



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

#### Soil Resources of Mediterranean and Caucasus

This report is result of the workshop on "Extension of the European Soil Database" held in Izmir/Turkey on 14-15 May 2012. The status of soil mapping and the development of national soil information systems were presented briefly and discussed in relation to the possible extension of the European soil database and information system. The most recent extension studies cover Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Egypt, Georgia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey. This report features country chapters, with contributions from 13 of the above-mentioned countries. Special thanks to all contributors.

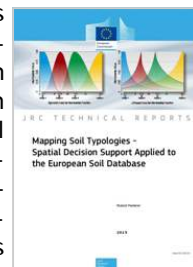


This first approach involves the full extension of the JRC's Soil Geographical Database of Eurasia (1:1,000,000 scale) to all North African countries. A follow up workshop focusing on North Africa is foreseen for 2014.

[http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ESDB\\_Archive/eusoils\\_docs/other/EUR25988EN.pdf](http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ESDB_Archive/eusoils_docs/other/EUR25988EN.pdf)

#### Mapping Soil Typologies-Spatial Decision Support Applied to European Soil Database

For many applications of modelling environmental conditions or processes soil characteristics are needed in form of spatial data ready to be integrated in a GIS. A source of uniform data on characteristics of European soils is available from the European Soil Database (ESDB) of the European Soil Bureau. The soil information was collected by participating national institutions and underwent an extensive process of harmonizing the thematic content of recording the soil characteristics and ensuring spatial continuity along boundaries. In the database a many-to-1 link is used to relate soil characteristics to the geographic layer. Thus, considerably effort is required to represent specific soil characteristics in a single spatial layer.



[http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ESDB\\_Archive/eusoils\\_docs/other/EUR25932EN.pdf](http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ESDB_Archive/eusoils_docs/other/EUR25932EN.pdf)

#### Survey on threats to soil biodiversity

The SOIL Action needs your help/feedback for better understanding and mapping the potential threats to soil biodiversity. Please give us just 5 minutes of your time to reply to a simple questionnaire (3 questions) about threats to soil biodiversity. Among all the participants we will extract 10 'lucky' people who will receive a free copy of the recently published Soil Atlas of Africa.



<http://www.ecofinders.org/mapping-of-threats.html>

#### Soil Atlas of Africa

**Update on Soil Atlas of Africa:** Physical copies of the book will be available through the EU Publications Office towards the end of June 2013.

#### Training School

The second training school of COST Action ES1104 will take place in Valenzano, Bari, Italy from 19-24 September 2013. 'Semi-Arid Land Management for Crop Production and Restoration of Man-made Soils' will be held at the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (IAMB). Applicants must be graduate students, post-docs, or early stage researchers, and must be enrolled in or affiliated to an Institution located in a country participating in this COST Action (deadline: 12/7/2013). More Information:



<http://desertrestorationhub.com/funding-opportunities-for-second-training-school/>

<http://eusoils.jrc.ec.europa.eu/Awareness/Documents/Material/Bari-training-school.pdf>

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