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European Joint Program Agricultural Soils under Climate Change

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The EJP SOIL is building a sustainable European integrated research community on agricultural soils in order to develop and deploy a reference framework on climate-smart sustainable agricultural soil management. This framework forms the enabling environment to maximise the contribution of agricultural soils to key societal challenges such as food and water security, climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity preservation and prevention of soil degradation.

On the operational level, this will be achieved by strengthening the European research community on agricultural soil management through an alignment and implementation of research, training and capacity building, and promotion of the harmonized agricultural soil information systems to achieve global consistency and applicability of agricultural soil information. On the policy level, the programme will support the adoption of evidence-based recommendations for policy makers on agricultural soil health and adequate agricultural practices through a multi-actor approach and intersociety dialogue, as well as uptake of climate-smart sustainable agricultural soil management practices by practitioners. On the scientific level, the programme has co-designed and started the implementation of a 5-year roadmap for agricultural soil research by developing new insights on climate-smart agricultural soil management and carbon sequestration in agricultural soils under different conditions across Europe.

This contribution provides an overview of EJP Soil activities and summarises recent scientific insights obtained through the work in the work packages.

Keywords: Soil, carbons sequestration, European Partnership