

Joint Research Centre (JRC)

Challenges of soil protection in Europe and in the Mediterranean Region

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DG JRC.H.05



www.jrc.ec.europa.eu
ies.jrc.ec.europa.eu

What is the Joint Research Centre?



European Council

European Parliament

The JRC is a Directorate General of the European Commission

European Commission
28 Commissioners



Mrs. Maire GHEOGHEGAN-QUINN
European Commissioner for
Research, Innovation and
Science

7th FWP 2006-2013

DG
RESEARCH

DG
JRC

.....

DG ENV

OTHER
DGs

Scientific and technical support to EU
policy development and implementation

Joint Research
Centre



Providing Policy Relevant Soil Data and Information to Commission Services and External Customers

Main Policy Areas:

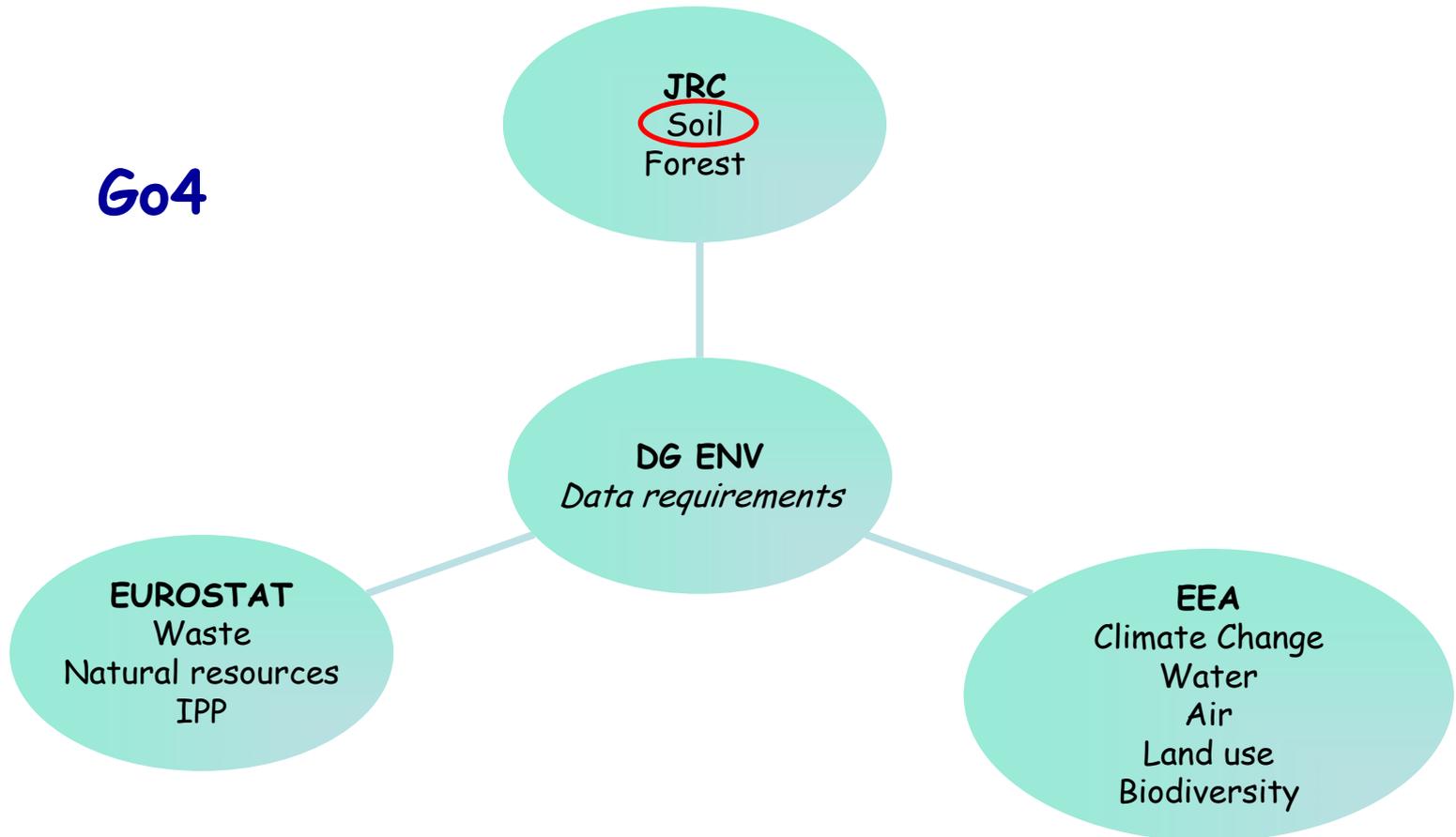
- Environmental Action Program (EU Soil Thematic Strategy)
- Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- Climate Change Policy (Post-Kyoto debate, LULUCF)
- Energy Policy (Renewable Energies Directive)
- Biodiversity (Nature) Protection Policy (EU Biodiversity Strategy)
- Water Protection Policy (WFD, Groundwater Directive)
- Forest Protection Policy (Forest FOCUS, ICP Forest)
- Regional Policies (INTERREG)
- Food Safety (PPR Registration, EFSA)
- Food Security (FAO)
- Development Policy (ACP-Observatory)
- Waste Policy (Biowaste Directive, Sewage Sludge Directive)
-etc.

European Soil Data Center (ESDAC)



The system of European Data Centers for the environment, established within “the group of four (Go4)” (DG ENV, ESTAT, JRC, EEA)

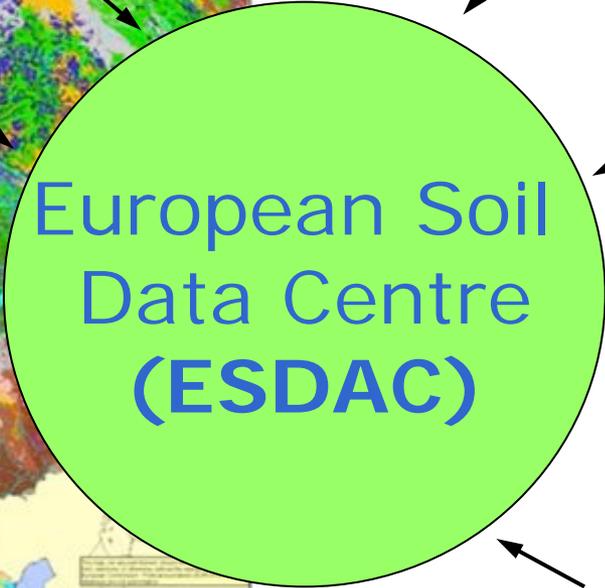
Go4



European Commission
(EU funded soil related projects)

Data from specific in-house JRC
actions (e.g. ESDB, SOTER)

Member States

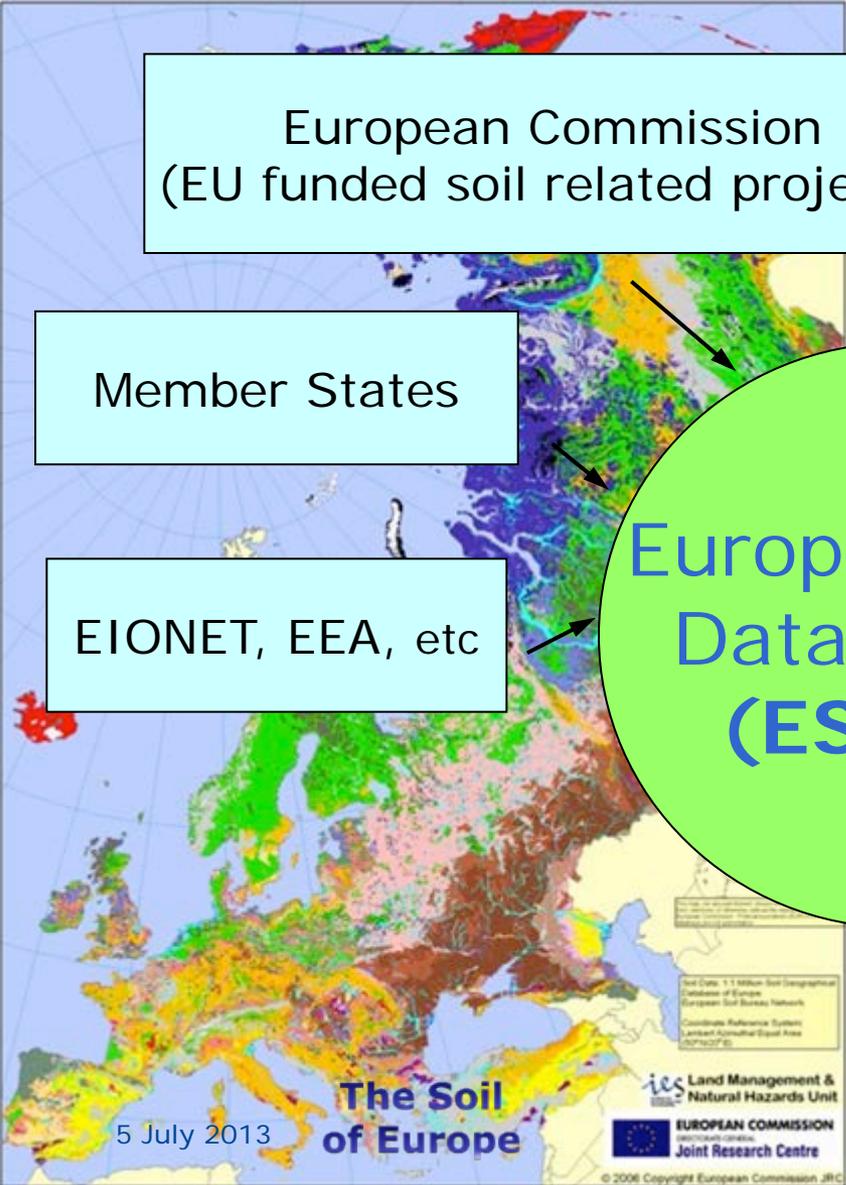


Data from related JRC
and EC actions
(e.g. LUCAS, BIOSOIL)

EIONET, EEA, etc

Network of soil centres
(e.g. ESNB)

Collaborative research
(e.g. EuroGeoSurveys, FAO, ISRIC)





ESDAC

- ⌕ Home
- ⌕ About ESDAC
- ⌕ Key Documents
- ⌕ Other Data Centres
- ⌕ Useful links

Applications

- ⌕ Metadata Catalogue
- ⌕ ESDAC Map Viewer

WELCOME TO THE EUROPEAN SOIL DATA CENTRE

The **European Soil Data Centre (ESDAC)** is the thematic centre for soil related data in Europe. It's ambition is to host and point to relevant soil data and information at European level. It consists of two main elements. A catalogue of soil resources and a map viewer into some of the soil data hosted at the ESDAC.

The catalogue of soil resources is a light-weight metadata system that describes and points to various soil resource types: datasets, services/applications, documents, events, projects and external links.

The ESDAC map viewer allows the user to navigate in key soil data for Europe. Main data come from the European Soil Database.





EU Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection adopted by the European Commission on the 22nd of September 2006

COMMUNICATION COM(2006) 231 on the Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection

DIRECTIVE COM(2006) 232 establishing a framework for the protection of soil and amending Directive 2004/35/EC

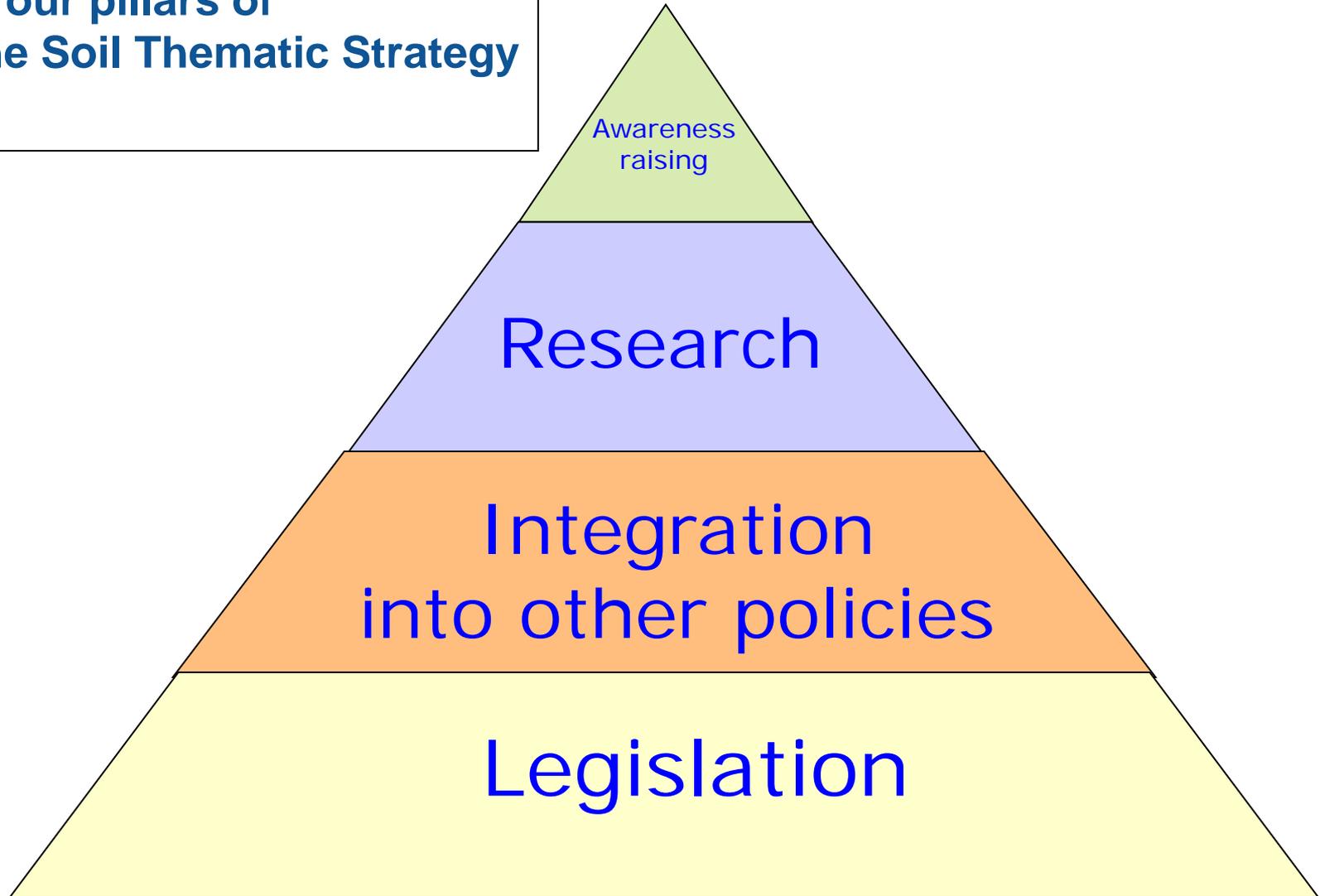
IMPACT ASSESSMENT SEC(2006) 620 of the Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index.htm>

<http://ies.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

<http://eusoils.jrc.it>

**The four pillars of
the Soil Thematic Strategy**



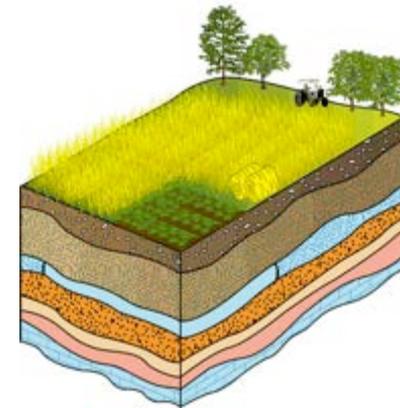
Proposed EU Soil Framework Directive: Article 1: Subject-matter and scope

Soil defined as the top layer of the earth's crust situated between the bedrock and the surface, excluding groundwater.

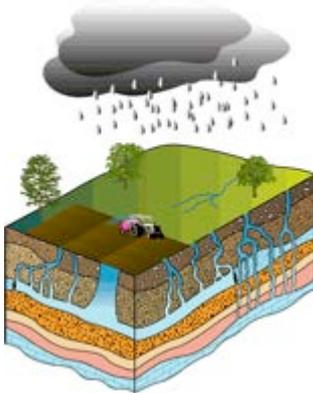
Soil functions to be protected:

- Biomass production, including in agriculture and forestry;
- Storing, filtering and transforming nutrients, substances and water;
- Biodiversity pool, such as habitats, species and genes;
- Physical and cultural environment for humans and human activities;
- Source of raw materials;
- Acting as carbon pool;
- Archive of geological and archeological heritage.

Basis for biomass production



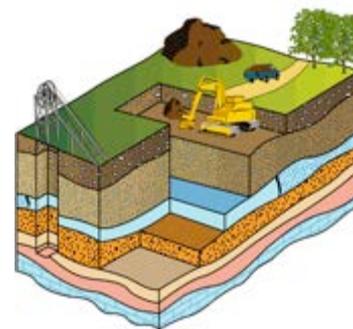
Filtering, buffering and transformation



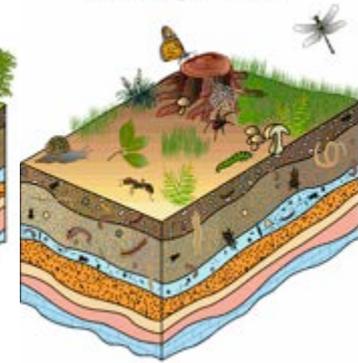
Foundation for Buildings



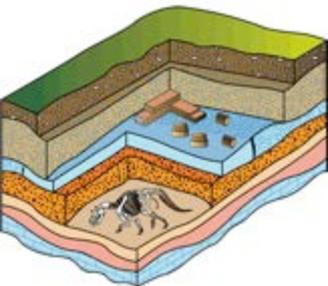
Source of raw materials



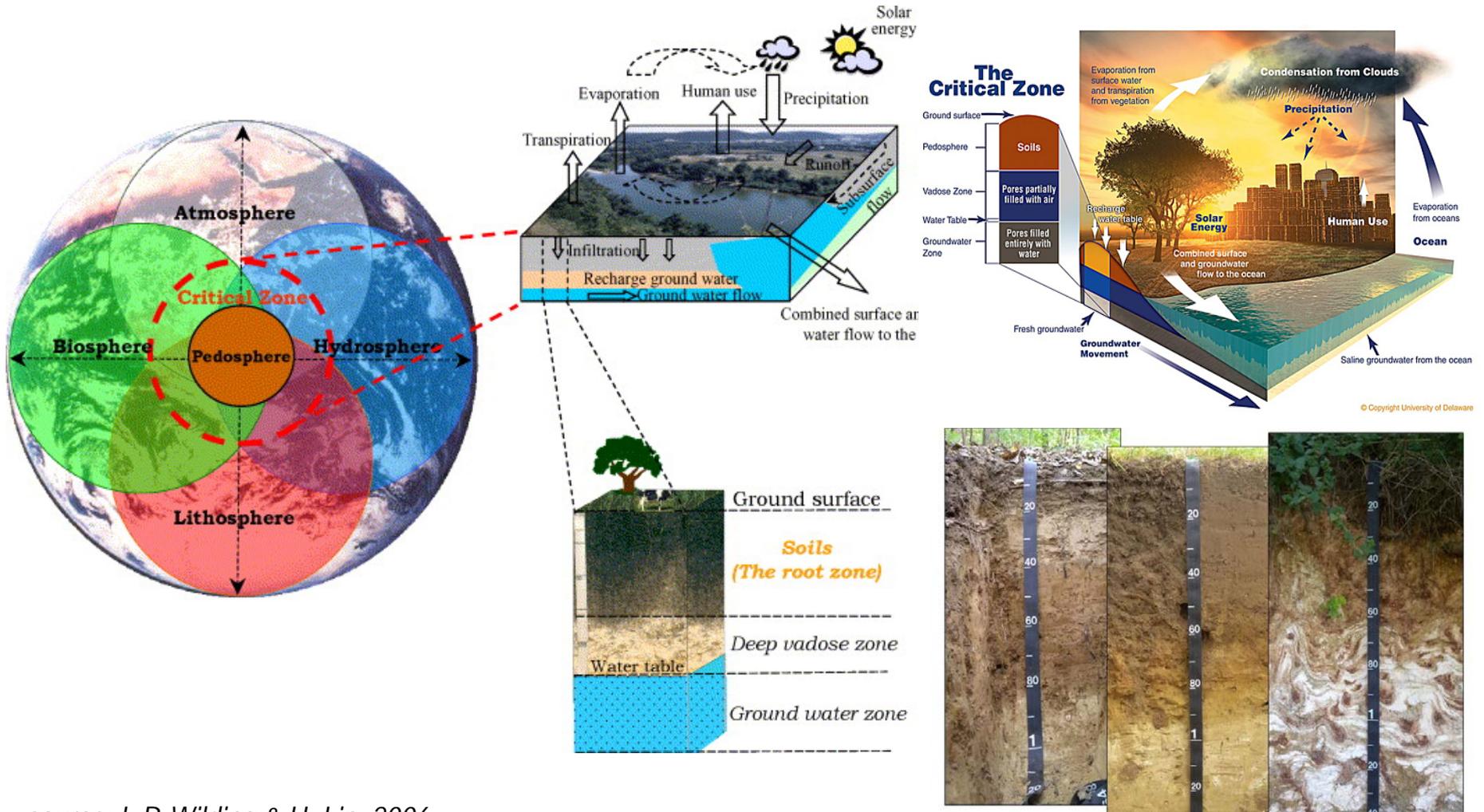
Habitat and gene reservoir



Historical medium



Soil defined as the top layer of the earth's crust situated between the bedrock and the surface.



source: L.P. Wilding & H. Lin, 2006

source: E. Micheli



Sealing



Organic matter decline



Salinization
Acidification



Contamination

Erosion



Compaction



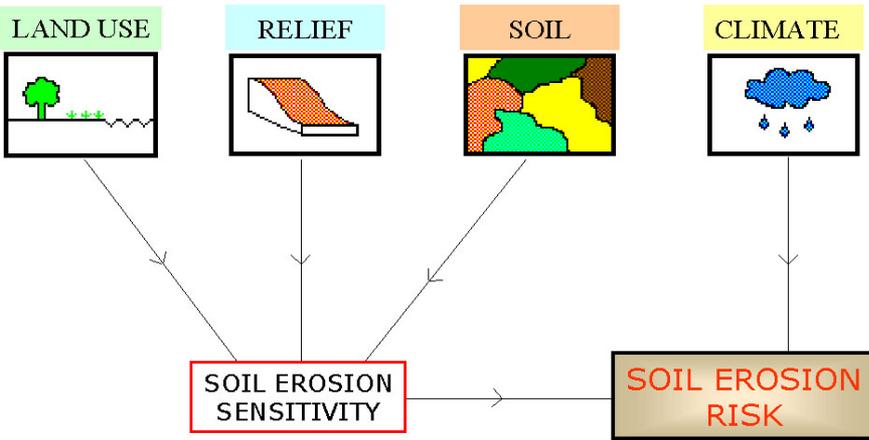
Landslides



Soil degradation processes

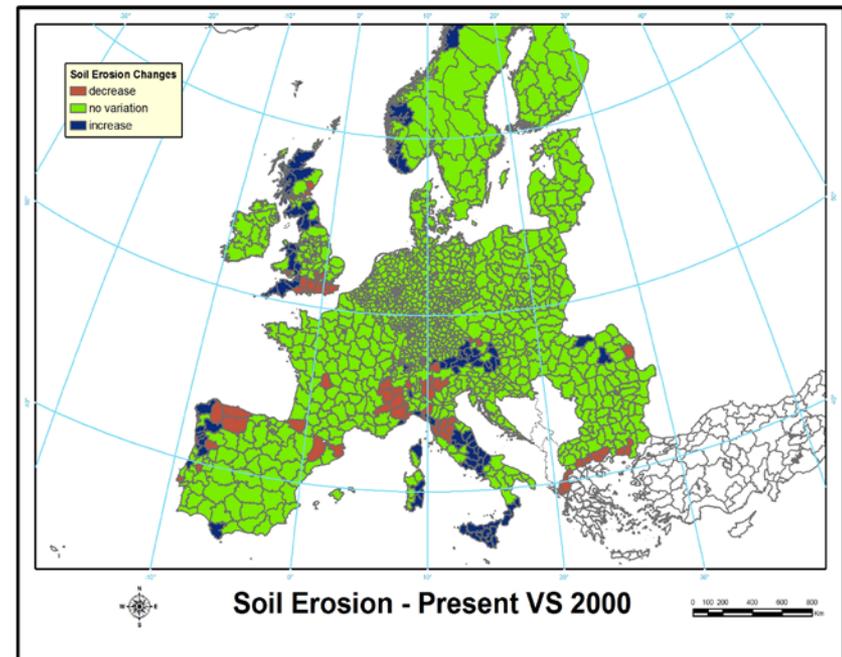
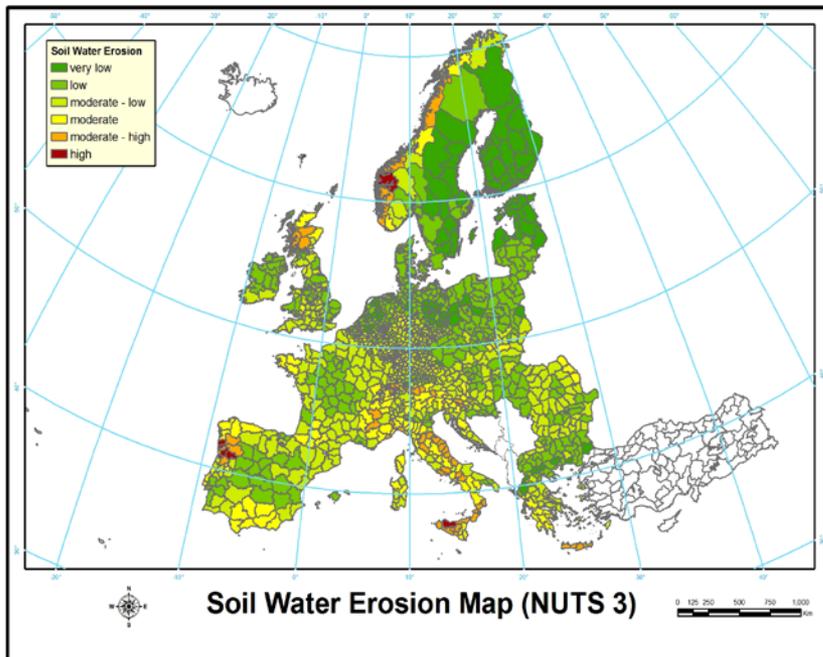


European
Commission



Delineating areas at risk for soil erosion using available data:

- CORINE Land Cover
- High Resolution DEM
- European Soil Database
- MARS climate data



Cost of soil erosion

Water erosion: 115 Million ha

Wind erosion: 42 Million ha



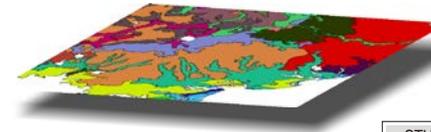
Table 1: Estimated total annual cost of soil erosion (million €2003)

	On-site costs	Off-site costs	Total estimate
Lower bound	40	680	720
Intermediate	588	6,676	7,264
Upper bound	860	13,139	13,999

Note: These estimates are taken from the Ecologic study and relate to the surface affected by erosion in 13 countries and to five land use categories covering a surface area of 150 million ha

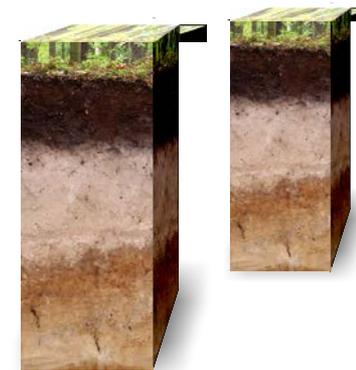
Mapping and Monitoring Soil Organic Carbon

- **Mapping**
symbolically represent the geographic distribution of an object on the Earth surface.
- **Monitoring**
sample information on an object systematically and on a regular basis.



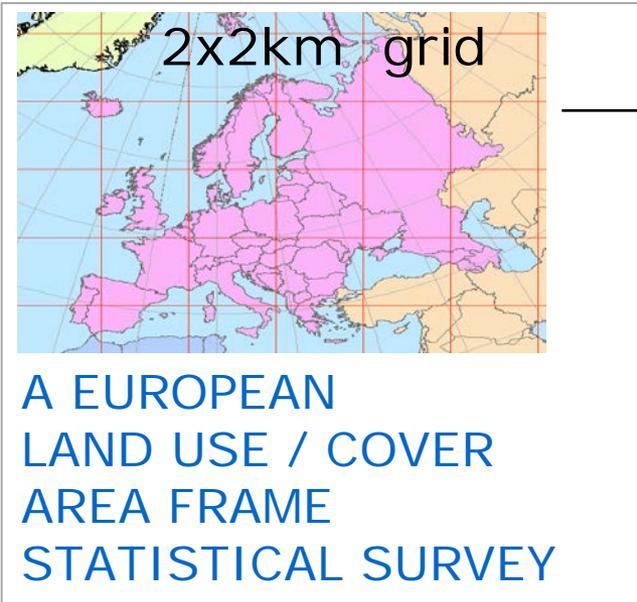
STU	NB_POLYS	NB_SMU	AREA	WRBFU
4401665	8	1	178.43	HSdy
4401666	8	1	68.63	CMdy
4401668	2	1	44.63	CMeu
4401669	2	1	44.63	Cmgl
4401670	2	1	22.31	GLeu
4401671	1	1	142.01	CMeu
4401672	1	1	142.01	CMeu
4401673	1	1	94.67	Cmdu
...

GIS Layer and Attribute



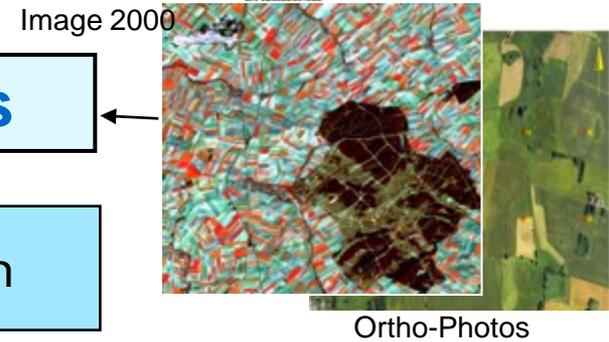
Field Survey

LUCAS project



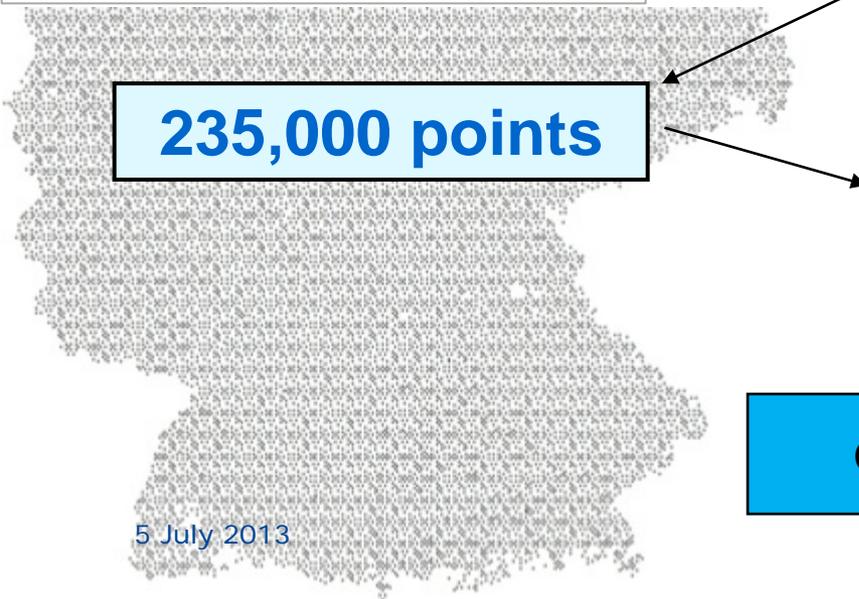
1,000,000 points

Photo-Interpretation



Sampling

Stratum	Points
Arable	uuuuu
Water	xxxxxx
Artificial	yyyyyy
Woodland	zzzzz



Code	
Name	
13	14
15	16
17	18
19	20
21	22
23	24
25	26
27	28
29	30
31	32
33	34
35	36
37	38
39	40
41	42
43	44
45	46
47	48
49	50
51	52
53	54
55	56
57	58
59	60
61	62
63	64
65	66
67	68
69	70
71	72
73	74
75	76
77	78
79	80
81	82
83	84
85	86
87	88
89	90
91	92
93	94
95	96
97	98
99	100

Compute statistics

5 July 2013

LUCAS soil survey 2009

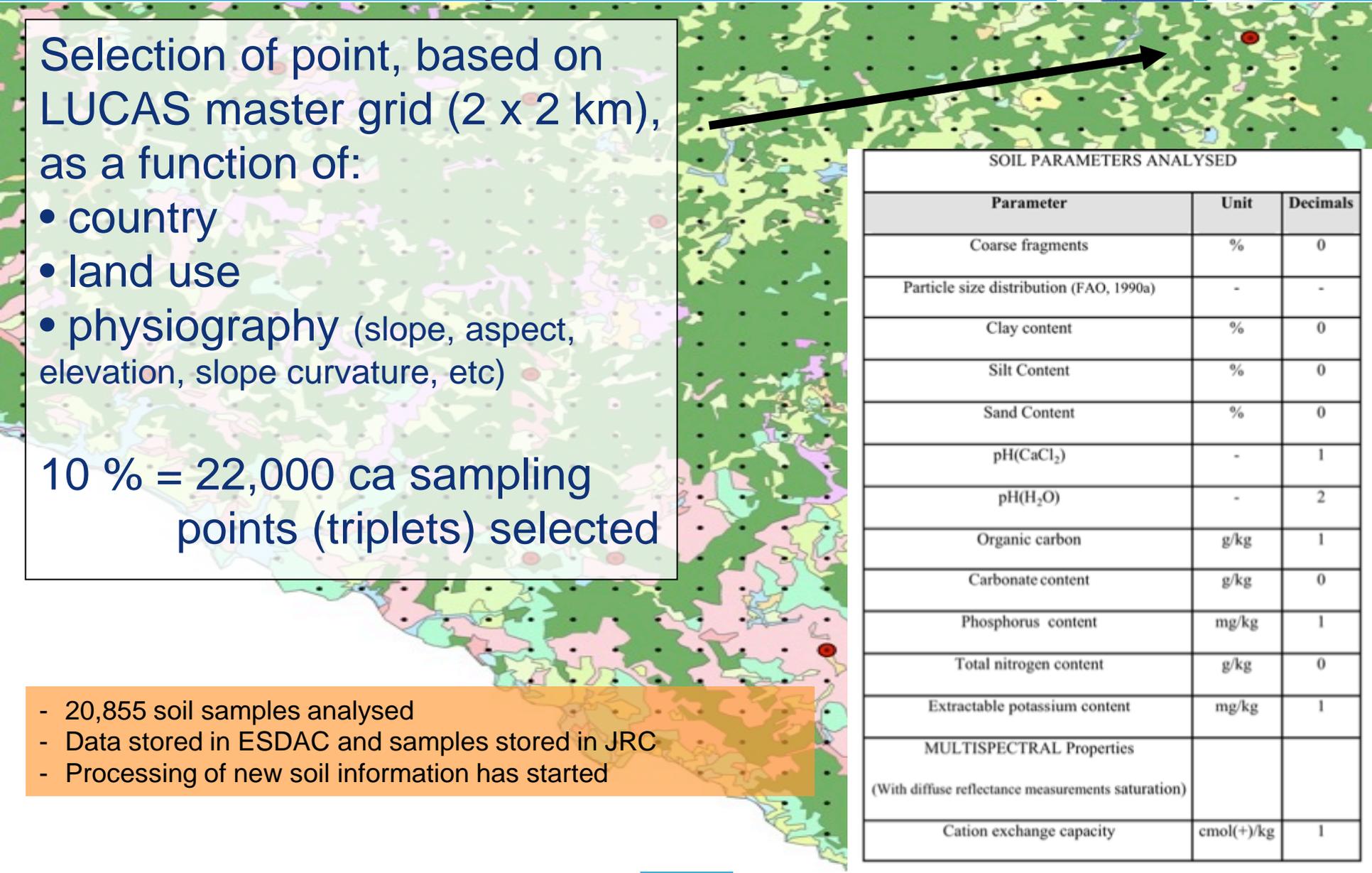


Selection of point, based on LUCAS master grid (2 x 2 km), as a function of:

- country
- land use
- physiography (slope, aspect, elevation, slope curvature, etc)

10 % = 22,000 ca sampling points (triplets) selected

- 20,855 soil samples analysed
- Data stored in ESDAC and samples stored in JRC
- Processing of new soil information has started



SOIL PARAMETERS ANALYSED		
Parameter	Unit	Decimals
Coarse fragments	%	0
Particle size distribution (FAO, 1990a)	-	-
Clay content	%	0
Silt Content	%	0
Sand Content	%	0
pH(CaCl ₂)	-	1
pH(H ₂ O)	-	2
Organic carbon	g/kg	1
Carbonate content	g/kg	0
Phosphorus content	mg/kg	1
Total nitrogen content	g/kg	0
Extractable potassium content	mg/kg	1
MULTISPECTRAL Properties (With diffuse reflectance measurements saturation)		
Cation exchange capacity	cmol(+)/kg	1

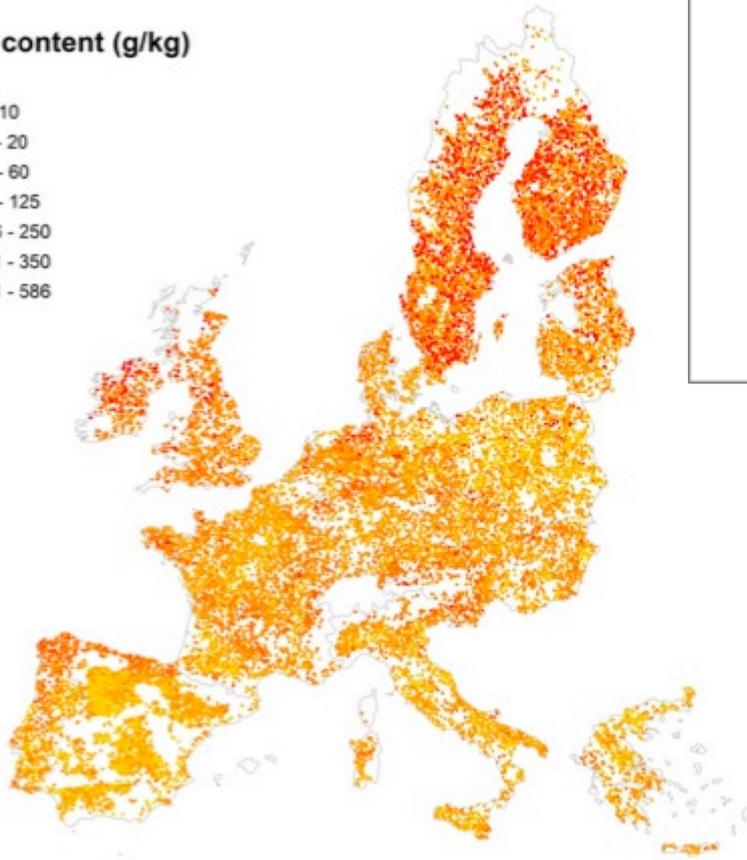
LUCAS 2009: data analysis



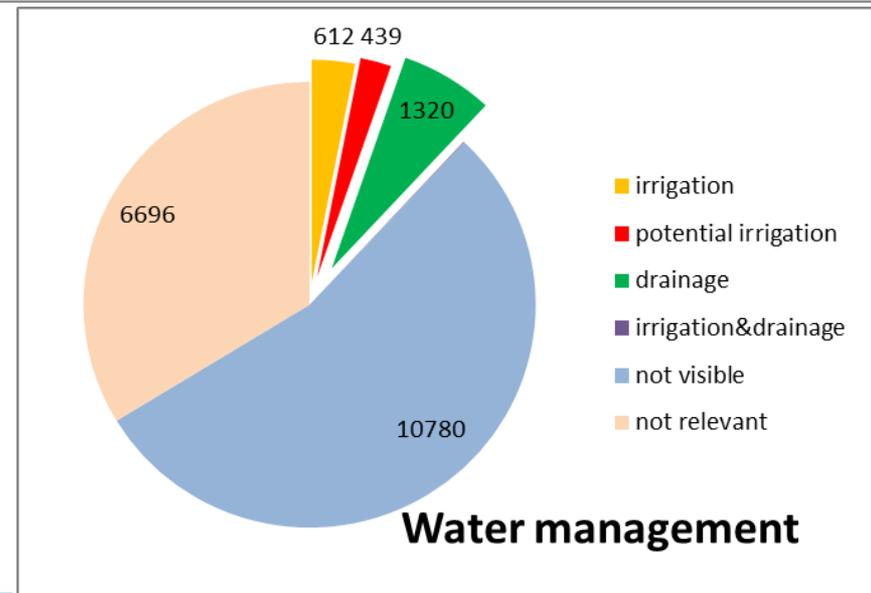
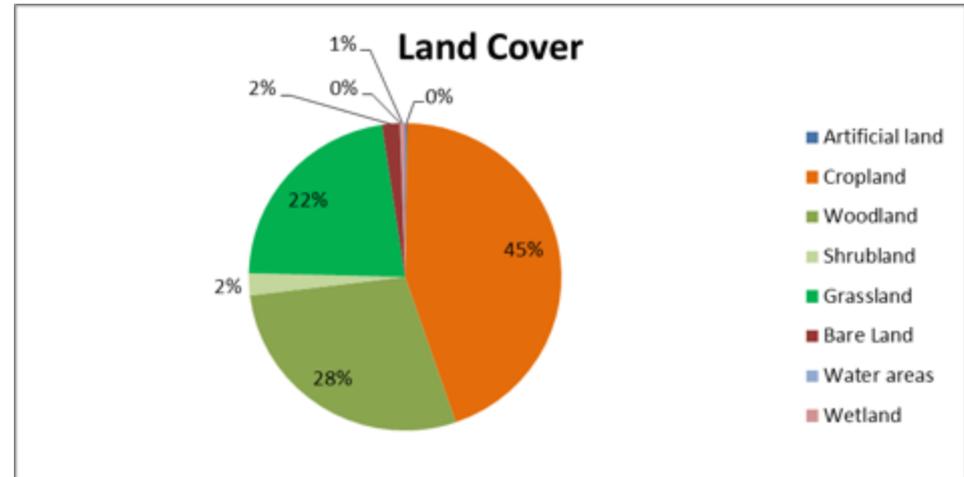
19,879 soil samples

Organic Carbon content (g/kg)

- 2
- 3 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 21 - 60
- 61 - 125
- 126 - 250
- 251 - 350
- 351 - 586



Next LUCAS Soil Survey: 2015



J R C R E F E R E N C E R E P O R T S



The State of Soil in Europe

*A contribution of the JRC
to the European Environment Agency's
Environment State and Outlook Report—SOER 2010*

A. Jones, P. Panagos, S. Barcelo, F. Bouraoui, C. Bosco,
O. Dewitte, C. Gardi, M. Erhard, J. Hervás, R. Hiederer,
S. Jeffery, A. Lükewille, L. Marmo, L. Montanarella,
C. Olazábal, J.-E. Petersen, V. Penizek, T. Strassburger,
G. Tóth, M. Van Den Eeckhaut, M. Van Liedekerke,
F. Verheijen, E. Viestova, Y. Yigini

2012

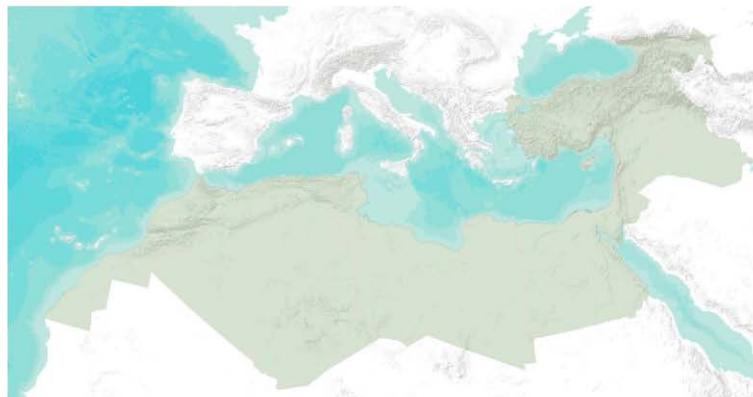
Report EUR 25186 EN



ongoing activities



J R C T E C H N I C A L R E P O R T S



Soil Resources of Mediterranean and Caucasus Countries

Extension of the European Soil Database

Editors

Yusuf Yigini, Panos Panagos, Luca Montanarella

2013

Report EUR 25988 EN



2007

Joint
Research
Centre

Status and prospect of soil information in south- eastern Europe:

soil databases, projects and
applications

Edited by:

Tomislav Hengl, Panos Panagos,
Arwyn Jones and Gergely Tóth

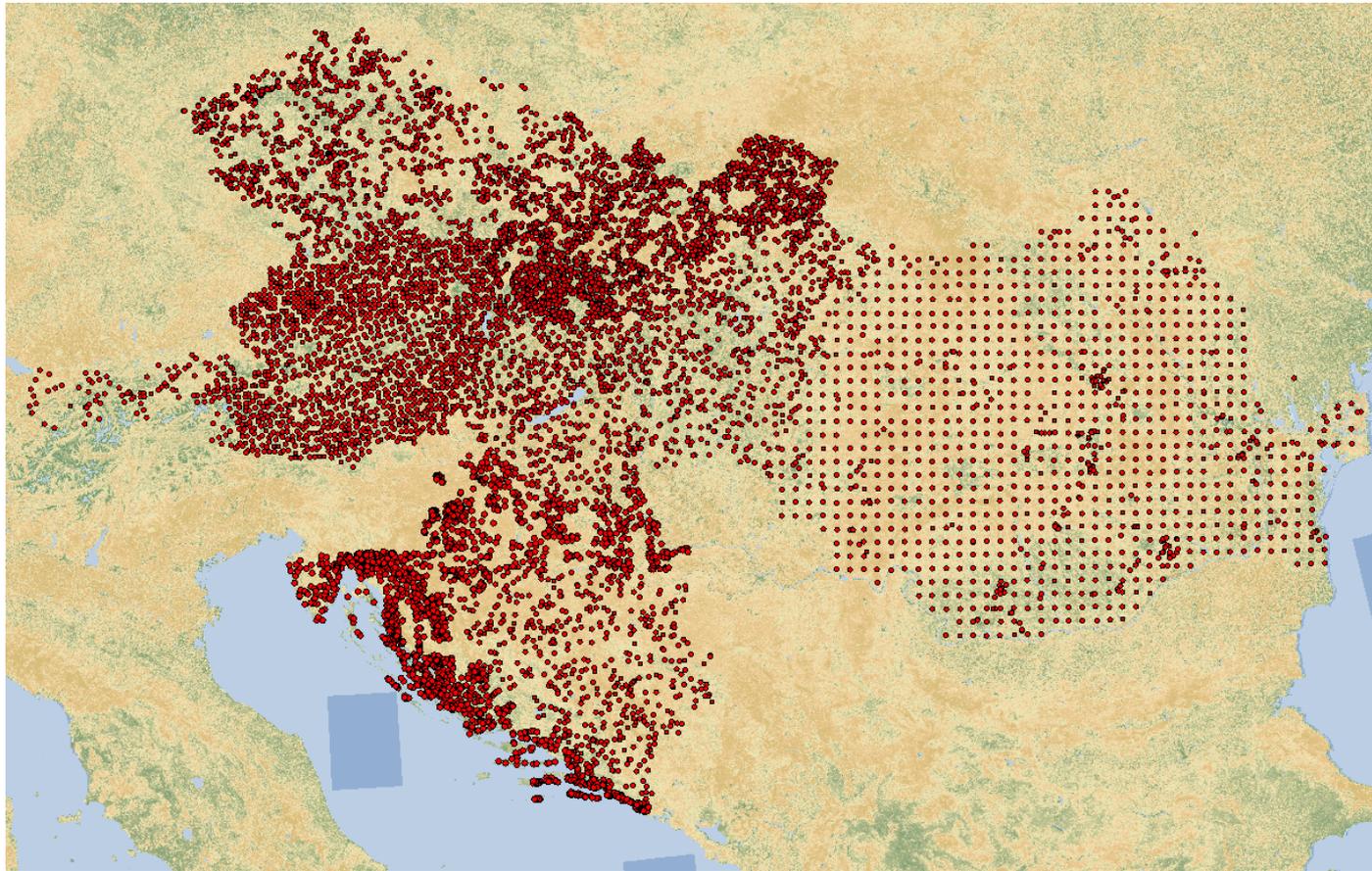
Institute for Environment and Sustainability



EUR 22646 EN



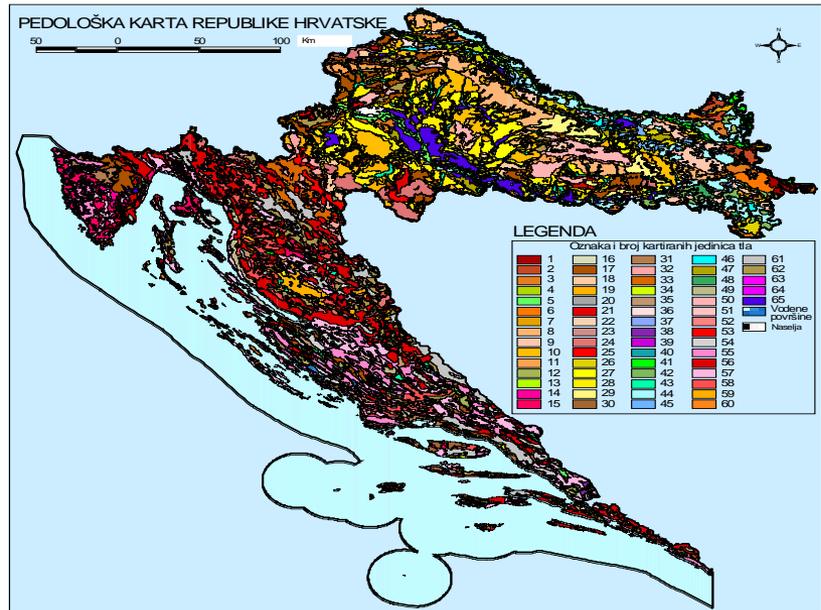
Danube Soil Information System



More details at: <http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/danubesis/index.htm>

Danube Land and Soil Nexus: Relevance for Croatia

1. Through harmonised national activities, develop Danube-wide assessments of land and soil availability, quality (including above- and below-ground ecosystems and biodiversity).
2. Develop assessments of land and soil consumption/sealing (including drivers and impacts on issues such as agricultural productivity, flooding, biodiversity, etc...)
3. Underpinned through development of harmonised high-resolution soil database for Danube Region (1:250,000 scale based on the E-SOTER methodology & INSPIRE principles) that support national land inventory base.



Thank you for your interest!



<http://eusoils.jrc.it/>