



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

Managing Living Soils and World Soil Day (5 December)

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is organizing a technical workshop in the framework of the Global Soil Partnership on: "Managing Living Soils", 5- 7 December 2012, Rome, Italy. FAO, with the support of the European Commission, launched the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) in FAO headquarters in September 2011 to raise awareness of decision makers on the vital role of soil resources for achieving food security, adapting to and mitigating climate change and guaranteeing provision of environmental services. The Vision of the GSP is to improve global governance of the limited soil resources of the planet in order to guarantee healthy and productive soils for a food secure world, as well as sustain other essential ecosystem services. FAO Proposal to observe World Soil Day annually on 5 December.



<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/InternationalCooperation/GSP/index.html#events>

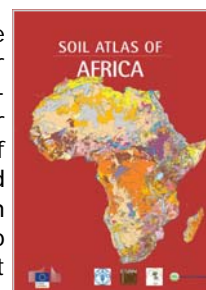
EIONET Workshop on Soil

This Important workshop, organized by JRC (Ispra, 10-12 December 2012), will discuss the soil information and data flow between the interested parties and will deal with the following issues: it will reflect on the last two data collection exercises held in 2010 (soil organic carbon/soil erosion) and 2011 (contaminated sites); it will discuss how new soil data requirements specified by DG ENV and EEA can be matched with contributions from EIONET NRCs for Soil, and it will discuss and outline the road ahead.

<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/library/data/eionet/Workshop2012.html>

Soil Atlas of Africa

The first ever SOIL ATLAS OF AFRICA uses striking maps, informative texts and stunning photographs to answer and explain these and other questions. Leading soil scientists from Europe and Africa have collaborated to produce this unique document. Using state of the art computer mapping techniques, the Soil Atlas of Africa shows the changing nature of soil across the continent. The Soil Atlas of Africa explains the origin and functions of soil, describes the different soil types that can be found in Africa and their relevance to both local and global issues. The atlas also discusses the principal threats to soil and the steps being taken to protect soil resources. The Soil Atlas of Africa is more than just a normal atlas.



Rather, this volume presents an interpretation of an often neglected natural resource that surrounds and affects us all. The Soil Atlas of Africa is an essential reference to a non-renewable resource that is fundamental for life on this planet.

The Publication of Atlas is planned for early 2013. [An introduction to the Soil Atlas of Africa](#) presented at the European Parliament's session 'Land and soil degradation post Rio+20', on November 15th 2012 (hosted by Sandrine Bélier, MEP).

http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/library/maps/africa_atlas/index.html

EGU (European Geosciences Union) Assembly

The EGU General Assembly 2013 will bring together geoscientists from all over the world into one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences. Especially for young scientists, it is the aim of the EGU to provide a forum where they can present their work and discuss their ideas with experts in all fields of geosciences. **Venue:** Vienna, Austria during 07-12 April 2013. Soil relevant sessions may be found in the link below:



http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/events/Events_future.cfm

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