Section 1 2022
Farming Systems

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Farming systems topic – Section 1

Topic 1.2.1 RIA

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In collaboration with EU Mission Soil Deal for Europe

Developing integrated soil data for the Mediterranean Region: a gateway for sustainable soil management

Submission deadline Stage 1: 15/03/2022
Challenge

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• 60-70% of soils in the EU are considered to be “unhealthy”

• High % of agricultural land in the EU shows excess levels of nutrients

• About 25% of land in Southern, Central and Eastern Europe is at high or very high risk of desertification

SOIL DEGRADATION:
COMPROMISES FOOD SECURITY AND WATER AVAILABILITY IN THE REGION

AFFECTS THE PROFITABILITY OF SMALLHOLDERS AND THE ACCESS TO FRESH FOOD IN SOME REGIONS

AVAILABLE DATA IN THE SOUTH MED REGION ARE SCARCE
Scope

- Improve soil health monitoring & prevent degradations

- Identify the gaps in data availability for soil health in the region

- Develop or adapt a set of INDICATORS / METHODS FOR MEASURING SOIL HEALTH (PHYSICO CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL PARAMETERS)

- Harmonize and standardize data / methods to ensure interoperability and comparisons (field observation, satellite images, lab ....)
Approach

- Take advantage of previous Projects and methodologies and create synergies
  - #PRIMA projects
  - # LUCAS project
  - # JRC soil atlas
  - # soilcare
  - # soils4africa

- Mapping of Research centers and certified living labs for soil health

- Multi actors (scientists, land planners, farmers, municipalities, private sector, citizens...) to ensure the sustainability / availability of the data on the long term

- Promote “on the ground events” with the #EU MISSION SOIL
Expected Impacts

• **Short term:**

Creation of MED Living labs integrated to the Living Lab EU network / be a reference center for soil

Propose clear and standardized methodologies and Indicators for soil health

Obtain better soil information systems to prevent land degradation

Contribute to the soil Atlas of the Mediterranean Region

• **Long term:**

Assess the impact of different practices on soil health, erosion, salinization, desertification.....

Solution to Increase carbon sequestration and to mitigate land degradation
Links with SDGs

SDG 2 (zero hunger), to ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

SDG 3 (good health and well-being), by enhancing food security and other livelihood benefits, and by increasing the resilience of the land and the populations depending on it;

SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), through its contribution to sustainable water management

SDG 13 (climate action), by increasing resilience and creating synergistic actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation, for example, by increasing soil carbon stocks;

SDG 15 (life on land), which focuses on the achievement of land degradation neutrality, by providing a suite of targeted, appropriate land management practices that prevent the loss of healthy land and maintain or improve the land’s productivity.
Thank you

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