



1st EU Soil Observatory Stakeholder Forum

Workshop on data in EUSO

Wednesday 20 October 2021, 10:00 – 12:30 (virtual)

Moderator: Marc Van Liedekerke, European Commission Joint Research Centre – ESDAC

Rapporteur: Calogero Schillaci, European Commission Joint Research Centre

Introduction (by Marc Van Liedekerke)

This workshop will concentrate on the new data/information that we would like to see incorporated in EUSO (as extension of ESDAC); the vision is an open data platform where the public at large can access soil related datasets and the supporting documentation, at EU scale. Strengths are a long-term commitment by JRC (since 2006), permanent and timely active helpdesk, continuous updates and news, provision and documentation of EU and European-wide datasets as well as metadata.

ESDAC at this moment hosts many datasets, categorized broadly as:

- The European Soil Database (2004) and derived data;
- LUCAS soil data for 2009/2012 and 2015 (soon also 2018)
- In-house modelling data at EU-scale (soil properties, threats, functions); along with peer-reviewed JRC publications and EU reports

In relation to the European Soil Observatory, JRC strives to extend ESDAC by the following services:

- Host any kind of EU wide soil data that can underpin EU soil indicators and contribute to the monitoring of soils at EU level;
- Derive spatial and statistical indicators that can feed into dashboards to give overview of soil state in EU;
- Any other data flows that generate EU-wide harmonized soil data.

Where to get these data?

- EU research projects (SOILCARE, LANDMARK, ISQAPER, EJP, etc.) typically generate EU wide datasets that at the end of the project are not accessible to public users. Our objective is to make them accessible. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) are an issue.
- Future LUCAS SOIL campaigns data (point data; derived maps)
- National data, if harmonized according to specifications (take as excellent example the GSP series of global soil maps: GSOC, GSOCseq ...)
- EU wide data or reference to data associated to peer-review publications

It would be nice to be a hub for accessing (not hosting) EU national soil data

- Note that INSPIRE is into force; 21 October 2020: soil data should be discoverable, viewable and downloadable; metadata important
- Which are the essential and authoritative soil data?

It is important to tackle from the outset: IPR issues when making data public!

In the case that data from EU-projects are not possible to obtain, ESDAC could keep its Metadata (with indications where to obtain the data); this may be difficult to organize, but it is possible; however, without having any control by ESDAC on accessibility of the data; at least, it would be nice to have a central of metadata for relevant EU soil data.

Other data?

- Data on EU soil research (already handled by many projects, e.g. Bonares)?
- Data on EU-funded projects (at least a list of such projects with abstracts and links)?
- Data from EU Soil Monitoring System?
- ... ?

Questions:

Question1: what else would you see as essential data/information that EUSO should incorporate?

Question2: where could a working group concretely assist us? And, as this would be voluntary: what is in it for them?

Question3: who could contribute?

- EU projects, from the outset: agreements on data transfer at the end of the project; sort out IPR issues from the start.
- Representatives of EU countries for identifying and documenting with metadata the authoritative soil data
- Soil Mission?
- EU Networks related to soil?

5 'seed' presentations, to set the tone:

The integration of EU-project results in EUSO

(Maria Jose' Amaral, EU Research Executive Agency (REA))

EJP-SOIL as soil data provider to EUSO

(Fenny Van Egmond, ISRIC, the Netherlands)

- Introduction to the project
- Introduction of data activities in EJP (WP 6.1)
- Deliverables 6.1 (overview of available soil data in Europe), 6.2 (legal, aspects related to the data), 6.3 (soil monitoring), 6.4 (
- How to contribute to EUSO?
- Where could EUSO help? (Specifications? IPR issues)

Is there a role for the European Soil Partnership in contributing to the data in EUSO?

(Maria Fantappie', CREA Italy, Chair of the ESP Pillar-4 on data)

Is there a role for EU national soil data organizations in contributing to EUSO?

(Antonio Bispo, INRAE, France)

EEA perspective on soil data integration and exchange

(Rainer Baritz, Land & Soil EEA)

Contributions from the floor

Is anyone willing to make a short presentation with a view on the matter under discussion?

Please contact marc.van-liedekerke@ec.europa.eu

Questions from the floor

Is anything from the presentations unclear and would you need clarifications?

Discussion on the 5 presentations, along the 3 questions:

- Question1: what else would you see as essential data/information that EUSO should incorporate?
- Question2: where could a working group concretely assist us? And, as this would be voluntary: what is in it for them?
- Question3: who could contribute?

Establishment of EUSO Data Integration Technical Working Group

Chair: Marc Van Liedekerke, EUSO

Working group: in a first stage informal and voluntary; in consecutive stages, a more formal approach could be envisaged (e.g. when establishing an 'official' soil monitoring system in EU)

It is proposed that persons/organizations that want to contribute actively send a mail to marc.van-liedekerke@ec.europa.eu, with their intentions.

Among these persons: look for candidates to become Vice Chair (1 or 2)); vote by WG members per email.

Next steps & Conclusions