



# Become a SOILL Mentor

Provide expert and tailored guidance to applicants for dedicated Living Labs and Lighthouses topics under the Mission Soil call for proposals.



Funded by  
the European Union

## What are SOILL and SOILL-Stepup?

**SOILL** is a framework EU-funded initiative established under **the EU Mission “A Soil Deal for Europe”** to support the creation and operation of the network of 100 soil health Living Labs and Lighthouses.

It provides a **one-stop support structure** to facilitate sustainable soil management practices through **coordination, capacity building, networking, promotion, and knowledge sharing**.

**SOILL Stepup** is the second project implemented within the initiative supporting the development of **Soil Health Living Labs and Lighthouses in Europe**. It builds on previous actions and aims to **further strengthen and expand the existing SOILL structure**. Launched in January 2026, the project focuses on **improving and consolidating the services provided to Mission Soil Living Labs (LLs) and Lighthouses (LHs)**, while also extending the network and its support to new applicants, as well as to aligned European and Emerging Soil Living Labs and Lighthouses.

### What is the role of Mentors?

Mentors are called to provide **expert and tailored guidance to applicants** interested in submitting proposals responding to the **dedicated Living Lab and Lighthouses topics under Mission Soil call for proposals**.

They play a key role in supporting applicants by **offering insights, answering questions, and guiding them through the application process**.

Mentors specifically assist national applicants or consortia that include applicants from their country. They provide support in the national language and operate under a strict non-disclosure and confidentiality approach.



## Who can be a Mentor?

We are looking for experts who:

- Have **experience with EU funding programs**, particularly Horizon Europe and Mission Soil.
- Possess **knowledge of soil health, Living Labs, or related fields**.
- Can **guide applicants in proposal writing, project structuring, or networking**.
- Are available to **provide support in a flexible and manageable way**, based **on demand**, with a **limited time commitment** that will not interfere with their primary work responsibilities.

## Why become a Mentor?



Contribute to the success of Mission Soil and the development of innovative Living Labs.



Expand their professional network by connecting with experts and stakeholders across Europe.



Receive dedicated training through webinars to enhance their mentoring skills.



Support applicants from their geographical area or field of expertise.

## When and how will monitoring take place?

- Prior to their engagement, Mentors will receive trainings webinars by SOILL-Stepup covering key topics related to Soil Health Living Labs, Lighthouses, and related applications.
- The mentorship process will be structured around applicants' needs, meaning mentors will provide support based on specific questions or challenges applicants face.
- Support may take different forms, such as answering questions via email, participating in Q&A sessions, or offering targeted advice.
- The timing of mentoring actions is subject to the publication of the 2026 Mission Soil call for proposals as well as to the specific needs of applicants. Indicatively, mentoring is expected to take place during the second and third quarters of 2026 and later in 2027.

## Become a Mentor!

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or know suitable experts in countries that are not yet covered, we encourage you to share this opportunity.

To register as mentor, please fill in [this Google form](#).

**Thank you for helping to build a strong network of Soil Health Living Labs across Europe!**