# Bioeconomy WG meeting

# Mission Soil: Lessons learned and upcoming opportunities

10 June 2024 | 15:00-17:00









## Agenda

15:00	Opening of the meeting and introduction
	Angèle Liaigre & Randi Johanne Hoseth, Bioeconomy WG leaders
15:10	Mission Soil update – Living labs calls results and upcoming opportunities  Paola EULALIO, Research Programme Officer, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, Unit F.2 Research and Innovation Followed by a Q&A session
15:40	Regions and municipalities enhancing participatory governance on soil health Francesco Molinari, ANCI Toscana, HuMUS project coordinator
15:55	Upcoming opportunities from the SOILL Start-up project Gianpiero Petruzziello, Project and Communications Officer, ERRIN Joanna Komperda, Project and Policy Manager, ERRIN
16:10	Local and regional strategies and initiatives on soil health - Elisa Gambuzzi, CETENMA - 'SOILUTION Living Lab: CETENMA's bet to contribute to a resilient and sustainable primary sector in the Region of Murcia' Zuriñe Maestre, IHOBE - 'Co-creating the Soil Protection Strategy of Basque Country 2030' - Claire Grosbois, Vagepolys Valley — 'Stakeholder engagement in soil initiatives'
16:55	Wrap-up and conclusion
17:00	Networking drinks





# EU MISSIONS



100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030

**ERRIN Bioeconomy Working Group - 10 June 2024** 

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

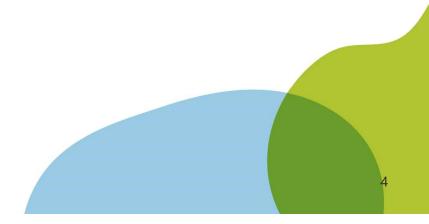
#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionSoil





# **Agenda**

- 1. The Mission Soil and the soil health LL.
- 2. The Mission Soil state of play.
- 3. Results of WP23 LL topics evaluation.
- 4. Mission soil LL under WP24.







# 1. The Mission Soil and the soil health living labs







## The Mission Soil: the right instrument at the right time

#### **Directive on Soil Monitoring and Resilience**

The first EU law on soil whose ultimate objective is to achieve

**Producing** nutritious and safe food Supporting human activities. landscapes and cultural heritage Hostina biodiversity Storing and cycling carbon, supporting climate Purifying and mitigation and regulating water: adaptation protection from droughts and Cycling nutrients floods

Right soil management to support soils health, their ecosystem services and provide vital functions



Tool for implementation, engagement and leveraging resources





## **How is the Mission implemented**

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

4. Soil literacy, communication citizen engagement

1. R&I programme

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

Harmonization of soil health monitoring and reporting across Europe; contribution to European Soil Observatory 3. Soil monitoring

2. Living labs and lighthouses

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

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



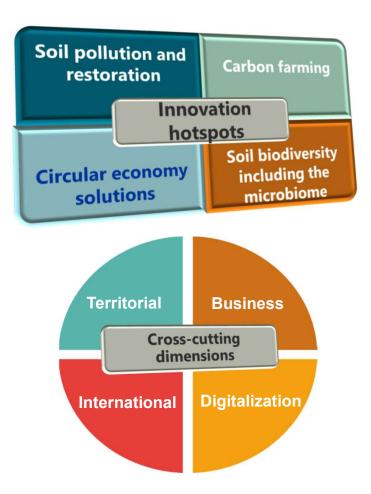


# Mission Soil Goal: 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030

#### Specific objectives



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





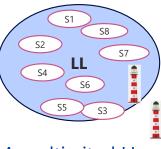


#### LL according to the Mission Soil

- · Real-life settings located in rural or urban areas.
- Multiple sites at regional or sub-regional level (placed-based).
- Multiple partners from various sectors and backgrounds experiment and test solutions in a cocreative manner.
- Specific **criteria for LL** developed under the mission to ensure a common approach.
- Individual sites showing exemplary performance in terms of soil health improvement can be considered lighthouses (LH).

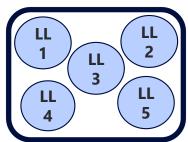
#### LL projects according to the Mission Soil

- Group at least 4-5 LL
- Cover at least 3 MS and/or AC.
- Work together on thematically related soil health challenges, addressing 1 or more of the Mission's objectives and always aiming at improving soil health.
- Establish **baselines** for the selected soil health challenge(s).
- Describe the monitoring framework to assess soil health improvements.
- Define the indicators to be used. Use of those from the Implementation Plan and the Soil Monitoring Law.
- Look for cross-fertilization with other LL of the same project (and others if relevant).



A multi-sited LL





A LL project





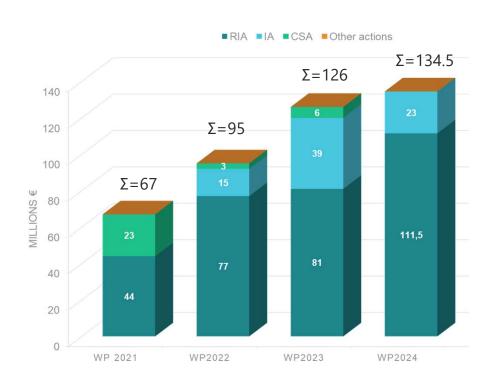
# 2. The Mission Soil State of Play

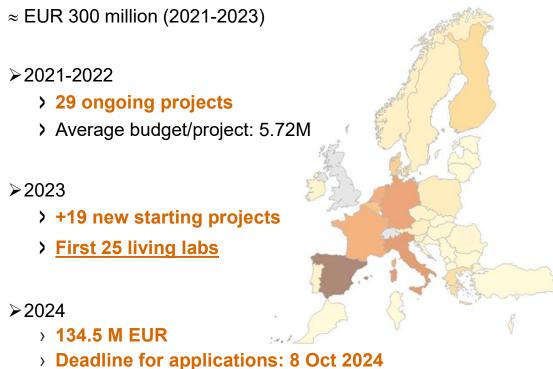






## Mission Soil R&I programme state of play









## Mission Soil main focus of running projects

#### Carbon farming:

Network on carbon farming -



#### Soil pollution and restoration:

Decontamination and reuse of land –



Soil biodiversity and ecosystem services –







#### Circular economy solutions:

Biowaste Soil improvements

Food processing residues for soil health





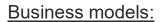






#### Monitoring:

- Validating and further developing indicators for soil health and functions
- Monitoring, reporting and verification of soil carbon and GHG balance



Developing new business models for soil health



Foster soil education across society



**CURIOSOII** 









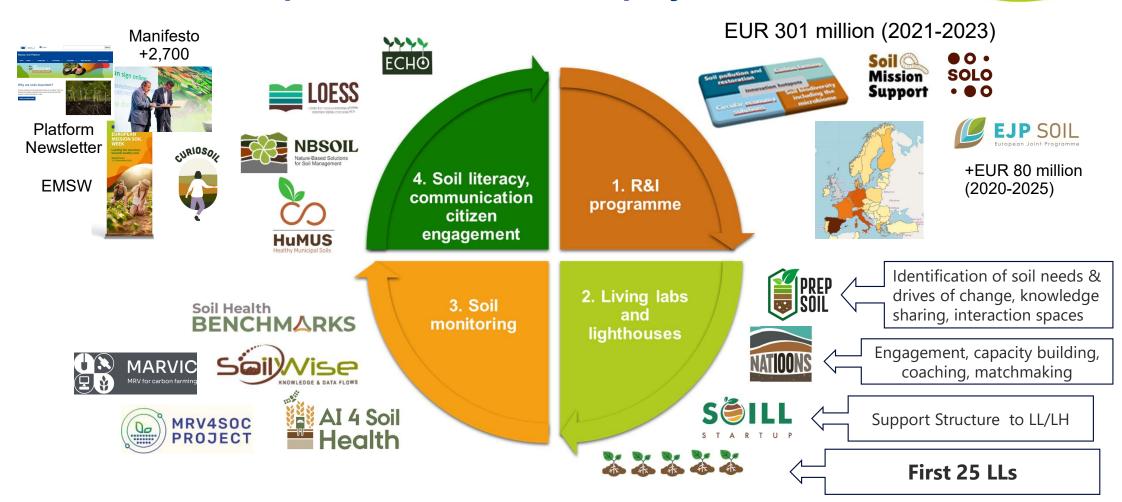








## Mission Soil implementation state of play







## **LLs&LHs** development state of play

#### Phase 1 (2021-2023)

Work programme 2021:

**Preparatory actions** 





Work programme 2022:

**LL Support Structure** 



Work programme 2023:

1st call for soil health LLs

**KOM:June – October 2024** 

Phase 2 (2024-2026)

Work programme 2024...

#### **Expansion of LL:**

Launch of successive calls for expanding the network of LL

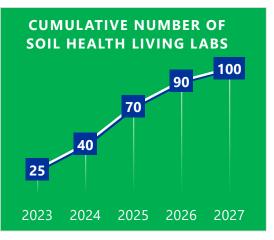
→ Emphasis on wide coverage of geographies, soil health challenges, Mission's objectives and land uses.

Phase 3 (2027 onwards)

#### **Scaling up of LL:**

Launch of last calls for setting LL

→ Measures to facilitate the mainstreaming, continuation and sustainability of the LL beyond the Mission timeframe







## Soil literacy, communication citizen engagement (1/2)

Over the past 3 years, the Mission Soil has:

- Participated in over 350 national and international events
- Disseminated informative materials (articles, press releases, newsletter (every 4 months), videos, factsheets, podcasts, publications, reports)
  - Video on soil biodiversity
- Been consistently covered on social media
- Created a Communications & Stakeholders Engagement Cluster under the Mission Soil Platform
- · Invested in projects focusing on
  - Engaging with and activating <u>municipalities and regions</u> to protect and restore soil health (*HUMUS*)
  - Fostering soil <u>education</u> across society (LOESS, CURIOSOIL)
  - <u>Citizen science</u> for soil health (ECHO)
    - Become an ECHO Ambassador EchoSoil
  - Next generation of <u>soil advisors</u> (NBSOIL)
    - https://nbsoil.eu/event/nbsoil-academy-launch-webinar/







## Soil literacy, communication citizen engagement (2/2)

#### **Mission Soil Platform**

https://mission-soil-platform.ec.europa.eu/

- ➤ Assistance with the implementation of the Mission
  - Monitoring and reporting (Dashboard)
  - Helpdesk
  - Funded projects (Mission project Hub)
  - Information on LL/LH
  - Mission Board
  - Material for communication, outreach, engagement
  - Newsletter; Events; EMSW 2024
  - Mission Soil Manifesto

#### **Mission Soil Manifesto**

Mission Soil Manfiesto | Mission Soil Platform (europa.eu)

Non-legally binding document to formalize stakeholder and citizen participation in and support to Mission activities.



Become part of a **community**, gain visibility, access to Mission-led knowledge, get involved in Mission activities beyond Horizon Europe calls.



#### **Mission Manifesto**



#### Signatories by representatives of legal entities: 514

- Most signatories come from the **private** sector (incl. farming, forestry), followed by **NGOs** and **research organisations.**
- 86 % of entities are based in the EU, principally in ES, FR, IT, BE

#### Signatories by regional, local authorities and municipalities: 58

46 signatories from EU countries, 12 from outside the EU



#### LOCAL AUTHORITIES / MUNICIPALITIES

Bulgaria	6
Croatia	1
Italy	3
North Macedonia	1
Portugal	3
Spain	5
Turkey	10
Tot.	29
REGIONAL AUTHORITIES	
Belgium	1
Czechia	1
Finland	1
France	3
Germany	1
Italy	4
Netherlands	1
Norway	1
Poland	2
Spain	14
Tot.	29
TOTAL	58





## Next event: European Mission Soil Week 2024

Save the date: 12-13 November 2024

Location: Brussels

These two days will include engaging activities, keynote interventions, panel discussions, networking, and more!

On 14 November, there will be an **exclusive side event**, open to Mission Soil funded projects only, featuring cluster meetings on data and knowledge management, soil indicators and monitoring, as well as communication and stakeholder engagement.



Stay tuned! European Mission Soil Week 2024 | Mission Soil Platform (europa.eu)





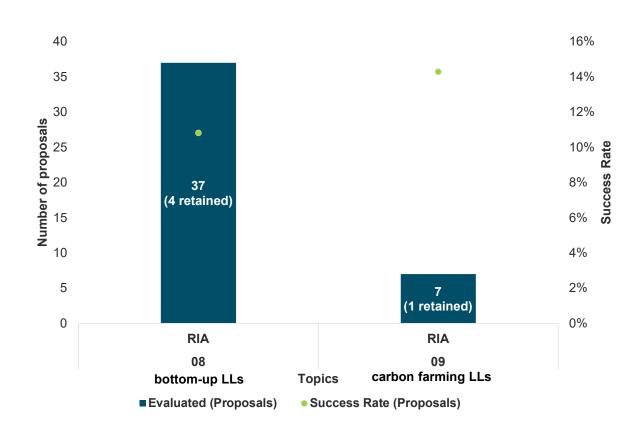
# 3. Results of WP23 LL topics evaluation

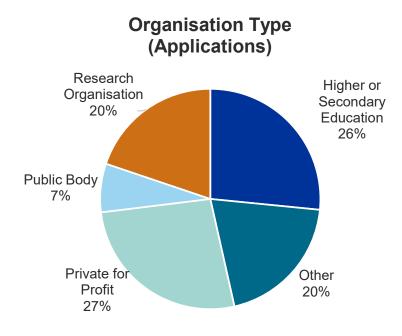






# **Living Labs topics (WP2023)**



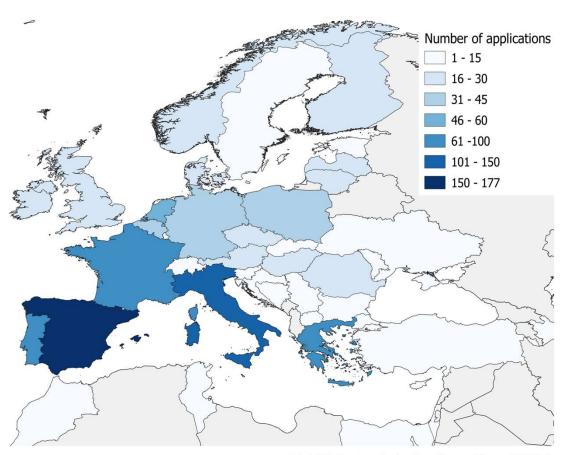


More balanced consortia composition





# **Applications submitted to LL topics of WP23**



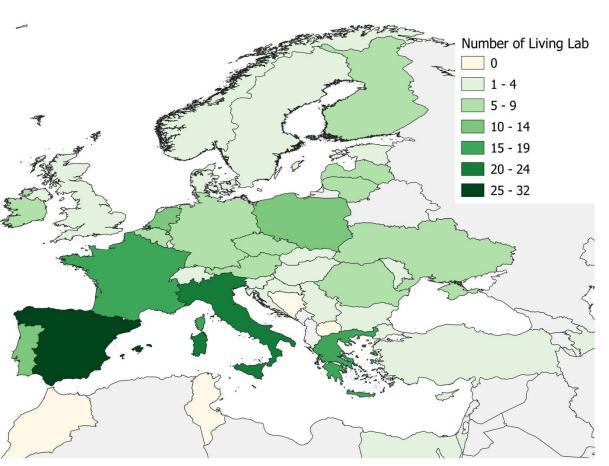
Administrative boundaries: EuroGeographics and UN-FAO

- Proposals mobilized 877 unique organisations.
- No application received from LU or MT.
- Coordinators from 20 countries
  - 18 EU MS
  - 2 HE Associated Countries
- ES accounted for 25% of coordinators





# **Proposed LLs in the LL topics of WP23**



Topics	LLs (Proposed)	LLs (Retained)
01-08 (bottom-up	177	20
01-09 (carbon farming)	43	5
TOTAL	220	25

- 220 LLs proposed in total
- 80% were in a single country
- More LL proposed in : ES IT EL FR





# Soil health challenges

#### Land Uses covered:

- 88% of proposals planned at least 1 LL in agricultural land use
- Only 4 proposals worked in other land uses:
  - 2 proposals focused on industrial land use
  - 1 proposal focused on natural and semi-natural land use
  - 1 proposal focused on **urban** land use
- No proposal focused exclusively on **forestry** land use











# Mission Soil Specific Objectives (SO) coverage

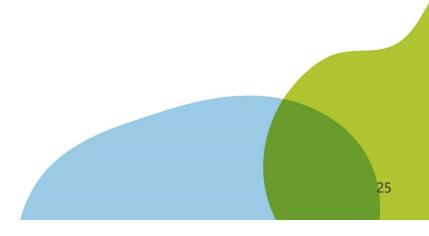


- Proposals addressed all Mission Soil SO.
- SO2 was the most addressed SO, followed by SO6, SO8 and SO5.
- 46% of proposals addressed at least 6 SO.
- 20% of proposals did not mention any Mission Soil SO.





## 4. Mission Soil LL under WP24







## Mission Soil - Work Programme 2024

01	HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01-01: Co-creating solutions for soil health in Living Labs	RIA	36 m€ (3)
02	HORIZON-MISS-2024-SOIL-01-02: Living Labs in urban areas for healthy soils	RIA	12 m€ (1)
03	Towards a dynamic monitoring system to assess status and spatiotemporal changes of <b>soil erosion</b> at European Scale	RIA	11.5 m€ (1)
04	Systems to quantify <b>nitrogen fluxes</b> and uncertainties in European landscapes	RIA	11.5 m€ (1)
05	Soil health, pollinators and key ecosystem functions	RIA	7.5 m€ (1)
06	Harnessing the multifunctional potential of soil biodiversity for healthy cropping systems	IA	16 m€ (2)
07	Development of high spatial-resolution monitoring approaches and geographically-explicit registry for <b>carbon farming</b>	RIA	23 m€ (2)
80	Managing forest peatsoils	RIA	10 m€ (1)
09	Assessment of Soil Health in <b>Africa</b>	IA	7 m€ (1)

Apply in the EU Funding and Tenders Portal: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/">https://ec.europa.eu/</a>
Deadline for applications: 8 October 2024



### **EU MISSIONS** SOIL DEAL FOR EUROPE

## **Upcoming opportunities to co-create in LL**

Enhancement of soil health

Increasing the resilience of urban areas

Choice of a realistic/limited combination of soil health challenges supporting one or more of the Mission's SO.

Rational for LL selection within the project; how the different actors within and among LL will cooperate to cocreate & co-implement solutions for the selected soil challenge(s).

Demonstration of the economic viability and practicality of the solutions for land managers.

Strategies to ensure the continuity, long-term sustainability, beyond HE funding.

Involvement of different types of actors, including small actors...

Urban II: focus on SO3 (no net sealing), SO4 (pollution), SO5 (erosion) or SO 8 (literacy).

Consider repurposing urban soils to provide locally sourced fresh and healthy food to local food services

In urban LL involve local city councils, administrators responsible for green spaces, schools, urban planners, representative of civil society (NGOs).

Establishment of baselines for the selected soil health challenge(s).

Clear description of the monitoring framework to assess soil health improvements, well defining the indicators to be used. Use of those from the Implementation Plan and the Soil Monitoring Law proposal.

> If relevant, profit of the FSTP option to facilitate stakeholders' engagement.

Dedication of appropriate resources to collaborate with relevant projects and with SOILL.

> New proposal template for applicants to projects on LL. 27





### Good preparation of a proposal for a Mission Soil LL topic

Read the fact sheet prepared by REA: guidelines for living labs proposals: Leading the transition towards healthy soils - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu)

#### Consult NATIOONS services:

- Capacity-Building:

Recordings at: <a href="https://www.nati00ns.eu/events">https://www.nati00ns.eu/events</a>

- Thematic Events

Recordings at: <a href="https://www.nati00ns.eu/events">https://www.nati00ns.eu/events</a>

- Webinars

Upcoming 3 webinars on Mission Soil LL, including on forests, (semi)natural, urban and post-industrial lands

- Individual Coaching Sessions

Find national mentors: <a href="https://nati00ns.eu/mentors">https://nati00ns.eu/mentors</a>

- Matchmaking Sessions

Creation of transnational consortia: https://nati00ns.eu/matchmaking-opportunities





### **Role of Regions:**

- Raising awareness of citizens and stakeholders regarding the protection and restoration of soil health.
- Engaging and activating citizens to design their own strategies and actions for the protection of soil health.
- Promoting the creation of Mission Soil LL in their area.
- Involving the private sector and consumers to integrate soil health into business practices.
- Strengthening the soil health advice and improving professionals access to training in line with Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS).
- Supporting practices that protect soil health through e.g. land-use planning.
- Creating governance structures to implement the Mission and its objectives at the national, regional, and local levels.

In sum, regions play a key role in actively engaging their communities in awareness raising, training or advocacy actions as well as in taking part of more targeted actions such as promoting or being part of the Mission Soil living labs.





# Thank you!

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Bioeconomy Working Group Meeting "Mission Soil: lessons learned and upcoming opportunities" 10 June 2024, online

# Regions and municipalities enhancing participatory governance on soil health

Francesco Molinari, mail@francescomolinari.es



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or of the European Research Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

# Topics for today's reflection



- 1) The HuMUS Call results which are officially published today document the existence of (the embryo of) an EU wide movement on soil related issues, supported by Regions and Cities.
- 2) We are grateful to ERRIN for the precious support received during the Call dissemination and consider this collaboration as a good practice example.
- 3) Hopefully will this experience pave the way to a more diffused and structured consideration of soil related themes within the system of available incentives at the EU, national and regional levels.



# OPEN CALL

## **FOR PROPOSALS**

of local and regional soil health initiatives



€600,000 20 Pilot Projects

The HuMUS project is supporting collective spaces of constructive dialogue on soil health with participatory governance methods and tools.

Open to public authorities in collaboration with farmers, entrepreneurs, SMEs, consumer associations, NGOs, soil experts, researchers and academics, government and public officials, and the general public of the Pilot location, including marginalised people and vulnerable groups.

**Application deadline: 5 April 2024** 



## The Call details



Total budget: € 600.000,00

Opening date: Monday, 6 November 2023

Deadline: Friday, 5 April 2024

Number of proposals to be funded: 20

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

Main applicant's juridical status:

A Public entity or an entity governed by Public law

Language of the proposals: English

Call text available from: <a href="https://humus-project.eu/open-call/">https://humus-project.eu/open-call/</a>

## **Overview of results**

Humus Healthy Municipal Soils

Number of received proposals:

Number of countries represented:

- of which: EU MS

- of which: HE AC

- of which: other countries

Most represented countries:

Number of eligible proposals:

- of which: below threshold

of which: unfunded

- of which: funded

Country distribution:

74

27

(17)

(6) Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Israel, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine

(4) Cameroon, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Nigeria

Spain 17, Italy 15, Portugal 6, Austria, Croatia, France & Germany 3

65

(7)

(38)

(20)

Italy 7, Austria, Spain & Ukraine 2, Belgium, France, Hungary,

Israel, Poland, Portugal & Romania 1

## **Territories involved**



From Italy: Allerona, Gorgona, Grezzana, Padua, Pollica, Sesto Fiorentino,

Siena

From Austria: Eastern Styria, Tullnerfield Ost

From Spain: Abla, Caravaca de la Cruz

From Ukraine: Kharkiv, Podillya

From Belgium: Hasselt

From France: Lille Metropole

From Hungary: Lakitelek

From Israel: Gezer From Poland: Lublin

From Portugal: Torres Vedras

From Romania: Hunedoara County

### **Next steps**



Notification of results: 10 June 2024

Signature of Sub-grant agreement: By 30 June 2024

Start of pilot operations: On 1 July 2024

End of of pilot operations: By 30 June 2025

We expect pilot projects to last for about 9 months maximum, and dedicate the 3 last months to an analysis of their replication potential.

The grant is lump sum, therefore no accounting of costs is foreseen.

Payment of the Sub-grant will be done: 50% at contract signature and 25%+25% upon reception and validation/approval of the 3 expected project outputs.

### **Expected outputs from the pilots**



- 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.

### Typologies of funded activities



- 1. 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;
- 2. development of **engagement and awareness raising actions** on soil health among local and regional authorities contributing to the development of soil innovation ecosystems;
- 3. 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.

Note: this is an exhaustive list.

### **Soil Steward Training Programme**



The HuMUS project also comes up with a specific **online training programme for the so-called Soil Stewards,** including an in-depth presentation of the HuMUS methodology for participatory soil health governance, outlined in Annex G to the Call.

However, the applicants are free to use their preferred participatory soil health governance instruments, methods, and tools.



### HuMUS Webinar Soil Health Training

Join us for an interactive webinar on Wednesday, March 20, at 11:00-12:30 am CET to discuss training and education for improving soil health. The event will soundboard preliminary progress from the HuMUS Soil Stewards Training Program, share challenges of the development process, and draw inspiration from successful training methodologies.



### What about the others?



A recent SOTA in the HuMUS partner regions and countries concluded that it is vital for EU Member States to consider the integration of soil health and quality principles in the transition process of S3 (Smart Specialisation Strategies) to S4 (adding the S of Sustainability).

In fact, no dedicated soil priority was retrieved in the national or regional programming documents examined: from the CAP Strategic Plans to the NRRPs of the Recovery and Resilience Facility, from the ERDF to the EAFRD Operational Programmes.

As an example of good practice, in the Baden-Württemberg region there is an EU cofinanced agri-environmental programme called FAKT, now in its second edition, which includes some measures for soil protection.



# Thank you!



Follow us on

LinkedIn: HuMUS project

Instagram: <u>HuMUSproject.eu</u>

Twitter: HuMUS\_project

Facebook: healthymunicipalsoils





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### The Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'

Support structure for 100 Soil Health Living Labs &

**Lighthouses** 









Phase 1 (2021-2024)

Phase 2 (2024-2025)

Phase 3 (2026 onwards)



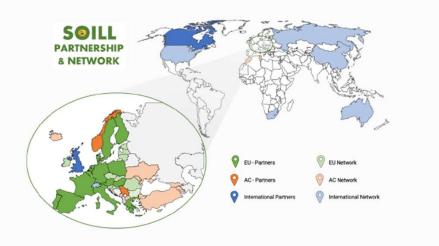
### **SOILL-Startup** goals

**SOILL-Startup aims to co-design and launch the SOILL one-stop structure** for coordination, support, enlargement, and promotion of the network of 100 Soil Health Living Labs and Lighthouses in participatory collaboration with the first waves of Soil Health Living Labs and Lighthouses and key stakeholders and initiatives.

- Foster a network to create real-world examples, showcasing innovative approaches and accelerating the transition towards healthy soils,
- Provide dedicated support by capacity building, knowledge exchange, promotion, and regular monitoring
- Facilitate collaboration between the Living Labs/Lighthouses, key stakeholders, and various projects contributing to the 2030 goal.



### SOILL-Startup consortium



























































- 29 partners (28+1)
- 12 countries
- Different type
  - Associations
  - Living Labs
  - Others (companies, HEI, PPP, RTOs)





### Team



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### **Tasks**

#### Lead – WP:

WP4 - Networking and knowledge sharing

#### Lead – Tasks:

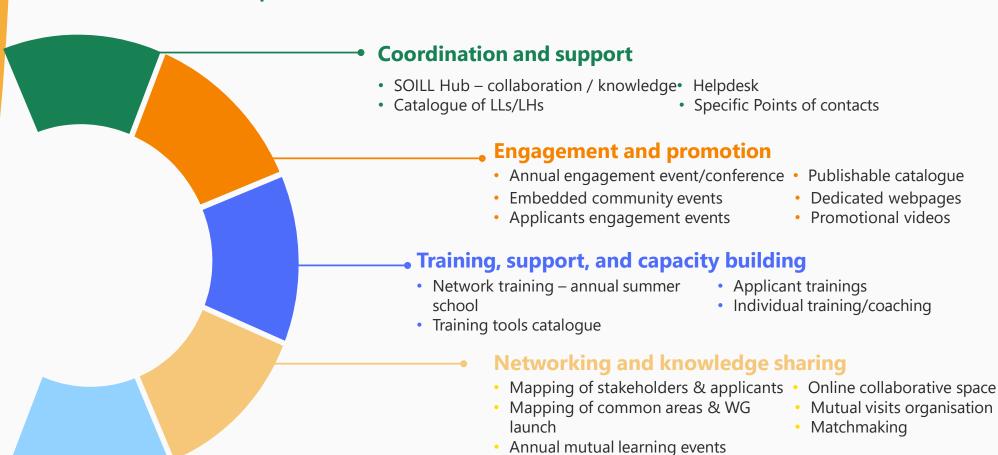
- T4.1 Mapping and networking with SOILL community
- T4.3 Set up and management of working groups

#### Contributor – Tasks:

- T1.1 Consortium, partnership, Col management and relation with Mission bodies
- T1.2 Risks, quality, ethical and data management
- T1.4 IP management and long-term sustainability
- T2.1 Dissemination and communication strategy and campaign
- T2.2 Engagement campaign for applicant SHLLs
- T3.2 Help-desk and info-points
- · T3.3 Coaching and training for SHLLs applicants
- T3.4 Coaching and training for SHLL/LHs
- · T4.2 Common interests and collaboration plan



### SOILL-Startup: the offer



#### Monitoring and assessment

- Framework for monitoring and assessment (LL/LH + projects KPIs)
- Recommendations and guidelines
- Periodic progress monitoring



Support in creating/strengthening synergies and collaborations

Facilitated exchange of knowledge, methods, and experiences.

Dedicated collaboration space and marketplace.

Dedicated CB programme, trainings, tools, specific points of contact, and helpdesk to support operations, scale-up, sustainability and harmonization

Regular progress monitoring, reporting, and recommendations

Promotion of the LL/LH, its activities/solutions, achievements, and results.



Up-to-date information on Mission LL concept and implementation.

Up-to-date information on Mission funding and collaboration opportunities.

Matchmaking tools and opportunities

Dedicated helpdesk

Dedicated Capacity Building and mentoring programme.

Guidelines and recommendations.







### What's in for: Wider soil community

SOIL COMMUNITY

Centralised point of contact and of information on the SHLL/LHs network.

Regular up-to-date information on SHLL/LHs, progress, activities, solutions, achievements, and results.

Facilitated exchange of knowledge, methods, and experiences.

Identification of collaboration opportunities for further development, uptake, and scale-up.

Access to marketplace and matchmaking tools.

High-quality advocacy, delivery of policy support documents and recommendations to encourage the political buy-in to support SHLL/LHs development



### SOILL for ERRIN members

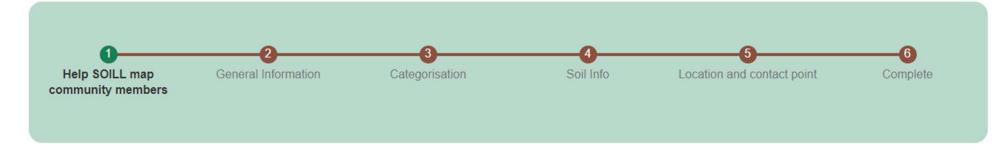
- ➤ Support to future applicants for SHLLs/LHs
- Opportunity to learn from pioneering Living Labs and to engage with frontrunning initiatives
- Advocacy on support needed for a successful implementation of the Soil Mission at local and regional level
- Opportunity to engage in future Working Groups on different thematic related SHLLs/LHs
- Possibility to further enhance the relationship with the Mission Soil Secretariat, as well as other initiatives



### Help us to broaden the SOILL community!

### Be part of the SOILL Community!

Home



### Help SOILL map community members

We invite you to be part of the **SOILL project**, supporting and empowering a growing soil health community in Europe. By participating, you'll gain access to a centralised hub of information on Soil Mission Living Labs (SHLL) and Lighthouses (LHs), benefit from regular updates on progress and achievements, and engage in knowledge exchange and collaboration opportunities. Additionally, you'll have access to matchmaking tools, policy support documents and capacity-building programmes. Your input is crucial for identifying collaboration opportunities and supporting the development of SHLL/LHs. Join the SOILL community by completing the form today and help pave the way for sustainable soil health in Europe!

#### How can we help you? \*

- ☐ I would like to be part of the SOILL Community
- ☐ I would like to suggest a stakeholder who could be interested in being part of the SOILL Community



# Thank you



#### **Connect with us for more information**



soill2030.eu



@soill2030



company/soill2030



@soill2030

**SOILLcoordinator@enoll.org** 

### cetenma

Centro Tecnológico de la Energia y del Medio Ambiente



CETENMA's bet to contribute to a resilient and sustainable primary sector in Región de Murcia (ES)

Elisa Gambuzzi













Bring innovation to stakeholders and stakeholders to innovation to achieve a resilient and sustainable primary sector.



# Seilutions Foundations and expected evolution



#### Meet a territorial need + optimal stakeholder engagement



Sep 23.
Info day
on Circular
Fertilisers



March 24.
Creation of the
Living lab
(circular
fertilisers)

### **IcoSHELL** project

Dec 24.
Inclusion of soil regeneration practices

#### **Future perspectives**

More facilities, more partners, more stakeholders, more topics related to circular practices for Mediterranean soils and cities





### The SOILUTIONS project







VR2 INSECT FRASS

VR3 N-STRUVITE

VR4 K-STRUVITE



SUPPLEMENTED SINGLE BIOWASTE FEEDSTOCKS

BLOOD HYDROLYSATE FRASS COATED STRUVITE GRANULES

BLENDS OF BLOOD HYDROLYSATE STRUVITE FRASS WITH MINERAL FERTILISERS



AT LEAST TEN FORMULATIONS

LABORATORY

MICROCOSM

**GREENHOUSE** 

**FIELD PILOTS** 

AT LEAST FIVE FORMULATIONS

PILOT
VALIDATION
WITH END
USERS





# Seilutions Main focus of the living lab in 2024

- 1. Raise awareness on **Circular fertilisers** among agronomers, farmers, fertiliser producers and fertiliser retailers to foster the adoption of circular C-rich and slow conten-release fertiliser.
- 2. Co-design business models and field validation practices





### Stakeholders of the Living Lab

- Farmers
- Agronomers / consultants
- Local administrations (municipalities and regional government)
- Academia
- Fertilisers producers
- Fertilisers retailers
- Citizenship (consumers)

Called together or separately depending on the scope of the LL session





### Management of the Living Lab

Map stakeholders. Built upon an existing contact list

**Draft meeting calendar and meeting contents**. Forecast of stakeholders' interests and alignement with the need for feedbacks to tackle SOILUTIONS' co-creation tasks.

Execution of the meetings and further refinement of future meeting content.

As soon as we get resources from other EU projects, align the LL scope with these projects and capitalize the already existing platform (the LL) to achieve project objectives together with guaranteeing the living impact in Región de Murcia





### Swilutions Impressions from participants to previous meetings

What attendees liked

to receive technical info/content

expo corner

Networking (ice breaking activity)

High engagement level

Attendees asked for more meetings/content

High engagement in discussions and surveys





### Swilutions What we've brought to the meetings

- Highlight opportunities for participants
- Present documents and a database on circular fertilisers from other projects
- Present the nutrient content of SOILUTIONS fertilisers
- Expo corner
- Gather info on economic indicators (WP4) (limited time, we focussed on giving rather than requesting)
- Present the field tests task and ask for volunteers (2)

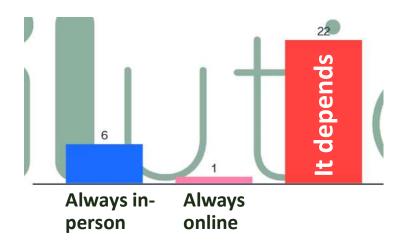




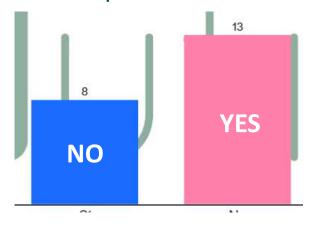


### Some insights from participants

### Living Lab modality



Perplexities/luck of acceptance of some of the rpesented fertilisers



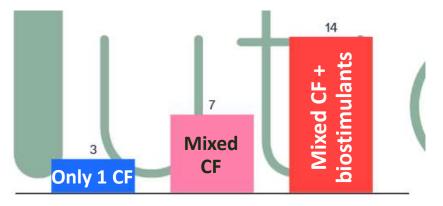
Especially on blood and frass (smell)





### Some insights from participants

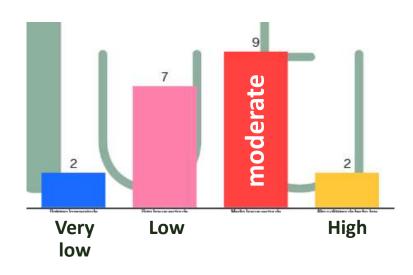
#### **Formulations**



# More lits!

- economic indicators like B2B and B2C selling prices of the presented fertilisers
- Availability of frass, blood and struvite in Región de Murcia

# Market demand for circular fertilisers in Murcia Region



"Lack of information rather than lack of interest" → involve agronomers/consultants







# Online SOILUTION living lab meeting

- Preliminary regulatory drivers/barriers analysis
- Identify crops to test and validate circular soil-improvers

Subscribe to SOILUTIONS newsletter!

### Rebranding

### **GreennoMed Living Lab**

- + more executive partners (with field test capacity)
- + more stakeholders
- + wider scope: the sustainability of human activities in a Mediterranean environment (more resilient agriculture, greener and smarter cities)





# Thank you for your attention

#### Elisa Gambuzzi

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Centro Tecnológico de la Energia y del Medio Ambiente The SOILUTIONS project is funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

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### **CO-CREATING THE SOIL PROTECTION STRATEGY**

ihobe

**OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY 2030** 

#### Zuriñe Maestre Zuazua

Ihobe – Basque Environment Agency Basque Government zurine.maestre@ihobe.eus



#### SOIL PROTECTION, A CHALLENGE FOR THE BASQUE COUNTRY

#### LAW 4/2015, OF 25 JUNE, FOR THE PREVENTION AND CORRECTION OF SOIL CONTAMINATION IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY

#### **ARTICLE 47. SOIL PLAN**

At the proposal of the environmental authority, the government of the Autonomous Community will approve a soil plan in order to stablish the action guidelines in terms of prevention and remediation of soil contamination, in accordance with the criterio of this law.

#### FIFTH ADDITIONAL PROVISION

The Government of the Autonomous Community, in addition to the Soil Plan regulated in this regulation, [...] shall approve a strategy for the protection, conservation and restoration of the natural functions and use of soils that may be degraded as a result of erosion, loss of organic matter, salinization, compaction, loss of biodiversity, sealing, landslides and flooding.

AXIS III	AREA 21	COMMITMENT 134	INITIATIVE 4
Planet	Conservation of the natural environment and biodiversity	Fostering and advanced environmental policy, improving the natural environment and the ecosystems through the defence of biodiversity and	Promoting the Basque Strategy for Soil Protection

#### A JOINT CONSTRUCTION PROCESS FOR THE FORMULATION OF THE STRATEGY

#### **Participatory Process**

# PHASE I. Formulation of the bases of the Strategy



Enable an opportunities map and action bank



Personal interviews + Group working sessions



Strengthen the transversal role of soil protection + Generate permanent meeting and work spaces + Joint work teams as a formula for project implementation



Formulate a preliminary draft of the strategy based on the initiatives identified in the previous phase

# PHASE II. Formulation of the first draft of the Strategy



Technical Committee + Citizens participation in IREKIA Platform



Involvement of different departments, public companies and agencies of the Basque Government (n. 11) for the identification of their areas of involvement, lines of action and for assuming their implementation

### PHASE III. Contrasting the Strategy



Contrast and agree on the draft Strategy with Provincial Councils, municipalities, associations and diverse stakeholders + Present to the Environment Advisory Council of the Basque Autonomous Community and the Basque Environmental Committee



Final contributions

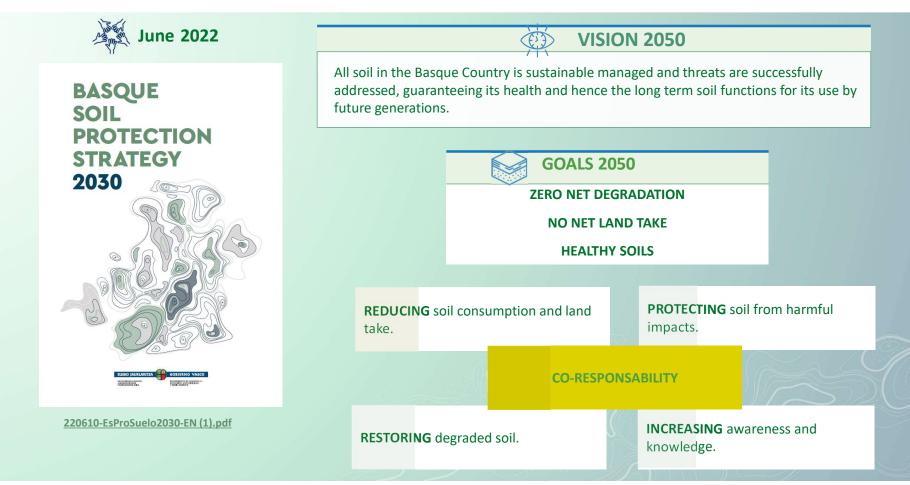


Basque Soil Protection Stategy 2030

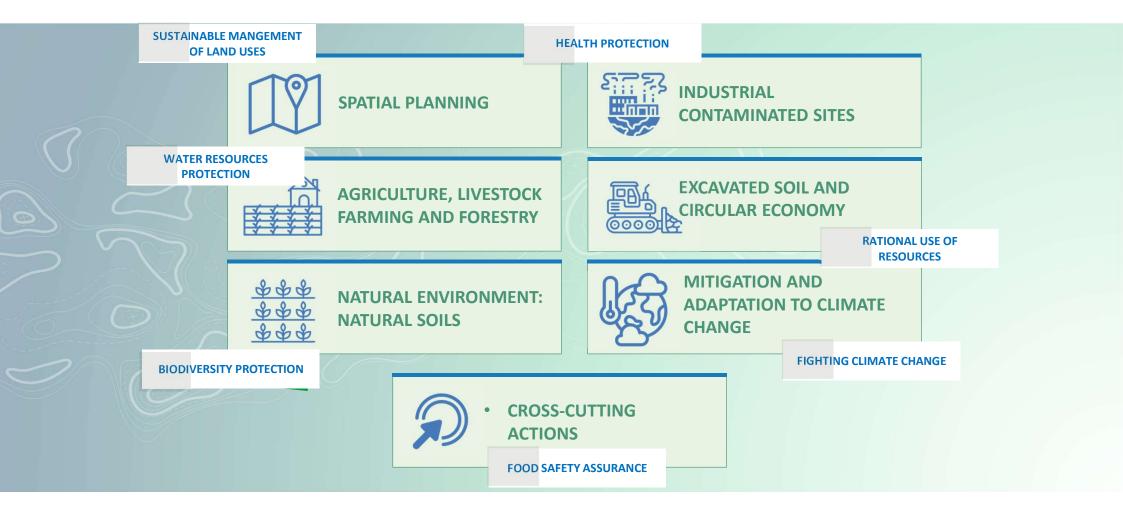


Operational budget of the Department for Economic Development, Sustainability and the Environment of the Basque Government

#### **VISION AND STRATEGIC GOALS - Towards shared objectives**



#### **7 AREAS OF ACTION & 69 ACTIONS**



Congreso de Protección del Suelo de Euska

#### STRATEGY DEPLOYMENT



Some of them....

- ✓ Moving towards the implementation of a soil health monitoring network.
- ✓ Draw up a map of knowledge and of economic instruments / I+D needs.
- ✓ Promote projects related to soil protection in existing research and subsidy programmes.
- ✓ Define, provide content, design and implement a system of indicators to monitor the objective of the strategy: no net land take.
- ✓ Reutilization of vacant land (brownfields): State of the art study and roadmap proposal & preliminary inventory of vacant land.
- Move towards an integrated restoration and re-use policy for degraded vacant land with swift procedures. Setting up of an interdepartmental and inter-institutional fund to promote the recycling of polluted and degraded vacant land and encourage re-use for economic activities.
- ✓ Draw up a roadmap for citizen awareness and action.
- ✓ Increase the presence of the Basque Country in inter-regional and international initiatives organise and celebrate the Basque Country Soil Protection Congress.

# **CO-CREATING THE SOIL PROTECTION STRATEGY**

























# 600 MEMBERS FROM SEED TO USES (ON, FOR AND BY

# THE PLANT)

#### **UPSTREAM**

Plant breeding Plant and soil health Farming equipment Digital & AgTech

# **PLANT PRODUCTION**

Seeds and young plants Aromatic and medicinal plants Crops (cereals) Vegetables and fruits

Ornamental plants ider and wine production

#### **DOWNSTRE**

#### AM

Feed and food Nutrition, prevention, health, well being and cosmetics

Urban farmin

















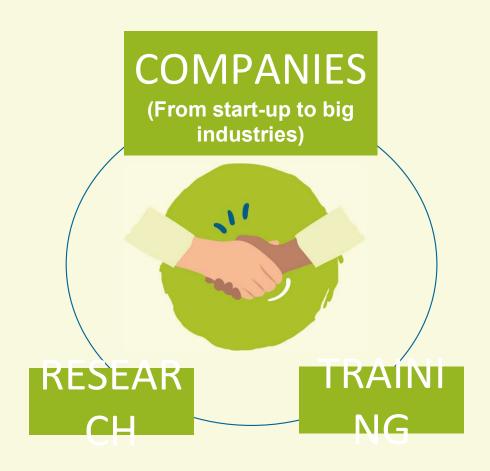








**VEGEPOLYS** VALLEY **A NETWORK** AROUND 3 VIA DE LE SEGNITURE DE LA CTORS







# ONE



#### ANT FOR HUMAN AND LIVESTOCK FOOD

PLANT

#Biotech

BRFFDING

#Phenotyping

#Genotyping

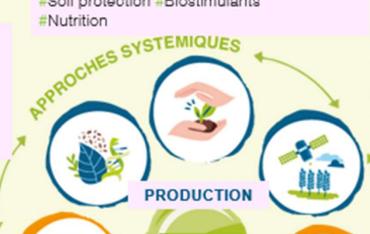
- #Qualities #Processes #Accessibility #Clean label
- #Food processing

#### **NUTRITION HEALTH CARE,**

- #Bioavailability
- #Biomarkers

#### PLANT HEALTH

- #Biocontrol #Agroecology #Postharvesting
- #Soil protection #Biostimulants



#### **NEW TECHNOLOGIES &** PRACTICES FOR CROP SYSTEMS

- #AgTech #Agri-robotics
- #BigData
- #AI #Software #IoT
- #Precision
- farming #Equipment #Indoor farming







#Landscaping #Way of living #Cities



#### **BIOMATERIALS &** BIOPROCESS

- #Co-products #Bioplastics
- #Biobased
- #Circular economy



- #Functionals ingredients
- #Check of Health impact
- #Chronic diseases





**LDS** 

















#food #energy #bioeconomy #materials



#sovereignty #health #quality









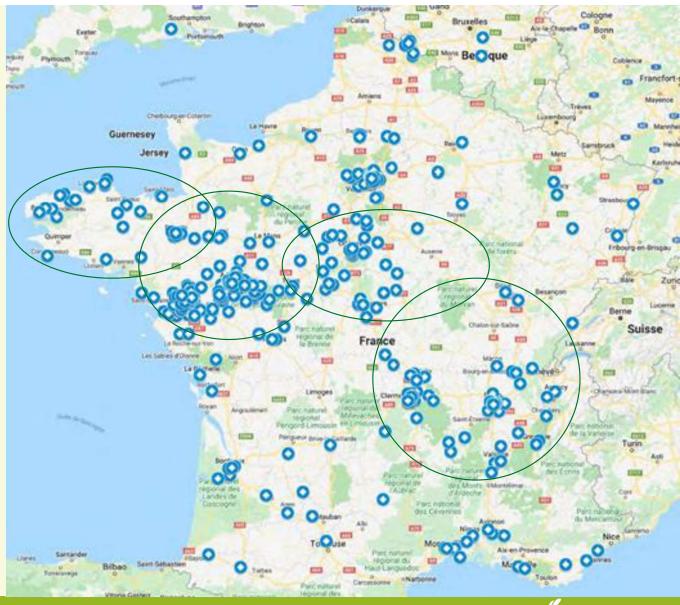






# ANAHONAL NETWORK **BASED ON** 4 PRINCIPAL **REGIONS:**

- > PAYS DE LA LOIRE
- > AUVERGNE RHONE
- **ALPES**
- > BRETAGNE
- > CENTRE VAL DE LOIRE

















#### Interconnexions between VEGEPOLYS VALLEY and the SOIL Mission

#### **EU MISSIONS**

- Adaptation to Climate Change: support at least 150 European regions and communities to become climate resilient by 2030
- Cancer: working with Europe's Beating Cancer
  Plan to improve the lives of more than 3 million
  people by 2030 through prevention, cure and
  solutions to live longer and better
- Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030
- 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030
- A Soil Deal for Europe: 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030

How does the Soil Mission relate to our priorities?

- Links with 4/5 challenges identified by members:
  - Climate change
  - Competitiveness and business continuation
  - Agroecological transition
  - Security of food supply
  - Balance between food and non-food uses.

 NATIONAL INFODAY on SOIL MISSION held on 17 May 2024 (part of the Nati00ns project)





#### A large territory with a potential for multi-actor projects and living labs approach

Characteristics: wide range of animal and plant productions

#### Soil topics

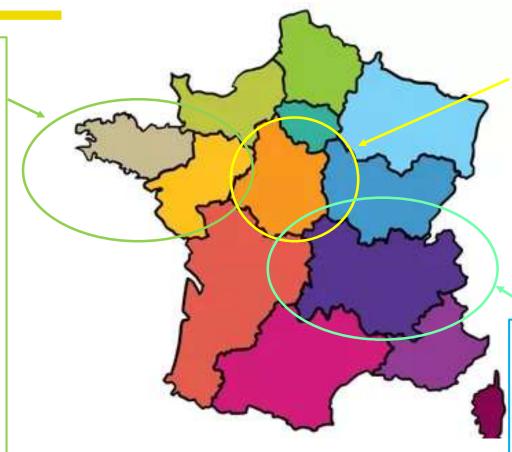
- Soil compaction due to the use of machinery
- Reduced soil biodiversity and soil microbial activity
- Soil erosion
- water & soil pollution

#### Main crops

- industrial vegetables
- fresh vegetables
- Cereals
- fruits,
- legumes,
- Livestock

#### Levers

- cover crops
- Improve water management and soil management
- improve understanding of the entire pollution cycle and propose relevant tools for the management of polluted soils and sediments.
- development of local technical and socioeconomic references agroecological practices
- enhance complementarities between animal and crop production



**Characteristics:** wide range of animal and plant productions; 2/3 of the territory used for farming; Major arboriculture production

#### Main crops

- Cereals
- Grasslands
- Oilseeds and protein crops
- fruits

Characteristics: wide range of animal and plant productions;

#### Main crops

- Cereals,
- fruits,
- oilseeds,
- legumes,
- roots and tubers,
- Grasslands
- mountain agriculture























#### **EU PROJECTS**



#### **RURAL BIO UP (Horizon Europe)**

- Development of local value chains of bio-based co-products.
- Animation « Ouest » & Auvergne Rhône-Alpes regions



#### **AGROBRIDGES (H2020)**

- ✓ Local food networks
- √ Vegepolys Valley is the leader of the french network



#### **SUAVE (EUROCLUSTER)**

- ✓ Coordination VEGEPOLYS VALLEY on urban farming
- Cascade funding towards SMEs



#### **HuMUS (Soil Mission)**

- ✓ Make public authority soils healthier
- Participation to case study in the Pays de la Loire region and cascade funding spreading.



#### **PATH2DEA (Horizon Europe)**

- ✓ New technologies for agroecology
- WP Leader obstacles and leverages on new tech integration



#### **STRATUS (HORIZON EUROPE)**



- ✓ Creation of a network of advisors to accelerate knowledge sharing about fertilisers uses.
- ✓ WP co-Leader « Reference of good practices and R&D activities on integrated soil fertility management

#### **RE-GREENHOUSE**

- ✓ to accelerate the transition to renewable energies in heated greenhouses
- Identification of needs and expectations of local value chains, organization of pilot site visits, support to energy transition

#### AGROECOLOGY AGROECOLOGY (HORIZON EUROPE)

- ✓ Support the agroecological transition
- √ disseminating calls for projects, setting up an inventory of actions and networking activities.









**Duration:** 3 years (from 01/10/2022 to 30/09/2025)

12 partners, 6 countries, 9 hubs

#### **Objectives:**

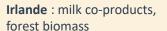
- Connecting actors around a territory to develop plantbased ressources uses at the local scale.
- Develop and structure bioeconomy value chains in regions





#### **Value chains of European HUBs**

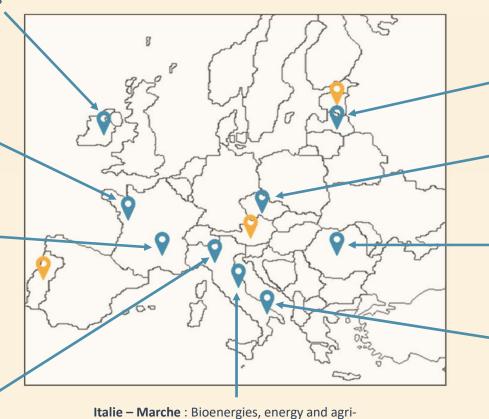




France – Bretagne & Pays de la Loire : Food and non-food plant-based coproducts

France – Auvergne Rhône Alpes: Food and non-food plant-based coproducts

> Italie – Lombardie : agrifood; high added-value valorisation of biomass



photovoltaïsme; biofertilisers and bioactiv components; hemp and minor crops

**Latvia**: biofertilisers, agroforestitry systems

**Czechia**: wheat; hemp; biofertilisers production

Roumania - Centru: Lignocellulosic biomass (biochar, co-products, green waste); forest co-products

Italia - Puglia: Bioenergies, energy and agriphotovoltaïsme; biofertilisers and bioactiv components; hemp and minor crops



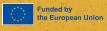
#### RuralBioUp & the hubs

#### Which actions?

- Participation thematic information sessions (Scale Up, Life Cycle Assessment, reglementary framework, digital tools, biomass production and valorisation, etc.)
- Meeting between french members (all types) of hubs (discussions between members and B2B) and european members.
- Development, structuration and continuation of identified value chains.
  - Access to the european platform of projects and information exchange.











# Enhance knowledge sharing in Integrated Fertilization Management

to reduce nutrient losses to the environment while maintaining soil fertility





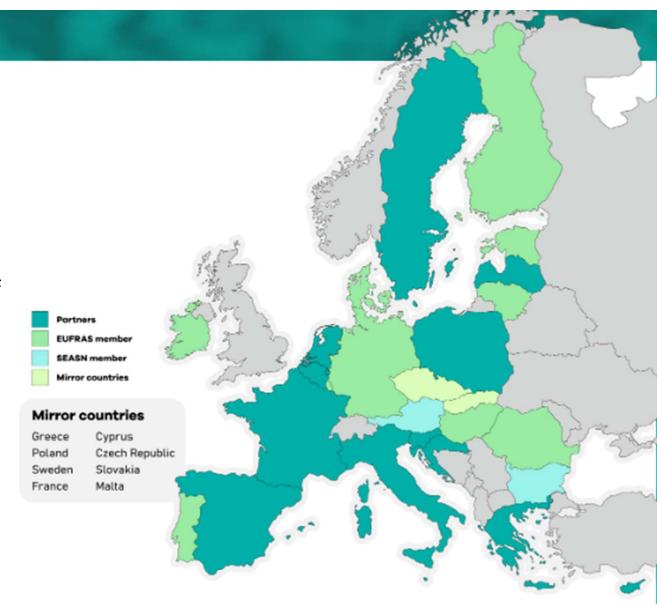
STRATUS, extending over 60 months, aims to connect advisors across Europe for accelerating knowledge creation and sharing on Integrated Fertilization Management, supporting farmers to bring this knowledge into practice to achieve the ambition of the Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategies, thus reducing nutrient losses to the environment while maintaining soil fertility.

### **The Network**

STRATUS will create an EU-wide advisory network through the creation of three transnational sub-networks in which trained advisors will collect a Good Practices (GPs) and Research Innovations (RIs) on optimal fertiliser use and will identify Best Practices (BPs) as the result of the systemic feasibility assessment of the GPs and RIs.

# Creation of 3 **Fertilisation Innovative Networks**:

A Fertilisation Innovation Network is a technical network based on effective novel approaches covering the three main challenges leading to the creation of a Sustainable Nutrient Management Plan.



# Fertiliser Innovation Network on Soil Quality

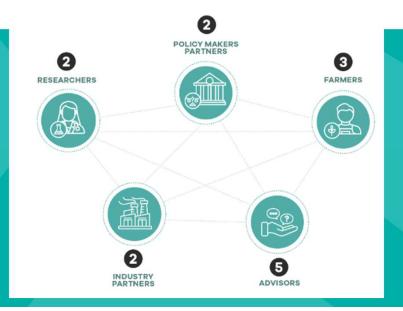
Use of different farming techniques, such as alternative crops, cover crops, carbon farming, or timing of input applications for more sustainable nutrient management, reducing nutrient losses while ensuring soil fertility and quality.



#### **SCIENTIFIC LEADERSHIP: INTIA**

**ADVENSORY LEADERSHIP: HS-F** 

A **Community of Practice** is a multi-actor group composed of relevant regional/national IFM AKIS members meeting regularly to improve and share their knowledge, advisory methods and skills in support of Integrated Fertilisation Management practices. Its function is to make the STRATUS network part also of the regional/national AKIS of each partner country.

























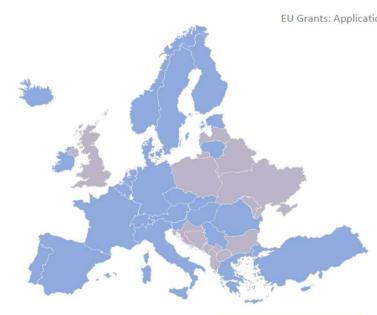
# AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP - Accelerating farming systems transition: Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures

AGROECOLOGY - European partnership on accelerating farming systems transition – agroecology living labs and research infrastructures / European partnership to accelerate farming systems transition – agroecology living labs and research infrastructure

#### Consortium

68 participants, 24 countries, 7 french entitites

Numbe - Short Na		Legal Name	Countr
1	JÜLICH	FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM JULICH GMBH	DE
2	ANR	AGENCE NATIONALE DE LA RECHERCHE	FR
21	INRAE	INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE POUR L'AGRICULTURE, L'ALIMENTATION ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT	FR
22	IRD	INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT	FR
23	CNRS	CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE CNRS	FR
24	CIRAD	CENTRE DE COOPERATION INTERNATIONALE EN RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE POUR LEDEVELOPPEMENT - C.I.R.A.D. EPIC	FR
25	RPL	PAYS DE LA LOIRE	FR
26	VGV	VEGEPOLYS VALLEY	FR









# « The AGROECOLOGY partnership in Pays de la Loire : a collaboration between the region & VEGEPOLYS VALLEY for a territorial coverage"

- Alignment with the Region « Soil-sea strategy take action for sustainable diets » (2023-2028)
- Provide the opportunity to **embark regional stakeholders** in European projects
- Support **regional multi-actor projects** (living labs) who share a global approach to the agroecology transition.
- Strengthen animation of regional stakeholders to **stimulate project involvement**.
- Develop connexions with national and European partners.
- Contribute to the European agriculture transition







# AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP - Accelerating farming systems transition: Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures

#### **Objectives of the project**

- Integrating the principles of agroecology to rethink agricultural systems in a diversified Europe.
- Develop and extend collaborations to co-create and share knowledge and solutions that empower all stakeholders (producers, consumers, policy-makers, civil society) to commit to the agroecological transition.
- To contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Green Deal by 2030, as well as to the objectives of climate neutrality in Europe by 2050, by supporting the implementation of key EU strategies and policies.
  - AGROECOLOGY will support an agriculture sector that is fit to meet the targets and challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, food security and sovereignty, and the environment, while ensuring a profitable and attractive activity for farmers.
  - Guide the agriculture sector towards an approach more sustainable, resilient and responsive to societal and policy demands.







# AGROECOLOGY PARTNERSHIP - Accelerating farming systems transition: Agroecology living labs and research infrastructures

#### **Duration of the partnership**

o Launch: 01/01/2024

End: 31/12/2030 (7 years)

During the duration of the project, every spring, project calls are open to create living labs.

#### - Outcome of the first call:

- A great collaboration between VEGEPOLYS VALLEY & the Pays de la Loire region, based on numerous previous and ongoing common actions
- Several informative sessions including a national one organised by the ANR, the region & VEGEPOLYS VALLEY
- A mapping of local actors
- 3 projects submitted involving local actors for the 1st phase with coordinators from 3 different countries (awaiting results)
- A list of potential LLs for the next calls





#### VEGEPOLYS VALLEY IN FIGURES

> + than 600 MEMBRES

75% of COMPANIES

7 000 CONTACTS

> + **1 000** PROJECTS SUPPORTED

AVERAGE 70 to 80 INNOVATIVE PROJECTS / YEAR

> **5** ONGOING PRE-COMPETITIVES PROJECTS > 40 EMPLOYEES

> ABOUT 1 000

MEETINGS / YEAR

> MORE THAN 100

**EVENTS / YEAR** 

> 1 NEWSLETTER

**EVERY WEEK** 







#### WWW.VEGEPOLYS-VALLEY.EU

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VEGEPOLYS VALLEY bénéficie du soutien financier de :



















