



## 1<sup>st</sup> EU Soil Observatory Stakeholder Forum

### Workshop on an Integrated Soil Monitoring System for the EU Tuesday 19 October 2021, 14:00-16:30 (WEBEX & STREAM)

*Moderator: Arwyn Jones, European Commission Joint Research Centre*

*Rapporteur: Anne Maréchal, European Commission Joint Research Centre*

*Scope: Contribute to development of an integrated monitoring system for the EU*

With this session, we aim to establish a Technical Working Group of interested stakeholders willing to contribute to the development of an integrated monitoring system for soils in the EU. This is one of the core objectives of the European Soil Observatory (EUSO), launched last year (December 2020).

This Working Group will aim to engage with stakeholder engaged in the assessment and monitoring of soils from a range of perspectives to address the technical challenges in establishing an eventual monitoring system that address a range of policy needs. The scope is to set out a roadmap for an integrated soil monitoring system, to be published in 2023, with a view of testing the implementation in a future LUCAS Soil Module. The roadmap will set out concrete ways in which a more integrated monitoring system could be achieved for EU soil data and knowledge, through the development/deployment of:

- Common soil indicators across policies, land uses, countries, sectors, etc.
- Comparison and potential harmonisation of national and LUCAS soil sampling strategies/schemes
- Comparison of national and LUCAS soil datasets
- Methods to combine national and LUCAS datasets
- Methods to combine existing maps
- Potential and methods to integrate data from satellite observations, citizen data, or private company data willing to collaborate.

Note: Overlaps are expected with the Technical Working Group on data sharing in terms of the tasks and requirements involved with the sharing of data. This Working Group will however also exchange on the methods to ensure soil data comparability and harmonisation, and on sources currently gathering soil data that are not yet used/fully used by the European Commission's JRC.

## **Establishment of EUSO Technical Working Group on an EU integrated soil monitoring system**

Chair: Arwyn Jones, EUSO

Proposed Co-Chairs: Rainer Baritz (EEA), Antonio Bispo (INRAE), Mirco Barbero (ENV), Annette Schneegans (AGRI/Mission)

Working group: in a first stage informal and voluntary; in consecutive stages, a more formal approach could be envisaged.

### **Next steps & Conclusions**

It is proposed that persons/organizations that want to become members of this Working Group send a mail to [arwyn.jones@ec.europa.eu](mailto:arwyn.jones@ec.europa.eu), stating their experience/area of specialisation and capacity to contribute, by the end of October.

1<sup>st</sup> meeting: late November (virtual)