

The **EU Soil Observatory** will be launched on Friday 4 December 2020 ([Save the date](#))

The new Soil Observatory is a dynamic and inclusive platform that will provide Commission Services, and the broader soil user community, with the information and data needed to safeguard soils. Healthy soils are at the heart of the Green Deal for Europe. Once lost, soils are non-renewable in terms of human lifetimes. In addition to providing us with food, fibres and fuel, soils play a key role in regulating the Earth's climate, providing us with clean water, protecting us from floods and preserves our cultural heritage. The meeting will consist of the formal launch by **EU Commissioners**, high-level presentations and panel discussions in the morning, followed by an open technical discussion in the afternoon. The meeting will involve representatives from the EU Member States, the European Commission, the European Agencies, international organisations and civil society. The event will be open to the public. More information will follow soon.



[Webex link](#) (Meeting number: 174 345 6260; Password: SOIL2020). It will also be possible to follow the meeting in Webstream; the link will be provided soon.

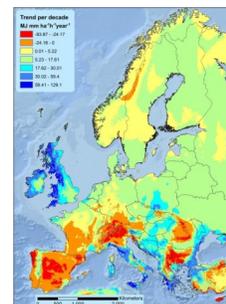
## [Roadmap for the new EU soil strategy](#)

The European Commission has published the roadmap for the new Soil Strategy. Part of the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, this initiative will update the current strategy to address soil degradation and preserve land resources ('land degradation neutrality'). It welcomes stakeholders' feedback via the 'have your say' website until **10 December 2020**. Feedback will be taken into account for further development and fine tuning of the initiative. The Commission will summarise the input received in a synopsis report explaining how the input will be taken on board and, if applicable, why certain suggestions can't be taken up. Have your say: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12634-New-EU-Soil-Strategy-healthy-soil-for-a-healthy-life>



## [Past Rainfall Erosivity and trend detection \(1961-2018\)](#)

In a published [study](#) we reconstructed past rainfall erosivity in Europe for the period 1961-2018, with the aim to investigate temporal changes in rainfall erosivity. As input data, we used the Rainfall Erosivity Database at European Scale (REDES) and Uncertainties in Ensembles of Regional Reanalyses (UERRA) rainfall data. Based on the reconstructed data, we derived a rainfall erosivity trend map for Europe where the results were qualitatively validated. Among the stations showing a statistically significant trend, we observed a tendency towards more positive (15%) than negative trends (7%). In addition, we also observed an increasing tendency of the frequency of years with maximum erosivity values. This dataset is part of Rainfall Erosivity package and REDES including 10 datasets:



<https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/content/rainfall-erosivity-european-union-and-switzerland>

## [ESP Seventh Plenary Meeting](#)

On 10 September 2020, the European Soil Partnership (ESP) held its Seventh Plenary Meeting (online). Agenda, input documents, presentations and final report of the meeting are available from the ESP site. The meeting focused on the exchange of information on the various activities related to soil taking place in Europe (EEA, European Commission, ESP member countries, ESP Pillars, sub-regional soil partnerships) vis-à-vis the work done in the context of the Global Soil Partnership. A new ESP Chair was elected.



<http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/regional-partnerships/europe/en/>

### More Details

Download the **ESDAC Newsletter**: [PDF Format](#). Feedback: [panos.panagos@ec.europa.eu](mailto:panos.panagos@ec.europa.eu)

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