

Temporary Dataset Download: LUCAS Topsoil data for the Western Balkans

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Purpose	The dataset will be used for academic research on remote sensing, SAR image processing, image restoration, and machine learning model development and evaluation.
Notes	

Notifications:

- The data provided has been prepared for use by internal research activities of the Joint Research Centre (JRC).
- The data are the result of JRC research activities and are primarily made available for further research. The JRC does not accept any liability whatsoever for any error, missing data or omission in the data, or for any loss or damage arising from its use. The JRC agrees to provide the data free of charge but is not bound to justify the content and values contained in the databases.
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- The user agrees to:
 - a) Make proper reference to the source of the data when disseminating the results to which this agreement relates;
 - b) Participate in the verification of the data (e.g. by noting and reporting any errors or omissions discovered to the JRC).

References:

The documentation associated with the data is available from the following two reports:

- report describing the 2015 dataset for the Western Balkans:

Arias-Navarro, C., Vidojević, D., Zdruli, P., Islamaj, B., Scarpa, S. et al., LUCAS Topsoil Survey for the Western Balkans - Presentation of the dataset and results, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2026, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/9105095>, JRC142550.

- report presenting reference ancillary data:

Arias-Navarro, C., Vidojević, D., Zdruli, P., Yunta Mezquita, F., Jones, A. and Wojda, P., LUCAS Soil 2015 in the Western Balkans: Overview and analysis of ancillary data, Publications Office of the

European Union, Luxembourg, 2024, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/071913>, JRC138305

- [report](#) describing the 2015 dataset for the EU:

Jones, A, Fernandez-Ugalde, O., Scarpa, S. LUCAS 2015 Topsoil Survey. Presentation of dataset and results, EUR 30332 EN, Publications Office of the European Union: Luxembourg. 2020, ISBN 978-92-76-21080-1, doi:10.2760/616084, JRC121325

- [Scientific publication](#) describing the LUCAS topsoil database for the Western Balkans, presenting its relevance for soil research, evidence-based policy and sustainable soil management. The supplementary information ([SI](#)) provides a comprehensive overview of the statistics of soil properties in various climate zones, land cover types, and countries:

Arias-Navarro, C., Vidojevic, D., Zdruli, P., Islamaj, B., Scarpa, S., Yunta-Mezquita, F., Wojda, P. & Jones, A. 2026. Assessing Soil Resources in the Western Balkans: Insights From the LUCAS Soil Survey. European Journal of Soil Science, 77, 1-20 <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejss.70379>

- [Scientific publication](#) describing the LUCAS survey as a whole:

Orgiazzi, A., Ballabio, C., Panagos, P., Jones, A., Fernández-Ugalde, O. 2018. LUCAS Soil, the largest expandable soil dataset for Europe: A review. European Journal of Soil Science, 69(1): 140-153. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejss.12499>