



AI4SoilHealth Cross-Policy Soil Dialogues

Dialogue 4 — From soil monitoring to action across EU policies

Tuesday 20 October 2026 | 11:00 – 13:00 CEST | Online (Zoom)

Introduction

The adoption of the EU Soil Monitoring Law marks an important step towards consolidating a common framework for monitoring and assessing soil health across Europe. As Member States move towards transposition and implementation, the key challenge is now how to make the framework operational and ensure that soil information can support policy delivery across different sectors, governance levels and territorial scales.

The **AI4SoilHealth Cross-Policy Soil Dialogues** have explored this question across three policy areas that strongly influence soil management: nature restoration, the Common Agricultural Policy, and climate and carbon farming. While these frameworks differ in their objectives, governance arrangements and implementation cycles, the discussions highlighted recurring tensions: between EU comparability and locally adapted actions, scientific completeness and operational feasibility, monitoring the uptake of practices and measuring actual outcomes, and aggregated reporting and the information needed for decisions on the ground.

Across the dialogues, three interconnected priorities emerged. First, make monitoring actionable, by linking soil descriptors and monitoring results more clearly to policy and management decisions. Second, strengthen coherence in soil information across policies and scales, enabling data to be reused through interoperable systems without assuming that every policy requires the same indicators or forms of interpretation. Third, ensure that monitoring is capable of supporting land managers in practice, by connecting evidence with implementation capacity, advisory support, incentives and adaptive governance.

Against this background, the final Cross-Policy Soil Dialogue will focus on two questions: what are the main challenges now emerging as the Soil Monitoring Law moves towards transposition and implementation, and how can research and innovation help address them? The discussion will consider how R&I can support greater coherence across policy frameworks and scales, strengthen the practical use of monitoring evidence, and help promising tools and approaches move beyond individual projects towards wider uptake, adaptation and lasting impact.

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Questions to guide the dialogue:

- What are the main challenges Member States face in transposing and implementing the Soil Monitoring Law, and how is the European Commission supporting them?
- Where can research and innovation contribute most to implementation, policy coherence and practical uptake?
- How can data generated through the Soil Monitoring Law be made useful for the CAP, Nature Restoration Regulation and climate/carbon farming policies, while ensuring coherence across these frameworks?
- What is needed to move promising research results and tools into wider use beyond individual projects?



Dialogue 4 Preliminary Agenda | Register here: <https://forms.gle/Ho9pq1h3cK9hf9YL9>

Time	Session
11:00 – 11:10	Welcome & Introduction Giovanna Giuffrè ISINNOVA
11:10 – 11:25	Soil Monitoring Law implementation: overview, challenges to overcome and European Commission support Esther Goidts Soil Protection and Sustainable Land Use, DG Environment, EC
11:25 – 11:40	AI4SoilHealth: key results and potential for policy use Professor Mogens H. Greve Department of Agroecology, Aarhus University
11:40 – 11:55	BENCHMARKS: key results and potential for policy use Fenny van Egmond Researcher, Wageningen Environmental Research / ISRIC
11:55 – 12:10	Supporting action with evidence: Lessons from National Soil Monitoring and Priorities for the Future Laura Bentley Environmental Data Scientist, Land Soil & Coast, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH)
12:10 - 12:40	Moderated discussion and audience questions
12:40 - 12:55	Looking ahead <i>Concluding reflections on priorities for the next three to five years</i>
12:55 – 13:00	Conclusions Giovanna Giuffrè ISINNOVA

The [AI4SH Project](#) is a research and innovation project co-funded by the European Union under the EU's Soil Health Mission for 2030. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

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