

# PERIN Portugal in Europe Research and Innovation Network

## Candidaturas ao concurso da Missão Solo: calendário 2023, condições e instrumentos de apoio às candidaturas

Maria João Fernandes (ANI)  
Vila Real, 18 maio 2023



**FCT** Fundação  
para a Ciência  
e a Tecnologia



**PORTUGAL  
SPACE**

**AICIB** Agência  
Nacional de  
Inovação e  
Iniciativa

Erasmus+

**DGES**  
Direção-Geral do Ensino Superior

**CIÊNCIA VIVA**



Horizon Europe  
R&I Missions

Linking EU's research and innovation to major societal needs;  
with strong visibility and impact

A mission is a portfolio of actions across disciplines intended to achieve a **bold and inspirational and measurable goal** within a set timeframe, with **impact** for society and policy making as well as relevance for a significant part of the European population and wide range of European citizens.

Horizon Europe defines **5 missions areas**:

Adaptation to  
Climate Change



Cancer



Climate-neutral  
and Smart Cities



Restore our  
Ocean and Waters



Soil Deal  
for Europe



# We need to act now

**Our soils are threatened** due to current management practices, pollution, urbanization, effects of climate change, etc.



At the EU level, the Mission supports a number of **Green Deal** strategies **as well as the SDGs**

- Farm to Fork strategy
- EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
- Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Zero Pollution Action Plan
- Sustainable Carbon Cycles
- Forest Strategy
- Long-term Vision for Rural Areas
- Organic Action Plan
- Soil strategy





# Mission goal and specific objectives

1. Reduce desertification

2. Conserve soil organic carbon stocks

3. Stop soil sealing and increase re-use of urban soils

4. Reduce soil pollution and enhance restoration

100 living labs  
and lighthouses  
to lead the  
transition  
towards healthy  
soils by 2030

5. Prevent erosion

6. Improve soil structure to enhance soil biodiversity

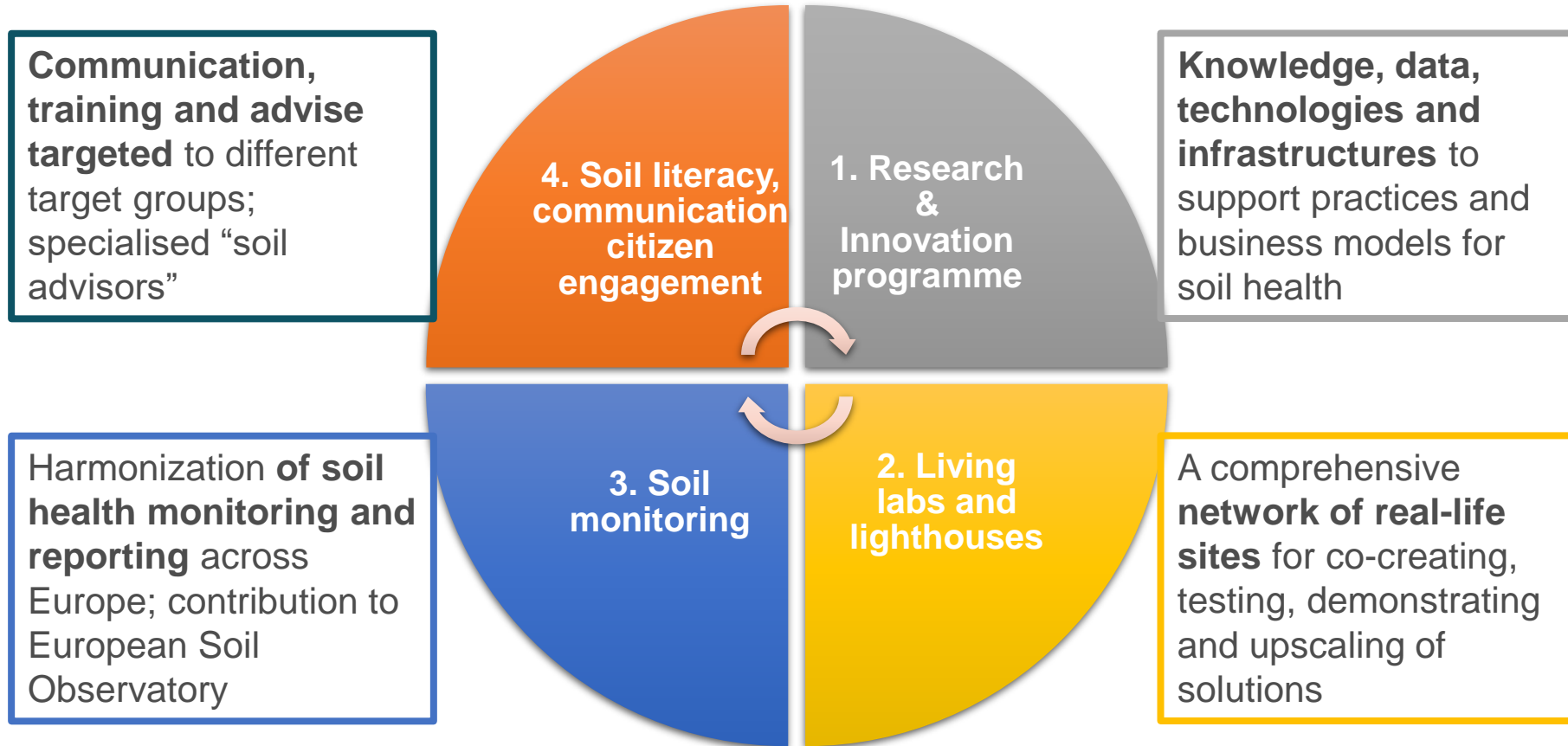
7. Reduce the EU global footprint on soils

8. Improve soil literacy in society



# How will the Mission be implemented?

Activities under the **four building blocks** to address **soil health** and the **drivers of soil health**



**Co-implementation of mission by:** researchers, land managers, regions, businesses, policy makers, citizens and international partners

## Goal of the SOIL HEALTH Mission, by 2030:

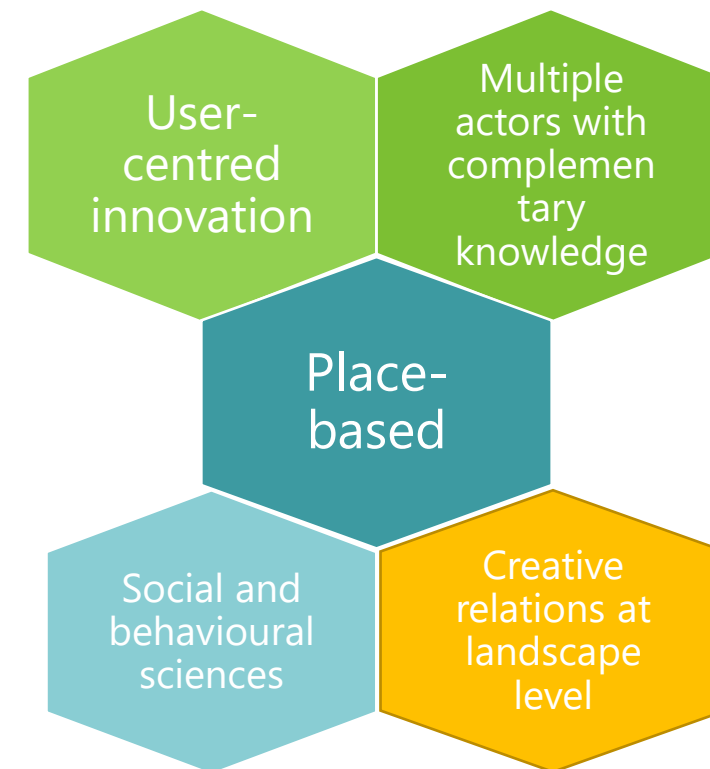
### 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils

#### Living labs (LL) are a core element of the mission

- They are **real-life sites** in **rural or urban** areas in which people from **various sectors and backgrounds** experiment and test solutions in a **co-creative** manner.
- Each living lab contains a **group of sites and partners** working together at **regional or sub-regional level**.
- Specific **criteria** for living labs have been developed under the mission to ensure common approach and comparability of data and experiences.

#### Lighthouses (LH) are individual sites of exemplary performance

- They are places for **showcasing good practices, training** and **communicating**.
- They help with the adoption of sustainable practices by **inspiring land users**



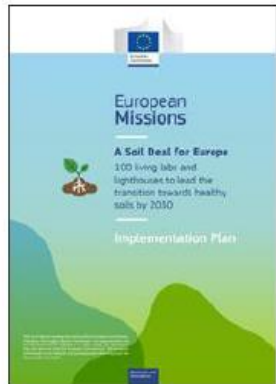


# Mission roll-out

Mission Board's report  
Sept. 2020



Implementation Plan  
Sept. 2021



1st Call for proposals  
e.g. on **soil monitoring indicators, engage businesses, regions and municipalities, soil advisors**

Work Programme 2021  
Deadline: 24 March 2022  
**Budget: 67M€**

11 projects (4 PT)

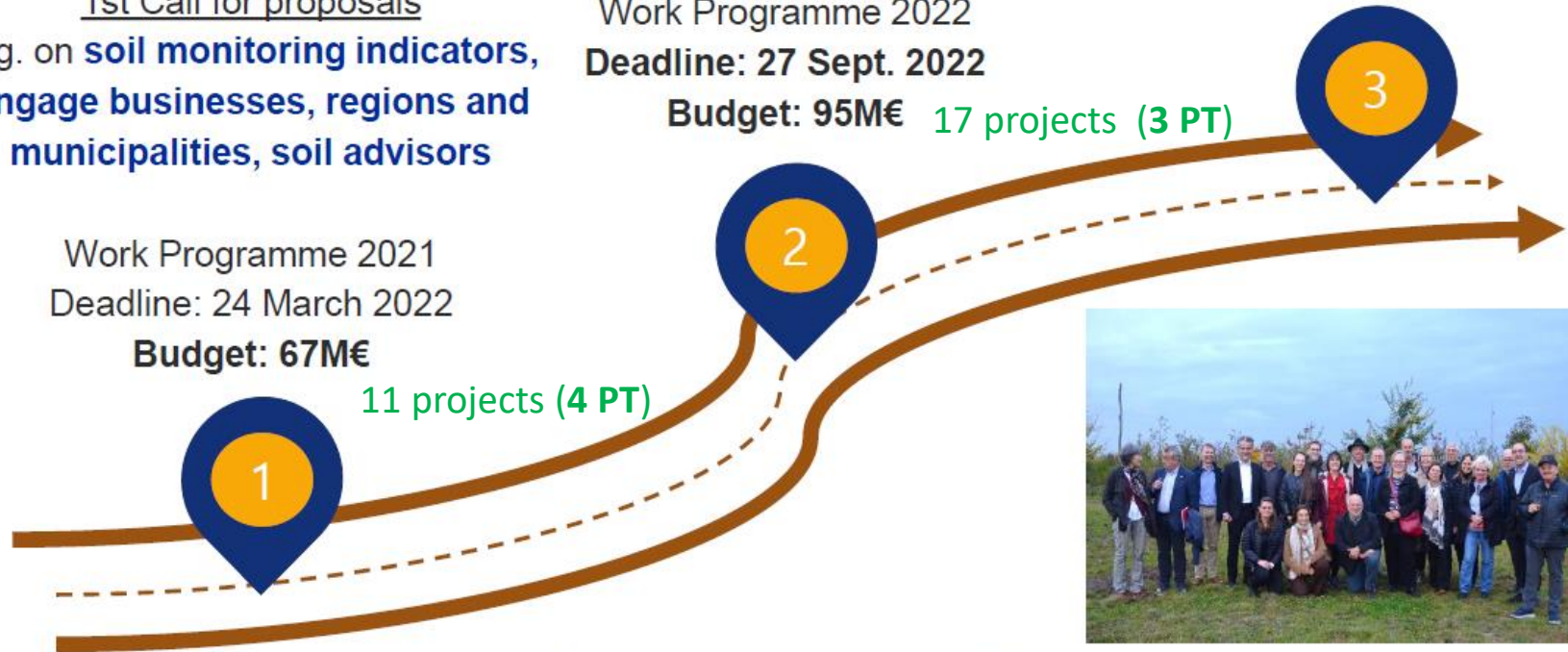
2nd Call for proposals e.g. on **decontamination and spatial planning, carbon farming, soil education, citizen science**

Work Programme 2022  
Deadline: 27 Sept. 2022  
**Budget: 95M€**

17 projects (3 PT)

3rd Call for proposals for **EU and international partners**  
**First call for Living labs**

Work Programme 2023  
**Budget: 126 M€**  
**Open: 17 January 2023**  
**Deadline: 20 September 2023**



Started in October 2022: **Soil Mission Board 2022-2025**

# LL - A gradual development of the network

## Phase 1 (2021-2024)

### Preparatory actions in WP21:

Mapping LL and soil needs & knowledge sharing.

Engagement sessions & other capacity building.

### LL Support Structure in WP22

FPA for a structure to cater for the needs of the emerging living labs.

### Creation of Living Labs in WP23:

Launch of 1<sup>st</sup> call for establishing transnational clusters of soil health LL.

## Phase 2 (2025-2026)

### Expansion of LL:

Launch of successive calls for expanding the network of LL

→ wide coverage of:

- Geographies
- Themes (Mission's objectives)
- Land uses (agricultural, forest, urban, industrial).

## Phase 3 (2027 onwards)

### Scaling up of LL:

Launch of last calls for setting LL.

(measures to facilitate sustainability of the LL beyond the Mission timeframe)



# KEY FIGURES OF THE SOIL MISSION CALL

Research and Innovation and other actions to support the implementation of mission “A Soil Deal for Europe”

- ✓ **Call ID:** HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01
- ✓ **Total indicative budget:** 126 M€
- ✓ **Opening:** 17/01/2023
- ✓ **Deadline:** 20/09/2023
- ✓ **Type of actions:** 5 RIA; 3 IA; 1 CSA
- ✓ Single-stage call



[Apply to Soil Mission topics](#)



# The mission's implementation plan

- A blueprint for the roll-out of the mission, in particular in the first three years 2021-2024.
- Builds on recommendations from the Mission Board and provides details on:
  - **the policy context;**
  - **the intervention logic, phases and timeline of activities;**
  - **R&I priorities incl. innovation “hotspots”:** carbon farming, soil pollution and restoration, soil biodiversity, circular economy solutions;
  - **cross-cutting dimensions:** digital, business, territorial, global;
  - **expected outputs, outcomes and monitoring;**
  - **resources and synergies** with other programmes;
  - **supporting structures.**
- A living document, to be continuously updated.



**A Soil Deal for Europe – 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils by 2030.**

*Soil health is defined as "the continued capacity of soils to support ecosystem services" and is assessed through a set of proposed, measurable indicators.*



# MISSIONS WORK PROGRAMME 2023

*The document for your success*

Published in the F&T portal [here](#)

(Reference Documents > Work programme & call documents)



Purpose of the mission, relevant policies & **expected wider impact**

**Overview of project types, deadlines, budgets, number of projects/call**

**Topic description** including "specific conditions", "Expected outcome" & "Scope"

***Each word counts!!***

Soil Mission on pp. 107-142

# Overview of Work Programme 2023 topics

Soil Deal  
for Europe



	Topics	ToA; budget
2023-SOIL-01-01	Discovering the <b>subsoil</b>	RIA; 12 m€ (2)
2023-SOIL-01-02	<b>Soil pollution processes</b> – modelling and inclusion in advanced digital decision-support tools	RIA; 14 m€ (2)
2023-SOIL-01-03	<b>Onsite digital technologies to monitor</b> nutrients and chemical or biological stressors in soil and plants with relevance for food safety and nutrition	IA; 12 m€ (2)
2023-SOIL-01-04	Innovations to prevent and combat <b>desertification</b>	IA; 14 m€ (2)
2023-SOIL-01-05	Soil-friendly practices in <b>horticulture</b> , including alternative growing media	IA; 13 m€ (2)
2023-SOIL-01-06	Soils in <b>spatial planning</b>	RIA; 7 m€ (1)
2023-SOIL-01-07	Back to earth: bringing <b>communities and citizens</b> closer to soil	CSA; 6 m€ (1)
2023-SOIL-01-08	<b>Co-creating solutions for soil health in Living Labs</b>	RIA; 36 m€ (3)
2023-SOIL-01-09	<b>Carbon farming</b> in living labs	RIA; 12 m€ (1)
<i>Other Actions</i>	<i>SGA: Specific Grant Agreement for a Living Lab Support Structure</i>	SGA; 3.2 m€ (1)

} 4 projects for LLs

## Joint topics

	Topic	Instrument	Budget	No of projects	Budget per project
O/C/S	Mission Climate adaptation, Mission Ocean & waters and Mission Soil Deal for Europe – Joint demonstration of an integrated approach to increasing landscape water retention capacity at regional scale	IA	15	1	15
O/S	Mission Ocean and Waters and Mission A Soil Deal for Europe – Joint demonstration of approaches and solutions to address nutrient pollution in the landscape-river-sea system in the Mediterranean sea basin	IA	16	2	8

# QUICK OVERVIEW OF THE LIVING LABS TOPICS

<b>Soil health</b>	36M€ funding	Research and Innovation Action	<b>At least 4-5 Living Labs per project</b> located in at least 3 MS/AC
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-08</a> <i>Co-creating solutions for soil health in Living Labs</i>	3 projects expected to be funded		
<b>Carbon farming</b>	12M€ funding		
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-09</a> <i>Carbon farming in living labs</i>	1 project expected to be funded		
		100% funding	
		Deadline: 20 September 2023 17:00:00	



# HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-08

## CO-CREATING SOLUTIONS FOR SOIL HEALTH IN LIVING LABS



### POLICY CONTEXT

- **European Green Deal and several strategies**, such as those related to soil, food and nutrition security, climate, biodiversity, environment and rural areas:
  - Soil strategy
  - Farm to Fork strategy
  - EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
  - Climate Adaptation Strategy
  - Zero Pollution Action Plan
  - Long-term Vision for Rural Areas
  - Forest Strategy
  - Organic Action Plan
- **Soil Deal Mission goal** of setting up 100 living labs to lead the transition to healthy soils by 2030.
- **Soil Deal Mission objectives**, except number 2
- **SDG**



### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- **Fully operational Living labs (LL)** are established, where **co-creation and testing of solutions** for soil health in rural and urban areas takes place;
- Increased capacities for **participatory, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary** R&I approaches; allowing for effective cooperation between science, practice and policy;
- Practice oriented **knowledge and tools** are **more easily available** to land managers and **contribute to an enhanced uptake of solutions** for soil health and related ecosystem services;
- **Strengthened collaborations** and increased consideration of effective solutions for soil health;
- **Policy makers** are more **aware** of local needs regarding soil health and can use this knowledge to design more effective policies.



# HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-08



## SCOPE

- Set up **four to five LL** to work together under **one project, sharing related soil health challenges**;
- Establish a detailed **work plan** with the activities to be undertaken ensuring the **co-design, co-development, and co-implementation of solutions**;
- Demonstrate how they do research, considering the relevant **drivers and pressures** as well as the **scaling up** and the **transferability of solutions**;
- **Establish** for each LL **a baseline** for the selected soil health challenge(s), in order to allow **for an accurate assessment and monitoring** of progress towards the objectives of the LL and the objectives of the project overall;
- **Monitor** and carry out an **assessment** of the **effects** of the innovative solutions **on soil health and related ecosystem services**. This should include a **demonstration of the viability** of the proposed solutions;
- Propose **strategies to ensure long-term sustainability** and continuity of the living labs beyond the Horizon Europe (e.g. possible business models);
- **Document** in an easy and accessible way the **developed solutions** in order to facilitate their uptake and transfer to relevant actors.



## KEEP IN MIND

- **Multi-actor approach**;
- Beneficiaries may provide **financial support to third parties** (max. EUR 200 K);
- Capitalize from **ongoing projects** such as PREPSOIL, NATI00NS, NBSSOIL and the **future Support Structure** under the SGA;
- Interact with networks active at local level, such as **EIP-AGRI OG**;
- Close collaboration with **EUSO**;
- Agricultural activities should benefit both **conventional and organic farming**.



# HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-09

## CARBON FARMING IN LIVING LABS



### POLICY CONTEXT

- **European Green Deal** ambitious and targets,
- Commission's Communication on **Sustainable Carbon Cycle**, and upcoming regulatory proposal on the **certification of carbon removals**;
- **Soil Deal Mission goal** of setting up 100 living labs to lead the transition to healthy soils by 2030.
- **Soil Deal Mission objective 2**, “**Conserve and increase soil organic carbon stocks**”.
- **SDG # 13** on climate action



### EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- **Increased carbon sequestration and protection of carbon in soils, living biomass and dead organic matter**
- Increased capacities for **participatory, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary R&I** approaches
- Practice-oriented **knowledge and tools** are **more easily available** to land managers and contribute to an enhanced uptake of carbon farming.
- **Strengthened collaborations** and **increased consideration of effective solutions for carbon farming** in regions where the selected LL are operating.
- **Policy makers** are more **aware** of local needs regarding soil health and can use this knowledge to design more effective policies.





# HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-09



## SCOPE

- Set up **four to five LL** to work together **on carbon farming**, covering one or several land use types. Proposals should **describe the rationale for cooperation** across the various LL.
- Establish a detailed **work plan** with the activities to be undertaken ensuring the **co-design, co-development, and co-implementation of solutions**.
- Carry out **participatory and transdisciplinary** research in LL, considering relevant **drivers and pressures** as well as the **scaling up** and the **transferability of solutions to carbon farming challenges**;
- Establish for each LL a **baseline for carbon farming** to monitor the progress towards the objective of the LL and of the project overall. **Make use of relevant accounting methodologies for quantification of carbon removals**.
- Monitor and carry out an **assessment of the innovative practices for carbon farming**, considering the effects of ongoing climate change on carbon sequestration potential and dynamics.
- Propose **strategies to ensure long-term sustainability** and continuity of the living labs beyond the Horizon Europe (e.g. possible business models).



## KEEP IN MIND

- **Multi-actor approach**;
- Beneficiaries may provide **financial support to third parties** (max. EUR 200 K);
- Capitalize from **ongoing projects** such as PREPSOIL, NATI00NS, NBSSOIL and the **future Support Structure** under the SGA;
- Interact with networks active at local level, such as **EIP-AGRI OG**;
- Close collaboration with **EUSO**;
- Agricultural activities should benefit both **conventional and organic farming**.

# MULTI-ACTOR APPROACH

**Multi-actor projects** are projects ensuring the genuine involvement of a targeted array of actors, which serves the objectives of the topic.

Depending on the objective of the proposal, the type of actors include: **i)** researchers, **ii)** farmers / farmers' groups & associations, **iii)** foresters / foresters' groups & associations, **iv)** advisors, **v)** land managers & owners, **vi)** spatial planners, **vii)** food & bioeconomy businesses, **viii)** consumer associations, **ix)** local communities, **x)** educators, **xi)** cultural & creative industries, **xii)** citizens, **xiii)** civil society organisations including NGOs, and **xiv)** government representatives.

They are essentially the (end-) **users of the project results** but the genuine and sufficient involvement of these actors should take place **all over the whole course of the project**.

- **Eligibility criteria**
- It affects the consortium structure & the way it is presented in the proposal
- Definition on pp 108-110 WP

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/about/multi-actor-projects-scientists-and-farmers>



# FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THIRD PARTIES

<p><i>Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements</i></p>	<p>The rules are described in General Annex G. The following exceptions apply:</p> <p><b>Beneficiaries may provide financial support to third parties.</b> The support to third parties can only be provided in the form of grants (further to calls or, if duly justified, without a call for proposals). The maximum amount to be granted to each third party is EUR 200 000, to allow for the active participation of appropriate stakeholders, including farmers, businesses or civil society in living labs and achieve the objectives of the actions described under the scope.</p>
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**For more information:**

[HE General Annexes](#) & [AGA – Annotated Grant Agreement](#), Articles 6.2.D.1 and 9.4.

**For inspiration:** [Competitive calls and calls for third parties](#) | F&T portal

# Soil Health Living Labs: support actions



## PREPSOIL

Preparing for  
the 'Soil Deal for Europe' Mission

July 2022 – June 2025  
GA 101070045

<https://prepsoil.eu/>

- Regional soil needs assessment
- LL taxonomy & features specification
- LL identification & mapping
- Model business plan for LL
- Service package for LL scale-up



## NATIOONS

National engagement activities  
to support the launch of the  
Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'  
100 LLs and LHs

November 2022 – October 2024  
GA 101090738

<https://nati00ns.eu/>

- National engagement sessions
- Supporting applicants
  - Coaching
  - E-learning & capacity building
  - Matchmaking
  - Helpdesk

## SOILL SOILL

Support structure for Soil Health  
Living Labs

January 2024 – December 2028  
GA 101112782

*Currently under Grant Agreement  
Preparation*

- Info point, helpdesk & community management
- **Applicants:** Engagement, matchmaking & trainings
- **Living Labs:** Promotion, Training, Networking, Monitoring
- **Community:** Networking, knowledge sharing, scaling up

13-03-2023 - 31-10-2024

# Transnational matchmaking platform

Supporting the EU Mission "A Soil Deal for Europe" across national communities  
Establish your Living Lab & consortium



13 March 2023 - 31 October 2024

## NATIOONS Soil Living Labs Online Matchmaking Event

[Info](#) [How it works](#) [FAQ](#) [Contact](#)

Welcome to

### NATIOONS Soil Living Labs Online Matchmaking Event

The Soil Living Labs Online Matchmaking Event is promoted under the project **NATIOONS** to enable international stakeholders to meet online for creating partnerships for the establishment of a Living Labs and Lighthouses in line with the **EU Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe**.

The long term online event will be accessible throughout the duration of the project **NATIOONS** to offer applicants the opportunity to **schedule online meetings** with potential project partners for the creation of urban, agro, post-industrial or forestry Living Labs and Lighthouses under the calls for proposals **HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-08: Co-creating solutions for soil health in Living Labs and HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-09: Carbon farming in Living Labs**.

The tool is open to representatives from the public sector, scientific communities, private companies and citizen associations based on the 44 countries represented by the **NATIOONS** project.

Please visit the project website to learn more: <https://nati00ns.eu>

[Register now](#)

Open until 31 October 2024

ORGANISED BY

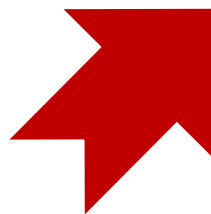


PARTICIPANTS

	Spain	45
	Portugal	40
	Turkey	24
	Poland	16
	France	14
	Romania	14
	Bulgaria	13
	Denmark	12
	Hungary	11
	Belgium	10
	Italy	10
	Tunisia	8

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	Hungary	11
	Belgium	10
	Italy	10
	Tunisia	8
	Netherlands	8
	Germany	8
	Austria	7
	Malta	6
	Israel	6
	Sweden	5



<https://nati00ns-soil-living-lab-matching.b2match.io/>



# HuMUS «Healthy Municipal Soils»



**Duration: 36 months** From January 2023 to December 2025

**Budget (EU contribution): 3.276.679,50 €**

**Coordinator organisation: ANCI TOSCANA**

## **Mission Specific Objectives covered :**

Improve soil literacy in society; Facilitate the deployment of the Soil Mission at regional and local levels

## **Mission Operational Objectives covered:**

- Build capacities and the knowledge base for soil stewardship
- Co-create and upscale place-based innovations to improve soil health in all places
- Engage with the soil user community and society at large

# HOW TO APPLY?



**Submission platform**  
[Funding & Tenders portal](#)

05



SUBMIT

04

**Write the proposal !**

Application form (Part A)  
Project proposal – Technical description (Part B)  
Proposal Templates → [Reference documents](#)



**Build a consortium**  
**Collaborate, collaborate!**  
[Before applying](#)

03



[NATI00NS matchmaking tool](#)

02

**Look for a project call**  
**Read the work programmes!**

WP & call documents → [Reference documents](#)



01

**Ambitious & innovative idea. Concept.**  
**Understand stakeholders needs**

HORIZONTE EUROPA - Programa de Trabalhos [2023](#): Missão Solo (pp.106)

Call - [Research and Innovation and other actions to support the implementation of mission A Soil Deal for Europe](#)

Referência tópico	Título	Tipo de projeto	M€ por projeto	Orçamento disponível (M€)	Deadline
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-01</a>	Discovering the subsoil	RIA	6	12	20/09/2023
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-02</a>	Soil pollution processes – modelling and inclusion in advanced digital decision-support tools	RIA	7	14	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-03</a>	Onsite digital technologies to monitor nutrients and chemical or biological stressors in soil and plants with relevance for food safety and nutrition	IA	6	12	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-04</a>	Innovations to prevent and combat desertification	IA	7	14	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-05</a>	Soil-friendly practices in horticulture, including alternative growing media	IA	6.5	13	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-06</a>	Soils in spatial planning	RIA	7	7	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-07</a>	Back to earth: bringing communities and citizens closer to soil	CSA	6	6	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-08</a>	Co-creating solutions for soil health in Living Labs	RIA	12	36	
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2023-SOIL-01-09</a>	Carbon farming in living labs	RIA	12	12	

[https://pq-ue.ani.pt/brochuras/h-europa/alimentacao--bioeconomia--recursos-naturais--agricultura-e-ambiente/missoes\\_oceano-e-aguassolos\\_topicos-investigacao-2023.pdf](https://pq-ue.ani.pt/brochuras/h-europa/alimentacao--bioeconomia--recursos-naturais--agricultura-e-ambiente/missoes_oceano-e-aguassolos_topicos-investigacao-2023.pdf)

**[HORIZON-MISS-2023-CLIMA-01-01](#): Testing and demonstrating transformative solutions increasing climate resilience of the agriculture and/or forestry sector**





[https://pq-ue.ani.pt/eventos-perin/19361\\_22-mai-2023\\_save-the-date-evento-conjunto-missoes-oceano--aguas--solo-call-2023](https://pq-ue.ani.pt/eventos-perin/19361_22-mai-2023_save-the-date-evento-conjunto-missoes-oceano--aguas--solo-call-2023)

MISSÕES DO  
HORIZONTE  
EUROPA

PAVILHÃO CIÊNCIA  
VIVA, LISBOA

**EVENTO MISSÕES  
OCEANO E SOLOS**

22 MAIO 2023, 14:00 - 17:30



# AGENDA

EVENTO MISSÕES OCEANO  
E SOLOS  
22 DE MAIO 2023

**ABERTURA DAS PORTAS E REGISTO** **13:30 - 14:00**

**ABERTURA E BOAS VINDAS** **14:00 - 14:10**

Doutora Sílvia Garcia, ANI  
Ciência Viva

**MISSIONS: WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW TO BENEFIT** **14:10 - 14:45**

John Hanus, Mission Ocean & Waters  
Luis Sanchez Álvarez, Mission A Soil Deal for Europe  
Q&A

**OS PLAYERS NACIONAIS NAS MISSÕES: PARTILHA DE  
EXPERIÊNCIAS** **14:45 - 15:30**

*Mesa-redonda, moderação ANI*  
AAGORA, Ana Lilebø (CESAM - Universidade de Aveiro)  
BLUEMissionAA, José Moutinho (AirCentre)  
NETTAGPlus, Sandra Ramos (CIIMAR - Universidade do Porto)  
ECHO and SOILL, Cristina Cruz (Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa)  
Projetos interface Oceano-Solo, Anabela Cachada (CIIMAR-UP e CESAM-UA)

**MOMENTO DE NETWORKING** **15:30 - 16:15**

Exposição de posters e coffee break

**A LITERACIA E ENVOLVIMENTO DOS CIDADÃOS** **16:15 - 17:00**

*Mesa-redonda, moderação Ciência Viva*  
OTTERS, Priscila Doran (NUCLIO - Núcleo Interativo de Astronomia e Inovação em Educação)  
ECHO, Silvana Munzi (Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa)  
CLEVERFOOD, Sofia Lourenço (Ciência Viva)  
Plastic Pirates, Gabriella Ferreira (Ciência Viva)

**CONHEÇA A VISÃO DOS MISSION BOARDS** **17:00 - 17:25**

Helena Vieira, Mission Ocean and Waters  
Teresa Pinto Correia, Mission a Soil Deal for Europe  
Q&A

**FECHO DA SESSÃO** **17:25 - 17:30**





European  
Commission


<https://research-innovation-community.ec.europa.eu/events/1nVczf9ihgPdOg3zyoLyuC/programme>

Home Events Community How it works

REWATCH

## EU Missions info days


The event aims to inform potential applicants about the new topics included in the EU Missions work programme 2023


 17 January 2023 - 18 January 2023

 08:00 (GMT+00:00)




### A Soil Deal for Europe Mission

 18 January 2023

 13:00 - 15:15 (GMT+00:00)

Add to favourites 

Watch replay 

Overview Programme





March 2022

## The Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe': 100 living labs and lighthouses to lead the transition towards healthy soils

### THE MISSION 'A SOIL DEAL FOR EUROPE' EXPLAINED

Missions are a novelty of the EU research and innovation programme, Horizon Europe. They are a new way of bringing concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges. Restoring and maintaining soil health is one of these major societal challenges.

**Life on Earth depends on healthy soils.** Soils are not only the foundation of our food systems. They also provide clean water and habitats for biodiversity while contributing to climate resilience.

Although we take soils for granted, they are a scarce, threatened resource. It is estimated that between 60 and 70% of EU soils are unhealthy. Indeed, one centimeter of soil can take hundreds of years to form, but can be lost in just a single rainstorm or industrial incident.

The Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe'<sup>1</sup> will support the transition towards healthy soils by 2030 by putting in place an effective **network of**

**100 living labs and lighthouses** in rural and urban areas. In addition to **creating knowledge and solutions for soil health**, the Mission will advance the development of a harmonised framework for **soil monitoring** in Europe and **increase people's awareness** on the vital importance of soils.

The Mission is firmly embedded in the wider EU policy frameworks: it will contribute to Europe's ambition to become the first climate-neutral continent by 2050 and is an integral part of a number of Green Deal strategies<sup>2</sup>. Together with the EU Soil Strategy and the recently launched European Soil Observatory (EUSO), the Mission will carry out comprehensive actions for sustainable soil management and soil restoration across a range of land uses (e.g. agriculture, forestry, urban areas, natural/semi-natural areas). The Mission will be implemented in synergy with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to increase the uptake and the effectiveness of soil related measures funded under the CAP.

<sup>1</sup> <https://europa.eu/ky9wVF>

<sup>2</sup> The Farm to Fork strategy, the EU Biodiversity Strategy, the Climate Adaptation Strategy, the Zero Pollution Action Plan for air, water and soil, the new EU Forest Strategy, the Long-term Vision for Rural Areas, the Organic Action Plan, the Commission's recommendations for CAP strategic plans, the Circular Economy Action Plan, the EU Nature Restoration targets.

## WHAT ARE LIVING LABS AND LIGHTHOUSES?

*Living labs and lighthouses are key to accelerating the adoption of sustainable practices by users and to developing solutions adapted to local conditions.*

### Living labs

Soil living labs to be set up under the Mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe' are defined as **user-centred, place-based and transdisciplinary research and innovation ecosystems**. They are understood as collaborative initiatives between multiple partners to co-create, test, monitor and evaluate solutions to a common problem. A living lab consists of about 10 – 20 individual sites. These can be farms, forest stands, urban or industrial settings, as the Mission is targeting all types of soils.

### Living labs characteristics

- active involvement of the (end-) users in living lab activities so that they can have a clear impact in the innovation process;
- co-creation, co-design and co-development of solutions;
- testing and experimentation in real-life conditions;
- participation of a multiplicity of stakeholders (e.g. including the involvement of land managers, technology providers, service providers, relevant institutional actors, professional or residential end users);
- use of multiple methods and tools originating from a range of disciplines and domains.

The set of criteria developed for living labs under the Mission has been published in the [Mission's implementation plan](#).<sup>3</sup>

### Lighthouses

For the purpose of the Mission, lighthouses are defined as **key places for demonstration of solutions, training and communication that are exemplary in their performance in terms of soil health improvement**. They are individual, local sites (one farm, one forest exploitation, one industrial site, one urban city green area, etc.) that can be included in a living lab area or be located outside a living lab area. Ultimately, all experimentation sites within living labs seek to reach the performance of lighthouses and become demonstrators.

**Living labs are collaborative initiatives to co-create knowledge and innovations while lighthouses are places for demonstration of solutions and of exemplary achievements.**

<https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-law-and-publications/publication-detail/-/publication/af34d940-a4d8-11ec-83e1-01aa75ed71a1>



29 de setembro de 2021

### Soluções concretas para os nossos maiores desafios

#### DESAFIOS

- **60 %-70 % dos solos da UE** são considerados «pouco saudáveis».
- Cerca de **70 % das terras agrícolas** da UE apresentam **níveis excessivos de nutrientes**, o que tem efeitos negativos na qualidade da água e na biodiversidade.
- Cerca de **25 % das terras** da Europa Meridional, Central e Oriental apresentam um risco elevado ou muito elevado de **desertificação**.
- A degradação dos solos da UE custa mais de **50 mil milhões de EUR** por ano.

#### OPORTUNIDADES

- Criar parcerias eficazes para a **proteção e a recuperação dos solos**,
- Contribuir para a agricultura e a silvicultura sustentáveis, a criação de sistemas alimentares saudáveis e seguros, a resiliência às alterações climáticas, a biodiversidade e outras **ambições do Pacto Ecológico**,
- Apoiar a ambição da UE de assumir um papel de liderança no que respeita à consecução dos **Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável**.

#### OBJETIVO

**Criar 100 laboratórios vivos e estruturas de referência para liderar a transição para solos saudáveis**

#### AÇÕES

- O programa Horizonte Europa disponibilizará **320 milhões de EUR** em capital de arranque durante o período de 2021-2023 para contribuir para o êxito desta missão.
- Lançar a primeira vaga de **laboratórios vivos em toda a Europa**.
- Criar um **consórcio internacional de investigação** sobre o sequestro de carbono no solo e uma **plataforma de coordenação** para supervisionar a rede de 100 laboratórios vivos e estruturas de referência.
- Lançar uma **campanha sobre a saúde dos solos** através da Parceria Europeia de Inovação para a Produtividade e a Sustentabilidade Agrícolas (PEI-AGRI), com especial incidência nos setores agrícola e florestal.

Luxemburgo: Serviço das Publicações da União Europeia, 2021.

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<https://cordis.europa.eu/article/id/429351-soil-health-reaping-the-benefits-of-healthy-soils-for-food-people-nature-and-the-climate/pt>



# The Mission Soil Manifesto

[Sign the Manifesto!](#)

## Objective:

non-legally binding document to formalize stakeholder and citizen participation in and support to Mission activities

➔ **Protecting soils is a societal undertaking**

## Who can sign it?

Regional and local public authorities, private and public organisations, NGOs, philanthropic organisations, schools, universities, research institutes, associations, individuals

## Why to sign it?

become part of a community, gain visibility, access to Mission-led knowledge, involvement in Mission activities beyond Horizon Europe calls






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