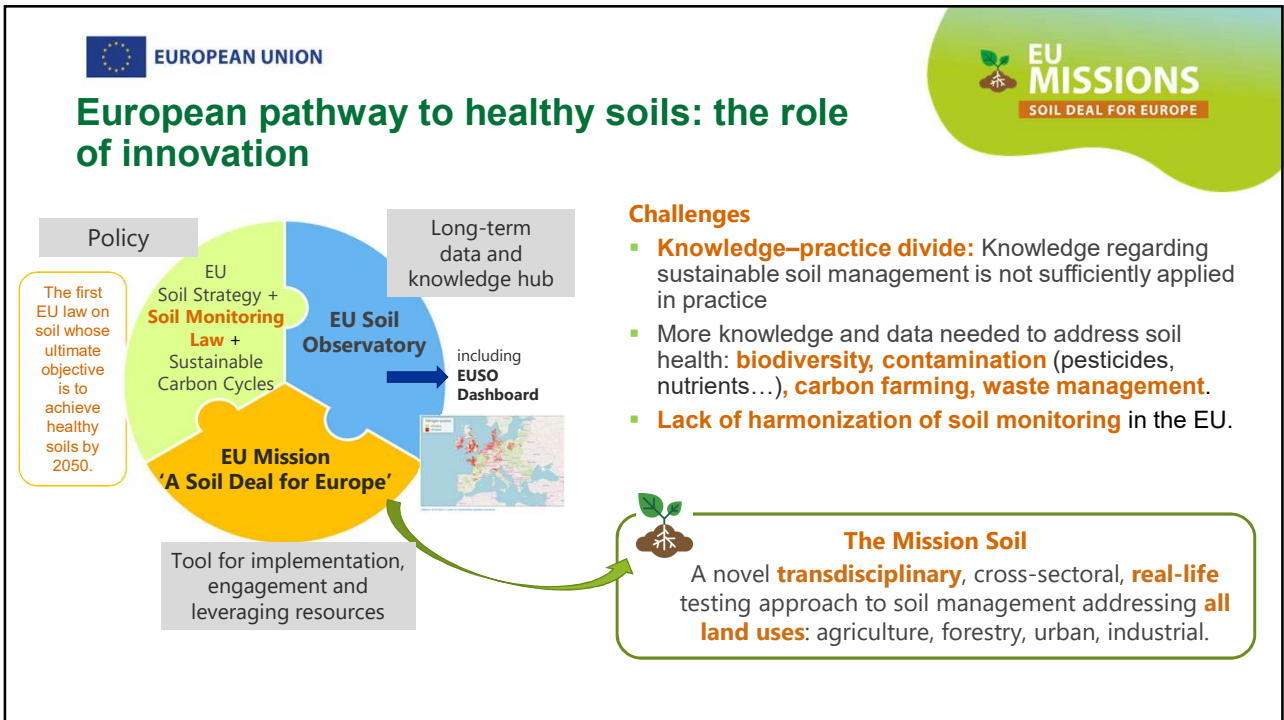
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Living Labs under the Mission Soil

Mission Soil Secretariat
Unit F2 Research and Innovation
DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

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European pathway to healthy soils: the role of innovation

Policy

The first EU law on soil whose ultimate objective is to achieve healthy soils by 2050.

EU Soil Strategy + **Soil Monitoring Law** + Sustainable Carbon Cycles

EU Soil Observatory

Long-term data and knowledge hub

including **EUSO Dashboard**

EU Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'

Tool for implementation, engagement and leveraging resources

Challenges

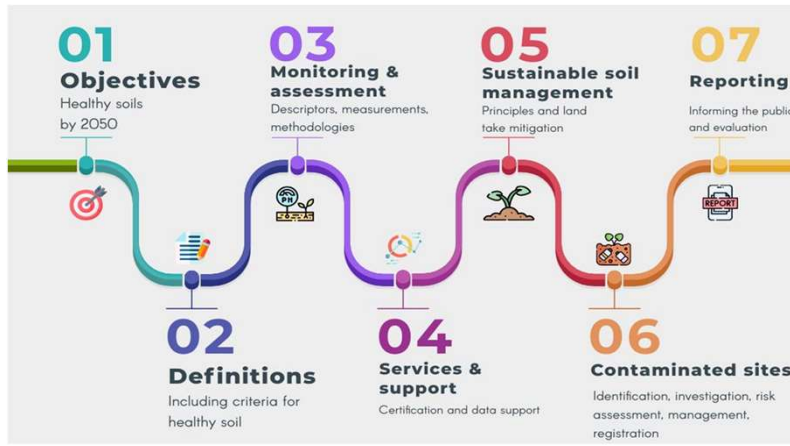
- **Knowledge–practice divide:** Knowledge regarding sustainable soil management is not sufficiently applied in practice
- More knowledge and data needed to address soil health: **biodiversity, contamination** (pesticides, nutrients...), **carbon farming, waste management**.
- **Lack of harmonization of soil monitoring** in the EU.

The Mission Soil

A novel **transdisciplinary**, cross-sectoral, **real-life** testing approach to soil management addressing **all land uses**: agriculture, forestry, urban, industrial.

Directive on Soil Monitoring and Resilience (Soil Monitoring Law)

Proposal for the first-ever EU legislation on soils provides a harmonised definition of soil health, puts in place a comprehensive and coherent monitoring framework and fosters sustainable soil management and remediation of contaminated sites.

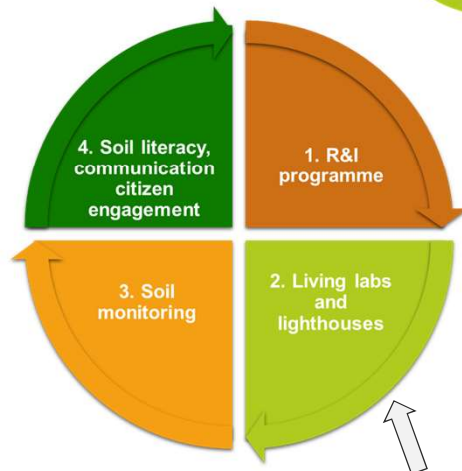


Mission Soil Goal: 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030

Specific objectives

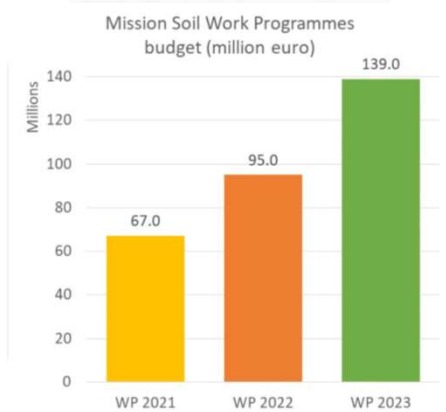
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Reduce desertification | 5. Prevent erosion |
| 2. Conserve and increase soil organic carbon stocks | 6. Improve soil structure to enhance soil biodiversity |
| 3. Stop soil sealing and increase re-use of urban soils | 7. Reduce the EU global footprint on soils |
| 4. Reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration | 8. Improve soil literacy in society |

Objectives apply to **all types of land use and all territories** and are relevant for a **range of sectors**.



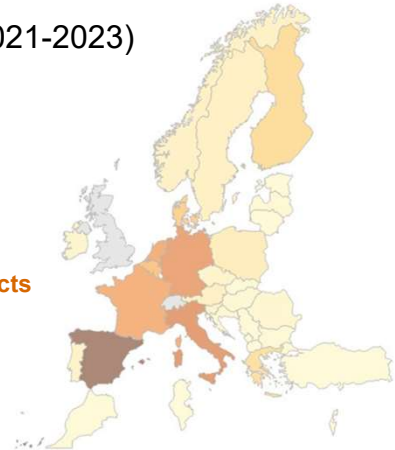
Main vehicle for addressing the diversity of conditions and generating locally adapted solutions

Mission Soil's state of play: R&I projects












≈EUR 320 million (2021-2023)

- 2021-2022
 - 28 ongoing projects
 - ≈360 participants
- 2023
 - 19 starting new projects
 - First 25 living labs
- 2024-2027



Examples of projects from WP2021

1. [SOLO](#) identifies knowledge gaps, drivers, bottlenecks, and novel R&I approaches to be considered in the European Soil Mission **research and innovation roadmap**. 
2. [SOIL O-LIVE](#) develops a holistic analysis of the **influence of land management** on olive oil quality and safety. 
3. Projects [InBestSoil](#), [Novasoil](#) and [SoilValues](#) are developing new **business models** for soil health.   
4. [HuMUS](#) project is developing more than **30 Territorial Management Agreements** for soil health. 
5. Project [NBSoil](#) provides technical support for the training of **specialised soil advisors**. 
6. Projects [Benchmarks](#) and [AI4SoilHealth](#) are contributing to build an **EU monitoring framework** by validating and further developing indicators for soil health and functions.  

Examples of projects from WP2022

Soil literacy and citizen engagement

- Foster soil education across society

CURIOSOIL 

- Engaging Citizens in soil science



Carbon farming

- Network on carbon farming



Soil pollution and restoration

- Decontamination and reuse of land



Soil biodiversity

- Soil biodiversity and ecosystem services



Circular economy solutions

- Food processing residues for soil health



- Innovations for soil improvement from bio-waste



Monitoring

- Monitoring, reporting and verification of soil carbon and GHG balance



- Mission's knowledge repository, advancing the EU Soil Observatory



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Topics to be covered with the new 19 projects from WP2023

- Living Labs
- Discovering the **subsoil**
- **Soil pollution** processes modelling
- **Digital tools** for soil and plants monitoring
- Innovations to prevent and combat **desertification**
- Soil-friendly practices in **horticulture**
- Soils in **spatial planning**
- Communities and **citizens engagement**
- Joint topics with:
 - Mission Ocean (on **reduction of nutrient flows**),
 - Missions Ocean & Climate Adaptation (on increasing **landscape water retention capacity**)



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Thank you!

For further information and questions please contact the Mission Secretariat:

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