

European Soil Portal: <http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

Risk Assessment Methodologies of Soil Threats in Europe

"Risk Assessment Methodologies of Soil Threats in Europe", a report which presents the results of the RAMSOIL project is published. The general objective of the **RAMSOIL** project was to provide scientific guidelines on possibilities for EU wide parameter harmonization based on detailed information on current risk assessment methodologies of soil threats encountered within EU Member States. In RAMSOIL current risk assessments methodologies used in the EU are collected and evaluated. The results are summarized in this book. Further information on the RAMSOIL project is available from <http://www.ramsoil.eu>



http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ESDB_Archive/eusoils_docs/Other/EUR24097.pdf

Extension of the European Soil Database to Mediterranean and Caucasus

The European Commission, Joint Research Centre is working on the new version of the Soil Geographical Database of Eurasia and this new version will include countries from Mediterranean, North Africa and Caucasus. In this context, we organised a workshop to discuss about soil data from new countries, action plans and future cooperation. The meeting was held in Turkey/Izmir, 14-15 May 2012 as a joint workshop with 8th International Soil Science Congress on "Land Degradation and Challenges in Soil Management". In this workshop, we had participants from Turkey, Tunisia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Lebanon and Jordan. Participants from Malta, Egypt, Israel, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Palestine Authority, Syria, Iraq, Armenia, Georgia have been also invited but couldn't joint the workshop for various reasons. The results/country reports of the workshop and contributions of the experts will be combined and published in a book. Contributions from the missing countries are also welcomed.



http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ESDB_Archive/ESDB_Data_Distribution/extension.html

Laboratory analyses of soil samples collected in the context of the LUCAS 2012 survey in Bulgaria and Romania (Tender)

The objective of this service contract is to carry out a number of physical and chemical analyses (including preparation of samples) on the 2,100 soil samples collected in Bulgaria and Romania in the context of the LUCAS 2012 survey. **Deadline: 03/07/2012.**

<https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=75>

<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/utilities/calls/documents/LUCAS2012EN.pdf>

Rio+20: United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Towards a global Green Economy and better environmental governance : In June 2012 all eyes will be turning to Rio de Janeiro, where 20 years after the first "Earth Summit", Heads of State and Government will convene to attend the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) or "Rio+20".



Soil of the Year 2012 – Lowland Peat Soil

In the international classification World Reference Base (WRB) peat soils are classified as Histosols. Peat soils contain more than 30% organic material; They show a typical dark-brown to black color. The subsoils of peats can consist of sand, silt, loam and clay or of special, in lakes deposited materials, the mud. Depending on their parent material, mud can look white (lime mud), olive green (liver mud from algae) or dark brown (clay mud).

<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/Awareness/metadata.cfm?id=39>

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Questions/Comments? E-mail us at panos.panagos@jrc.ec.europa.eu, marc.van-liedekerke@jrc.ec.europa.eu