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## Consortium



Project Coordinator:  
University of Vigo, Spain

- INRAE- Institut National de Recherche pour l'Agriculture, l'Alimentation et l'environnement, France
- KNAW- Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, The Netherlands
- University College Dublin/National University of Ireland Dublin, Republic of Ireland
- University of Catania, Italy
- KU Leuven, Belgium
- Charles University, Czech Republic
- The Agricultural Research Organisation of Israel – The Volcani Centre, Israel
- Institute of Biology Bucharest, Romania
- University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Cologne University, Germany
- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
- Swedish Agricultural University, Sweden
- Gent University, Belgium
- European Research and Project Office GmbH, Germany
- Mel Finca Organica S. Coop. Galega, Spain
- Airfield Estate, Republic of Ireland
- WSL- Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research, Switzerland
- Harper Adams University, United Kingdom



Integrating SOil Biodiversity  
to Ecosystem Services:

testing cost-effectiveness of Soil Biodiversity  
indicators and the provision of soil  
biodiversity-based Ecosystem Services to  
build better land management solutions that  
effectively implement the EU Soil Strategy

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## Impact



Including soil biodiversity in land management planning and practical applications



Societal appreciation of the vital functions of soil biodiversity and its contribution to ecosystem services



Accounting for ecosystem services synergies and trade-offs in decision-making

Proposing legal-binding instruments that address SOB protection explicitly

## Key Objectives

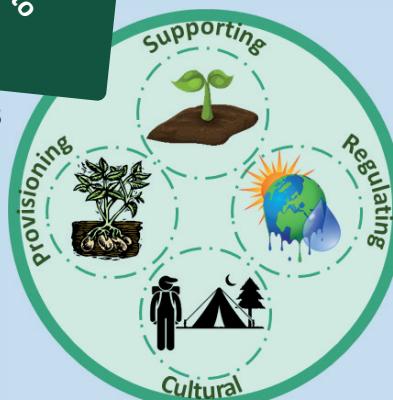
Comprehensive assessment of soil biodiversity



Determining the sensitivity, adaptation and resilience of soil biodiversity to land use intensity

Testing cost-effective robust soil biological indicators to map and assess ecosystem condition across EU soils

Understanding how to link soil biodiversity to ecosystem services



- Agricultural soils
- Drylands
- Forests
- Industrial & mining areas
- Peatlands
- Urban soils
- Wetlands

Economic evaluation of soil biodiversity and its contribution to ecosystem services

## SOB<sub>4</sub>ES

The goal of the EU Soil Strategy is that by 2050, all soils in the EU should be healthy.

Soil health means that soils continuously provide as many ecosystem services in the greatest variety as possible. However, in order to make progress, it is essential to fully integrate soil biodiversity in land management and planning.

Currently, soil biodiversity receives little attention in large monitoring efforts when compared to other groups, such as higher plants and vertebrates.

Consequently, the contribution soil biodiversity makes to ecosystem services is vastly overlooked, not objectively quantifiable, invisible to society, and lacks integration into EU regulations and policy instruments.

Therefore, the main objective of SOB<sub>4</sub>ES is:

**Making soil biodiversity and its contribution to ecosystem services visible to society alongside integration into EU policies**