



## **SOILCRATES Project Advances Soil Health Innovation at Second General Assembly**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

*For immediate release*

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*Paris, France* – The SOILCRATES project, funded under the European Union’s Horizon Europe programme, successfully held its second General Assembly on 12–13 May 2025, bringing together partners from across Europe to assess progress and align on next steps in advancing soil health and sustainable land management.

The meeting gathered a diverse consortium of research institutions, technical organizations, and field practitioners working collaboratively to support the objectives of the EU Mission “A Soil Deal for Europe.” With a shared commitment to improving soil health, participants reviewed ongoing activities and reinforced their collective vision for impactful, science-driven solutions.

### **Key Highlights from the General Assembly**

During the Assembly, partners presented updates across the project’s core work areas, including:

- **Living Labs development:** Progress from regional Living Labs demonstrated strong engagement with local stakeholders and promising early results in testing soil health practices under real-world conditions.
- **Soil monitoring and diagnostics:** Advances in methodologies for assessing soil health indicators were shared, supporting more accurate and scalable monitoring approaches.
- **Sustainability and impact:** Discussions focused on ensuring long-term viability of project outcomes and maximizing environmental and societal benefits.

- **Innovation support:** The upcoming cascade funding call (FSTP) was highlighted as a key mechanism to engage additional innovators and expand project reach.
- **Communication and outreach:** Efforts to increase visibility and stakeholder engagement are underway, reinforcing the project's role within the broader soil health community.

### **Strengthening Collaboration and Governance**

The General Assembly also provided an opportunity to engage with the project's Advisory Board, fostering strategic guidance and external perspectives. Sessions on ethics and interim reporting further ensured alignment with EU standards and transparency in project implementation.

Participants emphasized the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange in addressing complex soil challenges. The meeting concluded with a clear set of actions and priorities for the coming months, reinforcing the consortium's commitment to delivering tangible results.

### **Looking Ahead**

As SOILCRATES progresses, the project will continue to develop and test innovative soil health practices, strengthen stakeholder networks, and contribute to the European Union's ambition of achieving healthy soils by 2030.

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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](https://SOILCRATES.EU).

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