



Public Awareness and Educational Initiatives for Soil in the JRC

KO Meeting – ESNB WG4

**JRC Ispra
26 May 2009**

**Arwyn Jones
SOIL Action**

Logistics

Forms!!! Ewa

26/05/09

Coffee 10:30

Lunch 12:30 – 14:00

Coffee 15:30

Departure 17:30

Social Dinner 19:30 (19:15 from hotel)

27/05/09

Pickup 08:45

Coffee 10:30

Lunch 12:30 – 14:00

Coffee 15:30

Departure 16:00

Agenda

- Opening remarks / welcome
- Mandate of the Group
- Selection of a Working Group chairperson
- Overview of activities by members of working groups:
- Overview of activities by JRC
- Analysis of gaps in outreach and awareness
- Identification of key tasks
- Identification of opportunities to increase awareness of soils
 - a. Networks e.g. ENSA
 - b. Societies – soil science societies but also other linked societies
 - c. Authorities/organizations
- Outreach Opportunities
 - a. Summer School on Soil Survey and Land Management
 - b. 1st Meeting of the European Network Soil Awareness (ENSA)
- Discussion on the opportunity and requirement of a European knowledge transfer project

Our Goal

To establish an action plan for the development of measures / programmes / initiatives to raise awareness of the importance of soil across European society (i.e. policy makers, general public, universities, schools, industry, etc.).

Communication 2006

“little public awareness of the importance of soil protection. Measures to improve knowledge and exchange information and best practices are needed to fill this gap.”

To increase public awareness of the need to protect soil, the Commission will foster initiatives such as”

- wide distribution of the Soil Atlas of Europe
- maintenance of the EUSOILS web site for open access to policy relevant soil information (ESDAC);
- European Summer School on Soil Survey to provide specific training to young researchers,
- initiatives such as EU Manifesto on Earth Heritage and Geodiversity,
- integration of soil protection aspects in Community-funded information and training events
- initiatives within the UNCCD (and other conventions?)

Article 15 Awareness raising and public participation

1. Member States shall take appropriate measures to raise awareness about the importance of soil for human and ecosystem survival, and promote the transfer of knowledge and experience for a sustainable use of soil.
2. Article 2(1), (2), (3) and (5) of Directive 2003/35/EC* shall apply to the preparation, modification and review of the programmes of measures on risk areas referred to in Article 8 and the National Remediation Strategies referred to in Article 14.

* Public Participation Directive governs public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment



Proposal for Directive 2006

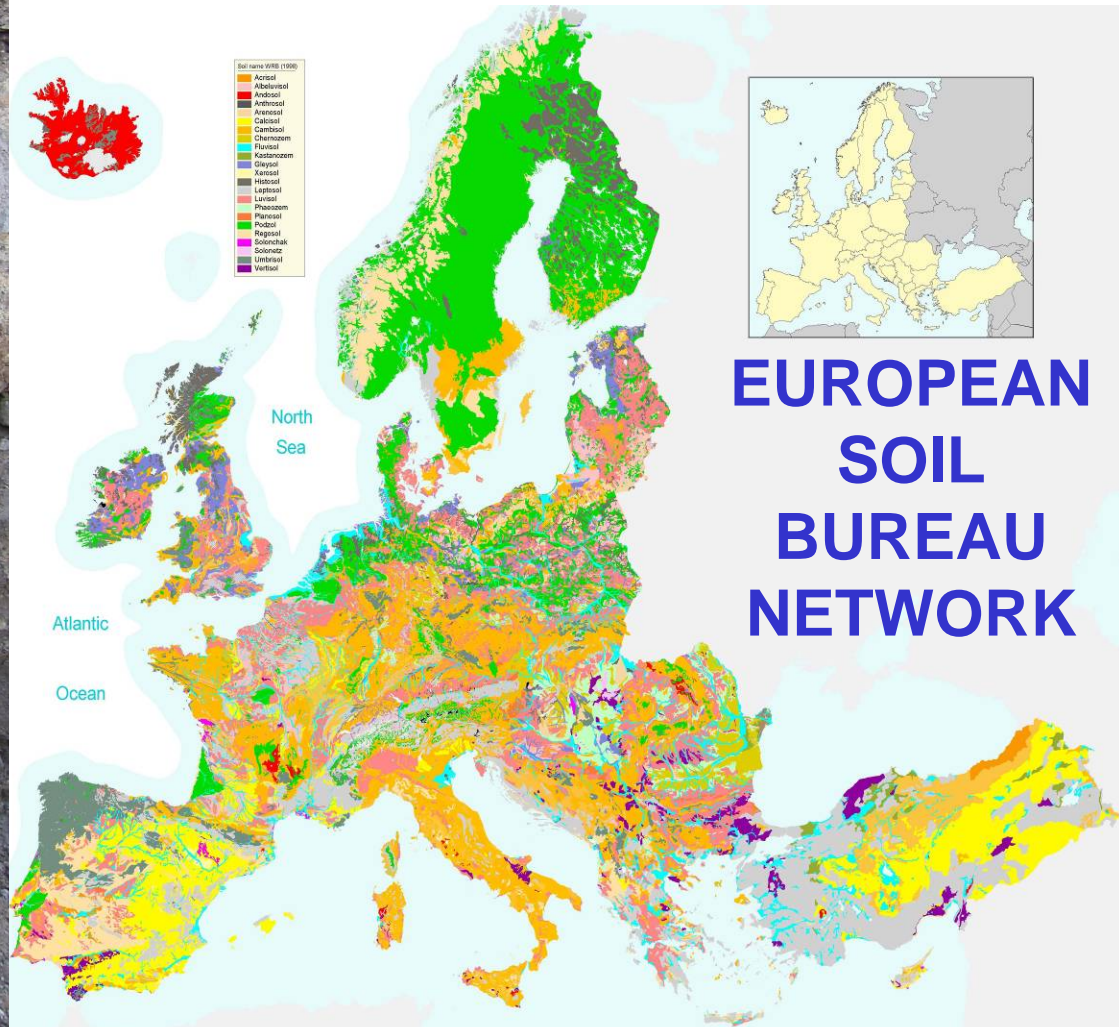
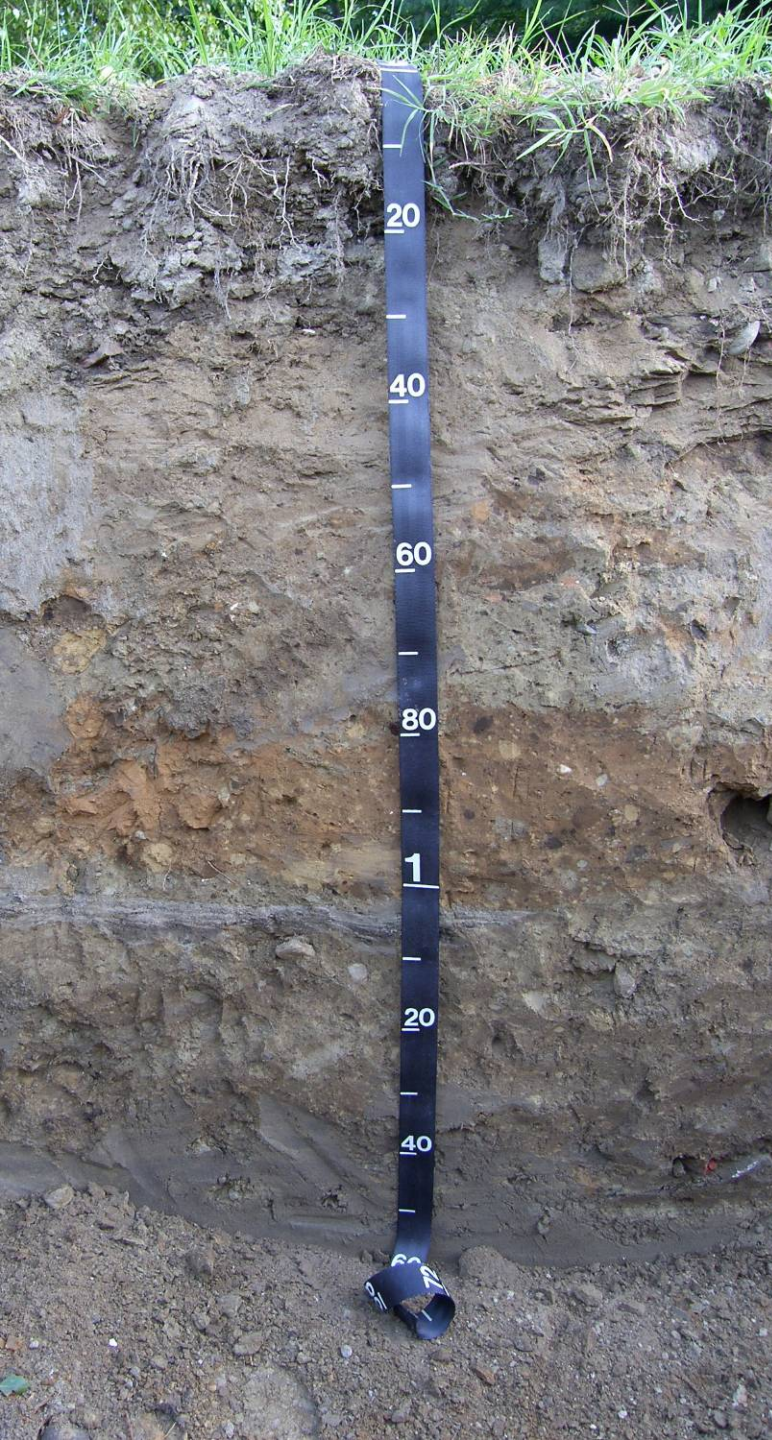
Article 16 Reporting

Member States shall make the following information available to the Commission within eight years from [transposition date], and every five years thereafter:

- (g) a summary of the initiatives taken pursuant to Article 15 as regards awareness raising.

Land Management & Natural Hazards Unit

Soil Action





Our Mission

...to provide scientific and technical support to the European Union's.....

- policies for soil protection
- strategies for the sustainable development of soil

Ensure soil is visible in cross compliance consultations (e.g. climate change, biofuel, etc).

SOIL information...

...needed for many EU environmental policies

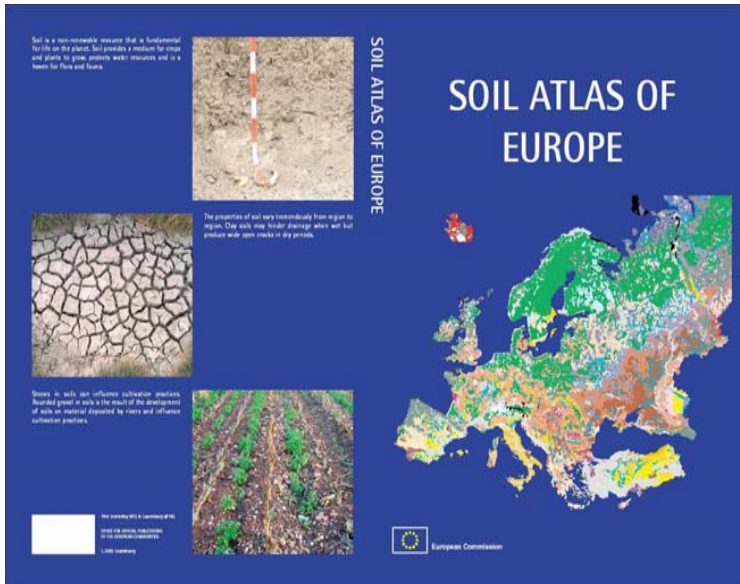
- Soil Thematic Strategy
 - European Data Centre
 - Plant Protection Directive
 - Nitrates Directive
 - GMES
 - INSPIRE
 - Kyoto Protocol / Emission Trading
 - EU Global Development Policies
 - Environment and Health Strategy
 - Flood Risk Management
 - Common Agricultural Policy
 - Forest Focus
 - Urban Thematic Strategy
 - Renewable Energies & Energy Efficiency
 - Sustainable Use of Natural Resources Strategy
 - Waste Framework Directive
- DG Environment
- DG Transport and Energy
- DG Agriculture and Rural Development
- DG Research
- DG Eurostat
- DG Enterprise & Industry
- DG Development
- DG Health and Consumer Protection

Key Drivers

- 6th Environmental Action Plan
- Soil Thematic Strategy
- Communication 2002
- Consultation process 2003 (Advisory Forum and 5 Working Groups)
- Opinions of EU Institutions (Council, EP, COR, ...)
- Communication & draft directive 2006
- Presidency/Council working group...

What has JRC been doing?

Joint Research Centre





What has JRC been doing?

Four summer schools on soil survey





What has JRC been doing?

UNCBD-COP 9 Bonn 2008





What has JRC been doing?

OPEN DAY





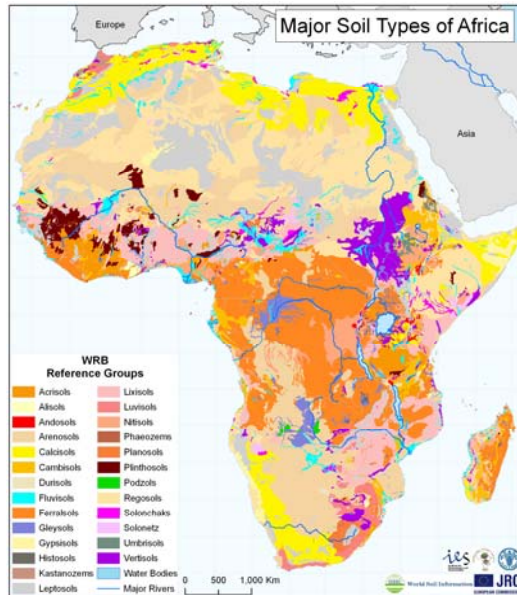
What has JRC been doing?

JRC OPEN DAY 2009

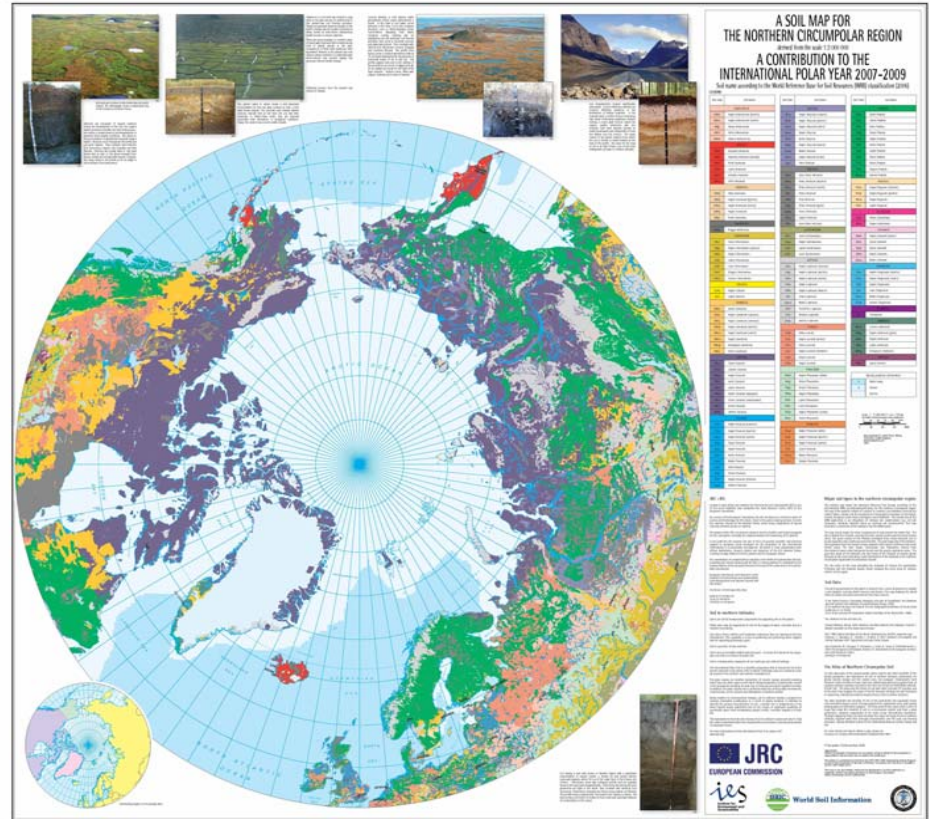
Joint Research Centre



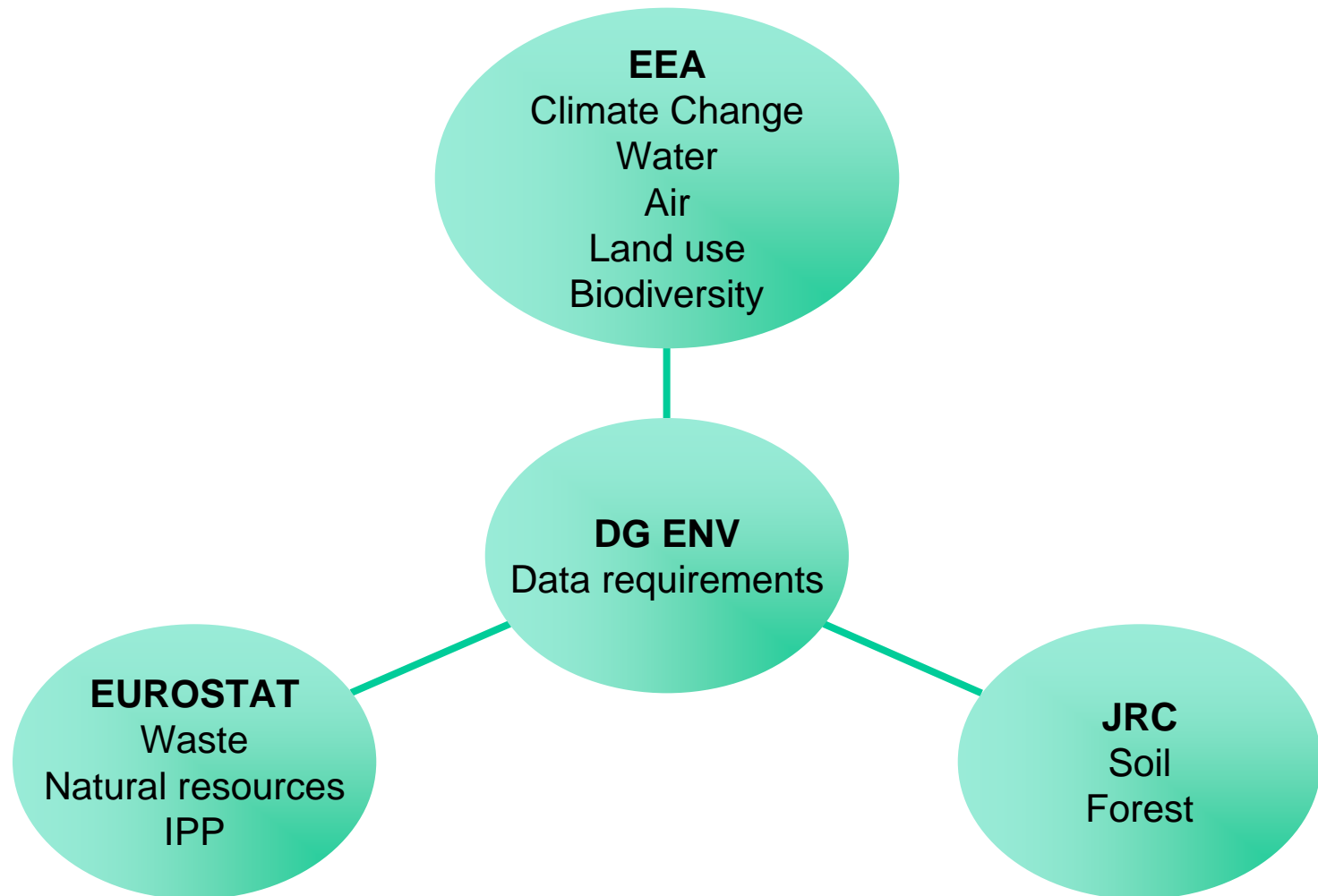
What has JRC been doing?



Soil Atlas

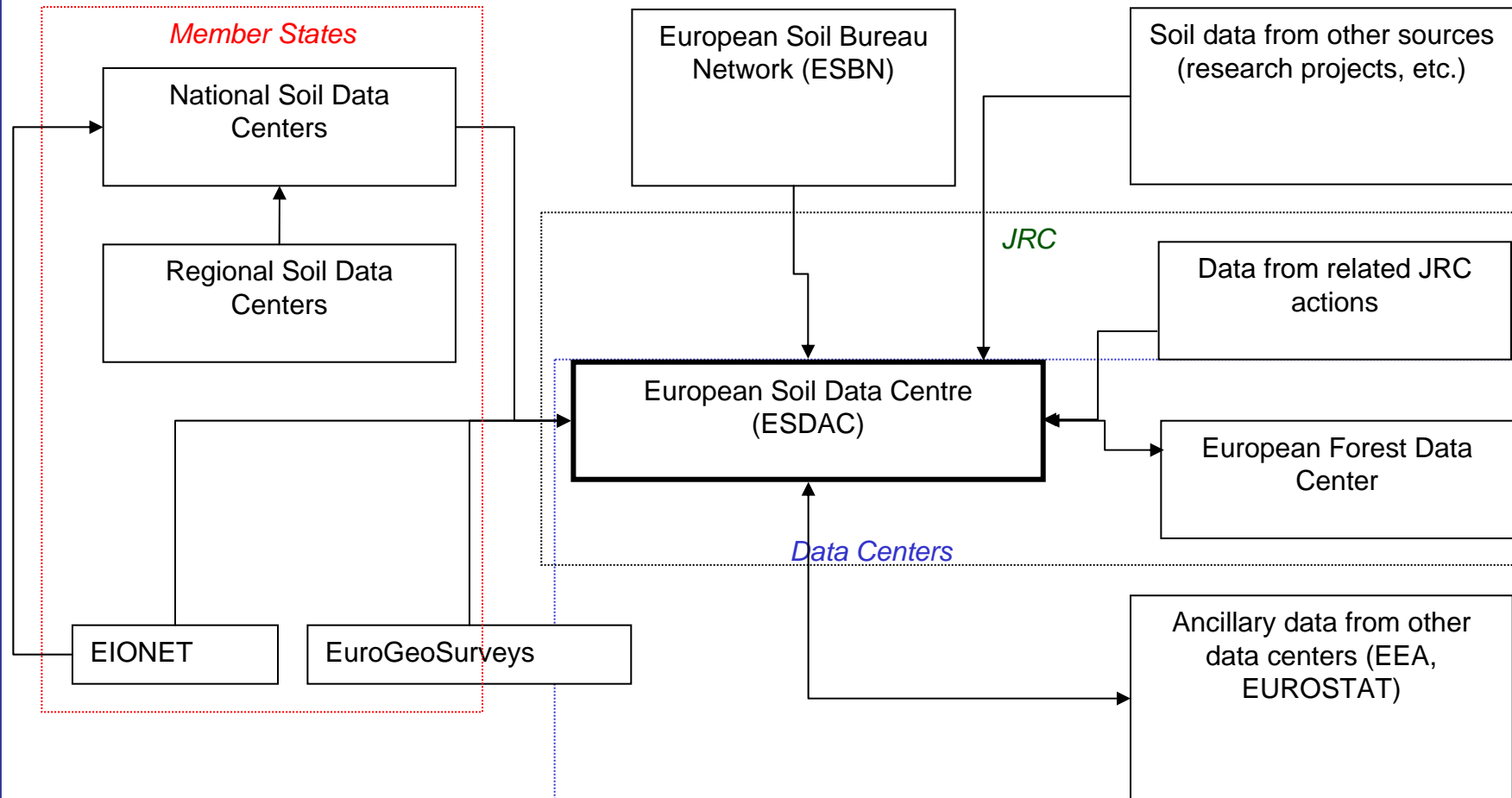


Example of policy support: European Data Centers for the environment





Preliminary outline of potential soil data providers to the European Soil Data Centre (ESDAC)



“A Single Focal Point for Policy Relevant Soil Information”



Development of European Flood Alert System

