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National Engagement Event

4 July 2024

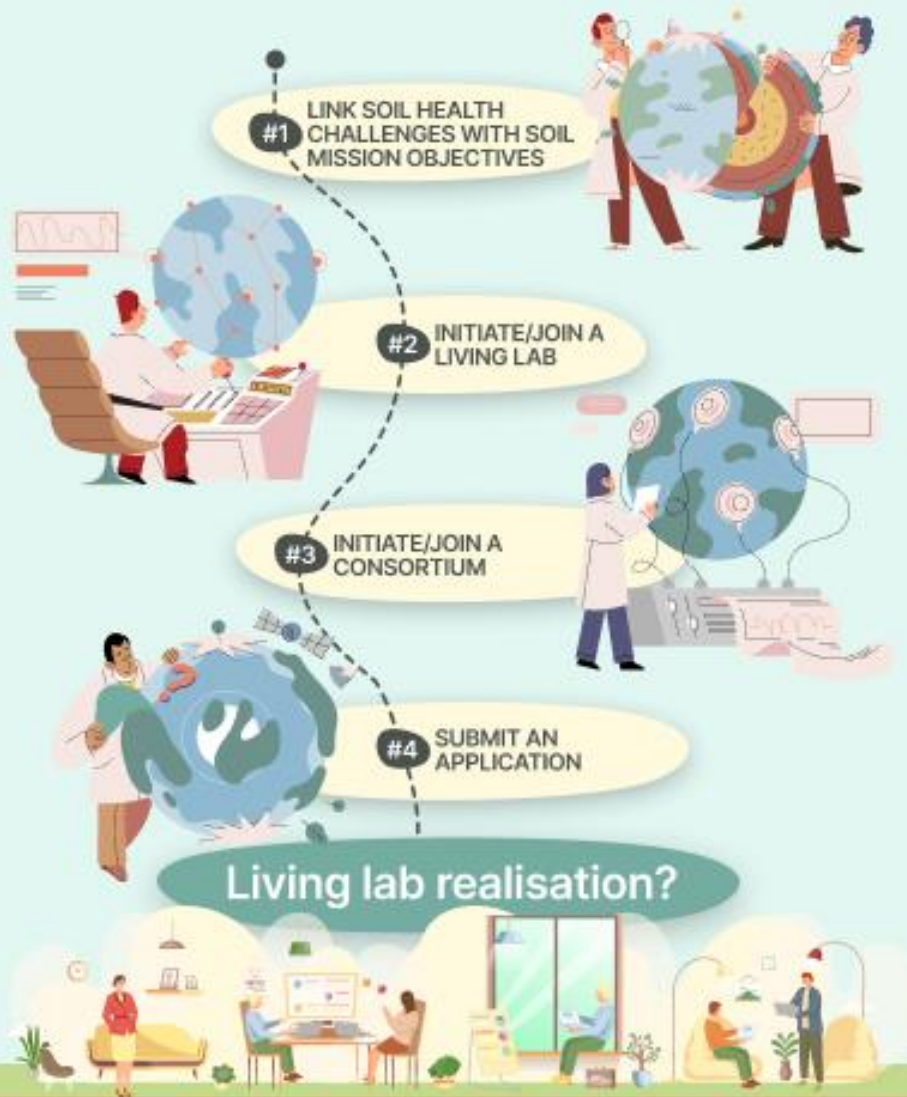


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Please be aware:

-  We will share the **participant list** with names, institutions and e-mail addresses with participants only, for information and further networking.
-  We will take **photos** during the event for communication and dissemination purposes of the NATI00NS project. If you find yourself in a picture you would like us to remove, please send an email to info@nati00ns.eu
-  If you have given your **consent** during registration to receive updates from NATI00NS and/or to receive information from other initiatives related to the EU Soil Mission, you have the **right to withdraw your consent** - by email to info@nati00ns.eu
-  This is an online event. The **Zoom Meeting will be recorded.**

Explore the pathway to a competitive proposal



National engagement event

- The Mission explained
- Soil monitoring and resilience (Soil Monitoring Law)
- Soil Health Living Labs and Lighthouses
- Thematic focus of the 2024 Living Lab topic
- Successful experiences in Soil Mission Call
- SOILL
- Engagement session



Karl Walsh

Head of Agriculture & Codex Division in
the Irish Department of Agriculture, Food
and the Marine (DAFM)





The Mission explained

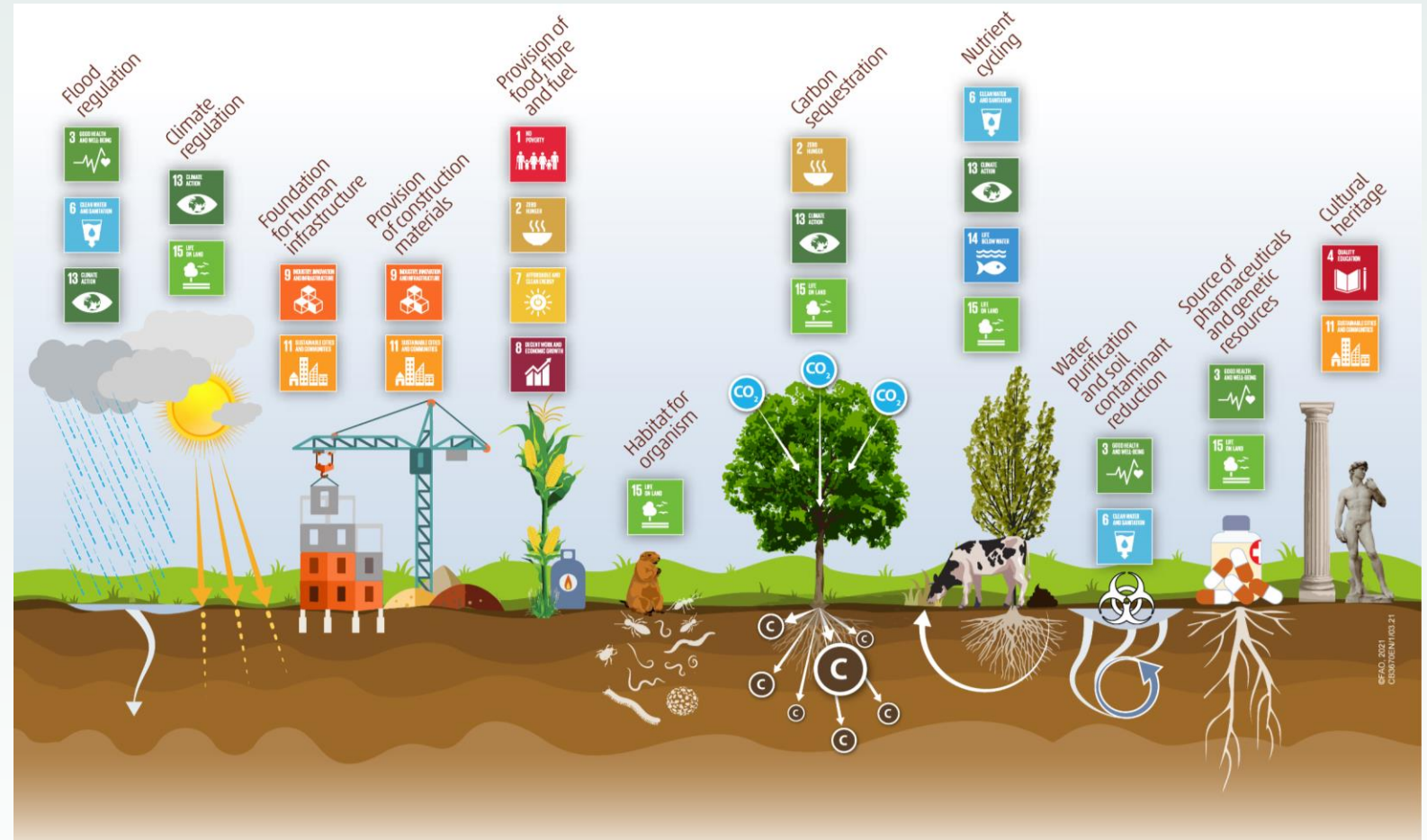
Dolinda Cavallo, ENOLL



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the European Union

Healthy soils

- are essential for all life-sustaining processes on Earth
- have the continued capacity to support ecosystem services



Healthy soils, a prerequisite to achieve the SDGs. Source: fao.org

Unhealthy soils

- Soils degraded by human activities, including anthropogenic climate change;
- Often enhanced by a lack of understanding or education;
- Concerns about 2/3rd of European soils: agricultural, natural and rural;
- Ecosystem services are limited, and costs of degraded soils are enormous (> 50 billion € yr⁻¹).

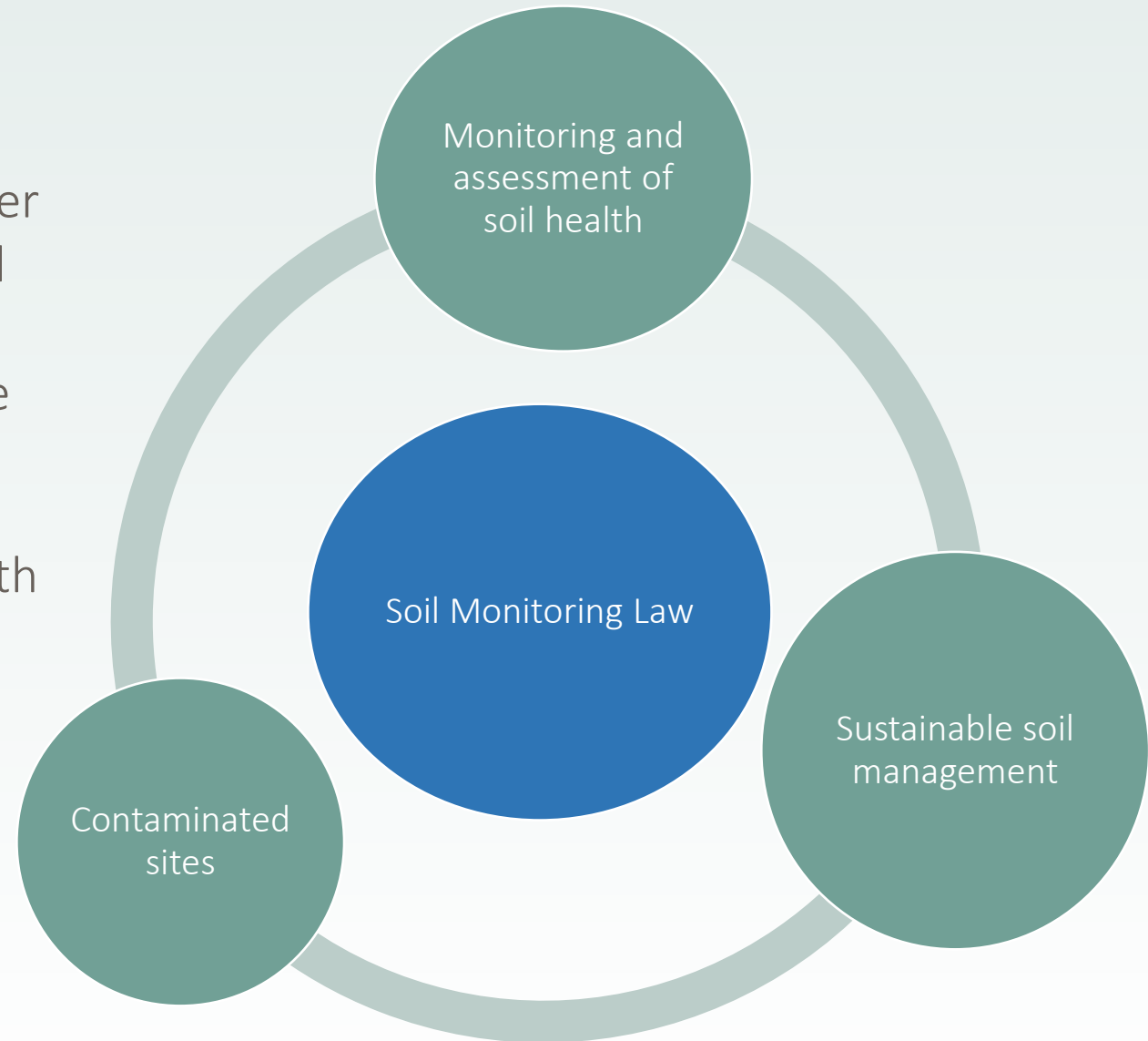


Proposed EU Soil Monitoring Law

- to ensure a level playing field among Member States and a high level of environmental and health protection
- to provide a legal framework to help achieve healthy soils by 2050

Status: adopted by the EU Commission July 5th 2023

- amendments will be proposed by:
 - European Parliament (ENVI committee)
 - Council of the European Union
- up to three drafts



Putting in place a solid and coherent monitoring framework for all soils across the EU so MS can take measures to regenerate degraded soils

Monitoring and assessment of soil health

Making sustainable soil management the norm in the EU. MS will have to define which practices should be implemented by soil managers and which should be banned because they cause soil degradation.

Requesting MS to identify potentially contaminated sites, investigate these sites and address unacceptable risks for human health and the environment, thereby contributing to a toxic-free environment by 2050.

Contaminated sites

Soil Monitoring Law

Sustainable soil management

The soil mission's main goal

- The main goal of the Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe' is to establish 100 living labs (places for on-the-ground experiments) and lighthouses (sites for showcasing good practices) by 2030, to lead the transition towards healthy soils in rural and urban areas.



The Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'

- 1 out of 5 EU Missions;
- The Mission to lead the transition towards healthy soils;
- A Mission at the heart of the EU Green Deal: the transition to overcome threats by climate change and environmental degradation.



The benefits of the European Green Deal

The Soil Mission goals and implementation

- 100 Living Labs and Lighthouses across all land uses: agricultural, forestry, natural, industrial and urban sites;
 - To give visibility to soils as a crucial, yet widely “unrecognized” societal asset and public good;
 - To pioneer, showcase and accelerate the transition to healthy soils.
- Bottom-up approach: based on open science and interactive, participatory innovation with strong stakeholder and citizen engagement;
 - Co-implementation of mission by researchers, land managers, regions, businesses, policy makers, citizens and international partners;
 - To accelerate the co-creation and uptake of solutions.

Communication, training and advice targeted to different target groups; specialised "soil advisors"

4. Soil literacy, communication, citizen engagement

Knowledge, data, technologies and infrastructures to support practices and business models for soil health

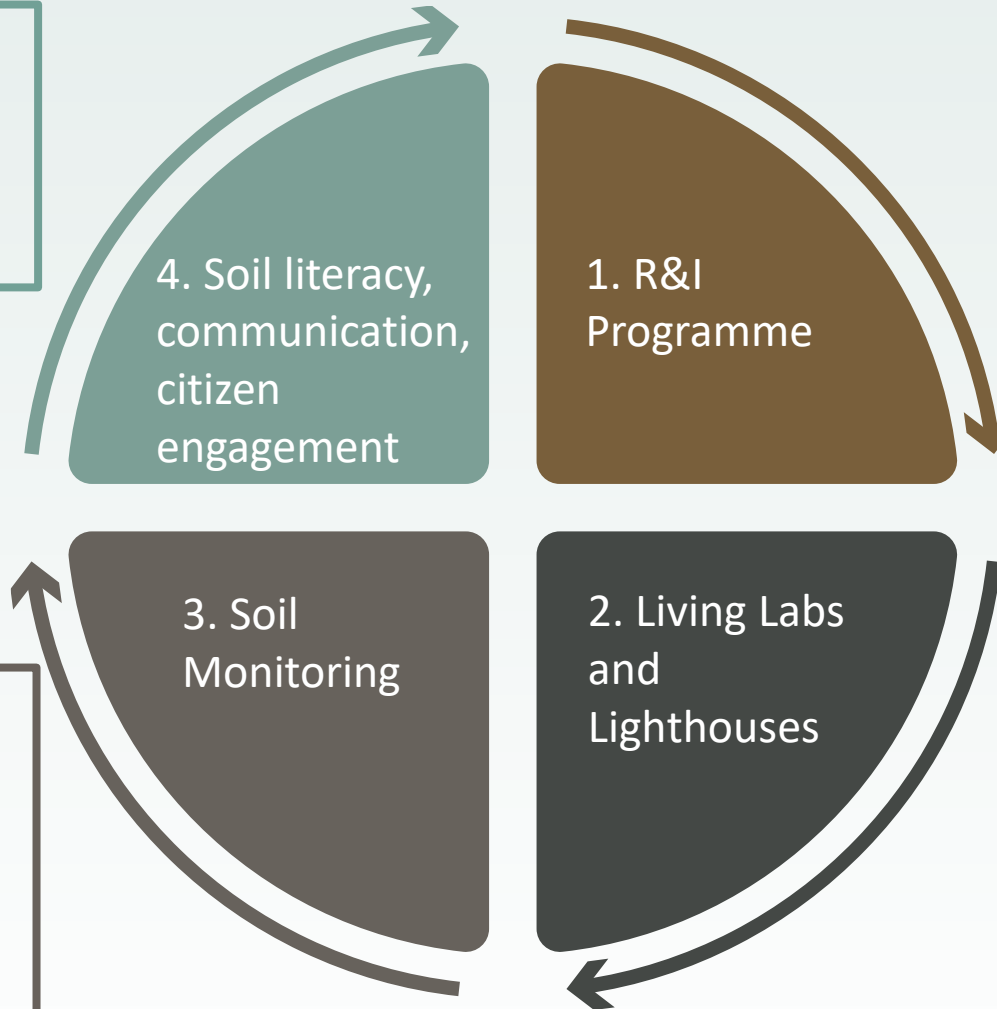
1. R&I Programme

Harmonization of soil health monitoring and reporting across Europe; contribution to European Soil Observatory

3. Soil Monitoring

A comprehensive network of real-life sites for co-creating, testing, demonstrating and upscaling of solutions

2. Living Labs and Lighthouses



1. Reduce desertification

2. Conserve and increase soil organic carbon stocks

3. Stop soil sealing and increase re-use of urban soils

4. Reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration

5. Prevent erosion

6. Improve soil structure to enhance soil biodiversity

7. Reduce the EU global footprint on soils

8. Improve soil literacy in society



1. Reduce desertification

2. Conserve and increase soil organic carbon stocks

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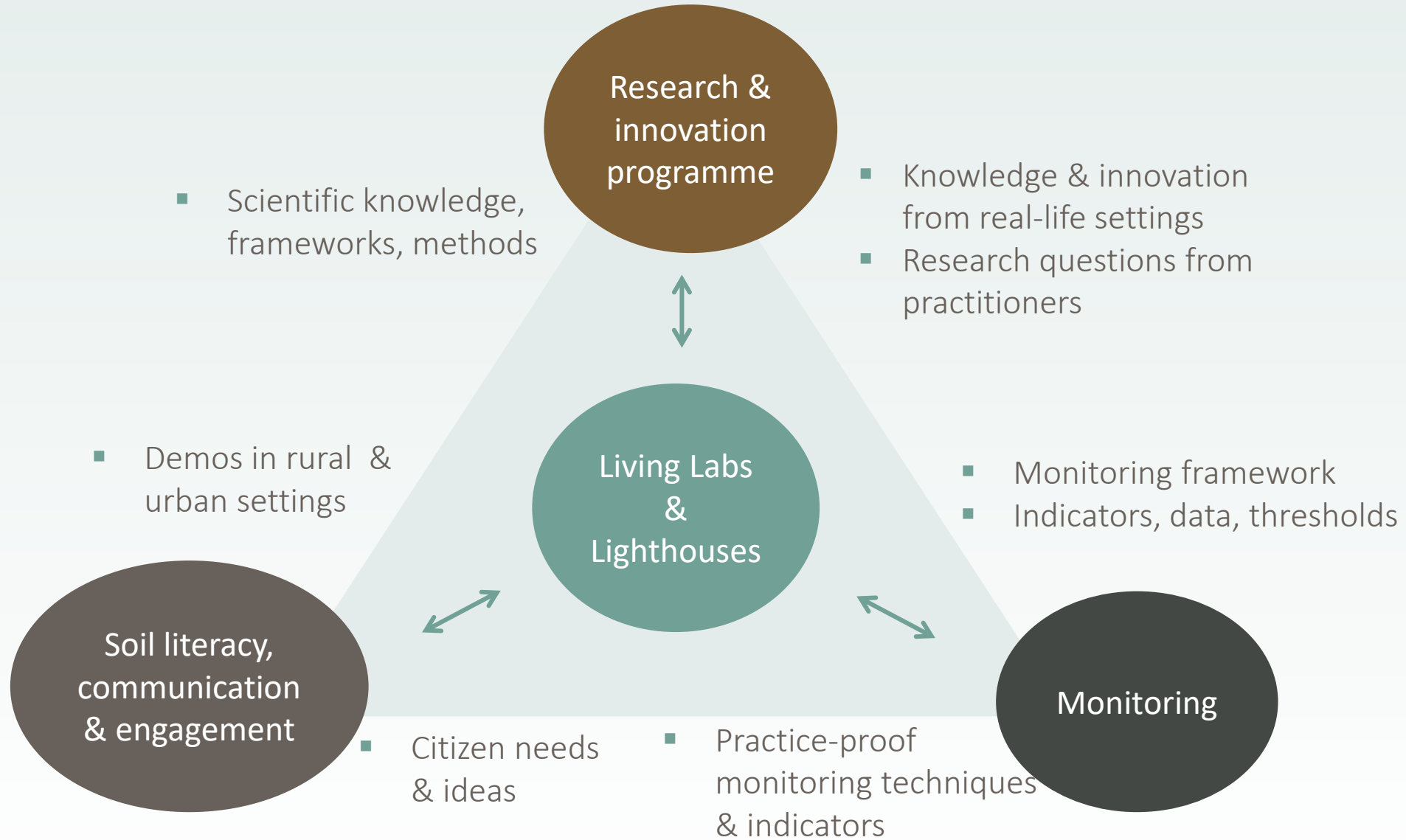


5. Prevent erosion

6. Improve soil structure to enhance soil biodiversity

7. Reduce the EU global footprint on soils

8. Improve soil literacy in society





Soil Health Living Labs and Lighthouses

Dolinda Cavallo, ENOLL



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Soil Health Living Labs *



Collaborative initiatives to co-create knowledge and innovations

“User-centred, place-based and transdisciplinary research and innovation ecosystems, which involve land managers, scientists and other relevant partners in systemic research and co-design, testing, monitoring and evaluation of solutions, in real-life settings, to improve their effectiveness for soil health and accelerate adoption.”

- **User-centred**, place-based and transdisciplinary
- **Multi-stakeholder**: Involve all relevant partners in co-design, testing, monitoring and evaluation of solutions,
- Use of **real-life** settings to accelerate adoption.
- Contain **several sites** (e.g. farms, forest exploitations, city parks) at **regional** or **sub-regional** level.

Soil Health Lighthouses



Individual sites of exemplary performance

“Places for demonstration of solutions, training and communication that are exemplary in their performance in terms of soil health improvement”

- They **showcase** good practices and upscale solutions.
- They are places for **demonstrations, training, networking** and **communication** towards future users, policy-makers or the broader society.
- Help adoption of sustainable practices by **inspiring land users** through practical tools.

* This LL definition is customised for soil health LL and is provided within the “[A Soil Deal for Europe – Implementation Plan](#)”. It aggregates elements of **ENOLL definition** with those of a WG of the G20 agricultural chief scientists on agroecological living labs.

Living Labs*

AIMS

- **Innovation, co-creation**, formal learning
- Contribution to **societal challenges**
- **Improving soil health and related ecosystem services** (=> mission objectives)

ACTIVITIES

- **Co-creation, co-development & experimentation** of innovations improving soil health and related ESS
- **Research on impact of these innovative practices** on ecosystems
- **Networking and knowledge exchange**
- **Demonstration** (in particular lighthouses)

PARTICIPANTS

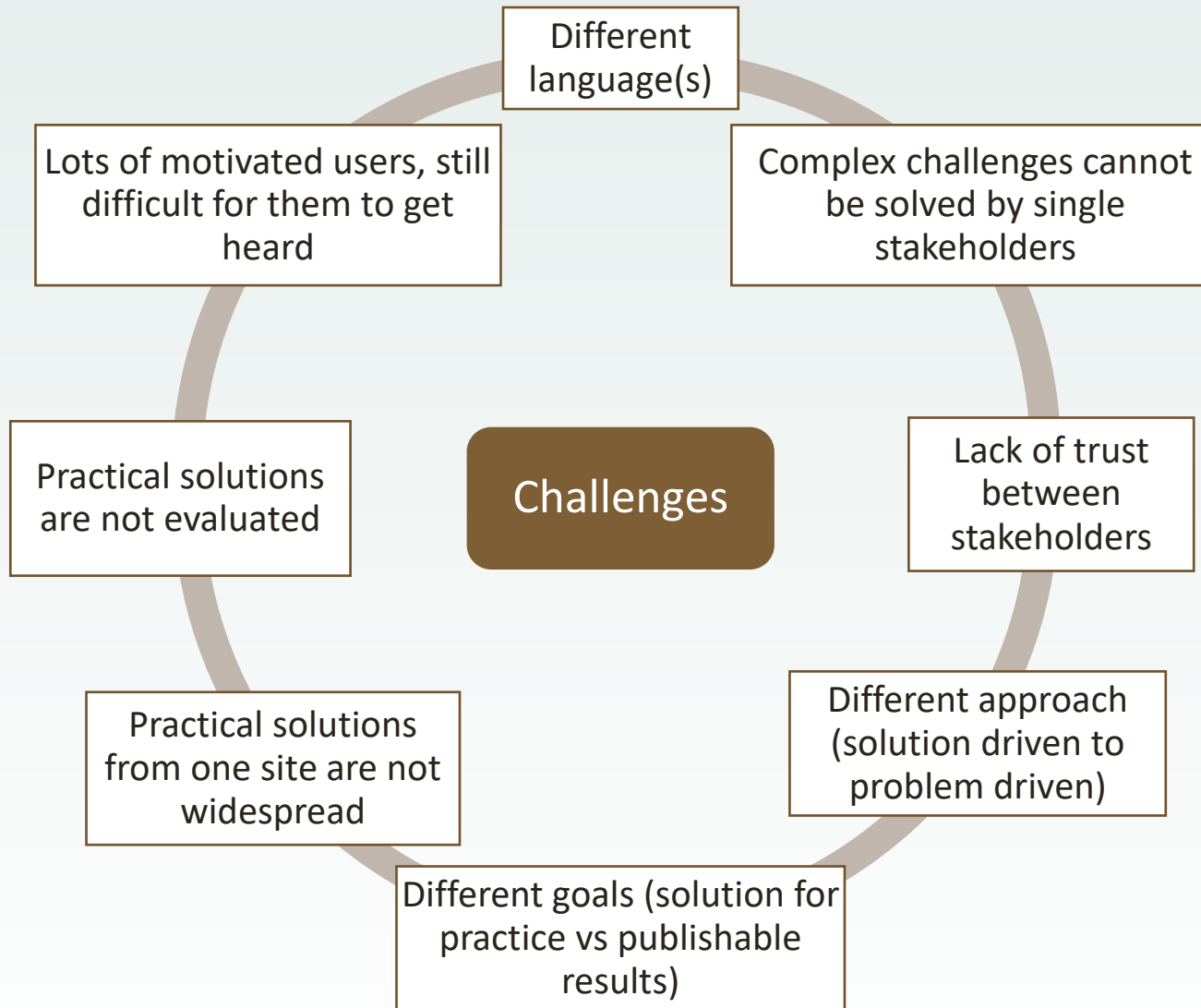
- **Public-private people partnership**
- **Real users (soil managers connected with broad array of stakeholders & decision-makers)**
- **Demonstration:** wider public, policy arena, EIP and relevant networks

CONTEXT

- Multiple **disciplines** (-> transdisciplinary, inc. social sciences), **methods, dimensions** (technical, economic, social)
- **Place-based** approach and **real-life context** = real farms/forest/urban sites
- **Robust scientific setup** for **ecosystem assessment**
- **Openness**, communication, dissemination

Lighthouses

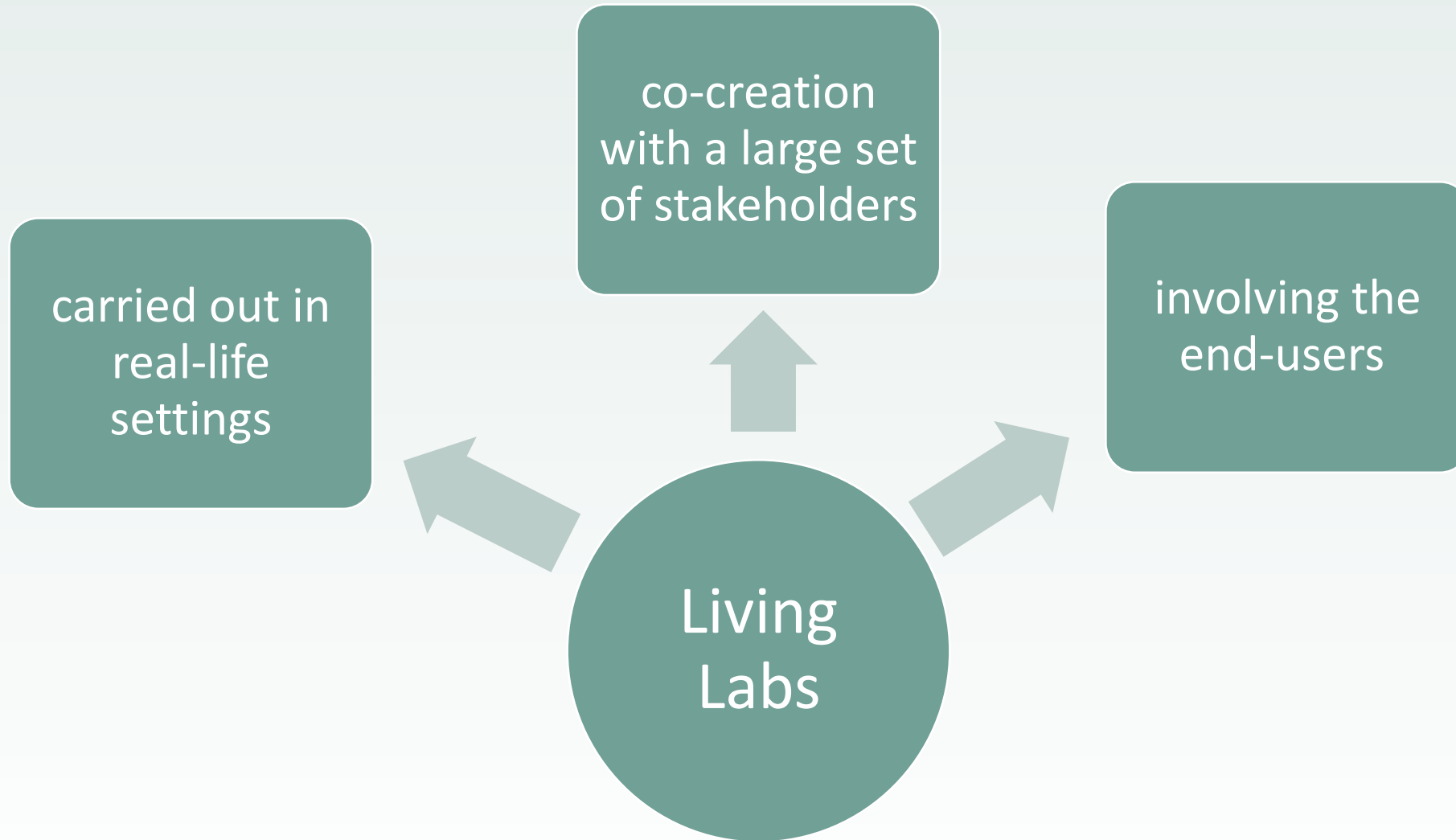
Criteria based on **exemplary performances** in terms of soil health and related ecosystems services



Cooperating in a multi-stakeholder team makes you

- ... become inspired by each other
- ... learn to think out of the box
- ... better understand each other
- ... accept different perspectives from different stakeholders
- ... aim for the same goals
- ... work together instead of side by side
- ... contribute to faster find faster, validated and more scalable solutions
- ...







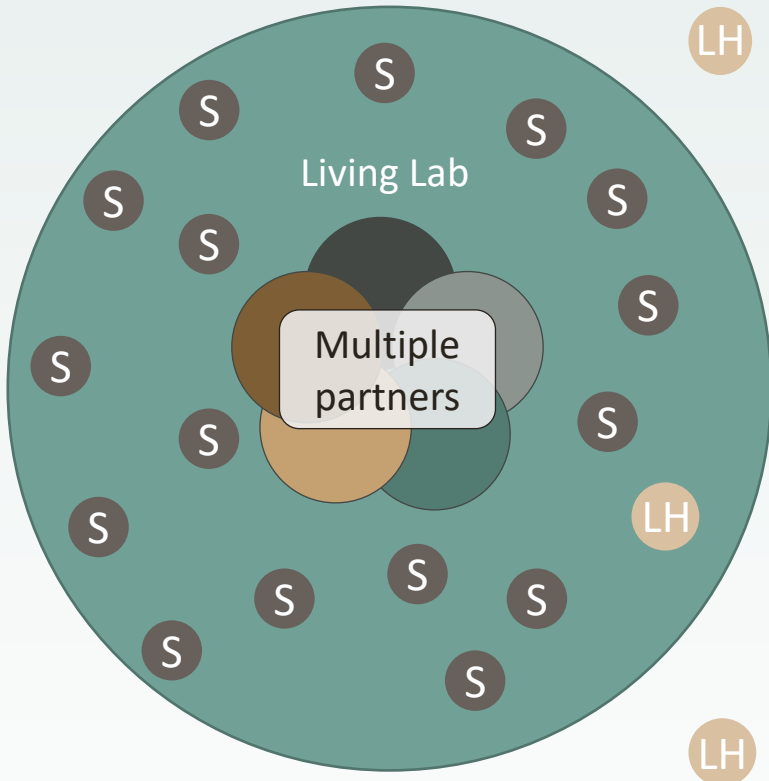
Places of co-creation, co-design, co-implementation and co-assessment



Participatory, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary R&I approach



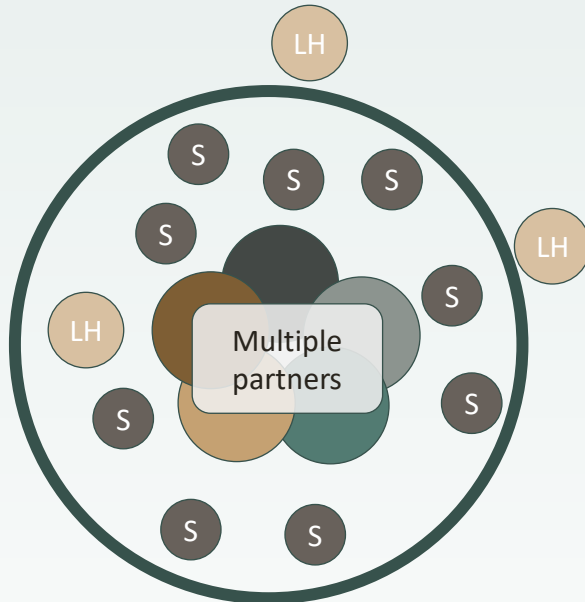
Business Models to ensure sustainability



	Scale	Activities	Performance in soil health improvement
Living Lab (LL)	Regional/ subregional landscape	Coordinate experimentations & partners	In progress at landscape scale
Living Lab experimentation site (S)	Local (one farm/forest, one urban site, etc)	Co-create knowledge and innovations	In progress on the site
Lighthouse (LH)	Local (one farm/forest, one urban site	Experiment and/or demonstrate	Demonstrates high performance

Regional level

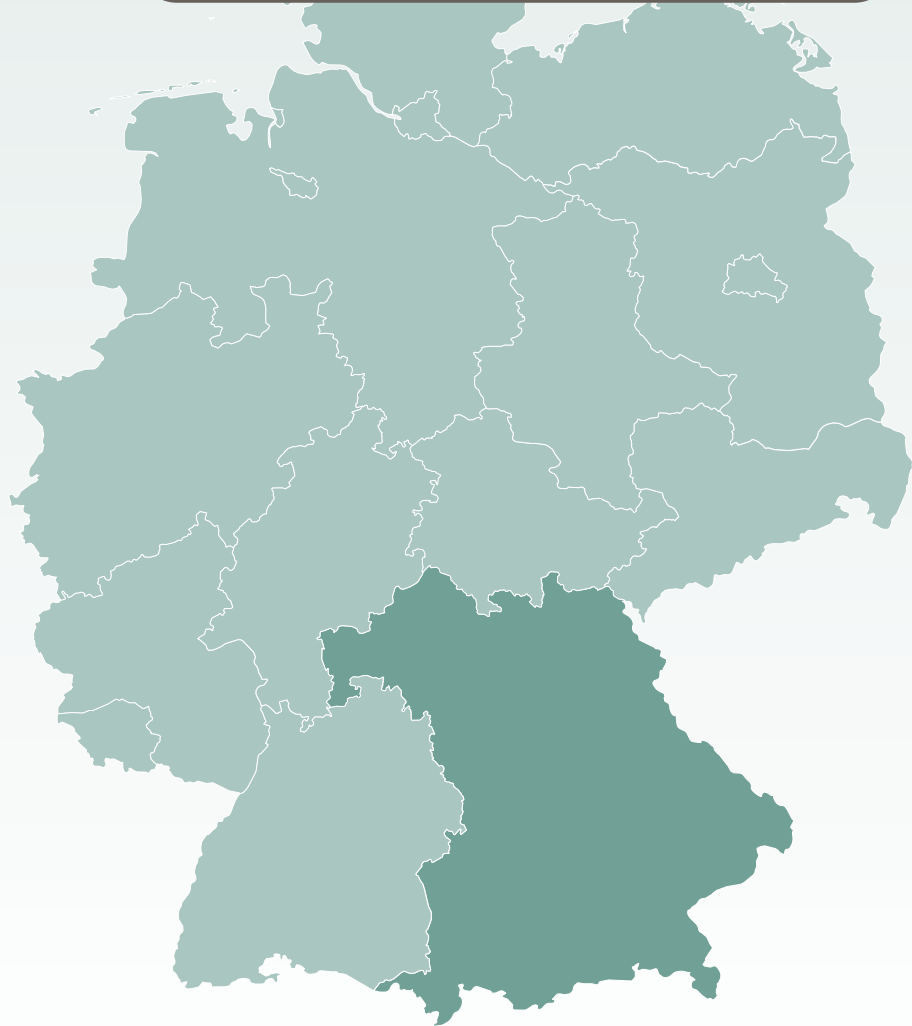
Sub-regional level



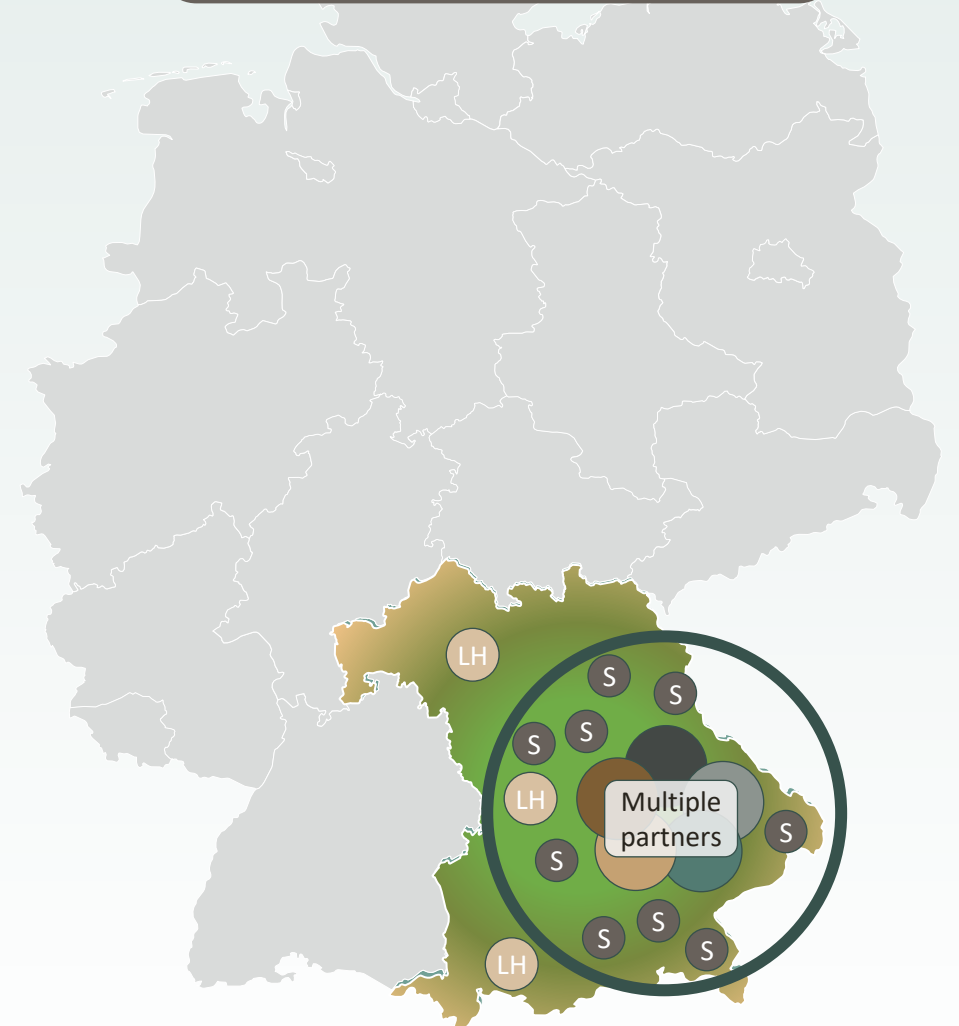
Local soil health needs
Local context
Common soil health goals

Within or across actual
administrative and geographical borders
at regional & national level

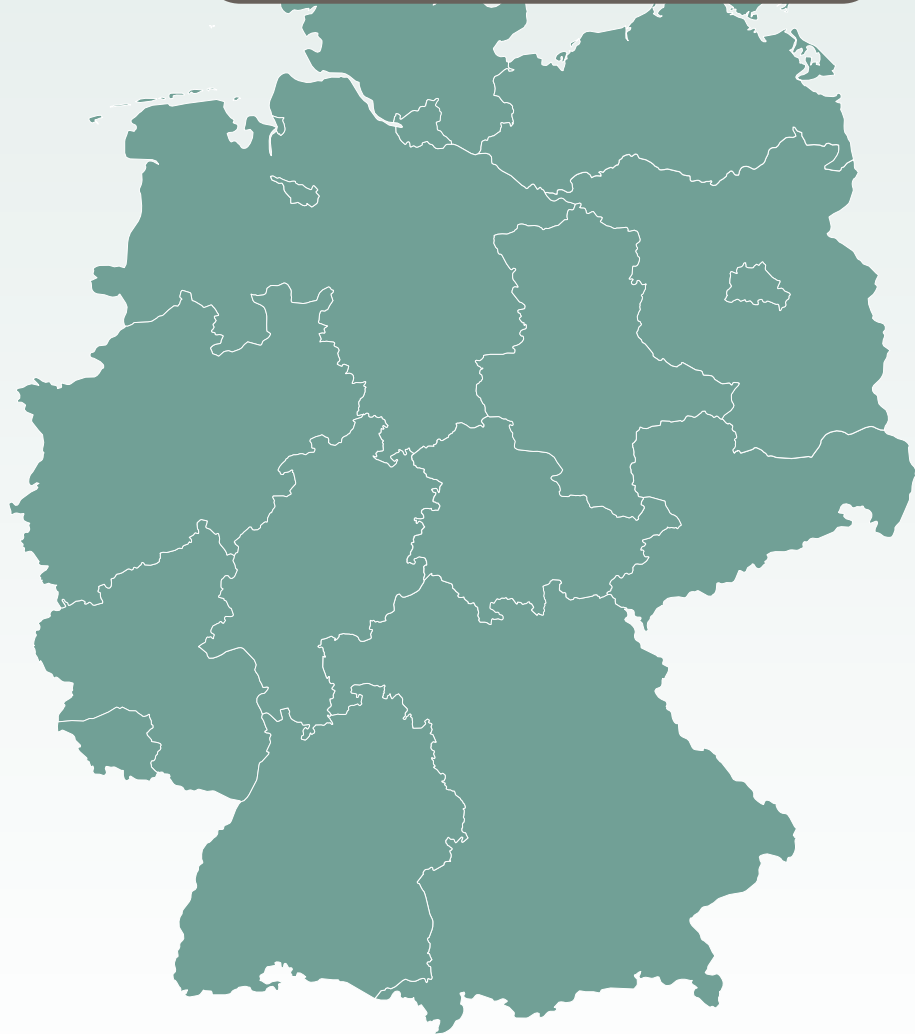
Regional/Sub-regional borders



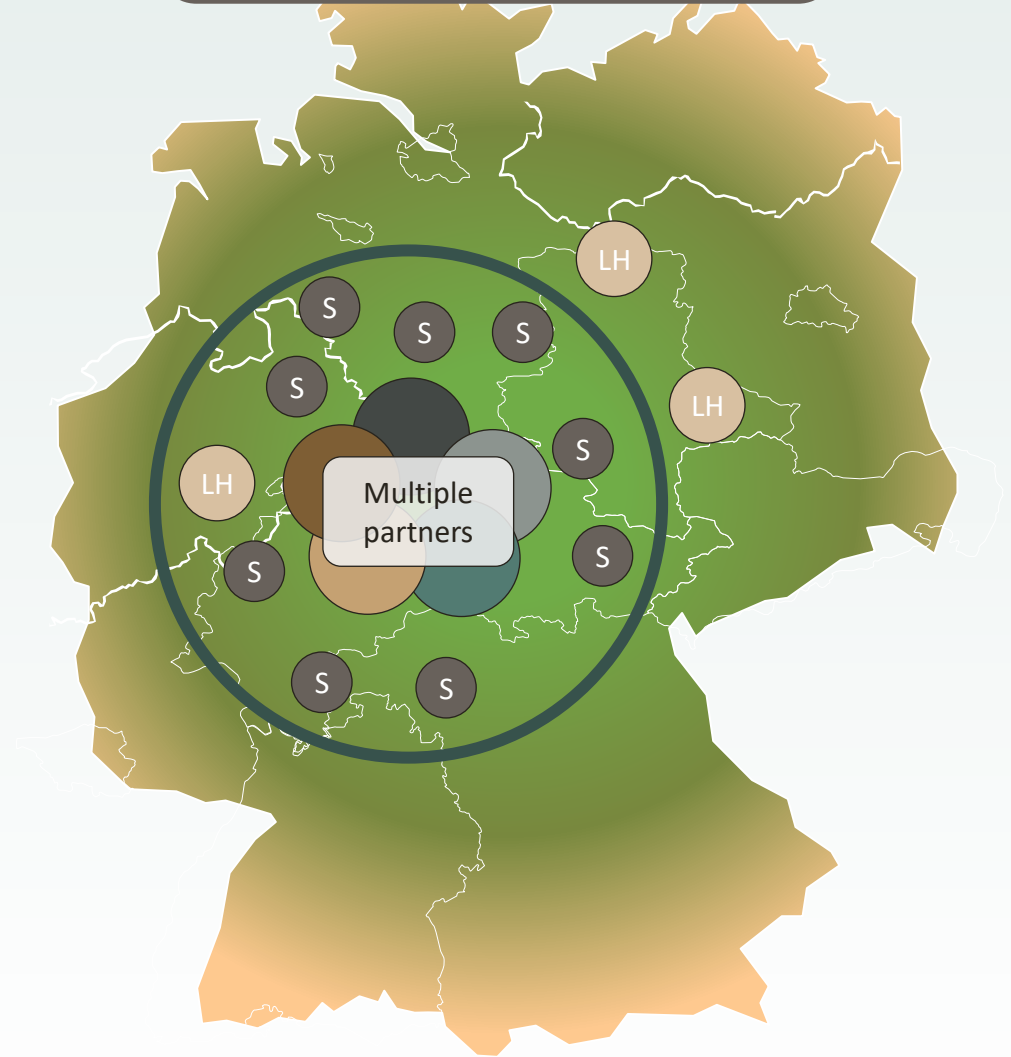
Common soil challenges



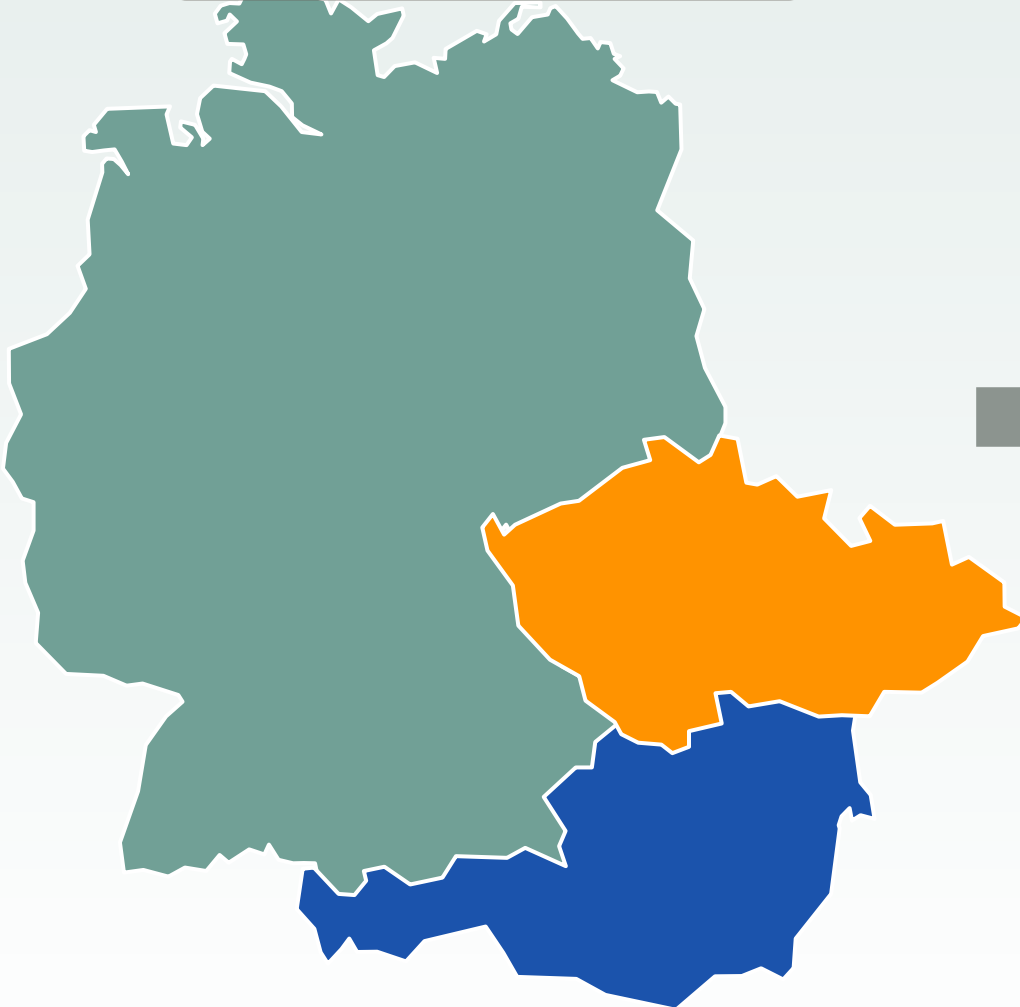
Cross-regional borders



Common soil challenges



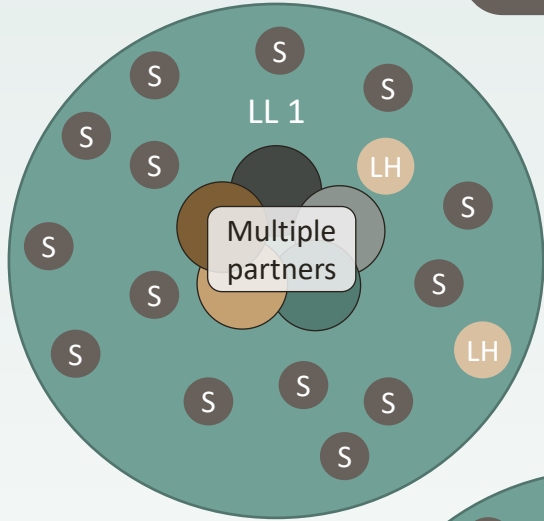
Administrative borders



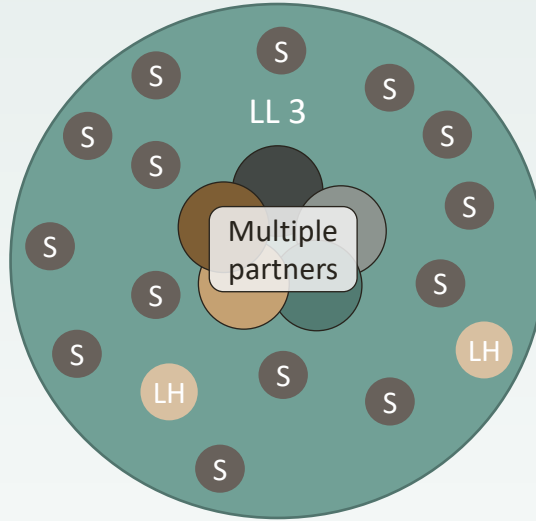
Common soil challenges



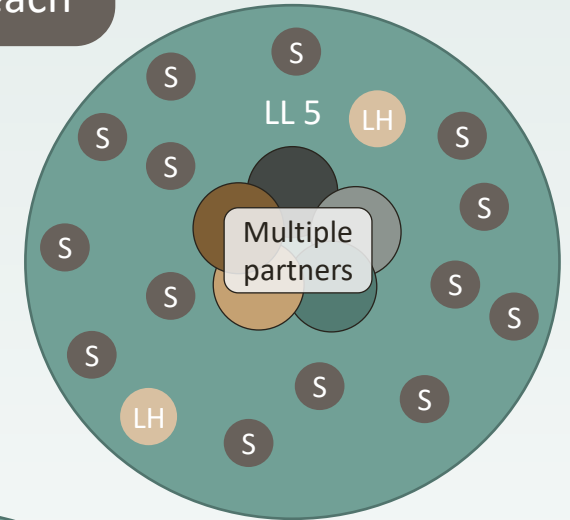
1 project with 4-5 Living Labs, with 10-20 experimental sites each



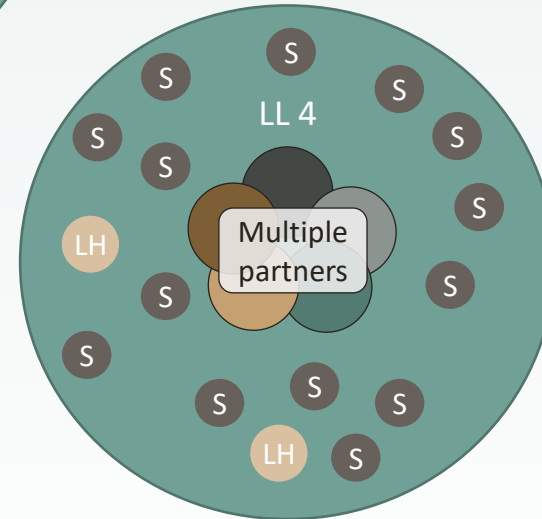
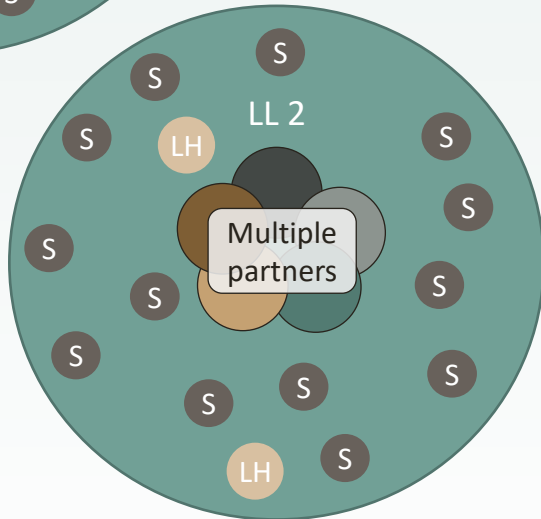
LH



LH

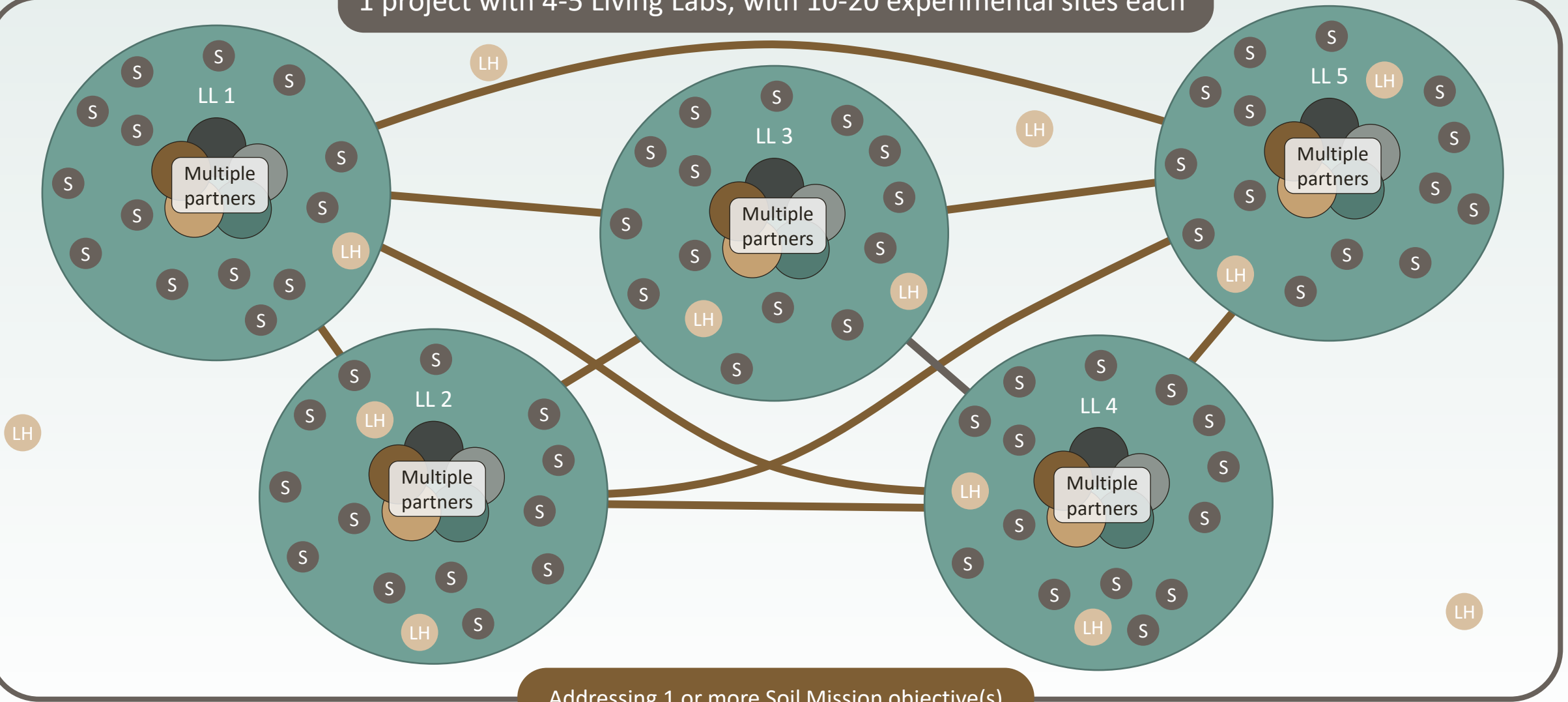


LH



LH

1 project with 4-5 Living Labs, with 10-20 experimental sites each



Addressing 1 or more Soil Mission objective(s)

Living Lab (LL)	Objectives	Land-use types	Application
LL1	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 1
LL2	Objective A	Land-use B	Local context 2
LL3	Objective A	Land-use C	Local context 2
LL4	Objective A	Land-use A Land-use B	Local context 3
LL5	Objective A	Land-use B Land-use C	Local context 4

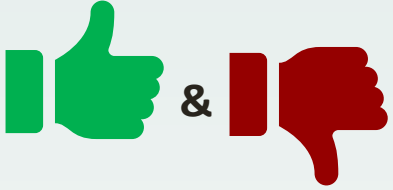
Living Labs focus on the same Mission Objective, different land-use types

Living Labs focus on the same Mission Objective and land-use type, but with different focus

Living Lab (LL)	Objectives	Land-use types	Application
LL1	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 1
LL2	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 2
LL3	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 3
LL4	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 4
LL5	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 5

Living Labs focus on the different Mission objectives, but same land-use types

Living Lab (LL)	Objectives	Land-use types	Application
LL1	Objective A	Land-use A	Local context 1
LL2	Objective B	Land-use A	Local context 2
LL3	Objective C	Land-use A	Local context 1, 2
LL4	Objective A Objective B	Land-use A	Local needs 2
LL5	Objective C	Land-use A	Local context 1



Clear and justified biogeographic regions

Make sure to justify the common aspects within LLs in projects and how the coordination across regions will be established.




Prevent cross-regional unjustified scope
Minimize outliers and, in case of a remote site, explain the management and the involvement in co-creation activities.




Living Labs per land-use type

An icon representing agriculture, showing a sun, a field with two small plants, and rolling hills.

Agricultural LLs

An icon representing forestry, showing several stylized evergreen trees of varying heights.

Forestry LLs

An icon representing urban areas, showing several stylized buildings of different heights.

Urban LLs

An icon representing industrial sites, showing a factory building with a tall chimney.

Industrial LLs



FACTSHEET

EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: **Funding Opportunities**



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FACTSHEET

EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: **Agricultural Land Use**



Funded by the European Union

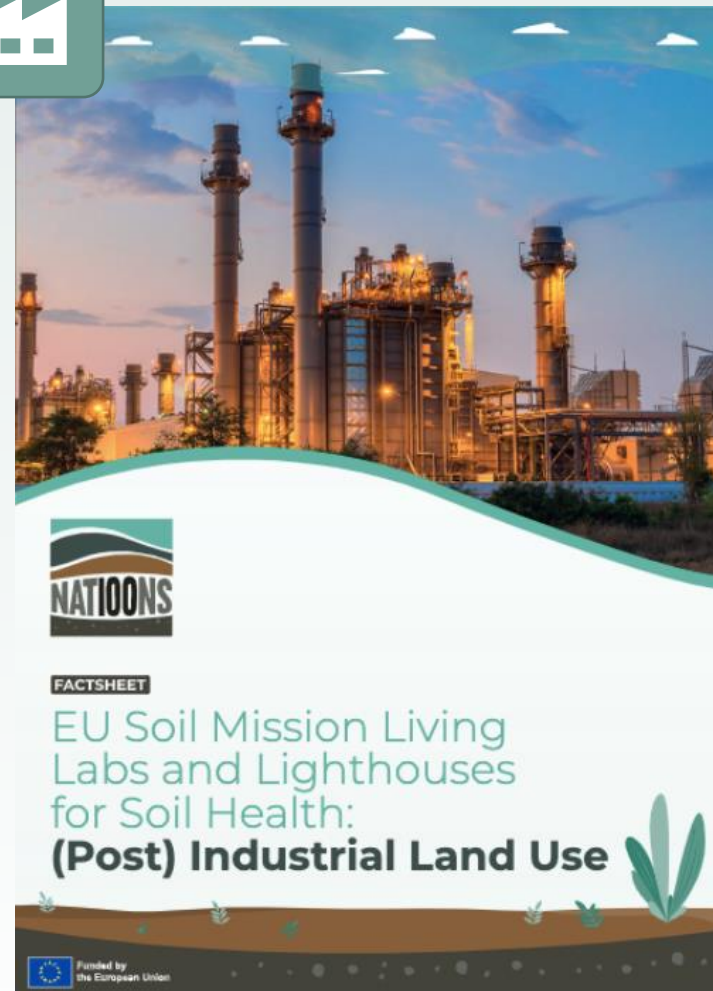
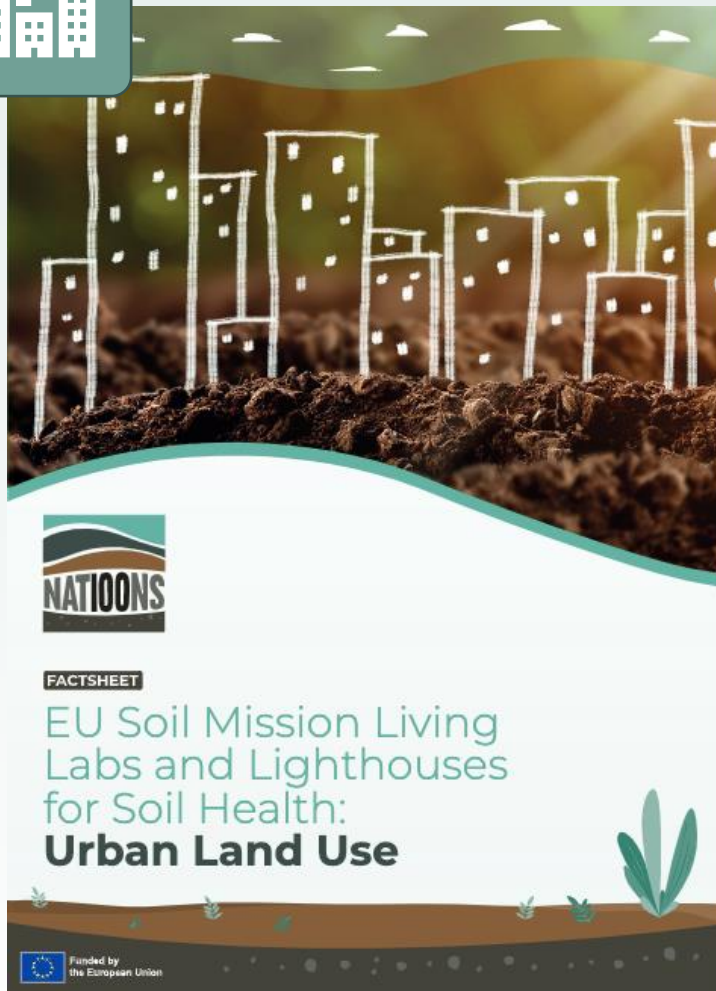


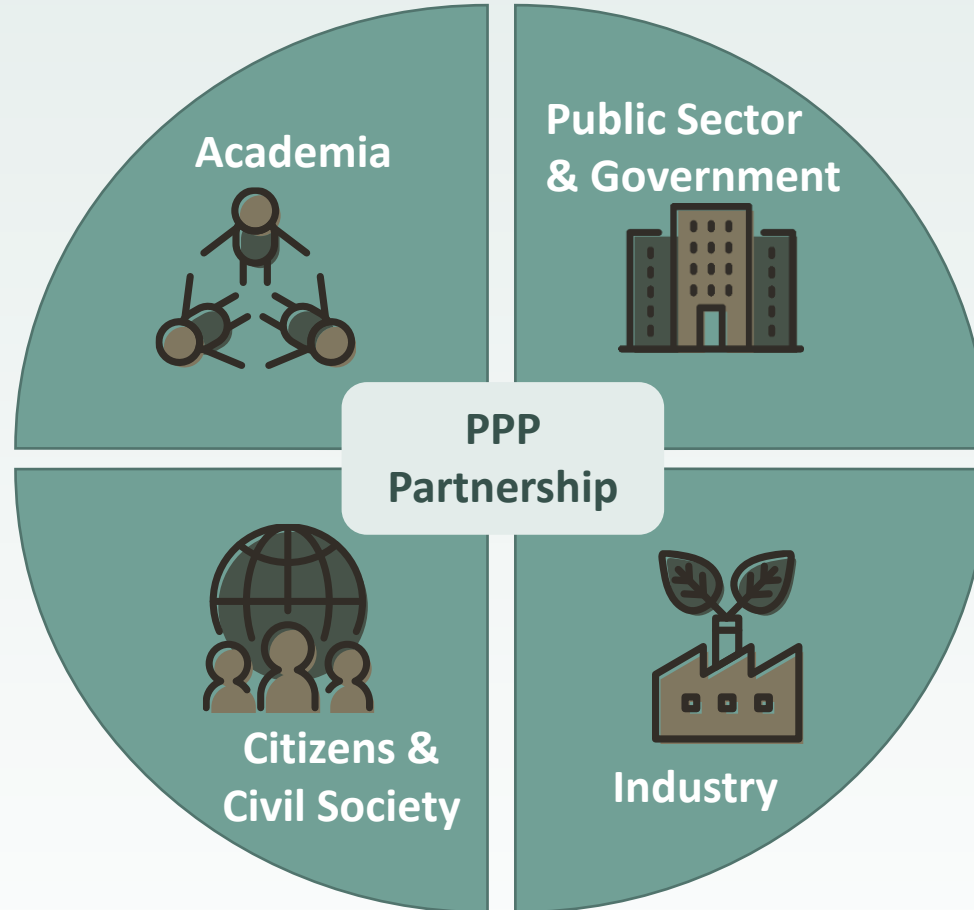
FACTSHEET

EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: **Forestry Land Use**



Funded by the European Union







Industry



Agricultural

- Farmers and landowners
- Cooperatives and supermarkets
- Agribusiness companies (e.g. agricultural engineers, food engineers, manufacturers of seeds and inorganic fertilizers, retailers) ranging from major European players to innovative startups, investors.



Urban

- Building/construction professionals: e.g. civil engineers, architects, real estate)
- GIS specialists
- Urban Planners (e.g. landscape, transport).



Forestry

- Landowners and forest managers
- Forest companies
- Forest owner associations
- Industries
- Land managers



Industrial

- Industrial landowners
- Land developers
- Environmental consultants
- SMEs

Larson, J. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: Forestry Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969297>

Morello, E., & de Franco, A. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: Urban Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969333>

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Siebielec, G. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: (Post) Industrial Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969358>

The is a fabricated example of potential participants within the different types of LLs. Not intended to be exhaustive.



Government & Public Sector



Agricultural

- Local, regional, and national (e.g. authorities, regulators, researchers)



Urban

- Public authorities and private agencies
- Public administrations (e.g. local, county-regional, national, communitarian)
- Health authorities (e.g. public health, epidemiologists)
- Environmental managers (e.g. disaster/risk and environmental managers)



Forestry

- Local, regional, and national authorities
- Regulators
- Governmental organizations
- Public authorities
- Agencies



Industrial

- Local, regional, national authorities
- City and regional administration
- Environmental protection offices
- Spatial planners

That might benefit from LLs focused on the regeneration and reuse of brownfield land and optimised spatial planning in (Post)industrial areas, adding value and addressing health risk.

Larson, J. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: Forestry Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969297>

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Academia



Agricultural

- Researchers from universities
- Governmental organizations
- Research institutes



Urban

- Universities
- Social sciences research institutions: e.g. anthropologists, economists, geographers, sociologists
- Physical sciences research institutions: e.g. agronomists, biologists, chemists, climatologists, geologists, epidemiologists, physicians.



Forestry

- Researchers in forest and soil sciences
- Social science researchers
- Universities
- Research institutions



Industrial

- Researchers, agricultural and soil advisors.
- Farmers and advisors that might be interested in tackling diffuse contamination and transformation of agriculture in (Post)industrial regions to avoid contaminant transfer to food.

Larson, J. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: Forestry Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969297>

Morello, E., & de Franco, A. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: Urban Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969333>

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The is a fabricated example of potential participants within the different types of LLs. Not intended to be exhaustive.



Citizens, Civil Society & Users



Agricultural

- NGOs (e.g. nature conservation and water protection organizations)
- Citizen groups
- Consumers
- Local, regional and national movements



Urban

- Inhabitants (e.g. residents, tenants)
- Civic groups (e.g. associations, cooperatives, NGOs)
- Loosely organized groups (e.g. artists, designers, retailers, and local businesses)
- Informal interest groups of the communities.
- Nature conservation groups



Forestry

- Urban and local citizens, community and citizens representatives, NGOs (e.g. nature conservation protection organizations).



Industrial

- Citizens
- Citizen organizations,
- Environmental organizations

Larson, J. (2023). FACTSHEET - EU Soil Mission Living Labs and Lighthouses for Soil Health: Forestry Land Use. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7969297>

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FUNDED UNDERHORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL CALLS

**Living Lab in the
Mediterranean Region**

**Living Lab in Western
European Farmlands**

<https://prepsoil.eu/living-labs-and-lighthouses/map>



The Living Labs shown on the map do not necessarily fulfil the criteria for the selection and set-up of living labs in the context of the Soil Health Mission presented in the Mission Implementation Plan.



Thematic focus of the 2024 Living Lab call

Dolinda Cavallo, ENoLL

Disclaimer

Information provided herewith are of the NATIOONS consortium.

The sole official source of reference shall remain the *Horizon Europe Work programme (2023-25) - 12. Missions and Cross-cutting Activities*, published by the European Commission on April 17th, 2024.



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Soil health (0101)

*HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01-01:
Co-creating solutions for soil health in
Living Labs*

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2024-soil-01-01>

Urban (0102)

*HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01-02:
Living Labs in urban areas for healthy
soils*

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2024-soil-01-02>

- Deadline for applications: 08 October 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time;
- Single-stage submission via the Funding & Tenders Portal;
- **4-5 Living Labs** for each application located **in at least three** different Member States and/or Associated Countries;
- Research and Innovation Actions: 100% funding for any actor.

Soil health (0101)

HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01-01:

Co-creating solutions for soil health in Living Labs

- 36 M€ funding
- Expect 3 applications funded

1. Reduce desertification

2. Conserve and increase soil organic carbon stocks

3. Stop soil sealing and increase re-use of urban soils

4. Reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration

5. Prevent erosion

6. Improve soil structure to enhance soil biodiversity

7. Reduce the EU global footprint on soils

8. Improve soil literacy in society

Urban (0102)

HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01-02:

Living Labs in urban areas for healthy soils

- 12 M€ funding
- Expect 1 application funded

- ✓ A new table is included for applicants to topics 2024-SOIL-01-01 and 2024-SOIL-01-02 to fill in.
- ✓ The table aims at gathering key aspects of the LL that will form part of the LL project.
- ✓ It will help applicants and evaluators to better describe how LL are organized.

Q1. In which country (countries) is the Living Lab (LL) located?
Q2. In which region(s) or sub-region(s) is the LL located?
Q3. What is the main land use in the LL?
Q4. Which Mission Soil specific objective(s) will be mainly addressed in the LL?
Q5. Which soil health challenge(s) will be tackled in the LL?
Q6. How many experimental sites will the LL have?
Q7. Will sites that demonstrate a high potential and can be converted to lighthouses (LHs) be identified in the same region of the LL?
Q8. Which project partner is in the lead of the LL?
Q9. Which type of actors are you planning to involve in the LL?
Q10. Are there already ongoing co-creation activities in some of the experimental sites of the LL?
Q11. Indicate the approximate budget that will be dedicated for the establishment and implementation of activities in the LL?
Q12. If you are planning to engage further actors or entities not already involved as partners, please indicate how many and of which type?
Q13. Are you planning to make use of Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP)?

SOILL & SOILL-Startup

Support Structure for Soil Health Living Labs

Summary of actions/services offered to Mission Soil LL/LH

Dolinda Cavallo SOILL & SOILL-Startup Coordinator Project Manager



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Living Lab in the Mission Soil

The Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'

100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils



PREP SOIL

Preparing for the 'Soil Deal for Europe' Mission

July 2022 – June 2025
GA 101070045

prepsoil.eu

- Taxonomy & features specification
- Identification & mapping
- Model business plan
- Service package



Living Lab Lighthouse Living Lab and Lighthouse Living Lab Center EEU funded



NATIOONS

National engagement activities to support the launch of the Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe' 100 LLs and LHs

November 2022 – October 2024
GA 101090738

nati00ns.eu

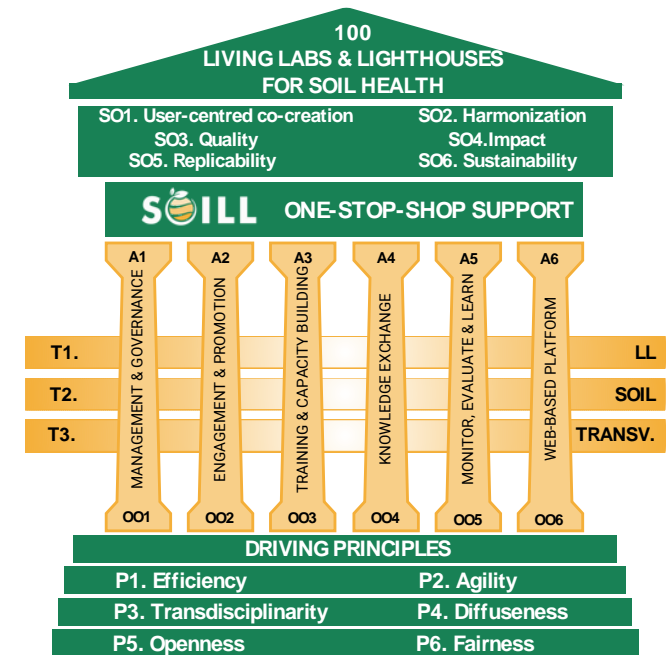
- National engagement sessions
- Supporting applicants
 - Coaching
 - E-learning & capacity building
 - Matchmaking
 - Helpdesk



SOILL

Support structure for Soil Health Living Labs

January 2024 2024 – December 2028
GA 101112782





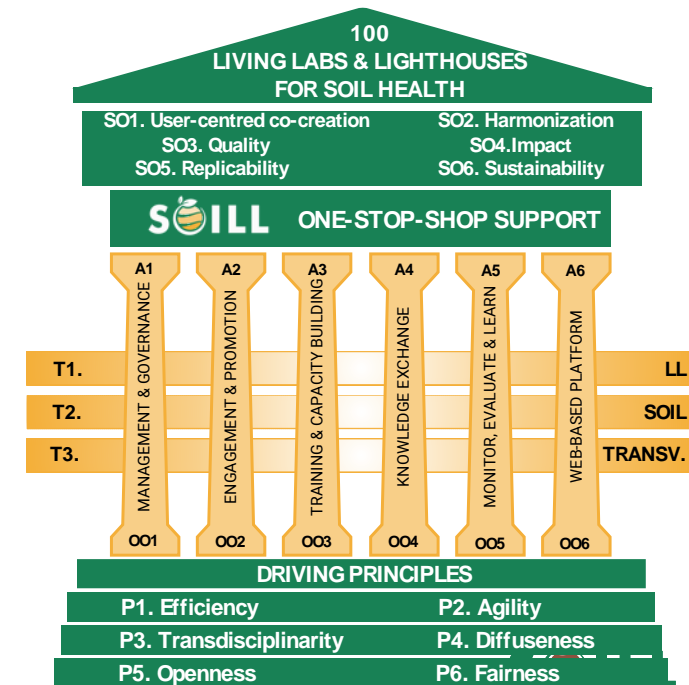
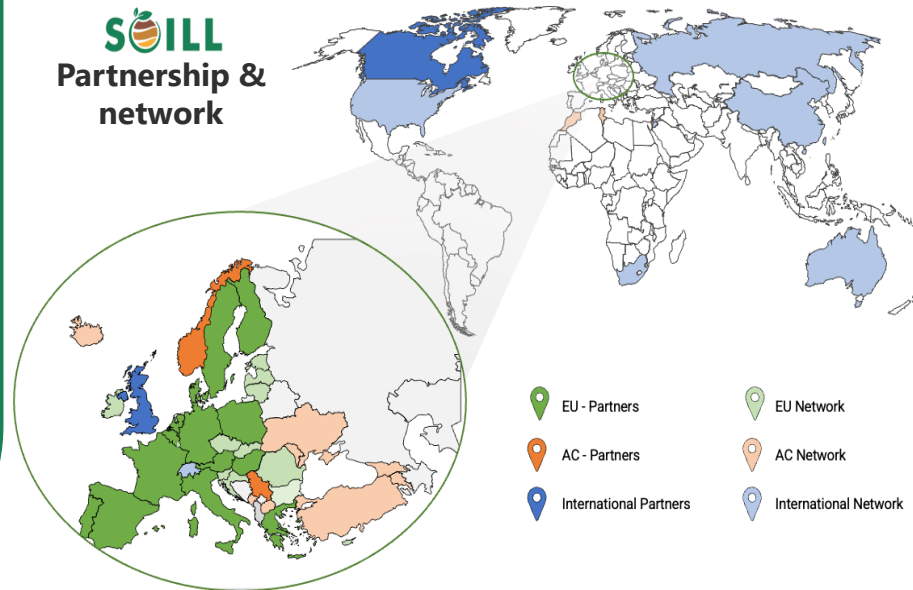
Living Labs in the Mission Soil

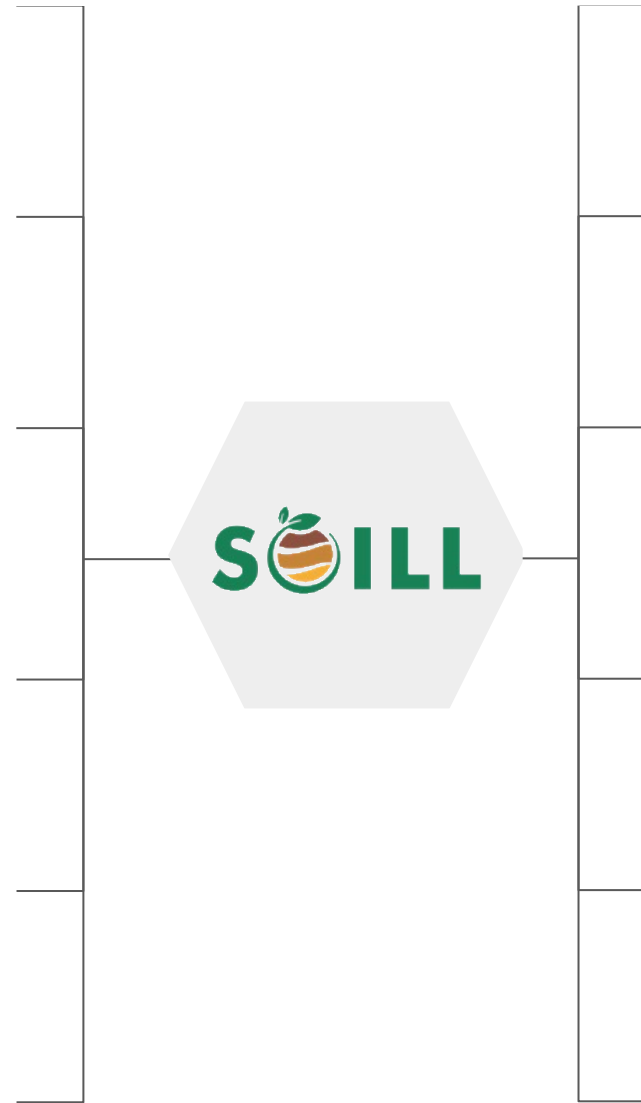
The Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'

100 Living Labs and Lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils

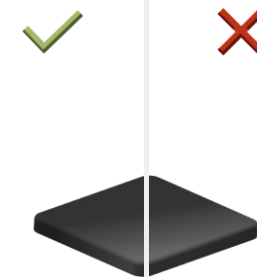
SOILL Support Structure for Soil Living Labs

SOILL aims to set up and run an **effective, agile, transdisciplinary, diffuse, open** and **fair** one-stop-shop structure to coordinate, support, enlarge, and promote the network of 100 living lab and lighthouses funded under the Soil Deal Mission and ensure their **co-created user-centred, harmonized, reliable, impactful, replicable,** and **sustainable** lead of the transition towards healthy soils.





What SOILL is and what is not?



We don't review nor evaluate the SHLLs!



We don't review nor evaluate the project or the consortium!



We do not oblige SHLL/LHs to participate in SOILL activities



We monitor the progress of SHLL/LHs towards their maturity and towards Mission objectives!



We offer training to all partners to enhance the harmonized support to SHLL/LHs



We encourage collaboration for the SHLL/LHs growth and reward most engaged SHLL/LHs (mentoring)



We don't represent the EC nor the Mission



We are not in charge of coordinating all the projects of the Mission or the LLs projects!

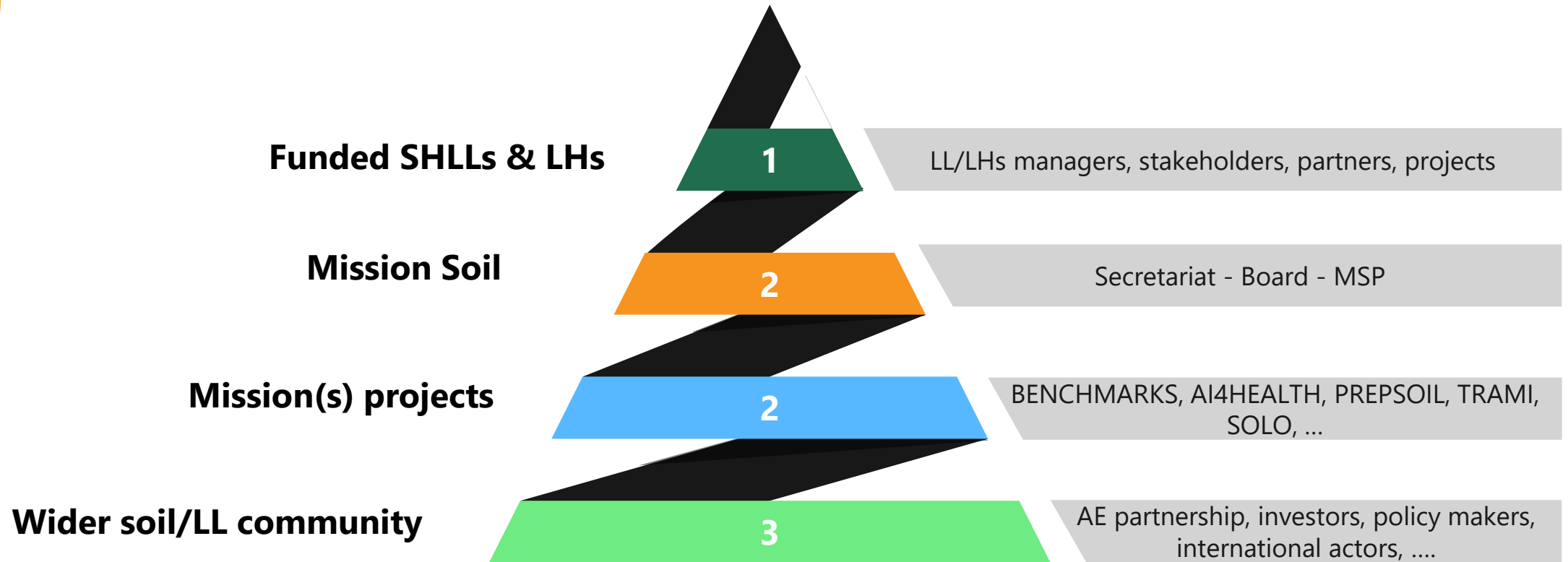


We play a pivotal role in the Mission and we need to always provide correct information!



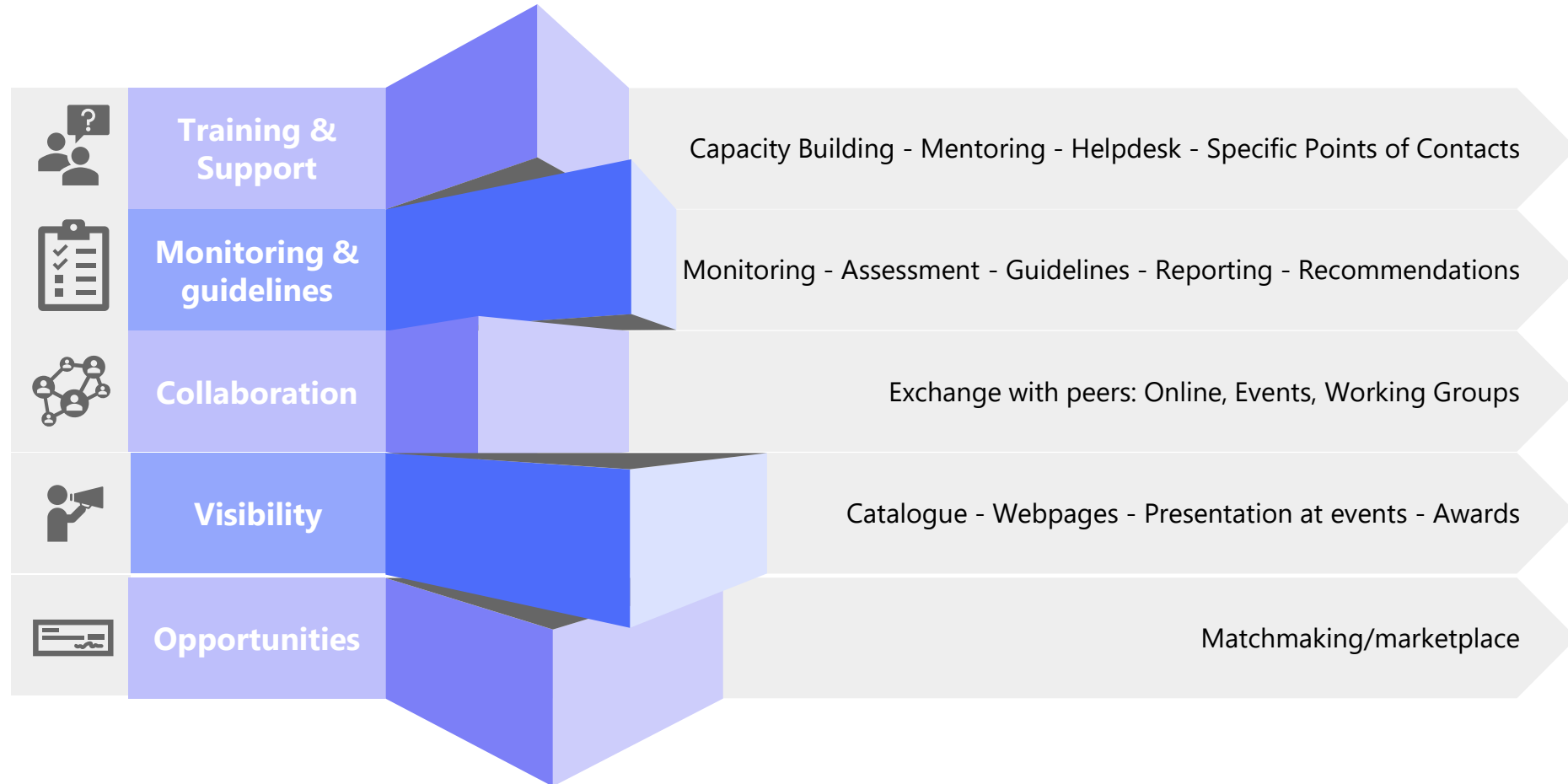
We align with other Mission projects to benefit of common aspects and to enforce the connections of the SHLLs

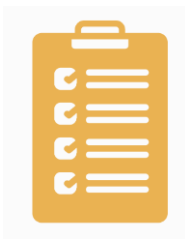
Who are we offering it to?



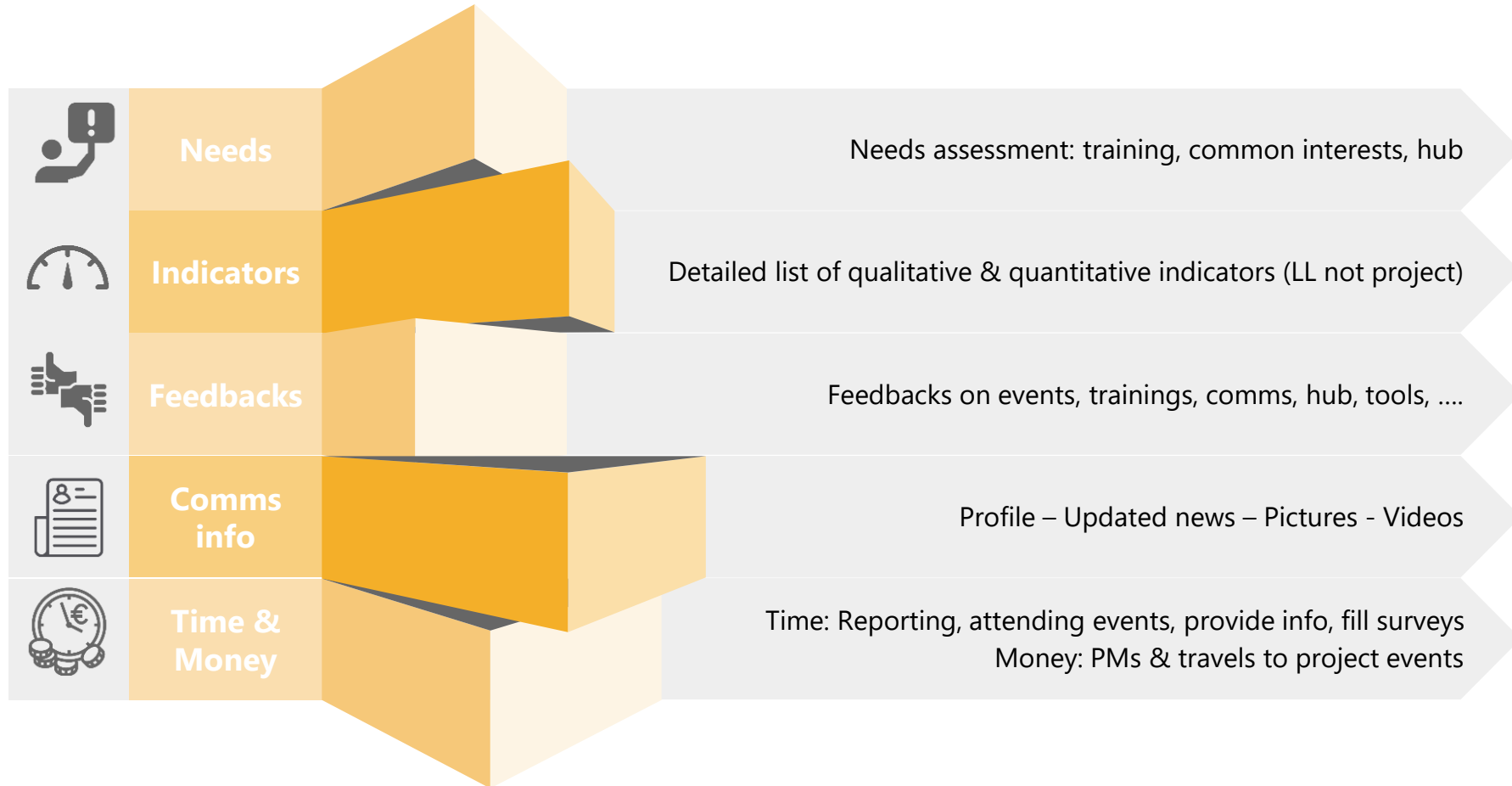


Soil Health LL&LHs: What do we offer?





Soil Health LL&LHs: What do we need?



What do SHLL/LHs need to plan?

ACTIVITY	FREQUENCY	TIME	FORMAT	BUDGET EFFORT/PM
Thematic groups training	6 in total (24-25) Approx 2/3 per year	From September 2024	Online	LL/LH representatives and/or additional stakeholders
Network training	Annual (25-30)	2025 (at least for 3 days)	In presence	At least one person per LL/LH
Mutual learning/engagement events	Annual (24-30)	1) Last quarter of 2024 2) 2025	In presence	At least one person per LL/LH and additional stakeholders
Coaching session*	1 per LL/LH (25)*	From 2025	Online	LL/LH representatives
Open/Fields visits	tbc	2025	In presence/ online	Organization/participation
Self-assessment survey	Bi-yearly (24-30)	Starting from July 2024	Online	LL/LH representatives on behalf of LL/LHs team
Monitoring Interviews	Annual (24-30)	From last quarter of 2024	Online	LL/LHs managers and key stakeholders
Platform	Regular	From July 2024	Online	At least one person per LL/LH and additional stakeholders
Comms interviews	Ad-hoc	From start of project	In presence	LL/LH representatives and/or key LL/LHs stakeholders

**only if there is participation in the previous trainings*

More information



Visit our brand-new website to find:

i Project & Mission information and updates

1 Events

 Interactive map of Living Labs

 Video gallery and publications:

 Matchmaking platform

 Register now to our newsletter!

www.soill2030.eu





Successful experiences in Soil Mission Call

Lena Madden, Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

Q & A





Time for engagement



Funded by
the European Union



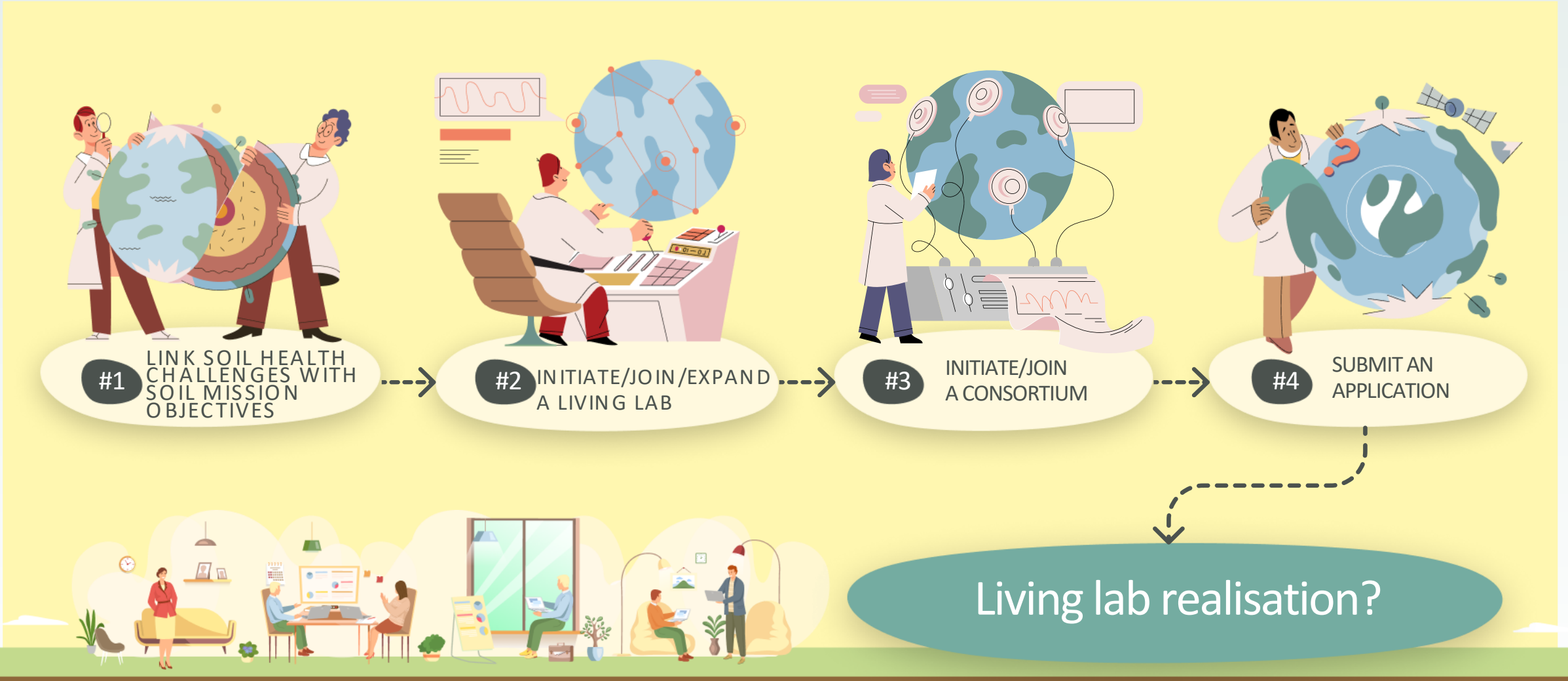


Final remarks & conclusions

Mar Ylla, ENOLL



Funded by
the European Union



Explore the Pathway to a Competitive Application



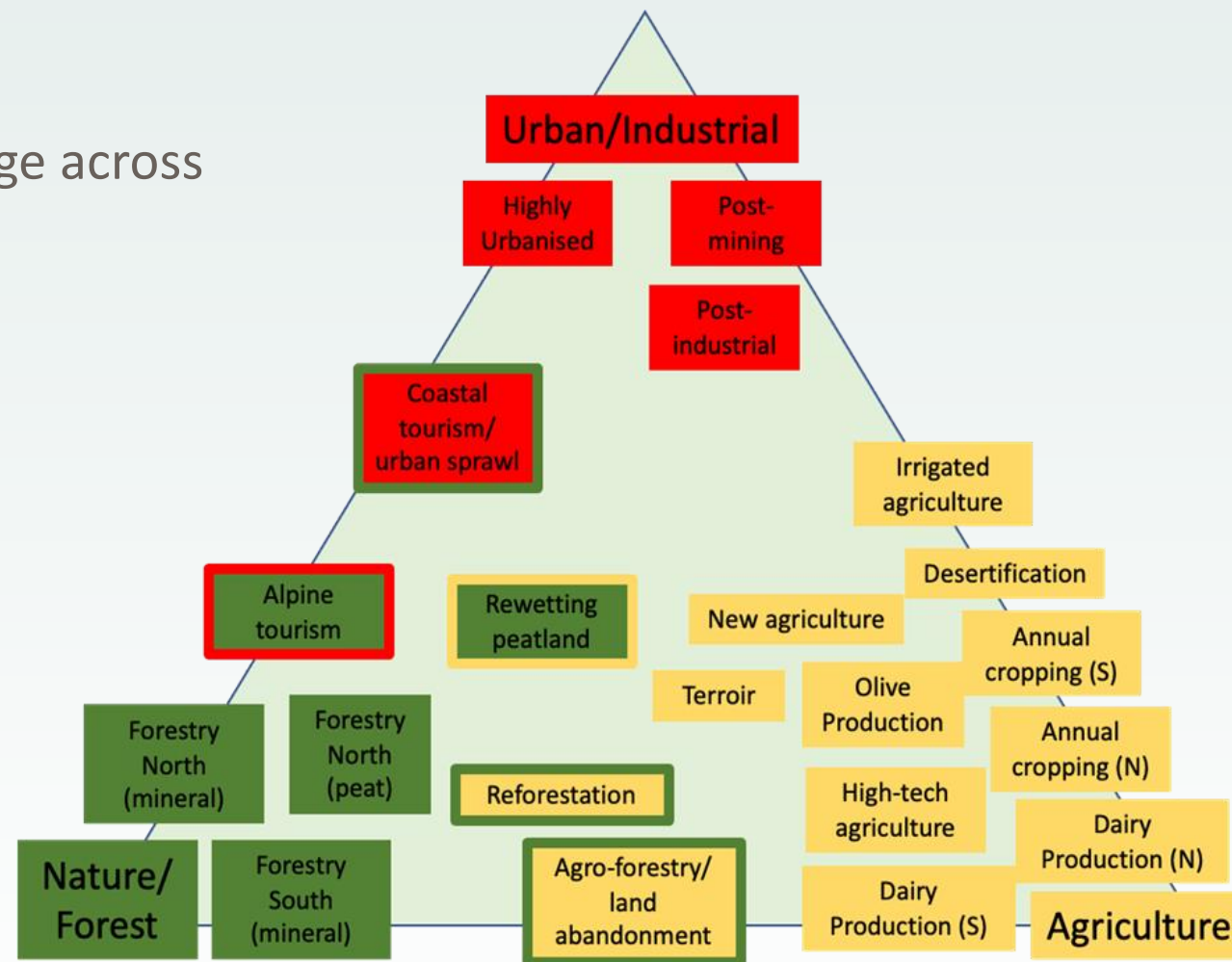
#1

LINK SOIL HEALTH
CHALLENGES WITH SOIL
MISSION OBJECTIVES

- **Identify** the soil health challenges
- **Learn** about Soil Mission Objectives in the Implementation Plan of 'A Soil Deal for Europe'
- **Join/watch** thematic events
- **Consult** PREPSOILs Soil Need Assessment

Aim of PREPSOIL Project

Synthesize soil needs and drivers of change across 21 EU-representative regions





**Regions
SOIL
Needs
Assessment**

Urban - Industrial



Post-Mining

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from the University of Ljubljana

Scan the QR
Code and visit
the Workshop
Page to access
all the materials



REGIONAL INFORMATION

The Zasavje region is located in the central part of Slovenia, between the capital city of Ljubljana and Celje (the 3rd largest city). The region can be classified as a post-industrial region, more specifically, a post-mining region.

Dominant land use	Forest (67.5%)
Secondary land use	Grassland (21.0%)
Climatic Zone	Cfb, Temperate oceanic climate, without dry season and warm summer (Temperate continental, central Slovenia)
Soil WRB classification	Cambisols and Leptosols
Soil type	Cambisols: Eutric, Dystric or Chromic; Leptosols: Mollic, Rendric or Dystric
Dominant topsoil texture	Different Loamy textures (loam, silt loam)
Soil threat(s)	1. Soil erosion 2. Soil contamination 3. Soil acidification 4. Urban sprawl and urbanization 5. Invasive organisms
Representative for regions	Post-mining region, Central European region

SOIL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Drivers

The most important biophysical drivers are the parent material and topography, water erosion and vegetation cover (protects against erosion processes). Further the (lack of) national and local politics is an important socioeconomic driver as well as the mining activity and accompanying industry.

Pressures

The five most pronounced pressures are: 1) soil erosion and other negative slope processes (landslides), 2) soil and water contamination, 3) soil acidification (induced by past Trbovlje thermal power plant acid exhausts), 4) urban sprawl and industrialization and 5) invasive organisms.

State

The region is characterised by two types of landscapes: the mountainous part and the valley part. The state of the mountainous part is largely affected by natural factors (steep and rugged topography, hard and consolidated rocks, rapid runoff of precipitation water and watercourses), while the state of the soil in the valley largely reflects human activities (flat topography, softer and unconsolidated rocks, industrialized area).

Impact

In the mountainous part, the steep and rugged topography makes the soil less stable and shallow and, in combination with heavy rainfall, the soil is subject to landslides. In the valley, the past industrial long term pollution results in excessive concentration of heavy metals in soils, plants and water. Further, underground mining and surface extraction of rock material lead to soil subsidence.

Response

Regarding the policy sector, adequate soil legislation should be adopted at EU level, but municipalities should also manage space strategically through multi-year programmes. Further, a clear soil monitoring program should be established and performed yearly. Lastly soil health awareness should be raised at all levels: municipal officials, higher education, primary education etc.

KEY MESSAGE

There is a lack of knowledge about soil and soil management. Therefore, it is essential to establish a monitoring program, especially in severely degraded areas, to understand the scope of the problem and to inform the population on an annual basis. Then, stricter criteria on soil management need to be formed, especially on pollution, and more participation and networking of stakeholders (farmers, decision-makers) is needed.



STAKEHOLDERS INTERACTION

17th of May 2023,
Zasavje, Slovenia

10 Policy and government

1 Soil and Other Advisors

1 Business

1 Research community

1 Farmer/Land Owner

1 CSOs and NGOs

Relevant Soil Mission Objectives

3. Stop soil sealing and increase re-use of urban soils

4. Reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration

5. Prevent erosion

Regional soil needs

- Different regions have different soil challenges and different research needs. For example, salinisation; contamination; structure (in blue)
- Some soil challenges are relevant across regions, such as soil organic carbon (in yellow)

Soil challenge	Research need
Very important	Very important
Important	Very important
Very important	Important
Important	Important
Other	Other

		SOC	N ₂ O/CH ₄	Peat degradation	Soil erosion	Soil sealing	Salinisation	Contamination	Structure	Biodiversity	Nutrient retention	Water storage capacity
Central	AT (Continental)	Very important	Very important	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	CZ (Alpine South)	Very important	Very important	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	DE (Atlantic North)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	HU (Pannonian-Pontic)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	PL (Continental)	Very important	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	SK (Continental)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	SI (Alpine South)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
CH (Continental)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	
North	DK (Atlantic North)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	FI (Boreal)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	LV (Nemoral)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	LT (Nemoral)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	NO (Boreal)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
SE (Nemoral)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	
South	IT (Mediterranean North)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	PT (Lusitanian)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	TU (Anatolian)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
West	BE (F) (Atlantic Central)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	BE (W) (Atlantic Central)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	FR (Atlantic Central)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	IE (Atlantic Central)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	NL (Atlantic North)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other
	UK (Atlantic North)	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other

Explore the Pathway to a Competitive Application



#2

INITIATE/JOIN/
EXPAND A LIVING
LAB

- **Identify** stakeholders needed to:
 - overcome soil health challenges
 - fulfil the multi-actor approach
- **Watch** webinars on the Living Lab methodology
- **Learn** about EUs criteria for Living Labs
- **Find** your national mentor
- **Be advised** on the initial phases of establishing a Living Lab

Explore the Pathway to a Competitive Application



#3

INITIATE/JOIN
A CONSORTIUM

- **Reach out** to potential Living Labs collaborators
- **Join** the matchmaking platform and use it for:
 - sending messages
 - showcase products, services, projects, expertise, or other
- **Join/watch** thematic events for networking on a transnational scale
- **Agree** between Living Labs on a joint rationale behind forming the consortium

Explore the Pathway to a Competitive Application



#4

SUBMIT AN
APPLICATION

- **Draft** your application keeping close in mind
 - the rationale of collaboration
 - the roles of stakeholders in the co-creation
 - the status of soil challenges
 - expected impacts
- **Check** NATIOONS FAQ
- **Utilize** NATIOONS tools
- **Comply** with the Horizon Europe Work programme and call text (NATIOONS is guiding)

<https://www.nati00ns.eu/>

	Engagement events	Inform, engage & promote. 43 countries (EU MS + AC), national language
	Matchmaking – (inter)national	Facilitate creation of local LL. https://nati00ns.eu/matchmaking-opportunities
	Factsheets & E-learning	Inform & train. LL, open call, types of LL peculiarity
	Helpdesk & FAQ	Support. Online, addressing all questions on LL creation
	Webinars LL methodology	Train. How to set up, develop and enlarge a LL. https://www.nati00ns.eu/events
	Coaching	Support. Available in local language, appointed mentors.
	Thematic events & webinars	Inform, train & engage. Different themes for specific land. https://www.nati00ns.eu/events
	Matchmaking – International & thematic	Facilitate creation of partnerships of LLs. Online and along thematic events



Join the Community

 nati00ns.eu

 @nati00ns

 nati00ns

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