





Event: 'Soils for Europe'

Wednesday 30th of April 2025 14:00-16:00

European Parliament, ASP 5G1

and ONLINE

In the framework of the Soils for Europe project





Welcome

Martin Hojsík, Vice-President of the European Parliament





Questions for (one of) the speakers? Feel free to write in webex chat or email to kristine@pan-europe.info

Introduction

Carlos Guerra, University of Coimbra, Soils for Europe

Kristine De Schamphelaere, PAN Europe, Soils for Europe



1 - What lies beneath

"The soil might be the most complex of all living systems. ... understanding it is crucial to addressing some of the greatest questions that confront us: how we might feed ourselves in a world whose natural and human systems are changing at astonishing speed, how we might do so without destroying the basis of our subsistence, while securing our survival and protect the rest of life on earth.

The future lies beneath".



Healthy Soils: Foundation of our livelihoods

- → Soil life biodiversity healthy ecosystems
- → Healthy Food production long-term perspective for farmers
- → Water quality, quantity (absorption, storage, filtering) -
- \rightarrow Essential in context of the climate crisis



Healthy Soils: Foundation of our livelihoods

- → E.g. Soil pollution (pesticides, heavy metals, PFAS, pharmaceuticals, plastics ...): major soil threat and societal costs
- → Detrimental impact on soil biodiversity, ecosystem health, food production, water, health, ...
- → Many farmers across Europe: working on ambitious reduction of e.g. pesticides and on restoring soil health
- → Right framework needed



Programme:

Opportunities ahead for soil monitoring and conservation across Member States - Carlos A. Guerra, University of Coimbra

Soil health indicators and monitoring - relevant scientific findings from EJP SOIL - Rajasekaran Murugan, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Boku University, Vienna

From monitoring to steering soil functioning - Paul Bodelier, Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO-KNAW), Wageningen

Soil Health, Pesticides & Soil Ecological Engineering - Marcel van der Heijden, Agroscope, University of Zurich

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Programme:

Land Managers and Soils: from care to agency - Teresa Pinto-Correia, University of Évora

Working on soil health in Flemish Fields - Joeri Dewelde, runs arable farm Hoeve Begijns agro, Belgium

Living Labs for Soil Health - Wim De Kinderen, ENoLL (European Network of Living Labs) - SOILL

Institutional level planning towards a model for co-constructing a soil monitoring system in anticipation for the ESML in Portugal - André Daniel Silva Trindade, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DGADR)

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All speakers, organisers and participants: Thank you very much!

