



27-28 September 2021, Face to Face and Online (Hybrid Event), MED, University of Evora, Portugal

Bringing Science to Society through Co-Innovation and Co-Creation: The Case of the “Soil Health and Food Mission”

The mission-oriented research and innovation concept is one of the main novelties under Horizon Europe. The ‘Soil health and food’ Mission is intended to set the transition towards sustainable land and soil management in motion to achieve the objectives of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the EU Green Deal.

Concerning research and innovation, the approach will require increased interdisciplinarity and cross-sectoral collaboration. It will involve a joint endeavour by researchers, land managers, policymakers, industry, and citizens to co-design, co-create and implement solutions to improve the functioning of food and bio-based value chains, adapt the farm and forest business models, enhance the conditions for biodiversity and the capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change tailored to different local realities.

The Mission’s activities will be focussed around “Living Labs” to ensure validation and demonstration of good practices and the widespread uptake of solutions. In addition, necessary indicators, consistent across EU, will be needed to continuously monitor and assess the progress achieved in addition to a monitoring system set that is appropriate for all European regions.

EURAGRI therefore invites you to reflect and discuss the input and contribution of research and innovation organisations to the ‘Soil health and food’ Mission as to how to engage in a fruitful exchange with the non-academic actors.

The questions we would like to address are:

- What experiences can we build upon?
- Do we need entirely new approaches, skills, and procedures?
- How do we monitor and assess research and its contribution in a larger societal setting?

Programme

Monday, 27th September

Welcome (EURAGRI, MED, University of Evora)

9:30 – 11:15 Key-note session 1: Introduction to theme (conceptual)

9:30 – 9:50 COM – Horizon Europe, “Soil health and food mission”

10:00 – 10:30 The Role of Research under the Mission Concept.

10:30 – 11:00 How to engage the farming community and society? - Living labs, Fleur Marchand, ILVO

11:00 – 11:15 Q&A

Coffee 11:15 - 11:30

11:30 – 13:00 Key –note session 2: Ecosystem services – living soils in living landscapes.

11:30 – 12:00 The multi-functionality of soils – who defines soil value? Else Bünemann, FiBL

12:00 – 12:30 Soil-quality – between knowledge and practice?

12:30 – 13:00 Monitoring and relevant and meaningful indicators. Bridget Emmett, CEH

13:00 -14:00 Lunch

Excursion/ virtual event/ Dinner

Tuesday, 28th September

9:00 – 10:30 Key-note session 3: Sustainable agriculture in new clothes - Agro ecology and regenerative agriculture

9:00 - 9:20 What is sustainable agriculture – who wants what? Gottlieb Basch, MED

9:20 - 9:40 Linking soil and consumption – soil health and food health.

9:40 – 9:50 Case study

9:50 – 10:00 Case study

10:00 – 10:20 Up-take and out-scaling – how to make it happen?

10:20 – 10:30 Discussion

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee

11:00 -12:30 Breakout session

1) The strategic purpose and designing aspects.

- a. Why are indicators necessary and for which purpose?
- b. What indicators do we need and who defines them?

2) The setting-up and implementation.

- c. How to achieve up-take and out-scale?
- d. How to monitor up-take? Who is setting up and using the indicator system?

12:30 -13:30 Lunch

13:30 Report breakout sessions

14:00 – 15:00 Panel discussion

15:00 – 15:30 Rounding up – end of conference