

Conference:

SmartSOIL: sustainable soil management aimed at reducing threats to soils under climate change

09:00 – 17:15, Wednesday, 30 September 2015

Halles des Tanneurs, Rue des Tanneurs 58, 1000 Brussels – Belgium

The final conference of the SmartSOIL project is organised in two parts:

1. The morning session will highlight the key messages on the impact of soil management practices on crop productivity, soil organic C stocks and other ecosystem services. Moreover, the SmartSOIL decision support toolbox for farmers, advisors and policy makers will be introduced and demonstrated.
2. The afternoon session will offer a forum to discuss project implications for policy and practitioners, including innovative approaches and policy options for promoting beneficial management practices.

The conference seeks to bring together stakeholders, such as representatives of the European Parliament, European Commission, farmers' unions and advisory services, NGOs, Member States and regional authorities, as well as researchers.

Agenda

Event facilitator: Peter Woodward, independent moderator, Quest Associates

09:00	Registration and coffee
09:30	Welcome and introductory remarks <i>Peter Woodward, Quest Associates and Jørgen E. Olesen, Aarhus University</i> <i>Massimo Burioni, DG Research and Innovation</i>
	Global agenda for climate-smart agriculture and soil management <i>Pete Smith, University of Aberdeen</i>
	Key messages from SmartSOIL <i>Jørgen E. Olesen, Aarhus University</i>
	Table discussion and Q & A for clarification
10:50	Refreshments

Theme 1: SmartSOIL Decision Support	
11:10	Incorporating stakeholder perspectives and local contexts to develop effective decision-support for policy and farmers <i>Julie Ingram, CCRI</i>
	The SmartSOIL Tool and Toolbox – demonstration <i>Jens Grønbech Hansen, Aarhus University & Sandra Naumann, Ecologic Institute</i>
	SmartSOIL ConverStations – Table discussion <i>An opportunity to explore case studies and initiatives that address the challenges of soil carbon management (e.g., Real Life Case Studies from Italy, Spain and Denmark; opportunities for wider application of the SmartSOIL tool and toolbox, ways to address current research and knowledge gaps, principles of soil carbon management)</i>
12:45	LUNCH
Theme 2: Harnessing economic opportunities for farm business	
13:45	Opportunities for Farm Business <i>Dominic Moran, SRUC</i>
	Farmers’ perspective – Interview session <i>Insights from Spain, Italy and Denmark</i>
Theme 3: Towards improved policies for soil organic matter and soil quality	
14:25	SmartSOIL policy recommendations <i>Ana Frelih-Larsen, Ecologic Institute</i>
	Feedback and discussion with stakeholder panel
15:15	Refreshments
15:30	Operationalising policy recommendations – Table discussion
	Feedback and plenary discussion with stakeholder panel
17:15	Close



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