**Global Biodiversity Atlas**

The JRC publishes the first-ever Global Soil Biodiversity Atlas that maps the soil biodiversity of the entire planet. It was coordinated by the JRC and the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative ([www.globalsoilbiodiversity.org](http://www.globalsoilbiodiversity.org)) with more than 70 contributing organisations and hundreds of individual contributions. It illustrates the diversity of soil organisms, their geographical and temporal distribution and the ecosystem functions and services provided by soil biota. The Atlas draws attention to the myriad of threats to soil biodiversity. These include inappropriate land management practices, agricultural systems, over-grazing, forest fires and poor water management. Other practices such as land conversion from grassland or forest to cropped land result in rapid loss of soil carbon, which indirectly enhances global warming. The Atlas is available online from 23 May in ESDAC and will be officially launched at a dedicated side event of the 2nd UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) in Nairobi on 25 May.


**ICSHNet: A COST Action on Industrial Contaminated Sites and Health Effects**

Human health in contaminated sites is multi-faceted at the level of problem framing, study design, methodology, analysis, interpretation of results and derivation of implications for policy and remediation. These dimensions are often addressed separately and this is one of the reasons why a comprehensive picture of the problem is lacking. The COST Action consists of a [network of experts and institutions](http://www.icshnet.eu/) from different relevant disciplines and expertise (epidemiology, environmental sciences, toxicology, geography, policy, etc.) and with different mandates and institutional roles. The Action’s activities will result in the collection, formulation and dissemination of information and advice on contaminated areas, environment and human health. [http://www.icshnet.eu/](http://www.icshnet.eu/)

**Soil Erosion modelling workshop, Ispra (Italy) 20-22 March 2017**

This workshop will discuss mainly issues how the local/regional modeling results can be upscaled (or applied) at European scale. The workshop serves also as a follow-up of recent JRC modelling developments and published maps for soil erosion by water and wind. The workshop will try to focus on how various project or local/regional modelling applications can improve the “know-how” at European scale. Emphasis will also be given to management practices that can reduce soil erosion. Young scientists and Post-Docs in soil erosion modelling can apply for travel support. In case you are interested in this workshop, please contact Panos Panagos.

**Global Rainfall Erosivity**

In the context of developing the Rainfall Erosivity dataset at Global scale (REDaG), the Joint Research Centre in collaboration with scientists and institutions all over the World collects high temporal resolution (5-min, 10-min, 15-min, 30-min, 60-min) rainfall data. The same [participatory approach](http://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/themes/global-rainfall-erosivity) as in Rainfall Erosivity at European Scale (REDES) is also applied for the development of the Global Erosivity Dataset. We invite scientists (or institutes) outside the European Union to contribute to this data collection. In case you have high temporal resolution rainfall data for long-time periods, you can be part of this project and co-author of subsequent publications. Please contact Panos Panagos for more information. [http://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/themes/global-rainfall-erosivity](http://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/themes/global-rainfall-erosivity)

More Details

Download the ESDAC Newsletter: [PDF Format](http://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu)  Feedback: panos.panagos@jrc.ec.europa.eu

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