

# **Specific Privacy Statement**

## **LUCAS\_SOIL DATABASE (DPO-3635)**

### **1. DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

LUCAS\_SOIL is a database collecting harmonised EU-level statistics on soil data and providing for each soil sampling point both the soil data and the geographical coordinates. It is an additional element of the general LUCAS database, the Land Use/Cover area frame Survey repeated regularly (every 3-5 years) in Europe (see Notification DPO-3308 in the DPO Register on Europa website).

The purpose of LUCAS-SOIL is to allow the production of statistics on soil characteristics with a harmonised methodology at EU level. It is underlined that the collected information will be used only for the production of European scale statistics and will not contain any information of personal or land properties character. This data will not be used for compliance controls. Furthermore, given the relatively limited number of points analysed and their spatial distribution, results cannot be considered representative of local conditions and certainly not of field conditions.

The collected soil samples were analysed using harmonised chemical and physical analytical methods (mainly ISO standards, or their equivalent) in order to have a coherent and harmonized dataset with pan-European coverage. The soil samples were analysed for parameters with a defined analytical accuracy. The results of the analysis are available per soil sampling point, for which the exact geographical coordinates are known.

As the intention of the Commission is to give organizations and citizens access to the database under a license agreement, the confidentiality of these geographically referenced soil data with respect to the land owners implies the application of 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.

At JRC level, the LUCAS\_SOIL database management is under the responsibility of the JRC/IES "Land Resources Management" Unit Head, acting as Controller.

### **2. WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS COLLECTED AND THROUGH WHICH TECHNICAL MEANS?**

The soil analytical data are combined with the geographic coordinates. Therefore, land owners (data subjects) can in practice be retrieved via the geographical coordinates. Landscape photos are coming from the general LUCAS database. No direct personal information is collected.

### **3. WHO HAS ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION AND TO WHO IS IT DISCLOSED?**

The access to the JRC computer discs on the secured JRC environment is limited to only JRC staff.

Furthermore, staff of Eurostat and DG ENV will upon request have full and immediate access to the information for statistical purposes.

The original LUCAS\_SOIL point data are made available to organizations and citizens under a license agreement, restricting the use and the dissemination of the data.

### **4. HOW IS INFORMATION PROTECTED AND SAFEGUARDED?**

The collected soil sample data and all information related to the database are stored on JRC computer discs.

## **5. HOW CAN INFORMATION BE VERIFIED, MODIFIED OR DELETED?**

In case the data subject wants to verify which data are stored, have it modified, corrected or deleted, please contact the Controller by using the Contact Information below and by explicitly specifying the request.

## **6. HOW LONG ARE THE DATA KEPT?**

The available information on soil data are kept until the end of lifecycle of the European Soil Datacentre.

## **7. CONTACT INFORMATION**

In case you wish to verify which information is stored or if you have questions regarding the process, feel free to contact the support team, operating under the responsibility of the Controller, using the following contact information:

JRC IES Institute, "Land Resources Management" Unit  
Functional Mailbox Address: [esdac@jrc.ec.europa.eu](mailto:esdac@jrc.ec.europa.eu)

On questions relating to the protection of personal data, you can contact:

- JRC Data Protection Co-ordinator: [jrc-data-protection-coordinator@ec.europa.eu](mailto:jrc-data-protection-coordinator@ec.europa.eu)
- Commission's Data Protection Officer: [data-protection-officer@ec.europa.eu](mailto:data-protection-officer@ec.europa.eu)

## **8. RECOURSE**

Complaints, in case of conflict, can be addressed to the European Data Protection Supervisor: [edps@edps.europa.eu](mailto:edps@edps.europa.eu)