



EU Soil Day
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Participatory soil governance at local and regional level: some reflections and the HuMUS Cascade funding call

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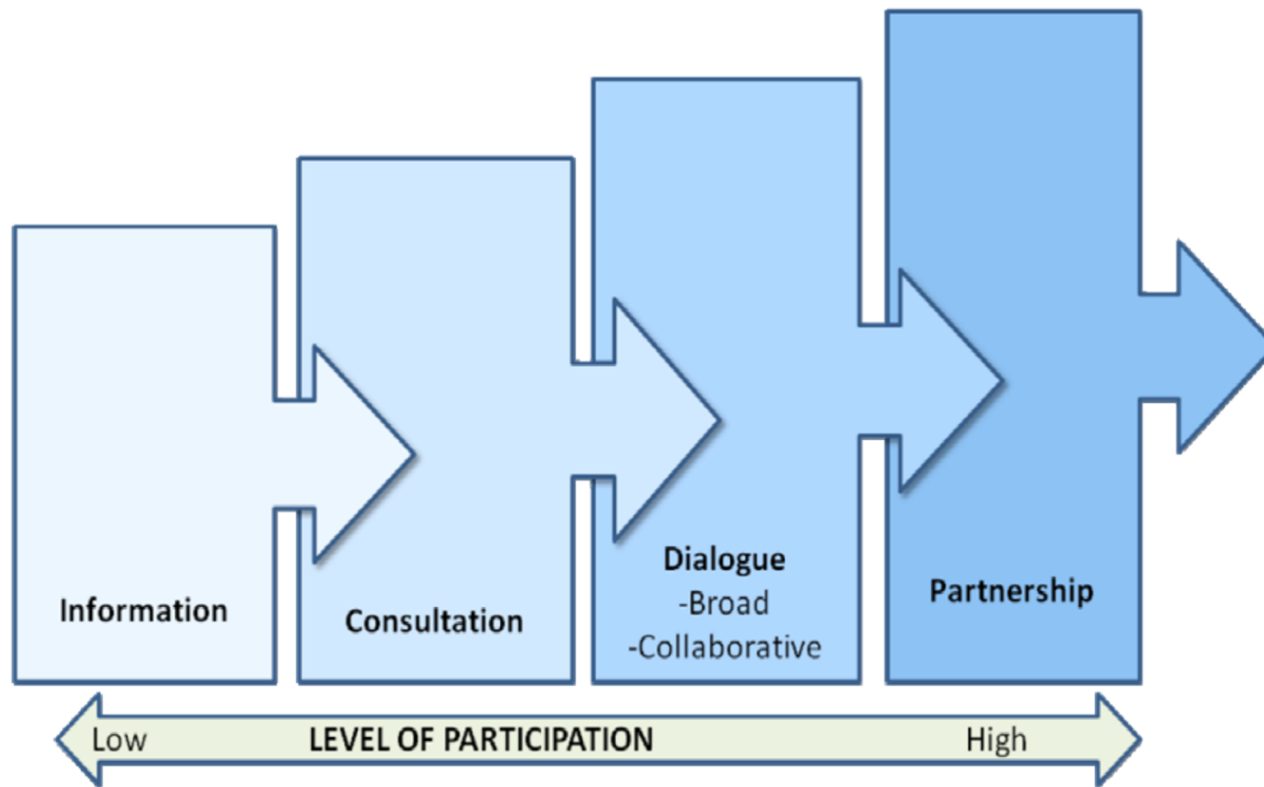


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Engaging the public in public co-decisions is not trivial



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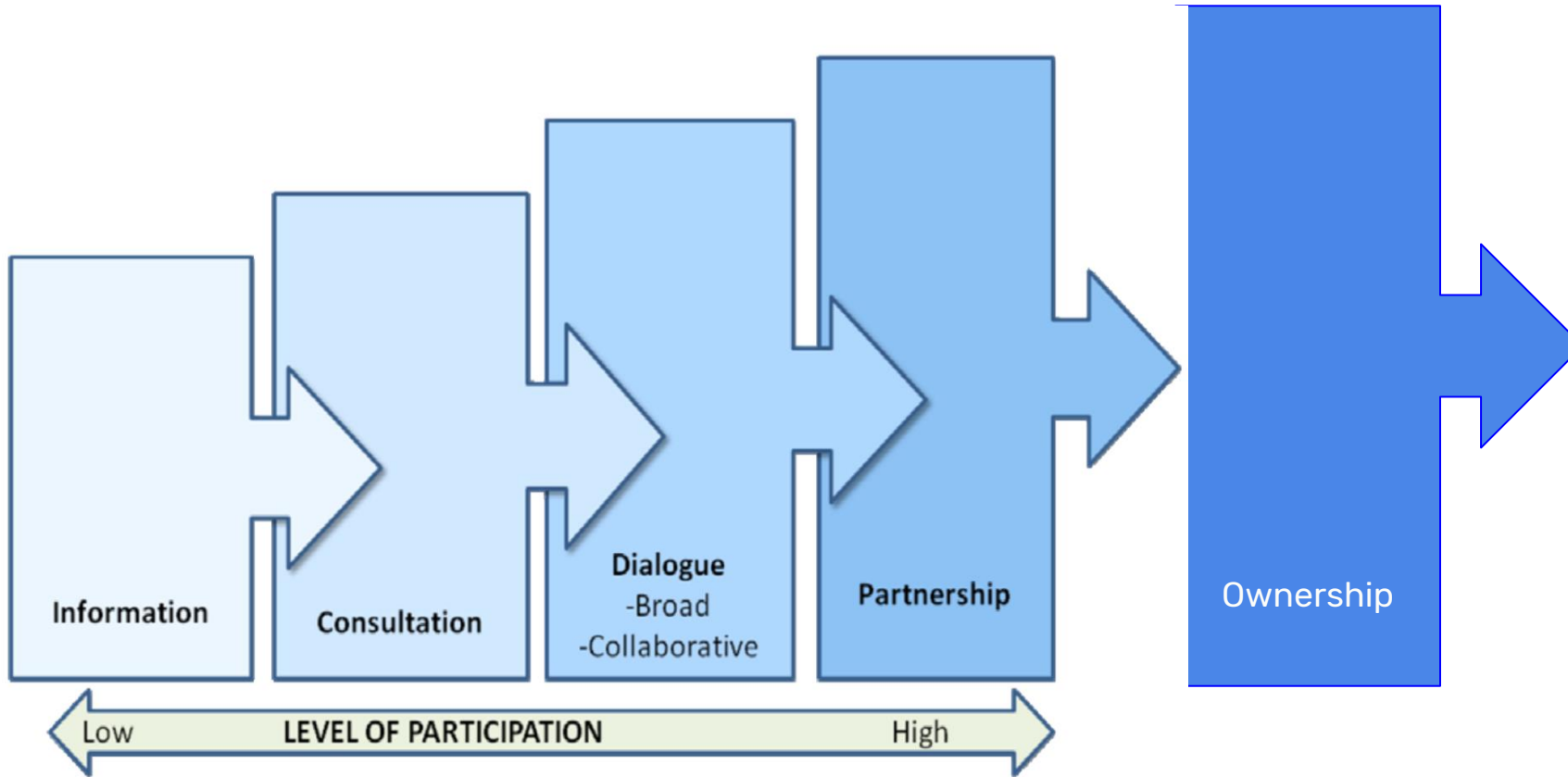


Source: <https://rm.coe.int/code-of-good-practice-civil-participation-revised-301019-en/168098b0e2>

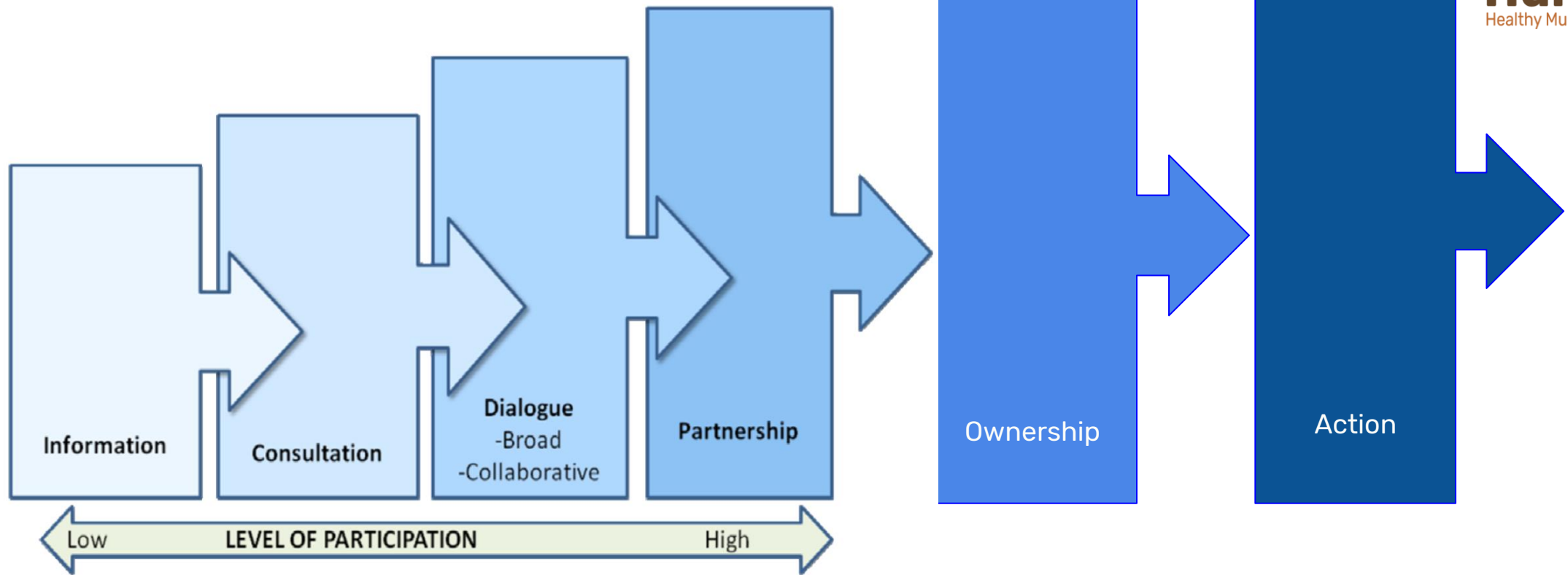
But it can be extremely rewarding...



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...especially for the Soil mission!



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Ownership

Ownership



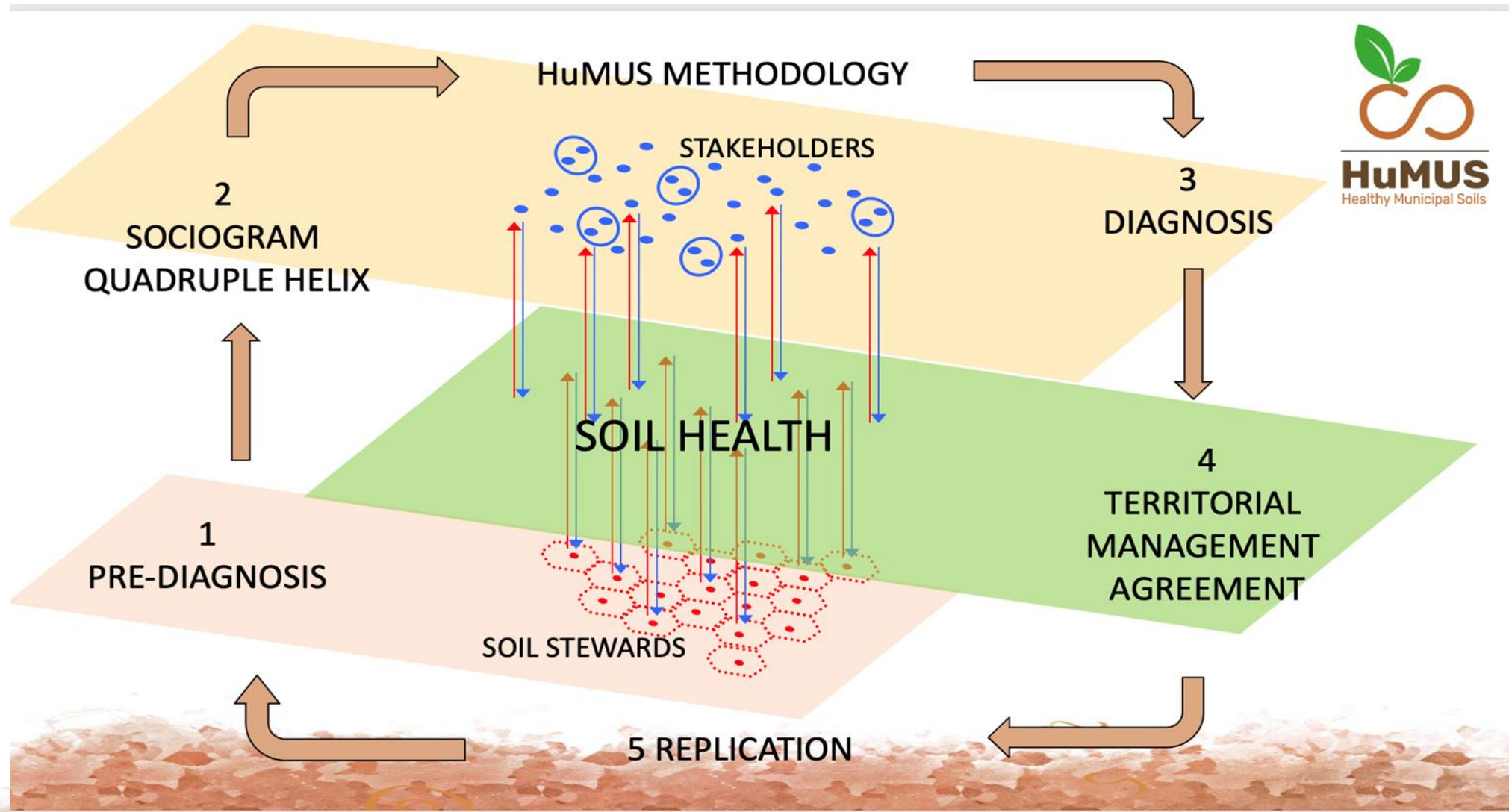
In HuMUS, we focus on participatory Soil governance



- ❑ At local and regional levels
- ❑ In 13 pilot locations from within the consortium
- ❑ In 20 additional pilots, which will be selected via a Cascade funding call, launched today with a deadline set on 29 February 2024



The HuMUS methodology



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Participatory process for the establishment of the Organic District, Municipality of Fiesole (Tuscany, Italy).

- Citizen initiative and municipal cooperation.
- Organic farmers, associations, universities...
- Public meetings.
- Constituent assembly.
- Sustainable development of local agriculture.

50 % organic agriculture!!

Source: Leonardo Galli, Comune di Fiesole.



I distretti biologici della Toscana

Participatory process for the establishment of the Multifunctional Organic District, Municipality of Calenzano (Tuscany, Italy).

- Municipal initiative.
- Agricultural companies, school canteens, processing and catering companies, associations
- Assessment of university and research centre
- Multi-stakeholder approach - Quadruple Helix
- Meetings, focus groups, thematic forums, visits and exchange of information...
- Re-designing the agricultural and food system.

30 % organic agriculture!!

Source: Nicola Tanini, Comune di Calenzano.

The Call funded actions

- A. Development and implementation of effective **participatory processes** to enable and stimulate dialogues on soil health and sustainable land management at local and/or regional level;
- B. Development of **engagement and awareness raising actions** on soil health among local and regional authorities contributing to the development of soil innovation ecosystems;
- C. Drafting of **regional or local action plans** to integrate the improvement of soil health in policies and programmes, on the basis of any good practice example identified in other EU countries and regions.



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The Call outputs

1. A signed **Territorial Management Agreement**, aimed at the sustainable management of soil health issues or threats in the local or regional community of election;
2. An **Analysis of Replication Potential**, evaluating the likelihood and feasibility of replicating the adopted approach in a different context and/or scale;
3. A **Short Final Report**, consisting in a description of the activities done and the results achieved during the Pilot Project's lifetime (max 12 months).





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The HuMUS toolset

- Factsheets with quick and easy methods to carry soil health assessments
- Visual demonstration tool of the relationship between soil health and other ecosystem functions
- Overview of best practices in citizen and stakeholder engagement on the implementation of soil health at municipal and regional levels
- Compendium of soil health policies in selected partner countries
- Overview of best practices in sustainable soil management and soil health promotion
- Policy brief on S4 provisions and ESIF funding opportunities
- HuMUS partner territory factsheets
- Guidelines for applying to EU funding sources at regional and municipal levels



The Call details



Total budget:	€ 600.000,00
Number of stages/deadlines:	1
Help desk address:	info@humus-project.eu
Opening date:	Monday, 6 November 2023
Deadline:	Thursday, 29 February 2024 at 17:00 CET (Brussels time)
Number of proposals to be funded:	At least 20
Number of applicants per proposal:	1 (Main applicant), other participants (co-applicants) are possible
Maximum funding per proposal:	€ 30.000,00
Funding instrument/rate:	Lump sum/100% of costs
Expected duration of the projects:	12 months maximum (no extension will be allowed)
Type of participants (co-applicants):	Any eligible entity for participation in HE projects, residing in one of the eligible countries
Applicant's juridical status:	A Public entity or an entity governed by Public law
Language of the proposals:	English
Call text available from:	https://humus-project.eu/open-call/



Thank you!

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