

Soil Health and Ecosystem Services (STATE)

Marco Falconi (ISPRA) & Iustina Popescu (IGR)

Water & Land Expert Team

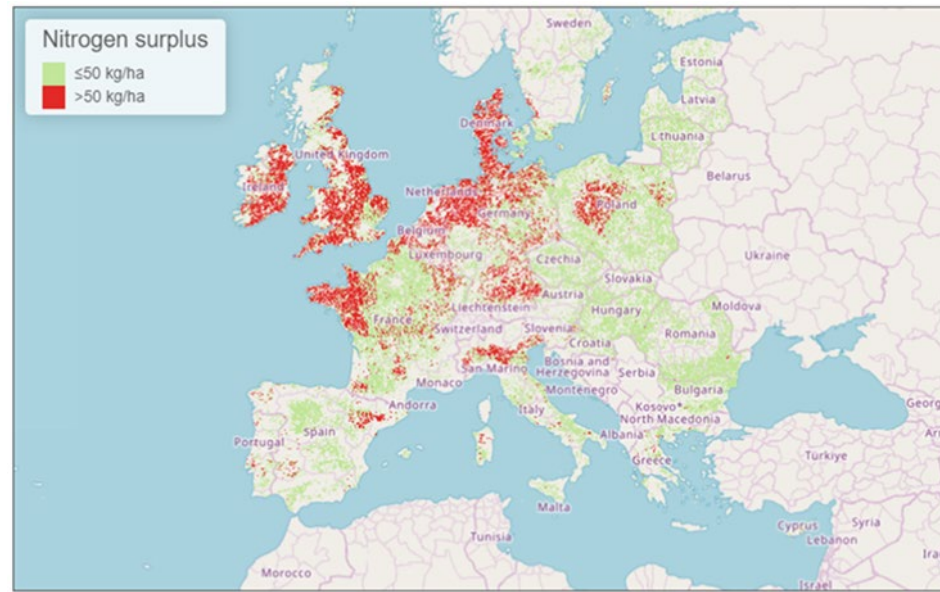
IMPEL Open Day - 29 January 2025



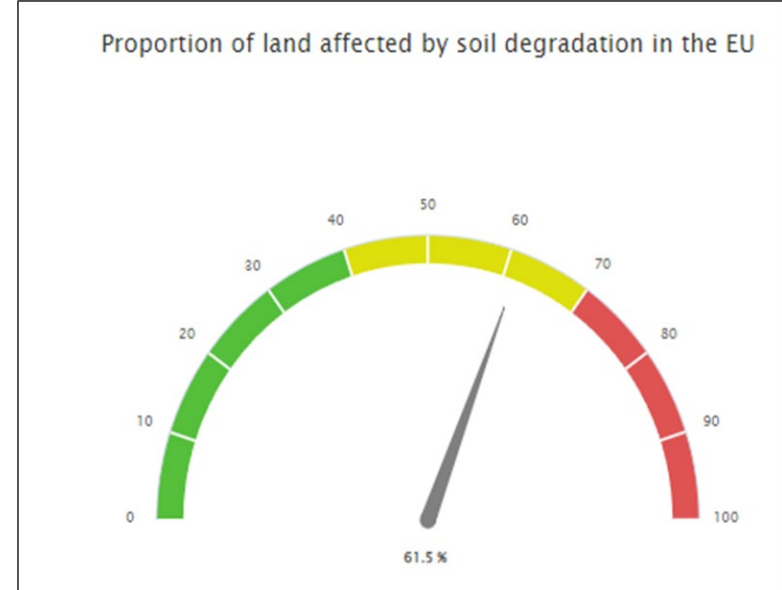
Funded by the
European Union

Soils are threatened:

More than **60% of soils in Europe are considered to be unhealthy** due to current management practices, pollution, urbanisation and the effects of climate change.



Webtools • © EC-GISCO • Leaflet | © OpenStreetMap contributors | Disclaimer





Why this project is needed

There is currently a lack of comprehensive and harmonized data on soil health from soil monitoring.

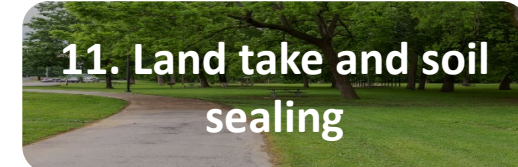
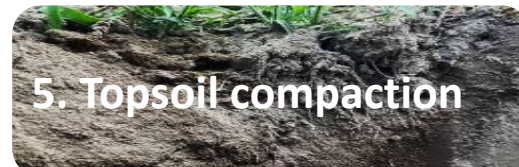
Thus, there is a proposal for a Directive on Soil Monitoring and Resilience (Soil Monitoring Law), which has the objective of putting in place a solid and coherent soil monitoring framework for all soils across the EU.

The aim

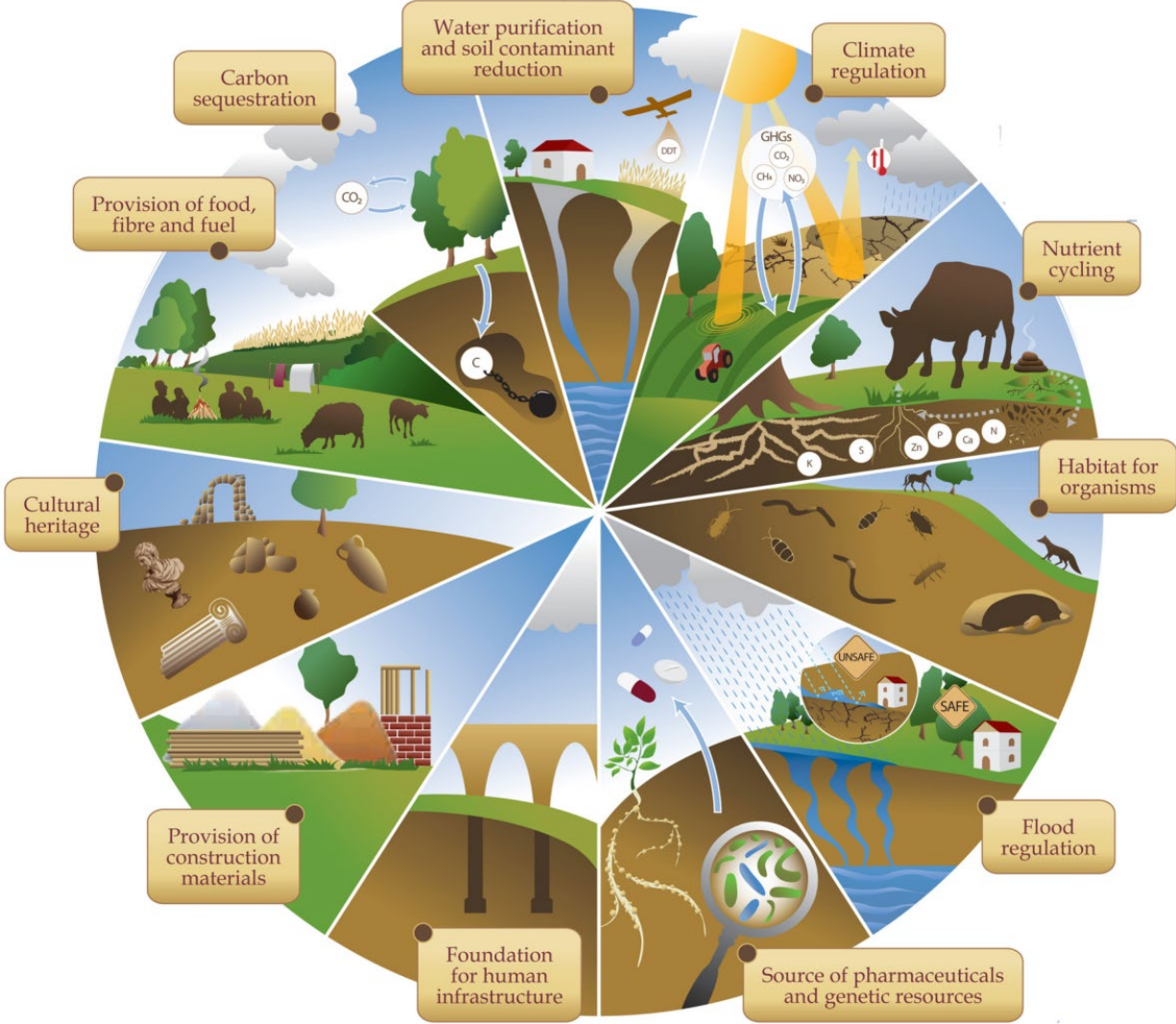


The STATE project aims to provide useful information for the EU Member States for proper and fast implementation of the Soil Monitoring and Resilience Law through:

1. Assessing which sustainable soil management and regeneration practices are available and most effective in addressing the various forms of soil degradation listed in Annex I of the proposal, and under which conditions.



2. Maintain soil-related ecosystem services for sustainable soil management across EU



Expected outcomes

Exchange **experience, scientific knowledge and best practices** for improving soil health and the provision of ecosystem services in the EU Member States;

Elaboration of guidance documents (**Sustainable Soil Management Guide** – best practices for soil sustainable management highlighting the availability and effectiveness in addressing various forms of soil degradation considered in the Soil Monitoring and Resilience Law);

Evaluation of costs, benefits, and ecosystem services provision; Elaboration of the **Technical Guidance on maintaining soil-related ecosystem services**;

Promote the use of these documents through organizing a hybrid workshop and through presenting at existing conferences.



Activities

2025

- Jan- Apr: Preparation of a questionnaire on the current soil management practices
- Feb- May: Survey with a questionnaire in the participant countries
- **June: Kick-off meeting (Sinaia, Romania)**
- Sept: Collection of case studies on soil management best practices
- **Oct: Virtual meeting and presentation of the main findings**
- Oct-Dec: Preparing the Report containing the collection of Case studies regarding best soil management practices for implementing the Soil Monitoring and Resilience Law



Activities

2026



- Jan: Meeting for establishing the procedure of collecting the detailed information (including literature review) for best soil management practices for each of the soil health indicator highlighted by the EU Mission Soil (Orleans, France)
- Feb-Apr: Collecting information
- Apr: Virtual meeting with the EU Soil Observatory and/or Mission Soil to obtain feed-back related to the collected information
- Apr-Sept: Preparation of the Sustainable Soil Management Guide (containing case studies related to all soil health indicators)
- Sept: Publication on the internet of the first draft for comments
- Dec: Publication of the Sustainable Soil Management Guide



Activities

2027



- Feb: Translations of the Sustainable Soil Management Guide in participants languages
- **May: Workshop for dissemination of the Guide among public authorities from the participant countries (1 day) and Meeting for the elaboration of a questionnaire on pressures on ecosystem services (day 2) (Barcelona, Spain), Field trip (day 3)**
- July-Aug: Survey with a questionnaire in the participant countries
- Aug: Collection of case studies for reducing the pressures on soil-related ecosystem services
- Aug-Sept: Preparation of Technical guidance on maintaining ecosystem services
- Sept: Publication on the internet of the first draft for comments
- Dec: Publication of Technical Guidance on maintaining soil-related ecosystem services

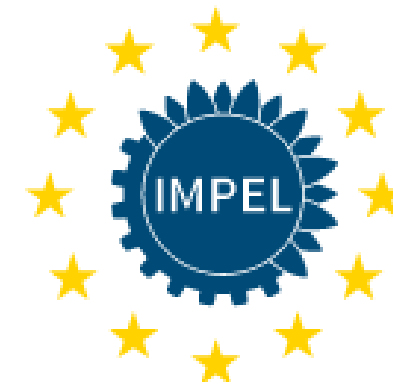


Experts in this project



1. Marco Falconi (ISPRA, **Italy**),
2. Iustina Popescu (Geological Institute of Romania - IGR, **Romania**),
3. Andrea Sconocchia (Assoarpa, **Italy**)
4. Annabill Rasp (Regional authority of South Hessen, **Germany**)
5. Arton Ramadani (Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, **Kosovo**)
6. Chiara Giuliani (ISPRA, **Italy**)
7. Daniela Smiraglia (ISPRA, **Italy**)
8. Dragana Vidojevic (Serbian Environmental Protection Agency, **Serbia**)
9. Dushko Mukaetov (University of agriculture, **Nord Macedonia**)
10. Elbasan Shala (Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, **Kosovo**)
11. Eleni Siamatra (Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, **Greece**)
12. Ervin Keqi (Ministry of Tourism and Environment, **Albania**)
13. Esther Goidts (Service public de Wallonie, **Belgium**)
14. Federico Silvestri (ISPRA, **Italy**)
15. Francesca Assennato (ISPRA, **Italy**)
16. François Henry (Brussels Environment, **Belgium**)
17. Hub Meufels (Association of Regional Environment Inspection Agencies, **Netherlands**)
18. Ialina Vinci (Assoarpa, **Italy**)
19. João Paulo Silva (Environmental Inspectorate of the Azores, **Portugal**)
20. Johan Ceenaeme (OVAM, **Belgium**)
21. Jussi Reinikainen (Finnish Environment Institute, **Finland**).
22. Katerina Velika (Ministry of Tourism and Environment, **Albania**)
23. Kianta Musa (Albanian EPA, **Albania**)
24. Kirsty Charles (Natural Resources Wales; **UK**)
25. Lydie Sombré (Brussels Environment, Belgium)
26. Maja Stojičević (Ministry of Environmental Protection (**Serbia**))
27. Marco Falconi (ISPRA, **Italy**)
28. Marco Fanelli (Assoarpa, **Italy**)
29. Marios Kyprianou (Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment, **Cyprus**)
30. Martina Grifoni (Assoarpa, **Italy**)
31. Olaf Dewel (Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Umwelt, Energie und Klimaschutz, **Germany**)
32. Paolo Negri (Assoarpa, **Italy**)
33. Pouli Stauroula (Ministry of Environment and Energy, **Greece**)
34. Saïd El Fadili (Brussels Environment, **Belgium**)
35. Sarah Coe (Natural Resources Wales; **UK**)
36. Shahreen Bakas (Omgevingsdienst, **Netherlands**)
37. Sofia Ntolia (Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, **Greece**)
38. Stavros Lagos (Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, **Greece**)
39. Adriana Bors (INOE, **Romania**)
40. Yannick Boswinkel (Association of Regional Environment Inspection Agencies, **Netherlands**)





Contact information:

- ✓ **For joining this project:** If you work for an IMPEL member organisation and would like to join the project or receive further information, please contact the National Coordinator of your country and the Project Managers Marco Falconi and Iustina Popescu at marco.falconi@isprambiente.it and iustinapopescu@yahoo.it
- ✓ **For becoming a member of IMPEL:** If you are from an Environmental Authority or association of authorities that is based in a member state of the EU, a candidate country or another country applying Community law and would be interested in becoming a member of IMPEL, please contact IMPEL Secretariat at info@impel.eu for more information.
- ✓ **For all other interested parties:** please check out our new website for further information! www.impel.eu



Funded by the
European Union