



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

SOILCRATES Launches €1.6 Million Call to Support Local Soil Health Initiatives Across Europe

Paris, France – The European research project **SOILCRATES** has officially launched its **Request for Applications (RfA)**, opening new opportunities for local actors to take part in the transition towards healthier soils. With an overall budget of **€1.6 million**, this funding scheme will support at least **40 local projects** across **France, Ireland, Spain, and the Netherlands**, each running for one to two years within the project's four Living Labs.

The initiative aims to foster a **collective dialogue on soil health** by bringing together academia, farmers, SMEs, and regional communities. Through the RfA, SOILCRATES seeks to identify and fund **innovative, participatory approaches** to soil management and regeneration tailored to local contexts.

Eligible applicants include **farm owners, farmers' associations, local SMEs, Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs), and education institutions** committed to improving soil health through collaborative and practical solutions. Selected initiatives will receive **subgrants ranging from €20,000 to €60,000**, along with technical support and opportunities for knowledge exchange within a **cross-regional network** of stakeholders.

The Living Labs located in the **Landes region (France); Counties Clare, Limerick, and Tipperary (Ireland); the Province of Granada (Spain); and the Provinces of Fryslân, Groningen, and Drenthe (Netherlands)** will all serve as focal points for experimentation and co-creation. Each Living Lab encourages applicants to engage in **local co-creation sessions**, where potential projects can be discussed and shaped collaboratively before submission.

Applications must be submitted electronically through the official **SOILCRATES submission system**, accessible via www.soilcrates.eu. Paper submissions will not be accepted. The **first submission period is open until 30 November 2025**, with subsequent deadlines scheduled for **25 January 2026** and **1 March 2026**.

Applicants can find key documents such as the **Submission Template and Guide for Applicants** on the SOILCRATES website, alongside detailed information on eligibility criteria.

“Healthy soils are essential for sustainable food systems, climate resilience, and biodiversity. Through this call, we want to empower local communities to co-create practical, science-based solutions for their own regions.”

Interested participants are encouraged to visit the SOILCRATES website for full details and to **submit their proposals before the deadline, 30 November 2025**. Applicants are also encouraged to take part in the local co-creation sessions within their Living Labs, where they can discuss and shape their project ideas collaboratively before submission.

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About SOILCRATES

SOILCRATES is a Horizon Europe project committed to promoting sustainable soil management practices that enhance soil health, biodiversity, and carbon storage, while supporting farmers and land managers in adapting to climate change.

For more information, visit SOILCRATES.EU.

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