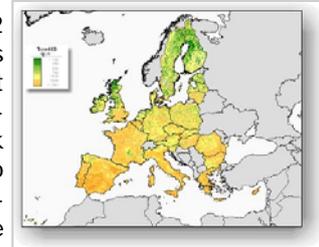


European Soil Portal: <http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

[EFSA Spatial Data set \(Version 1.1\)](#)

The first EFSA Spatial Data set (Version 1.0) consisted of 62 spatial layers and was made available in May 2011. Some users commented on inconsistencies in the data, mainly with respect to the spatial characteristics of various layers. The JRC reprocessed all thematic layers from their respective sources. This task resulted in an update to the previous data, hereafter referred to as EFSA Spatial Data Version 1.1. This dataset was supplemented with data from the CAPRI land cover database. The dataset is available for free from the European Soil Portal.



<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/library/Data/EFSA/>

[Global Soil Week](#)

The first Global Soil Week gathered over 400 representatives of governments, scientists, international organizations, business and civil society in Berlin, Germany, from 18-22 November 2012, to consider the theme "Soils for Life." The event took place within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership and served as a platform to initiate follow up on the land and soil-related decisions in the outcome from the June 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, or Rio+20). It was organized by the Global Soil Forum, which was established by the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) Potsdam.



<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/InternationalCooperation/GSP/Documents/GSW.pdf>

[e-Soter Final Meeting](#)

Towards Global Soil Information: Activities within the GEO Task Global Soil Data". The objective of the workshop was to review the state of the art of tools and techniques for mapping soils at global and regional scales as an input for defining future activities under the implementation of the Global Soil Partnership. The meeting concluded that the e-SOTER project was successfully completed and that a wealth of information was gathered during the project, both in the selected study areas and for Europe overall. It was also decided that the eSOTER findings would be applied for the whole of Europe at 1:1 million scale, which would serve as input for a new version of the Harmonized World Soil Database. The final report and the presentations are available.



<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/esoter/FinalMeeting.html>

[CASCADE](#)

CASCADE is assessing current biophysical conditions in healthy, partly-degraded and strongly degraded selected plant-soil systems at study sites in Portugal, Spain (2), Italy, Greece and Cyprus. Then it will determine the effects of imposed drought on plant-soil ecosystem functioning, including facilitation and competition between plants, and how these processes affect plant resource use, survival and growth. CASCADE partners met in Italy recently to refine ideas for the planned experiments. CASCADE research will be featured in a special Session at the UNCCD 2nd Scientific Conference in Fortaleza, Brazil, in February 2013.



<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/projects/cascade/>

Don't forget: Today, **5 December** is the **World Soil Day**.

The World Soil Day has been officially endorsed by the FAO Council and will now be formalized by the next UN General Assembly.

[More Details](#)

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