

Temporary Dataset Download: LUCAS Heavy Metals

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Name of User	Congcang Tang
Organization	xinjiang agricultureal university
Type of Organization	University
-- Other	
E-mail	lihui4498@gmail.com
Purpose	The data will be used for non-commercial academic research to analyze the spatial distribution, background levels, and potential ecological risks of heavy metals in European topsoils. The dataset will also be integrated with other regional soil datasets to support large-scale comparative analysis and environmental risk assessment.
Notes	

Notifications:

(26/01/2026)

The notification points below are the same as those for the LUCAS SOIL 2009/2012, 2015 and 2018 datasets distributed in ESDAC.

In essence, it is allowed to use the data for whatever purpose (commercial or not). It is **not** allowed to pass the data wholesale to third parties (as ESDAC likes to monitor the use of all its data). Proper reference/citation should be given to the data source when using the data for any publication.

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5. In any reports, including all publications and unpublished papers, the following rules should be applied:
 - a) Any results can be published once a proper aggregation process that prevents any individual body (private person, private organisation) from being identified has been applied,
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6. The present licence is granted free of charge.
7. This agreement shall start on the date the Licencee has received the LUCAS_SOIL data from the JRC. There is no need for a signature of the present agreement by the JRC.
8. The LUCAS_SOIL database will be accessible only to the Licensee and staff working for the Licensee's Organization and on a need-to-know basis. The Licencee undertakes to inform the authorized persons of the existence of the present licence agreement and of its obligations that they will also have to respect.
9. The European Union will be formally mentioned and fully acknowledged in, but not limited to, reports, articles, publications and presentations of work resulting from the use of the LUCAS_SOIL data as follows: "The LUCAS topsoil dataset used in this work was made available by the European Commission through the European Soil Data Centre managed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC), <http://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>".
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18. The Licencee shall not use any trademarks of the European Union, the European Commission or JRC
19. The name LUCAS_SOIL of the data being created by the European Union, the Licencee shall

not use the name of LUCAS_SOIL without prior written authorization of the JRC and shall not register the name LUCAS_SOIL as a trademark

20. Personal data retrieved from the LUCAS_SOIL database shall be processed according to Regulation (EC) 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data
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23. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Belgian law. Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Licence shall be settled before the competent courts of Brussels.
24. The following Annexes form an intergral part of this License Agreement: ANNEX 1: Specification of LUCAS_SOIL Database
25. **THE LICENCEE ACKNOWLEDGES TO HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED TO BE BOUND BY THE ABOVE-MENTIONED TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT**

Technical assistance concerning the use of the LUCAS data can be obtained from : ec-esdac@ec.europa.eu

References:

Orgiazzi, A., Ballabio, C., Panagos, P., Jones, A. and Fernández-Ugalde, O., 2018. [LUCAS Soil, the largest expandable soil dataset for Europe: a review](#). *European Journal of Soil Science*, **69**(1): 140-153.

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