



WORKPLAN AND DELIVERABLES FOR 2023

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Background



Implemented by:



Soil map of the WB

- The current methodologies and approaches for soil mapping in Western Balkans needs to be improved, especially soil classification and its correlation with the World Referent Base.
- This will enable to convert the existing soil data sets into a mutual harmonised data base, and will bridge certain differences.
- Collection and integration of existing soil data is challenging but is a basic prerequisite for further analysis of the soil degradation processes and establishing of a regional partnership.
- Correlation of soils with the environmental variables is one segment than can contribute towards more precise soil mapping and evaluation of degradation processes.



Deliverables



Implemented by:



Development of harmonised regional soil dataset:

- Collection of the existing national soil classifications and development of chapter with a mutual regional soil classification related to WRB;
- Chapter with description of all existing and available graphical and numerical soil datasets and other environmental co-variables in the country, their identification and looking at possibilities for collection for integration into mutual data base;
- Chapter with detailed description of the specifics and thresholds of the pedogenetic factors for each soil type in the country;



Deliverables

- Development of at least two (2) Projects fishes on a regional scale, to be disseminated to potential donors or applied as a Project concept within various regional and EU initiatives.
- Actively participate in eventual training programs.



Implemented by:





Background



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Soil contamination

- Various policies require information about pollutant sources and risks.
- There is a request from European Environment Agency for periodical delivery of contaminated sites data for indicator "Progress in the Management of Contaminated Sites";
- EU Soil Strategy 2030 defines that it is crucial that all Member States identify and maintain a register for contaminated sites, assess the risks and finally remediate these sites in case of unacceptable risks.
- Available information about contaminated sites needs to be improved so that its relationship and role as a source of pollution in different environmental domains can be understood.
- Assessment procedures and information about contamination is still very patchy and inconsistent across Western Balkan countries due to different policy requirements, kinds and depths of investigations, etc.;



Deliverables



Implemented by:



- Compile and summarize the existing knowledge on soil contamination related policies, polluting activities, measurement protocols, risk assessment procedures, etc. in the country;
- Prepares an overview of national thresholds for contaminants (background values, ecotoxicological values, screening values, etc. by country);
- Collect available information and data on contaminated sites in the country based on the specifications: Location, address and parcel (sometimes geospatial GIS format), Owner and land user, Management history, information from archives and permits, Potentially contaminating risk activities, Current and future land use, Sampling results, Type of contamination and contaminants, Mobility and risk of spreading, Risk assessment outcomes and prioritization classes, Investigation and remediation obligations and liabilities, Remediation and aftercare measures, Investigation and remediation reports, Presence of remaining residual contamination;



Deliverables

- Investigate and suggest the collection of additional data: Substances (concentrations) in soils exceeding thresholds (heavy metals, POPs, emerging substances);
- Establish recommendations for detailed site investigation/remediation options;
- Propose legally binding provisions to identify contaminated sites and set up an inventory/register of (potentially) contaminated sites in the country.



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