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MISSION SOIL
WEEK

Breakout Session

Soil health for climate

21 November 2023, 14:00-16:00

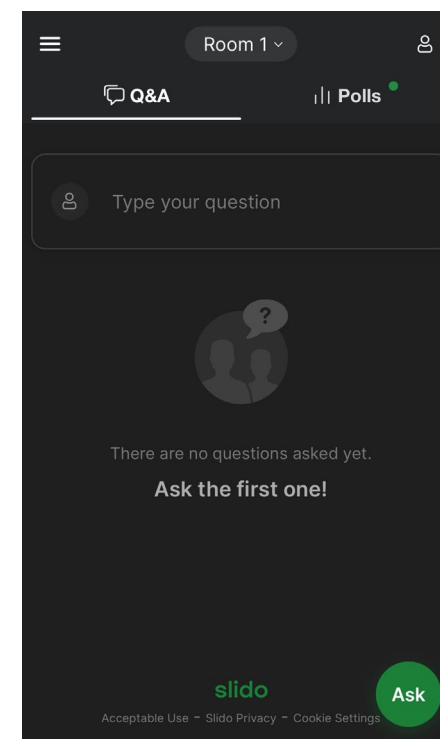
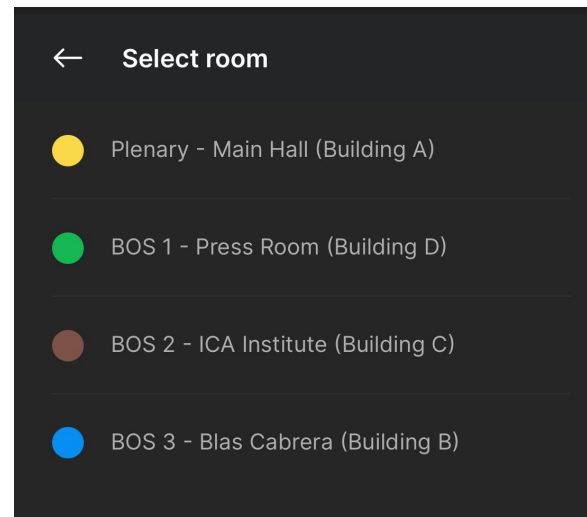
#MissionSoilWeek #MissionSoil #EUMissions

Housekeeping rules

- **WIFI**
 - Network : EMSW
 - Password : np9dpL9Y\$8CS7v%
- **Questions**
 - Go to www.sli.do and enter event code **#ESMW2023** (or scan the QR code)
 - Select the 'room' of the session
 - Submit your questions



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Moderator

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Anna Besse-Lototskaya

Co-coordinator of the EU-co-funded
programme EJP SOIL

Wageningen University & Research

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Agenda

Presentations (moderator: Anna Besse-Lototskaya)

- Claire Chenu: *The contribution of soil organic matter to soil health*
- Marta Goberna: *Trade-offs between carbon sequestration, greenhouse gas emissions and nutrient losses*
- Martin H. Thorsøe: *How do existing carbon farming schemes account for synergies and trade-offs?*
- Input from the audience: *Slido*
- Saskia Visser: *Diversifying incomes through a comprehensive carbon farming/nature credit framework*

Panel discussion (moderator: Claire Chenu)

- Tristano Bacchetti De Gregoris, Cristiano Ballabio, Christian Holzleitner, Saskia Visser: *How to develop carbon farming schemes that account for synergies and trade-offs*
- Summary of inputs



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Our speakers

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Martin Thorsøe

Coordinator of the EU-co-funded project Road4schemes

Aarhus University



Saskia Visser

Cluster manager

Resilient and climate neutral regions at Climate - KIC



Marta Goberna

Coordinator

EU-co-funded project TRACE-Soils



Claire Chenu

Senior scientist and Coordinator of the EU co-funded programme EJP SOIL

INRAE (French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment)

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The contribution of soil organic
matter to soil health

Claire Chenu

INRAE, France



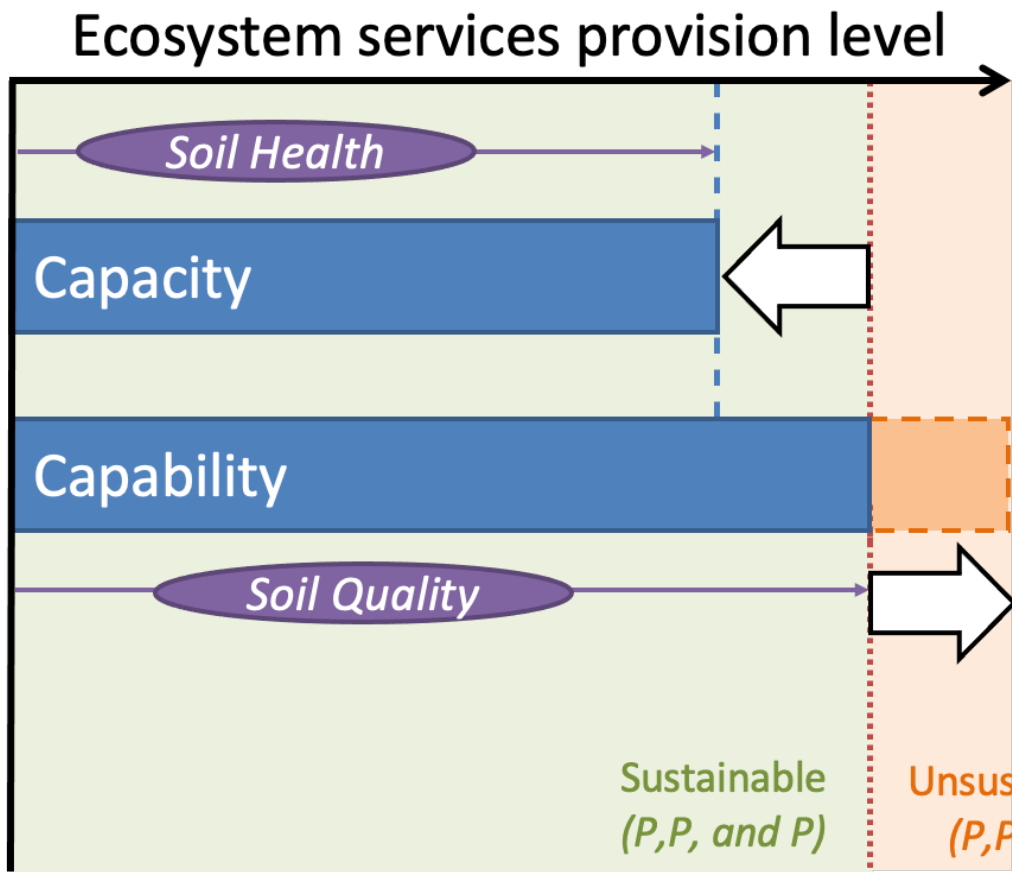
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Soil health is the actual capacity of soils to provide ecosystem services



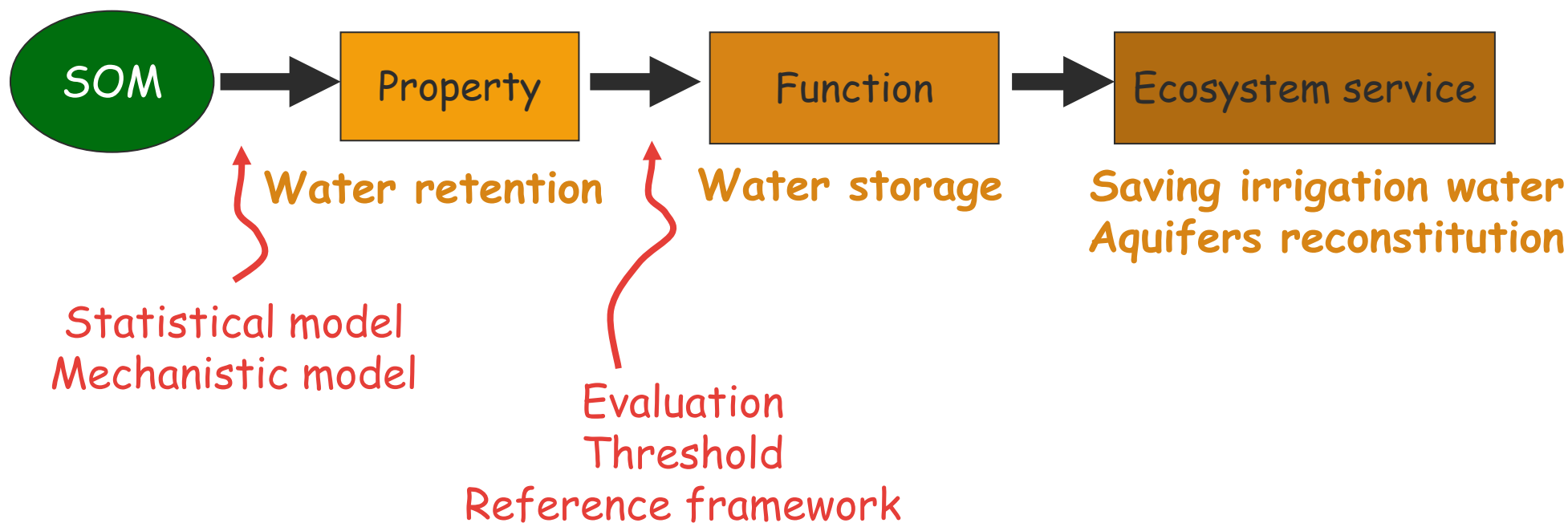
Current soil status and ecosystem management limits provision of ecosystem services

Context properties (e.g., soil type and land use) define potential at sustainable use

Land use sustainability in terms of people, planet, profit (P,P,P)

*Doran et al. 1994
Veerman et al. 2020
Faber et al. 2021*

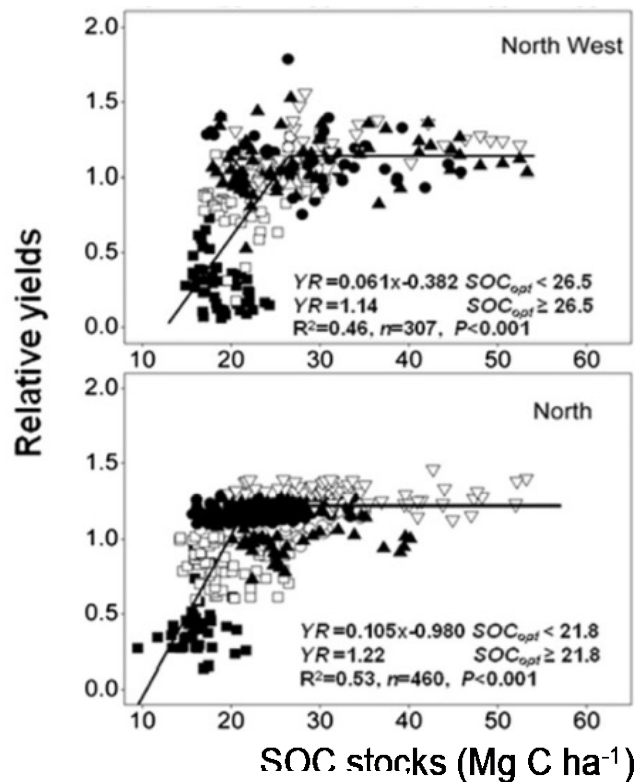
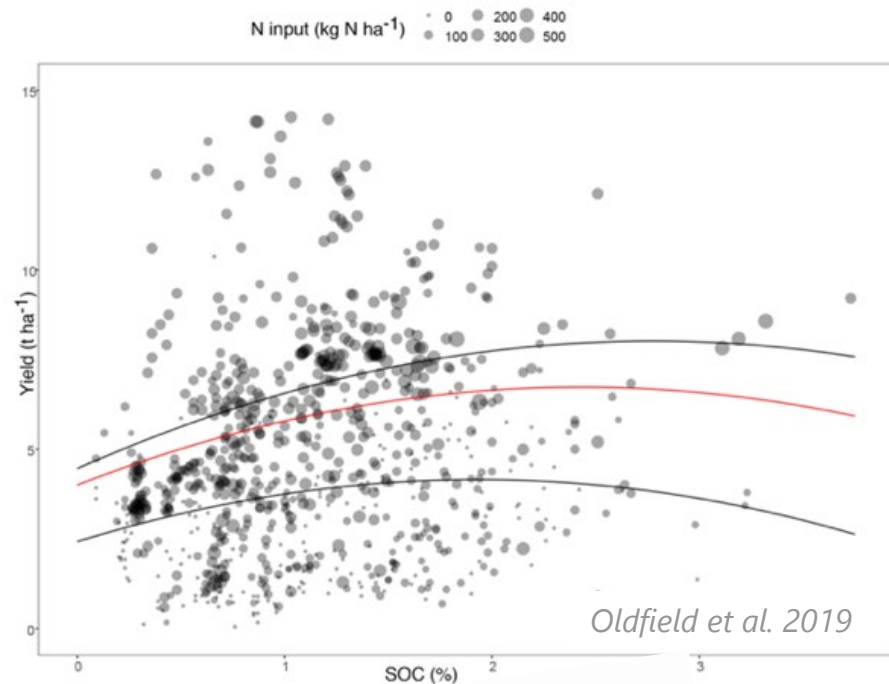
Quantitative relationships : from properties to functions and ecosystem services



Supporting primary productivity: yields



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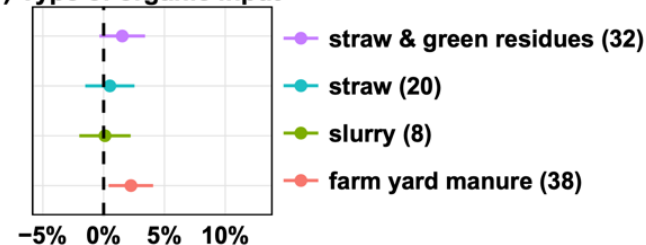
Plant Soil (2017) 411:293–303
DOI 10.1007/s11104-016-3031-x

REGULAR ARTICLE

Do organic inputs matter – a meta-analysis of additional yield effects for arable crops in Europe

R. Hijbeek · M.K. van Ittersum · H.F.M. ten Berge · G. Gort · H. Spiegel · A.P. Whitmore

(a) Type of organic input



Nutr Cycl Agroecosyst (2020) 118:325–334
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10705-020-10098-2>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

European survey shows poor association between soil organic matter and crop yields

Wytse J. Vonk · Martin K. van Ittersum · Pytrik Reidsma · Laura Zavattaro · Luca Bechini · Gema Guzmán · Annette Pronk · Heide Spiegel · Horst H. Steinmann · Greet Ruyschaert · Renske Hijbeek

Soil organic matter effects and associated benefits

Property or process	Static (S) or dynamic (D) effect	Effect on soil properties	Benefit	predictive tool for property?	Soils most concerned
<i>Chemical properties</i>					
Increase in CEC	S	↗ NH ₄ ⁺ , K, Ca, Mg, Fe retention	↗ plant mineral nutrition	PTF	Sandy soils

$$CEC = 0.037 \text{ clay}_{g/kg} + 0.273 \text{ Corg}_{g/kg}$$

$$CEC = 1.24 + 0.058 \text{ clay}_{g/kg} + 0.466 \text{ Corg}_{g/kg}$$

$$CEC = 0.062 \text{ clay}_{g/kg} + 0.295 \text{ Corg}_{g/kg} + \Delta OC \text{ charge}(pH8.1\text{-soil pH})$$

Bigorre et al. 2000

Krogh et al. 2000

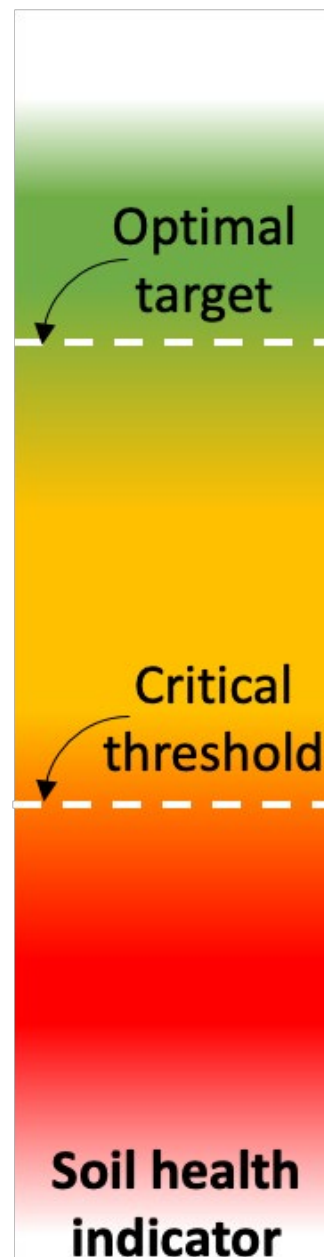
Van Erp et al. 2001

		↗ resistance to erosion	↘ erosion	model	
Porosity increase	S	↗ available water	↗ water available for plants	PTF	Sandy, stony and thin soils
		↗ water infiltration	↘ runoff and P and pesticide losses ↘ erosion ↗ water available for plants ↗ respresinment or water reserves (blue water)	PTF	Silty crusting soils, clayey soils
		↘ penetration resistance	↘ mechanical energy to work soils		Clayey soils
Mulch at the soil surface	S	↘ evaporation	↗ water available for plants ↗ respresinment or water reserves (blue water)		Sandy soils
		↘ runoff	↘ erosion	model	Silty crusting soils, slope soils
Darker color of soil	S	↗ rapid soil warming	earlier seedling emergence	model	
<i>Biological properties and processes</i>					
Mineralisation of N, P, S	D	↗ available nutrients	↗ plant mineral nutrition	model	All soils
		↗ nitrates in solution	↘ water quality	model	All soils
Mineralisation of C and N	D	↗ SOM stabilisation	↗ C storage	model	All soils
		↗ N ₂ O and methane emissions	↗ GHG emissions	model	Hydromorphic soils
Trophic resource for organisms. Increased abundance and diversity of soil biota	D	↗ abundance and biodiversity of soil biota	↗ soil resilience	-	All soils
		↗ symbiots and PGPR	↗ crop growth	-	All soils
		↗ regulating pathogens and pests	↗ crop sanitary quality	-	All soils
		↗ biodegradation of organic contaminants	↗ water quality, food quality	-	All soils

Chenu et al. in Pellerin & Bamière, 2017. INRAE 4p1000 expert assessment



Setting SOM critical values



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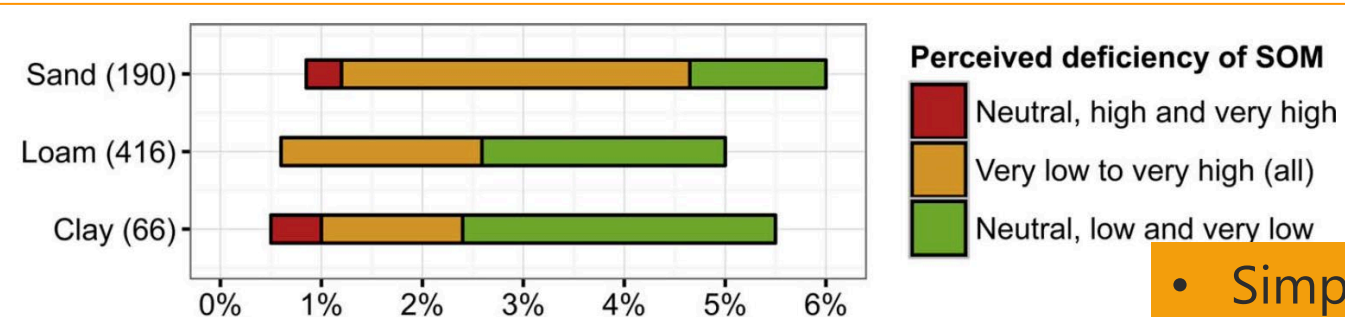
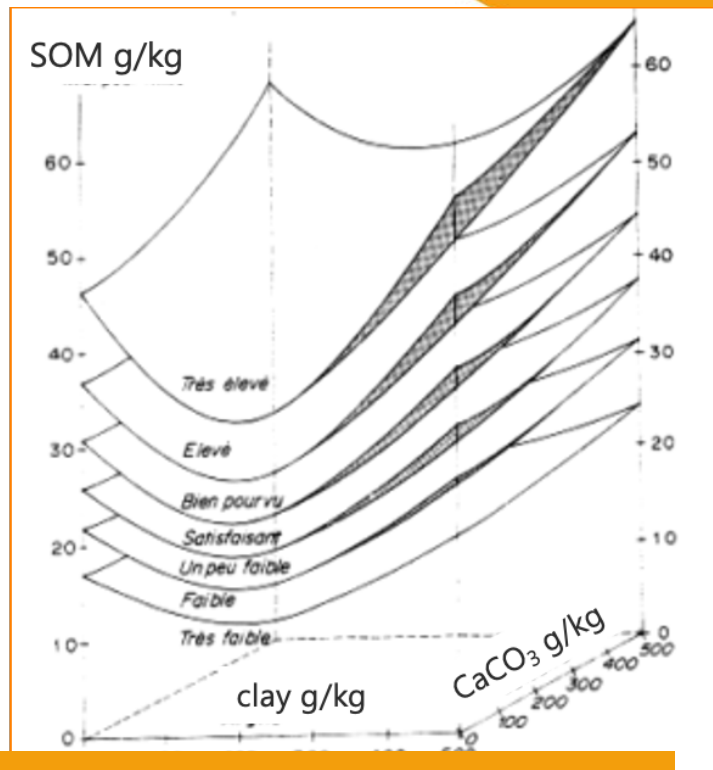
1- Fixed critical values

Table 2.5 Matrix of mean SOC minimum and maximum thresholds for cropland soils (% soil mass)

Soil texture class	Climatic water balance (mm) summer					
	Less than -100		-100 to 0		More than 0	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Sand	0.5	1.23	0.9	1.73	1.2	2.23
Silt	1.5	2.53	1.0	2.07	0.8	1.59
Loam and clay	0.6	1.47	0.9	1.92	1.9	3.23

Source: Compiled from Wessolek et al. (2008).

Wessolek et al. 2008 in Baritz et al. EEA report 2023



Hijbeek et al. 2017 Reported SOM content

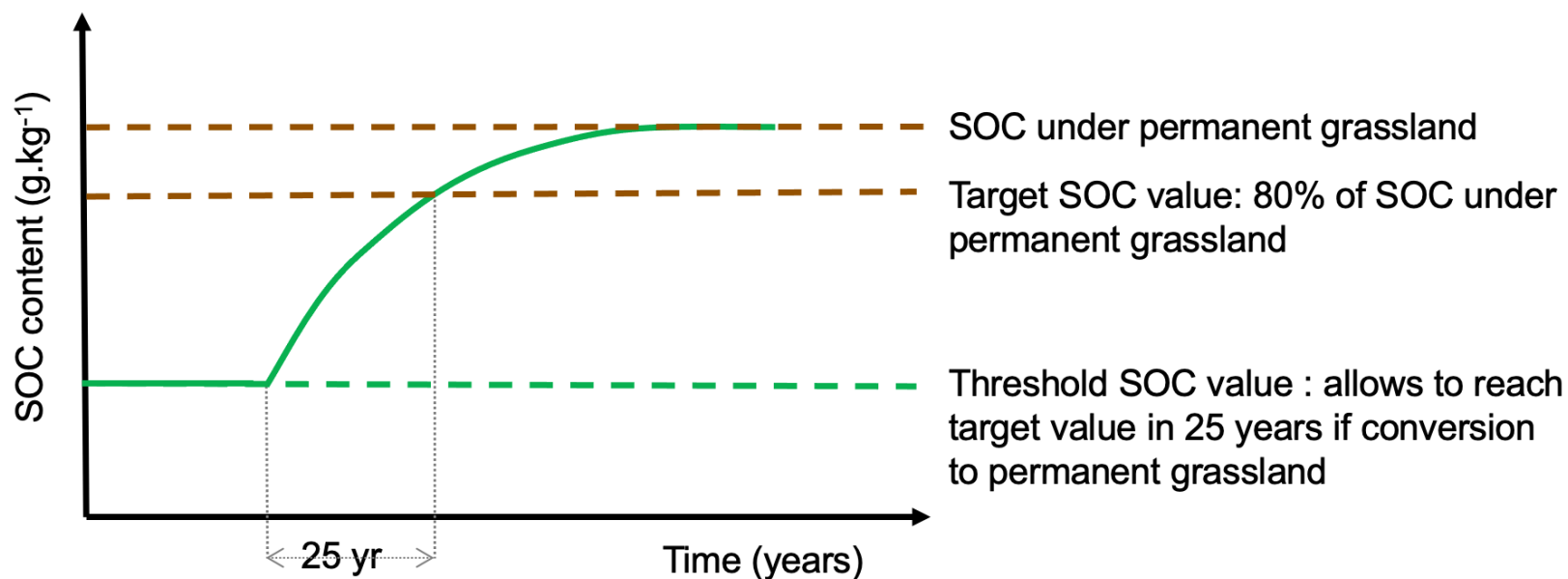
1642 arable fa

- Simple
- Can be linked to functions
- Requires context specific references
- Available knowledge?

973

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2- Critical values relative to “natural” land uses

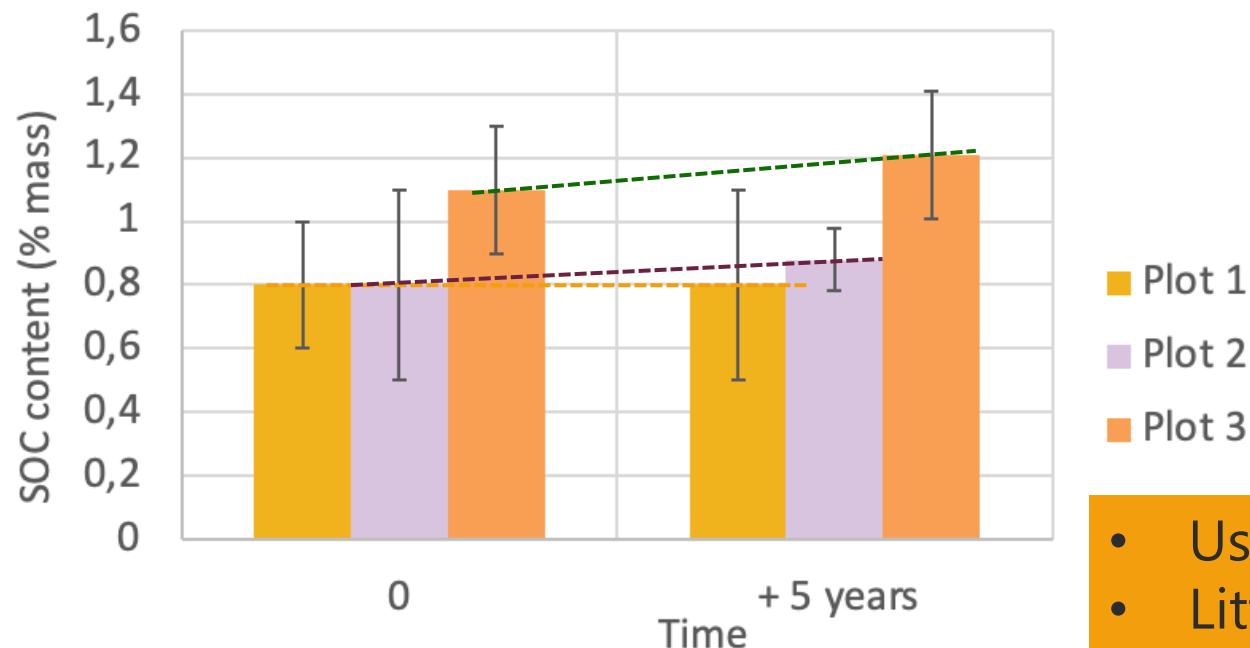


Adapted from *Sparling et al. 2003*

- Simple
- Not linked to functions
- Needs to be context specific
- “Natural” references available?

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3- Critical values based on relative changes



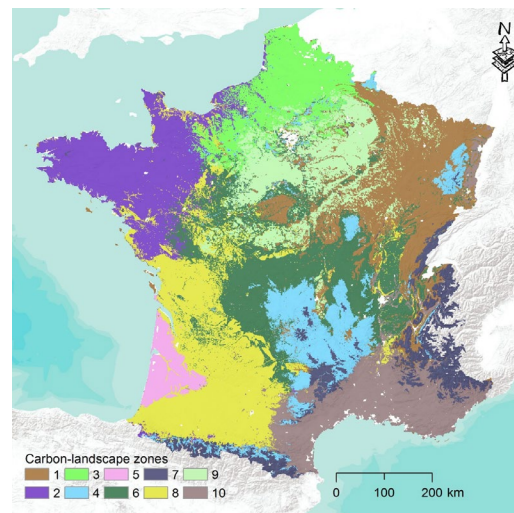
- Uses current values
- Little knowledge & stratification required
- Not linked to soil functions
- Which desired/measurable % improvement
- What about pioneers ?

4- Critical values based on existing distribution of the indicator values

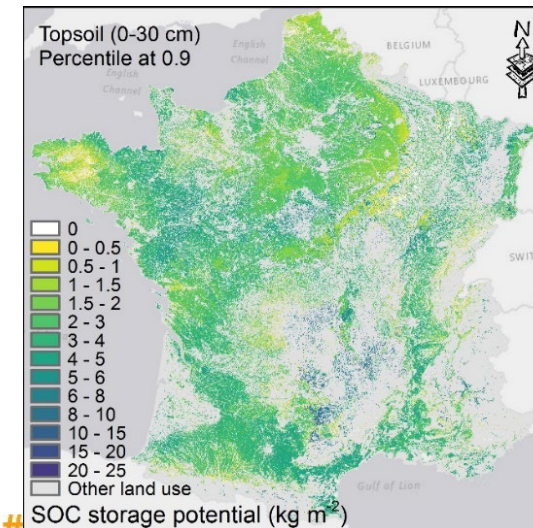
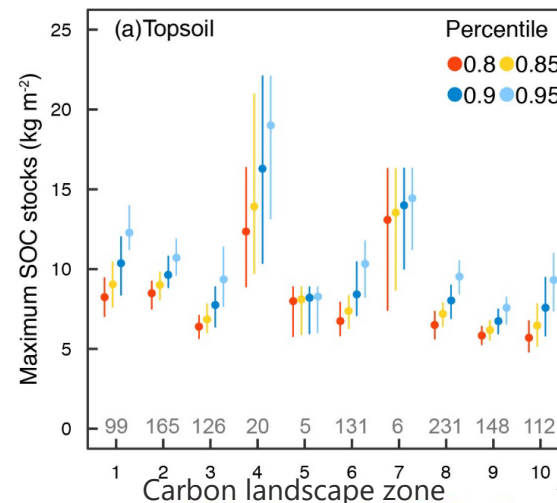
SOC stocks for 0-20 cm layer (Mg C. ha ⁻¹)		
	Target value	Threshold value
Soil order	Median C content long term pasture	Lower quartile
Recent	72	54
Granular	88	78
Melanic	98	74
Allophanic	132	103

Sparling et al. 2003

- Not linked to functions
- Requires extensive data
- How to set critical values?



Chen et al. 2019 Stoten



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Conclusion: The contribution of soil organic matter to soil health

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- Central role of soil organic matter.
- Soil health: several ecosystem services. Tradeoffs.
- Need for quantitative information to sustain decision- support tools. Context-specific. Synthesis.
- Different approaches are available to set SOM critical values.

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EJP SOIL work on critical values for indicators: A. Bispo, C. Calzolari, I. Cousin, J. Faber, M. Fantappie, R. Hessel, S. Mocalli, A. Matson, F. van Egmond et al.

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Thank you!

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Website: www.ejpsoil.eu

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@euagrifood



European Research
Executive Agency (REA)

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Trade-offs between carbon sequestration,
greenhouse gas emissions and nutrient
losses

Marta Goberna

Research scientist, INIA-CSIC



TRACE Soils

European Joint Programme



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INIA
Instituto Nacional de Investigación
y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria

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23

MANTAINING AND ENHANCING SOIL ORGANIC CARBON

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REDUCING SOIL DISTURBANCE



DIVERSIFYING AGROECOSYSTEMS



INCREASING ORGANIC INPUTS

MANTAINING AND ENHANCING SOIL ORGANIC CARBON



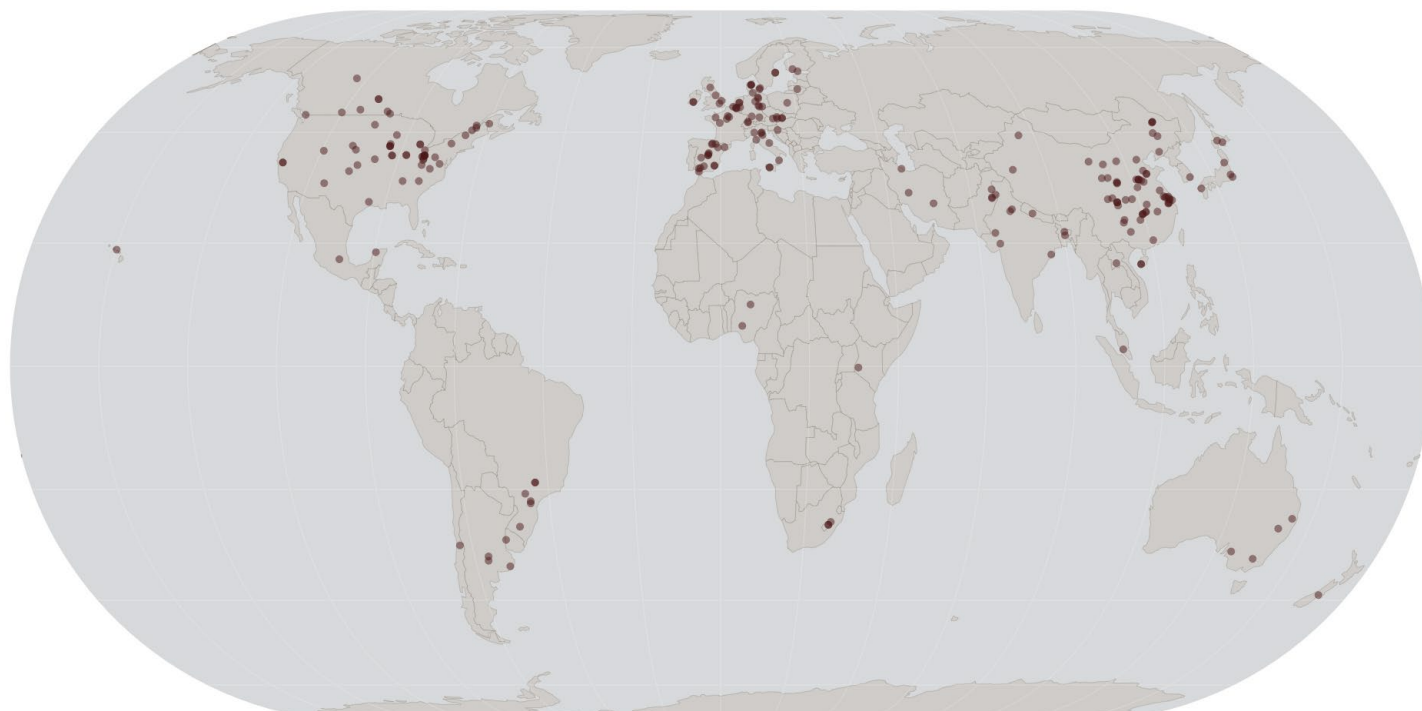
► SYNERGIES

- MAINTAINING SOIL STRUCTURE
- PRESERVING SOIL BIODIVERSITY

► POTENTIAL TRADE-OFFs

- INCREASING GHG EMISSIONS
- ENHANCING NUTRIENT LOSSES

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND CARBON STORAGE



232 studies
215 sites
38 countries

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NO TILLAGE

STANDARD TILLAGE



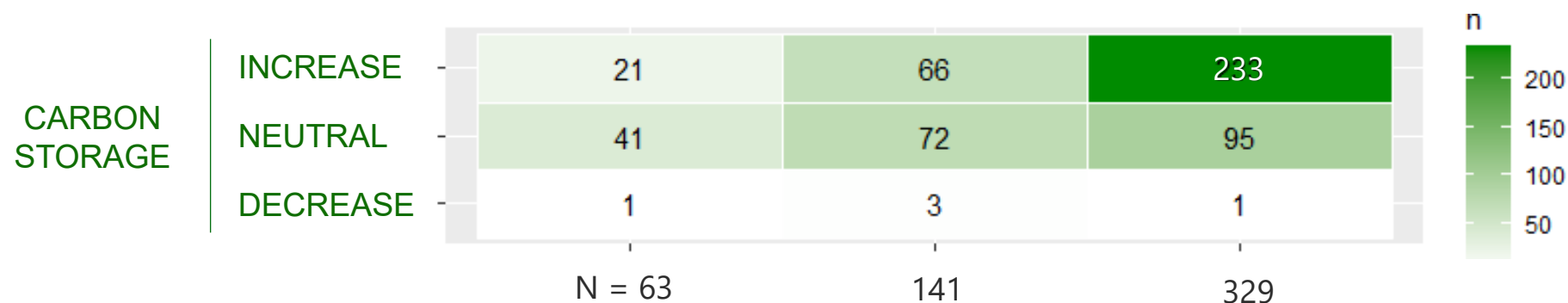
PRACTICES ARE NOT EQUALLY EFFICIENT



DIVERSIFY
AGROECOSYSTEMS

MINIMISE
DISTURBANCE

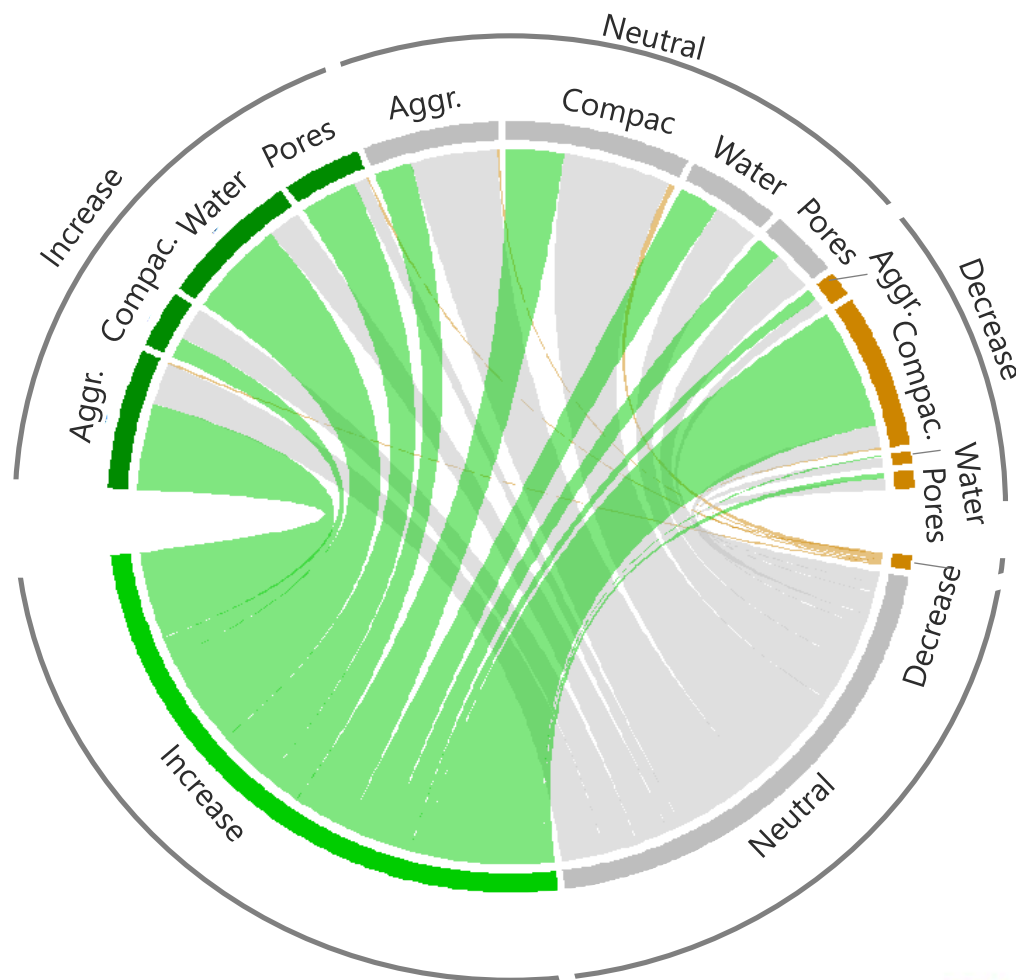
INCREASE
ORGANIC INPUTS



SYNERGIES WITH SOIL STRUCTURE AND BIOTA ARE EVIDENT

SOIL
STRUCTURE

SOIL ORGANIC
CARBON



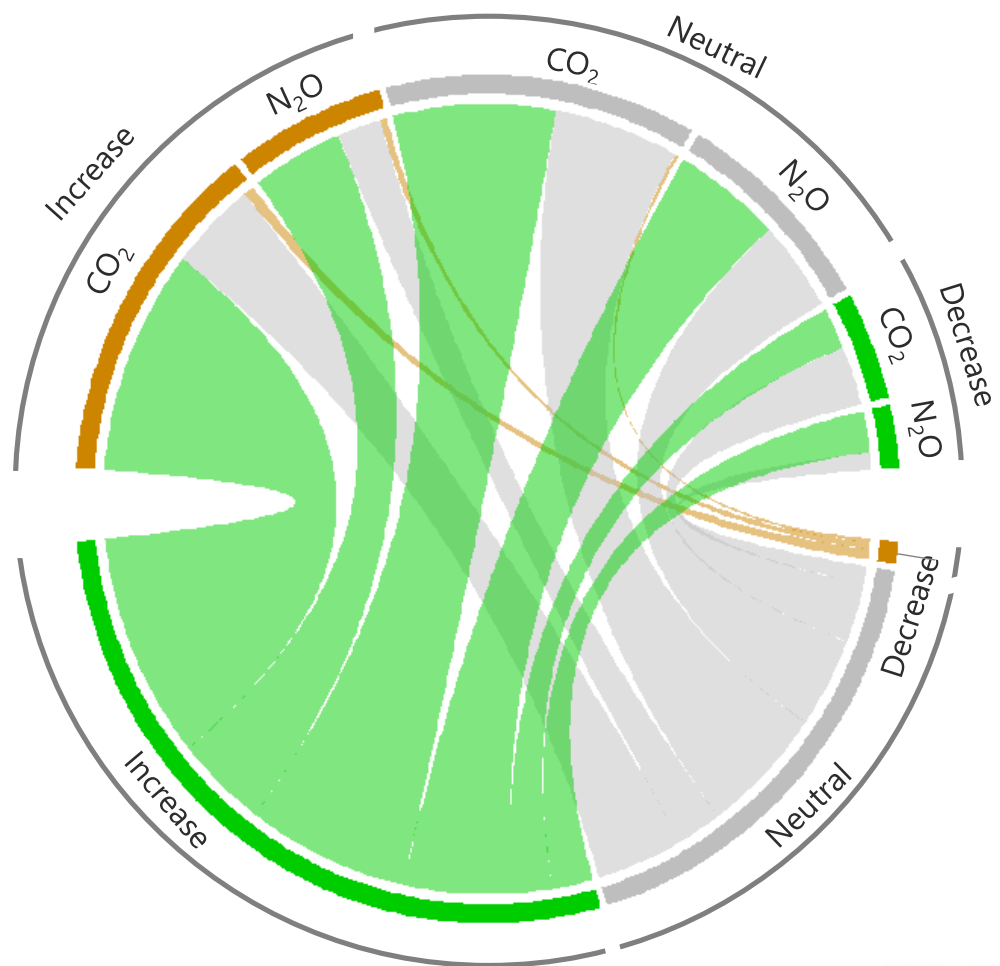
- IMPROVED SOIL AGGREGATION
- INCREASED SOIL POROSITY
- ENHANCED WATER RETENTION
- REDUCTION OF SOIL COMPACTION
- ABUNDANT AND DIVERSE SOIL BIOTA

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



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GHG EMISSIONS

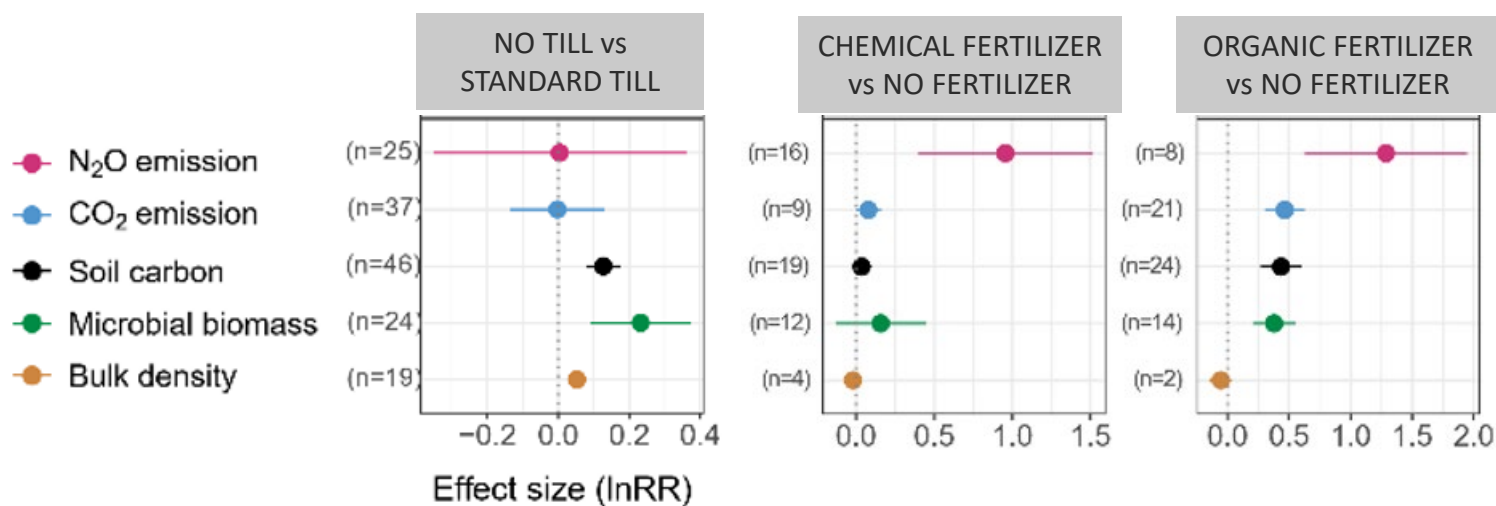


SOIL ORGANIC CARBON



- NOT SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN CO₂ or N₂O

TRADE-OFFs MAINLY RELATE TO ORGANIC INPUTS



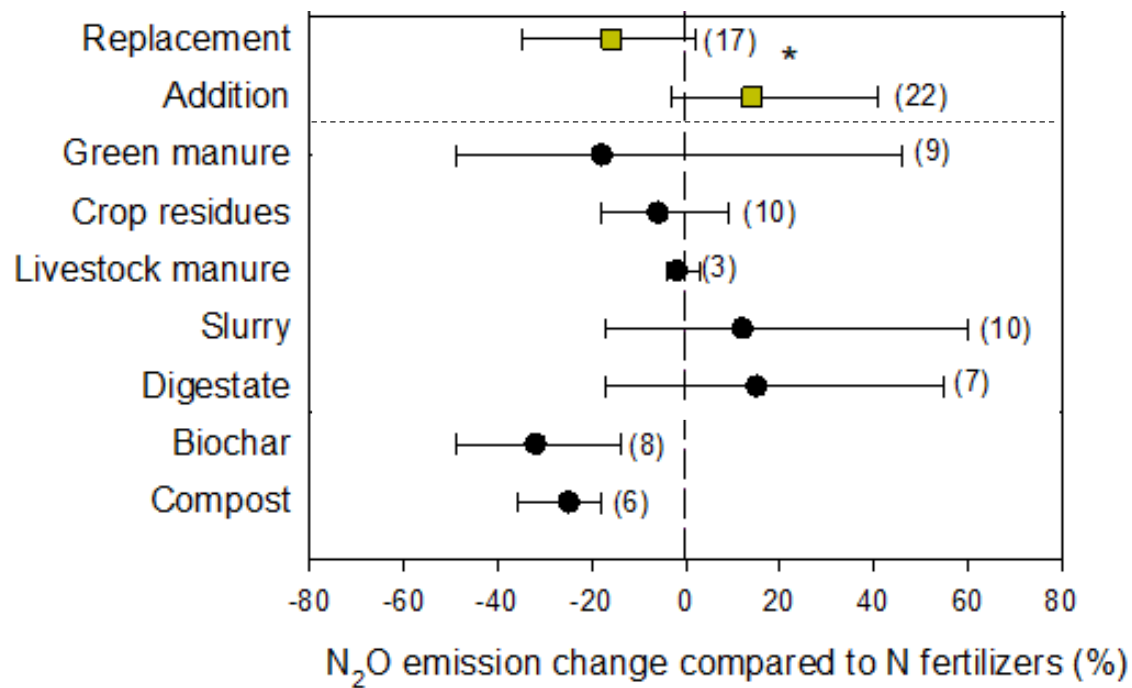
N = 73 experiments

Worldwide



- ORGANICS SHOW SMALLER POTENTIAL TRADE-OFFs THAN CHEMICALS

TRADE-OFFs MAINLY RELATE TO ORGANIC INPUTS



N = 53 experiments
Europe



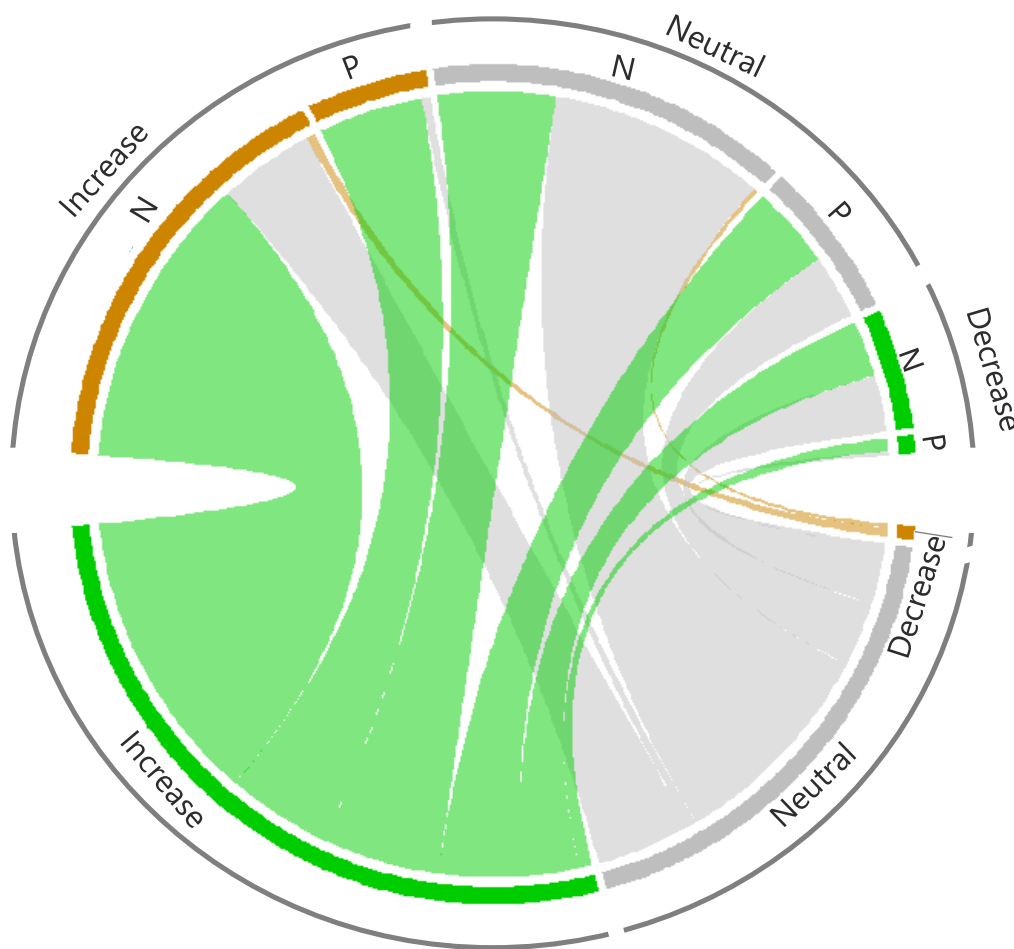
- NOT ALL ORGANICS BEHAVE THE SAME
- BETTER LANDSPREADING ORGANICS ALONE THAN IN COMBINATION OF CHEMICALS

NUTRIENT LOSSES



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SOIL
NUTRIENTS

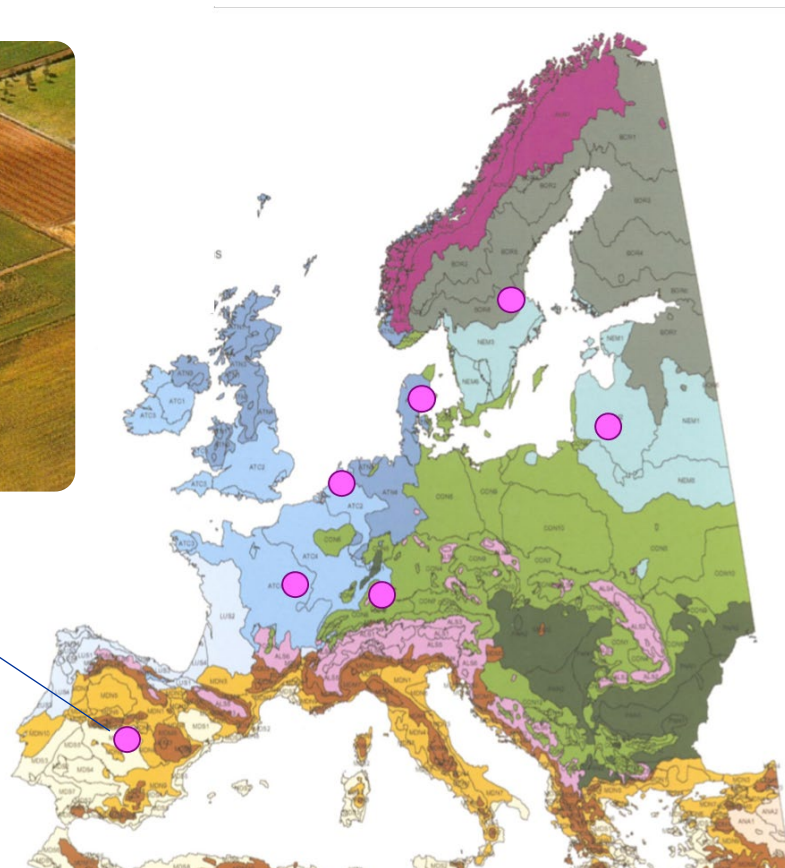


SOIL ORGANIC
CARBON



- SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN NUTRIENT CONTENTS
- INSUFFICIENT EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE ON NUTRIENT LOSSES

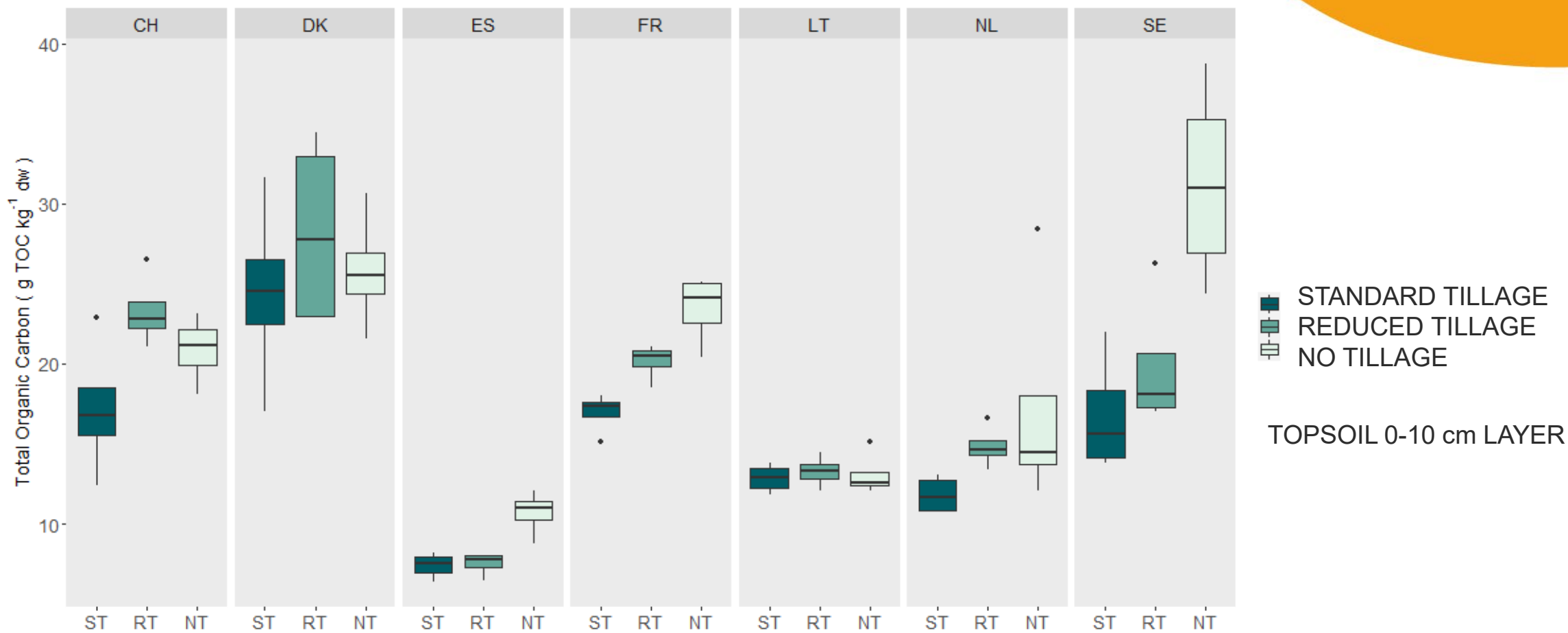
PRACTICES SHOW LARGE CONTEXT DEPENDENCY



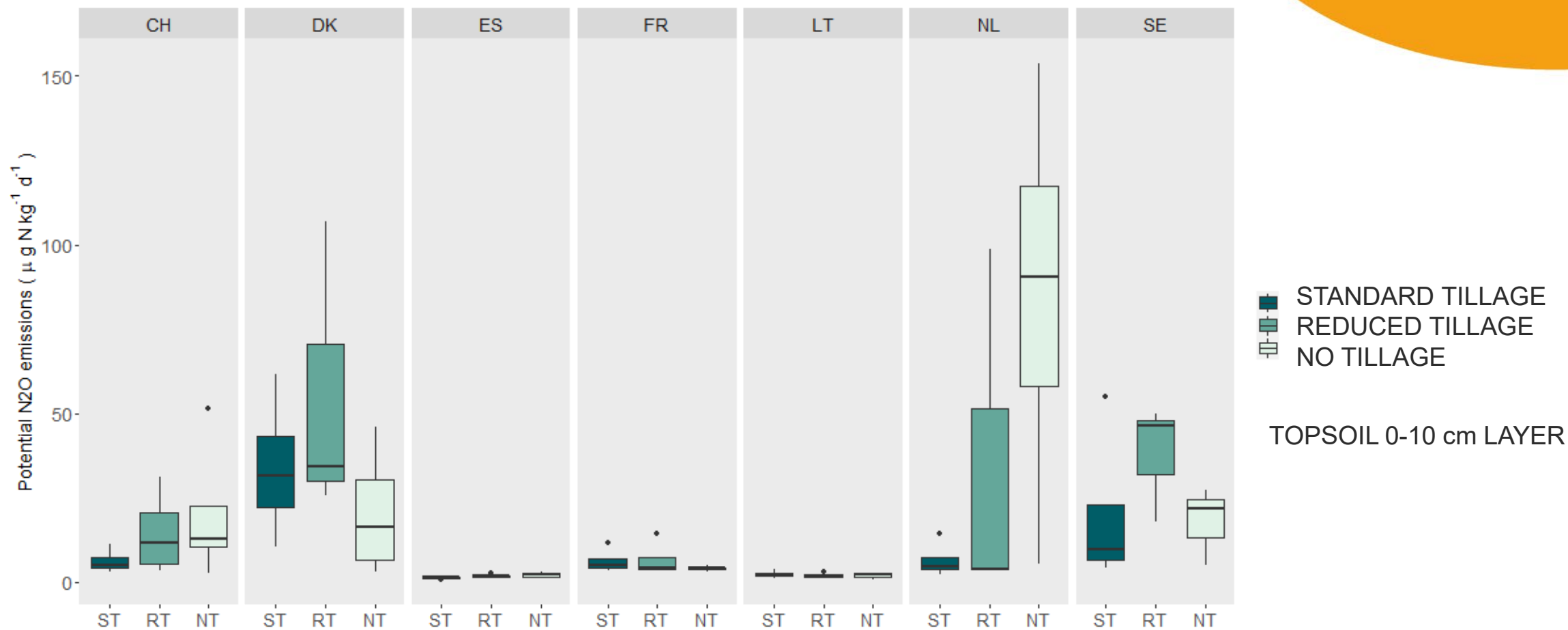
3000 km transect
Tillage Experiments
>10 years
Cereals



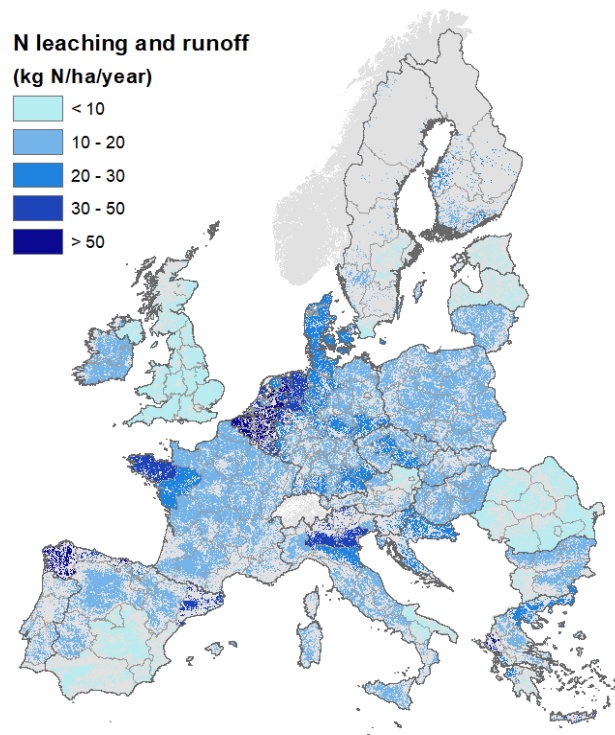
PRACTICES SHOW LARGE CONTEXT DEPENDENCY



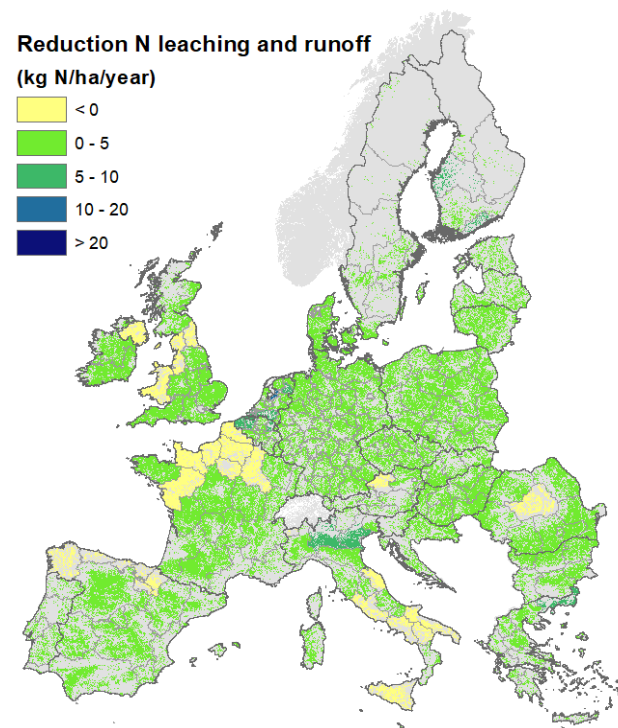
POTENTIAL TRADE-OFFS SHOW LARGE CONTEXT DEPENDENCY



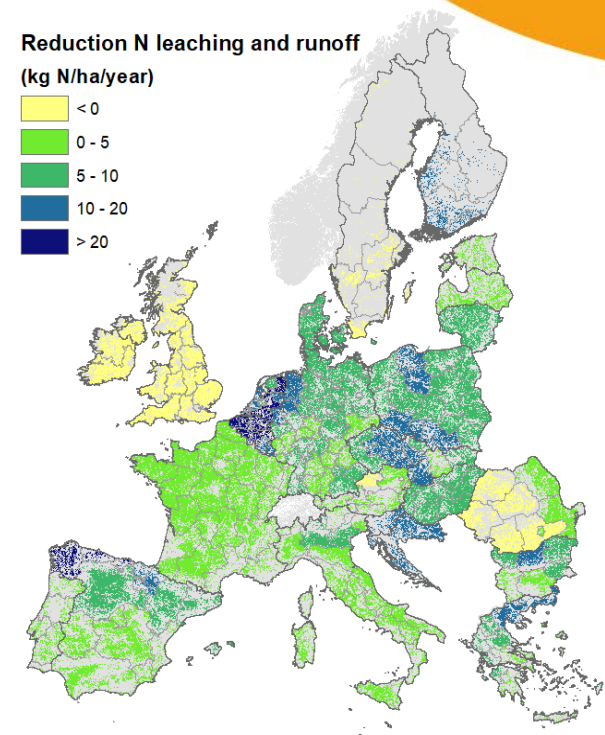
DATA GAPS HINDER MORE PRECISE MODEL PREDICTIONS



REFERENCE YEAR: 2017



COVER CROPS



COVER CROPS + BALANCED N
FERTILIZATION

MANTAINING AND ENHANCING SOIL ORGANIC CARBON

SHOW EVIDENT SYNERGIES WITH SOIL HEALTH

- REDUCING SOIL DISTURBANCE, DIVERSIFYING AGROECOSYSTEMS AND INCREASING ORGANIC INPUTS BENEFIT SOIL STRUCTURE AND BIOTA

DO NOT LEAD TO WIDESPREAD TRADE-OFFs

- TRADE-OFFs ARE MAINLY DUE TO THE USE OF SOME ORGANIC FERTILIZERS
- BETTER USE ORGANICS ALONE THAN IN COMBINATION WITH CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS

MORE PRECISE TRADE-OFF PREDICTIONS ARE NEEDED

- MULTI-SITE, SYSTEMATIC AND LONG-TERM FIELD MONITORING
- FILLING IN DATA GAPS ON FARM MANAGEMENT FOR MODELLING



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Thank you!

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How do existing carbon farming schemes account for synergies and trade-offs?

Martin Hvarregaard Thorsøe

Assistant professor, Aarhus University



© European Union, 2023. Image - Yuri A. / Shutterstock.com

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Overview and objectives

Projects



Presentation objectives

1. Strengths and weaknesses of Carbon Farming scheme design options with respect to trade-offs and synergies

Input

1. Inventory of CF schemes (160)
2. In depth analysis (40)

Different scheme types and incentives

Activity based carbon farming: Payments for implementing defined carbon farming measures, independently of the resulting impact of those measures.

VS.

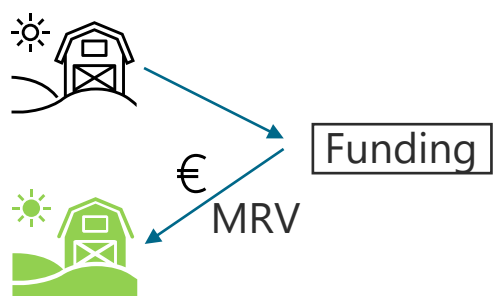
Result-based carbon farming: Payment for reducing net GHG fluxes from their land, whether that is by reducing their GHG emissions or by sequestering and storing carbon in soil. This requires a direct link between results delivered and payments.



Different design options

- **Purposive sampling:** (European coverage, maximum variation, should illustrate tradeoffs of scheme design)

Farm payments

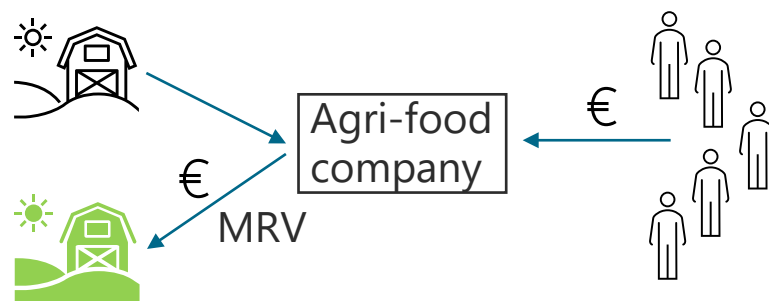


Examples



Sample size = 12

Corporate supply chain



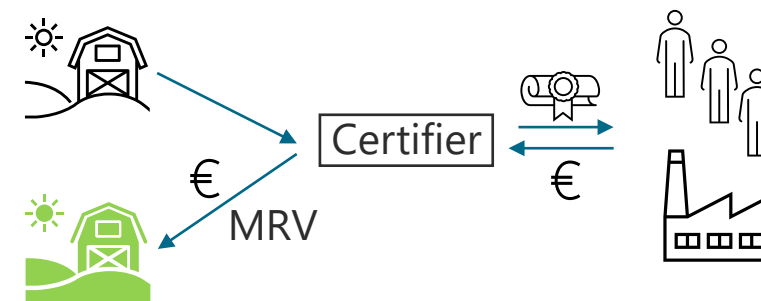
Examples



DIAGEO

Sample size = 7

Voluntary carbon markets



Examples



Agreena



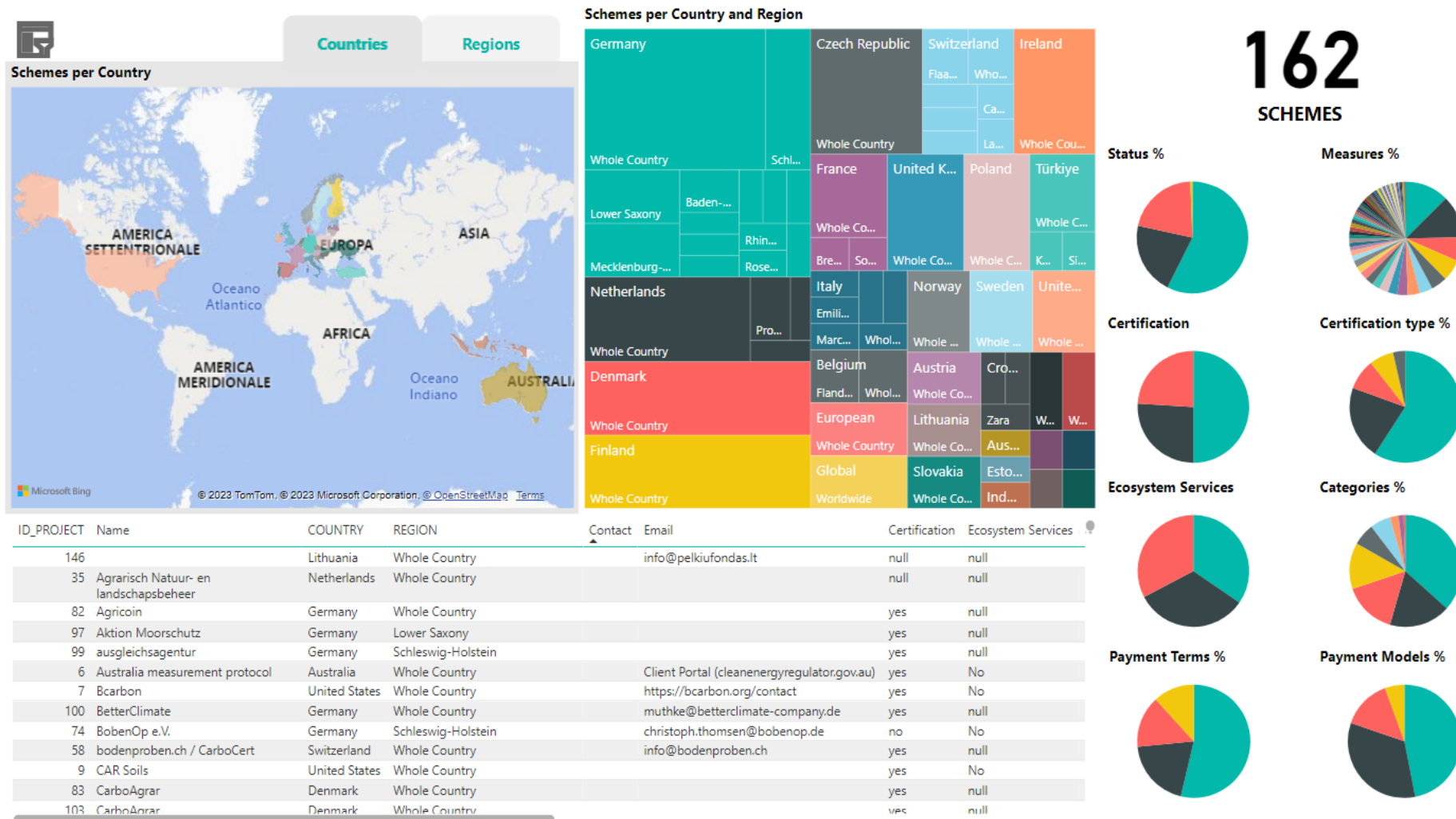
LABEL BAS
CARBONE

puro·
earth



Sample size = 17

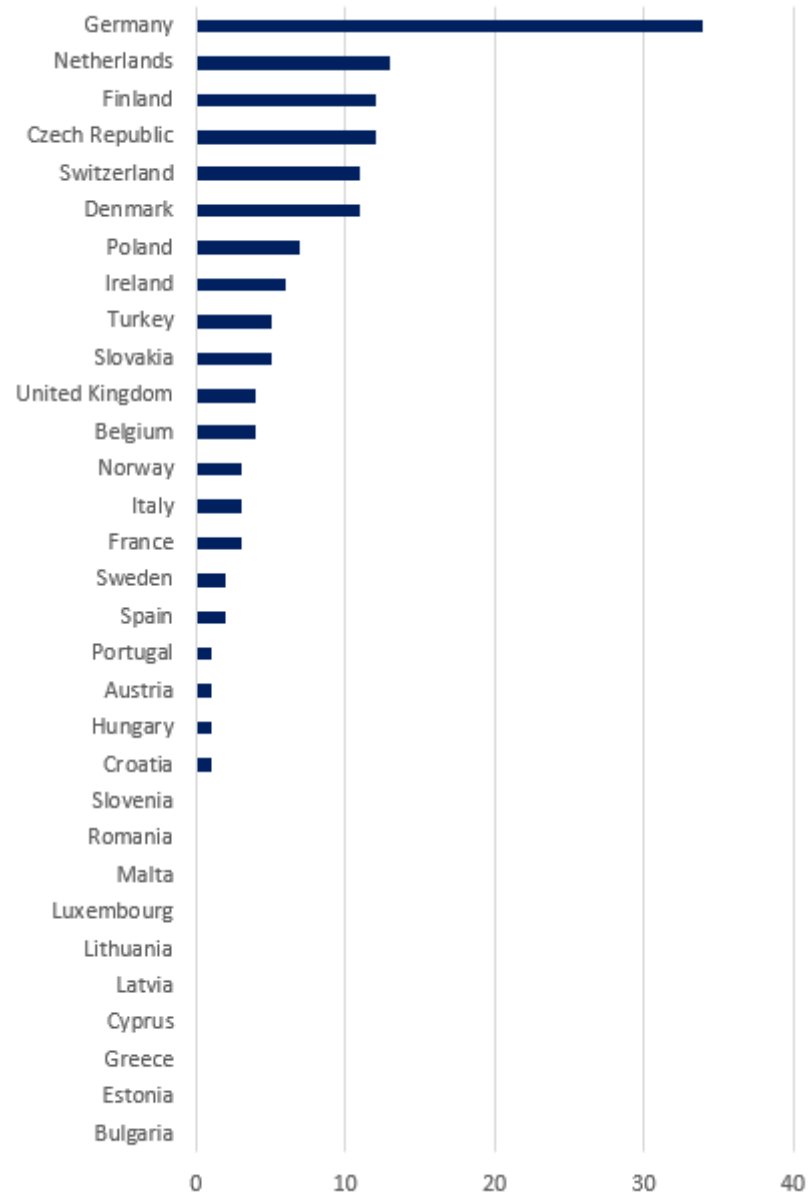
Web registry of CF schemes





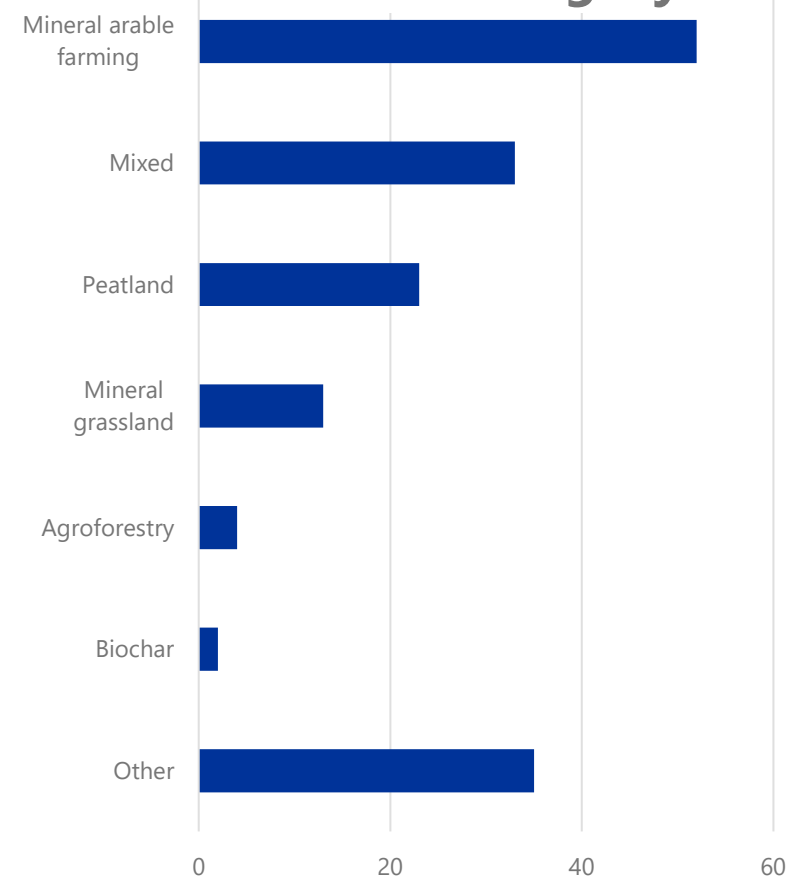
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Measures and countries



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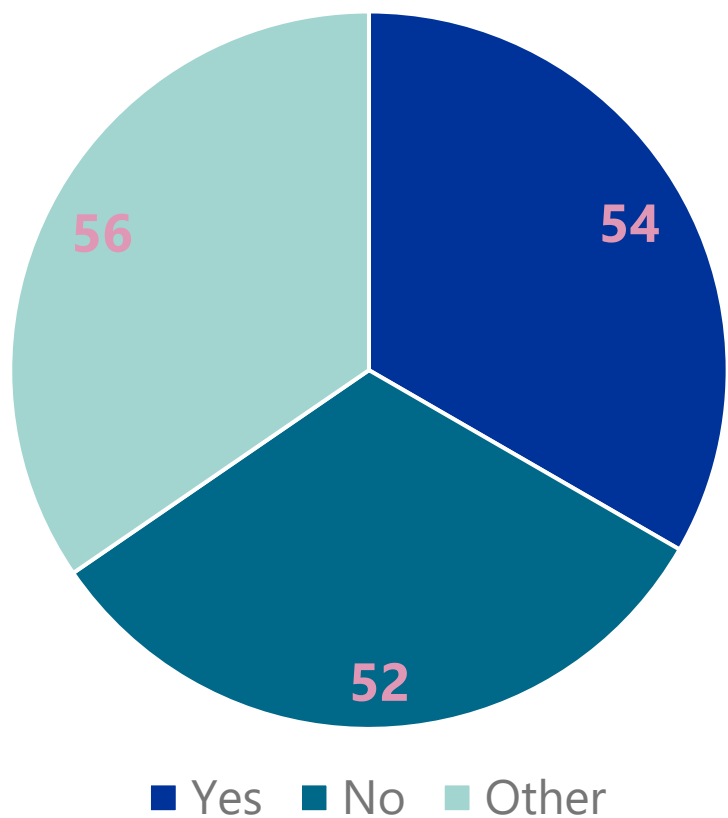
Measure category



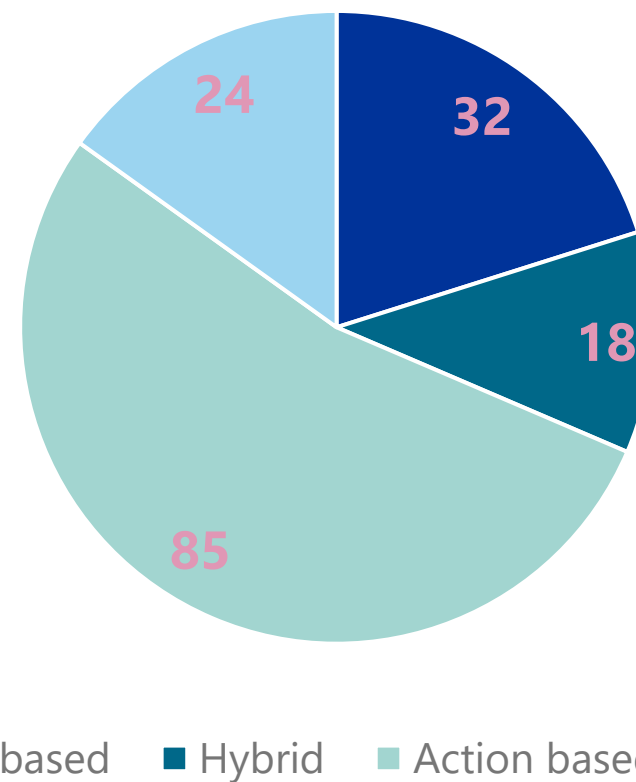
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Payment type and scheme focus

Multifunctional focus



Payment type

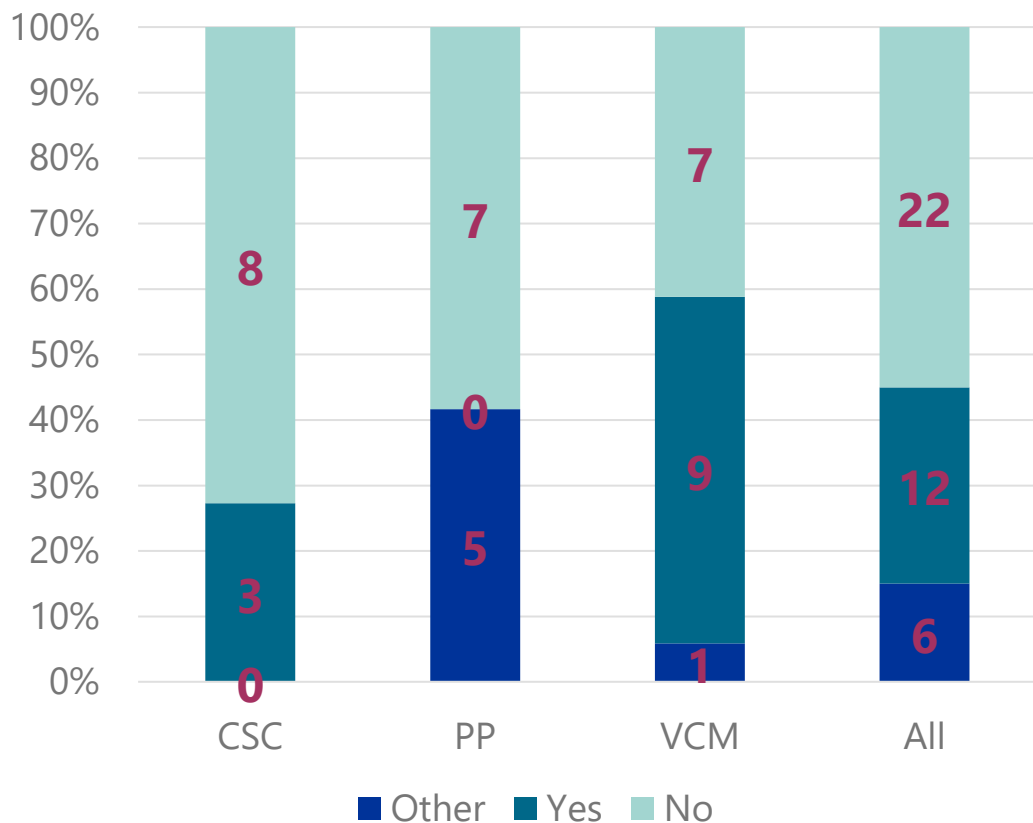


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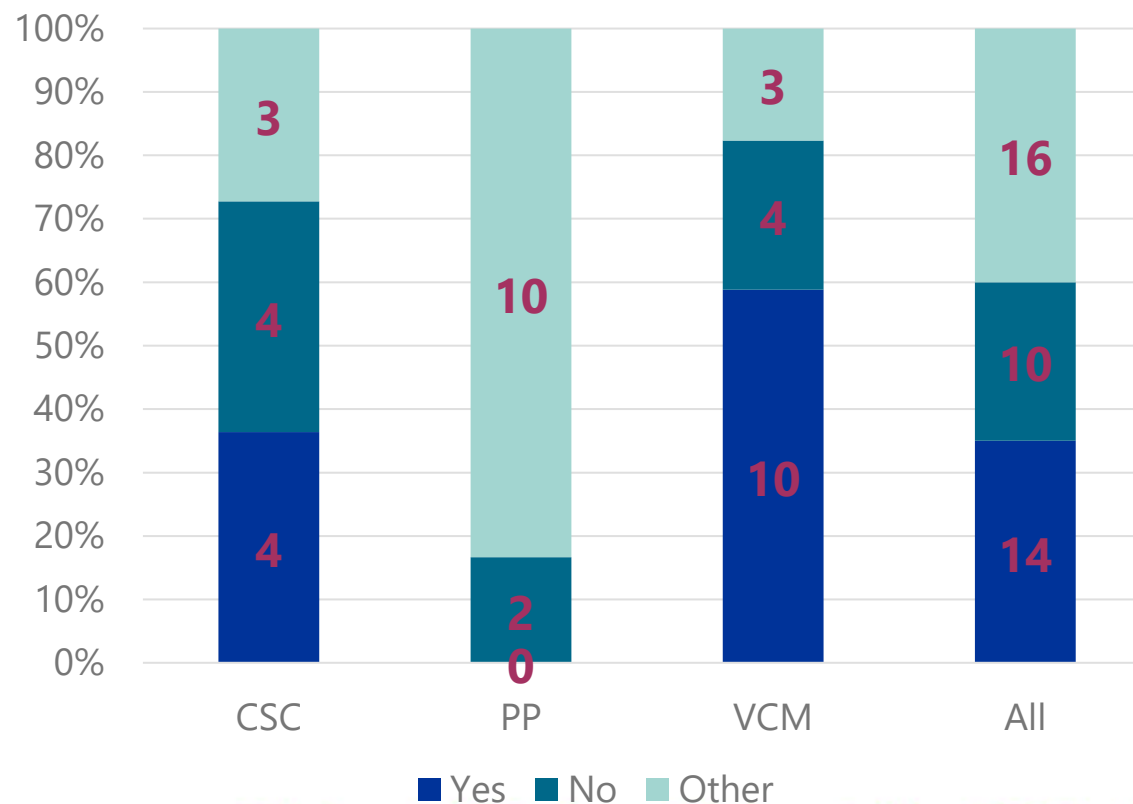
Payment type and scheme focus



Internationally approved standard



Trading of carbon farming credits



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Synergies/tradeoffs and scheme scale

Scheme scale	Practices	Advantages	Shortcomings
Field scale	(CF) Changing crops, crop management, adding amendments field management	Direct incentives for SH adjusted to baseline	Monitoring costs and uncertainty and onfarm tradeoffs
Farm scale	Changing farm technology, stable systems and input/output on farm	Simple and flexible implementation and monitoring	Complex incentives and not always linked with performance
Collective schemes (Landscape)	Change land use, nature restoration & rewetting	Long-term landscape solutions	Resource consuming implementation

Concluding remarks (1)

Tradeoffs

- Accuracy vs. costs in MRV
- Percieved fairness due to local opportunities
- Field based approach to certification incur tradeoffs at farm and landscape scale
- Multifunctionality in schemes → + costs and complexity, which negatively influence uptake
- SOC vs GHG - Important to consider total GHG balance and dynamic effects
- Regulation at practice level

Synergies

- Farmers are quite interested in synergies, important to communicate benefits effectively
- Synergies are difficult to quantify and compare in CF schemes
- Not one silver bullet, but important to consider scheme mix

Concluding remarks (2)

Certification of existing result based schemes

- No-harm implemented, but few schemes monitor relevant indicators or offer incentives for synergies
- Short term certification (often <10 years)
- Focus on additional sequestration, not maintenance of existing C stocks
- Farmers are interested in additional revenue, but dislike uncertainties of result based rewards

General reflections

- Competition between schemes and overall policy mix need to be considered
- Targeted and result oriented approach to agricultural support that focus on delivering societal goods
- Targeted use of activity based schemes could improve their use particular for multifunctional practices complementing result-based schemes



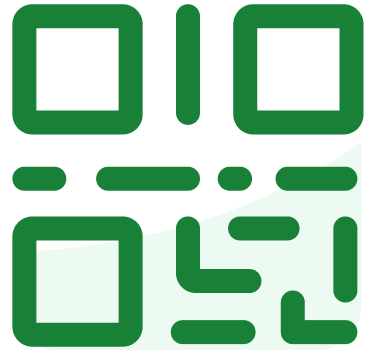
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MISSION SOIL
WEEK

Feedback and input from participants

[#MissionSoilWeek](#) [#MissionSoil](#) [#EUMissions](#)

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**Join at slido.com
#ESMW2023**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the joining instructions on this slide.

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Audience Input

ⓘ Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

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Which synergies are most relevant for including in MRV systems for carbon farming?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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Can you think of any practices that are "no regret" options which minimise trade-offs between carbon and other GHG and nutrient losses?

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At the current stage of knowledge about synergies and trade-offs associated with carbon sequestration in soils, what kind of approach would you recommend for carbon-farming schemes:

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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Apart from those addressed in the presentations, are there any other potential synergies that deserve greater attention?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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Apart from those addressed in the presentations, are there any other potential trade-offs that deserve greater attention?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

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What would be the most useful contribution(s) from Mission Soil towards creating synergistic carbon-farming schemes in the EU?

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



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EUROPEAN MISSION SOIL WEEK

**Carbon farming or a nature credit framework?
=> what are stakeholder preferences**

Saskia Visser

Climate-KIC

Thanks to Stewart Gee, Aleksandra Goldys, Ellea Lhermite



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CSIC
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS

INIA
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y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria

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Ireland – Ambition

Deep Demonstration

Sustainable food systems in Ireland



“Ireland wants to become a world leader in sustainable food systems, leveraging its innovative agri-food sector to meet the highest standards of sustainability – economic, environmental and social...”

Some Critical 2030 Targets

- **25% - overall target reduction (5.75 Mt CO2 Eq) in agricultural emissions by 2030. Legally binding**
- Biogenic Methane: a reduction of at least 10% (on 2018 level)
- Nitrous Oxide: Emissions associated with chemical fertiliser use to reduce by more than 50%
- Water Quality: reduce nutrient losses from agriculture to water by 50%
- Biodiversity: 10% of farmed area will be prioritised for biodiversity
- Air Quality: Ammonia emissions to reduce to 5% below 2005 levels
- Forestry: Increase afforestation from existing levels to at least 8,000 ha per year & double sustainable biomass production
- Improve the Social Sustainability of Primary Producers

Climate Neutral by 2050

Ireland Deep Demonstration (DD)

Deep Demonstration

Sustainable food systems in Ireland



Context

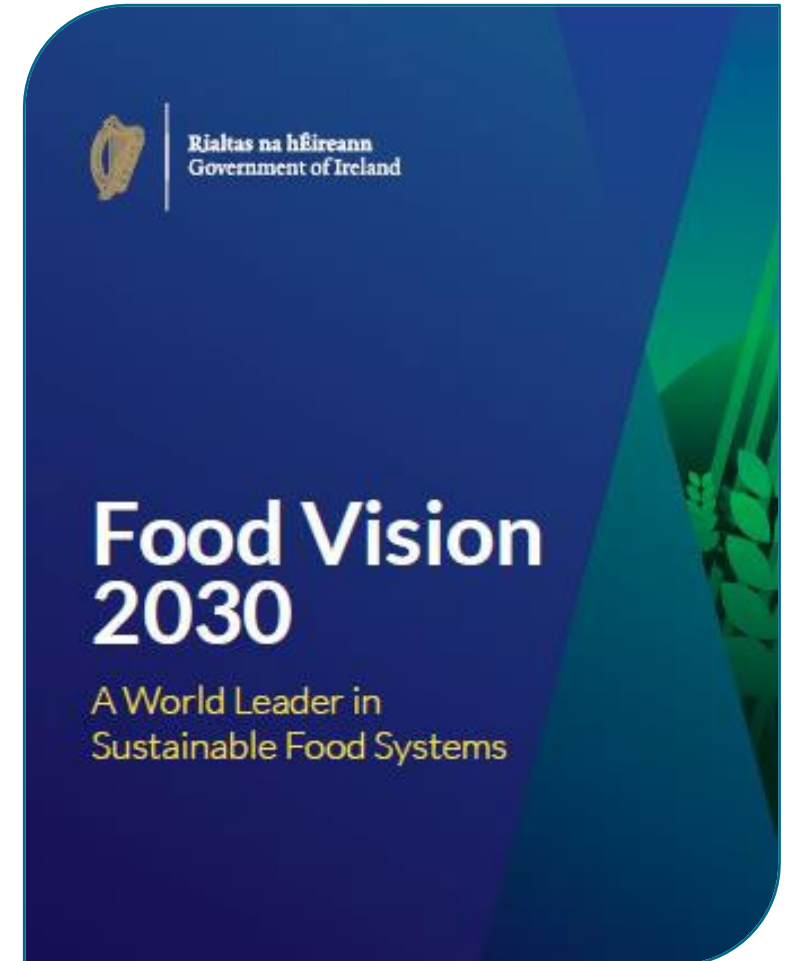
- Ireland's 2030 Food Vision; develop a **coordinated set of innovation actions** to support the transition to a climate-neutral agri-food sector
- DD partnership between EIT Climate-KIC and Ireland's DAFM

Ambition

- Contributes to **emission reduction targets**: 25% reduction by 2030
- Prepares for climate neutrality by 2050.

Methodology

- **'Demand-led'**: involves **co-designing interventions** with key stakeholders.
- Development and implementation of a **portfolio of large-scale connected interventions** in the land-agri-food system.
- It embeds rapid **'learning by doing'**, to provide intelligence which will enable government and industry to make **informed decisions** about choices to meet climate goals.

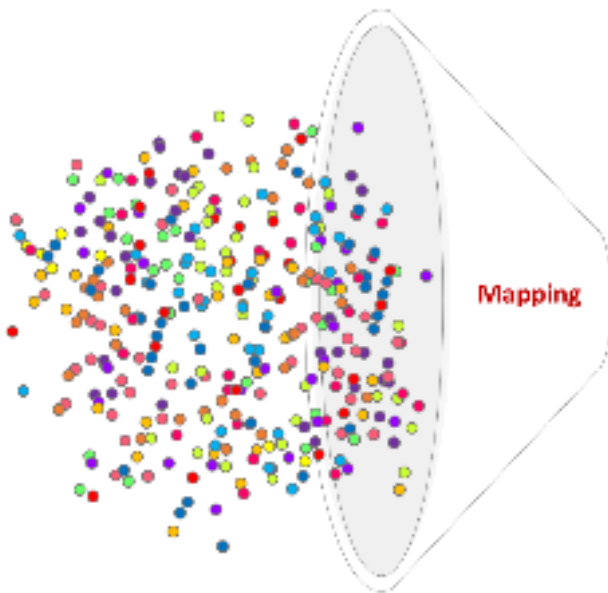


More information: climate-kic.org/SustainableFoodIreland

Deep demonstration proces

275 project ideas

7 flagships



Flagship 1

Ireland Land-Agri-Food Sector Re-Imagined - Vision 2050

Flagship 2

Growing Irish Land, Agri-Food sector through Innovation and Investment in New Value Chains

Flagship 3

Implement Circular Bioeconomy Models at Regional or Multiple Value Chains level

Flagship 4

Valorise environmental services to diversify incomes through a comprehensive Carbon Farming/Nature Credit Framework

Flagship 5

Beef Value Chain Collaboration to produce and certify Climate Neutral Beef production.

Flagship 6

Dairy Value Chains Collaboration to Accelerate Emission Reductions and improve Sustainability on farms

Flagship 7

Grow and diversify the Tillage sector

Longer Term Focus

2040 – 2050

More Strategic

Regional & Sector Level

Shorter Term Focus

2030

More Practical

Value Chain Level

WHY DOES IRELAND NEED A FRAMEWORK?

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Conclusions from 1st workshop (~30 pp)

- To decarbonise Ireland's agriculture (improve and reduce GHG emissions) – Achieve Ireland's 2030 & 2050 Targets
- Protect the environment
- Financial diversification for farmers/Reward action/Incentivise change
- Food security
- Sustainable food system - ahead of the game
- Means for ensuring a new business model for more sustainable land use.
- Make environmental action economically viable

HIGH & BROAD EXPECTATIONS !!



Flagship objective

Overall Objective:

“To support and enable the adoption and scaling of management practices within primary production that will result in Ireland achieving its climate, biodiversity and water quality targets by the end of 2030.”

Activation Phase Objective:

To develop by Q1 2024 a Framework that drives the adoption of climate and nature positive management practices at primary producer level.

- 1) Public consultation
- 2) Focussed engagement
- 3) Development of implementation plan



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↓ -1.2%

Agriculture



14% Decrease in fertiliser nitrogen use resulted in less emissions from agricultural soils.

Dairy cow numbers	+0.9%
Milk production	+0.7%

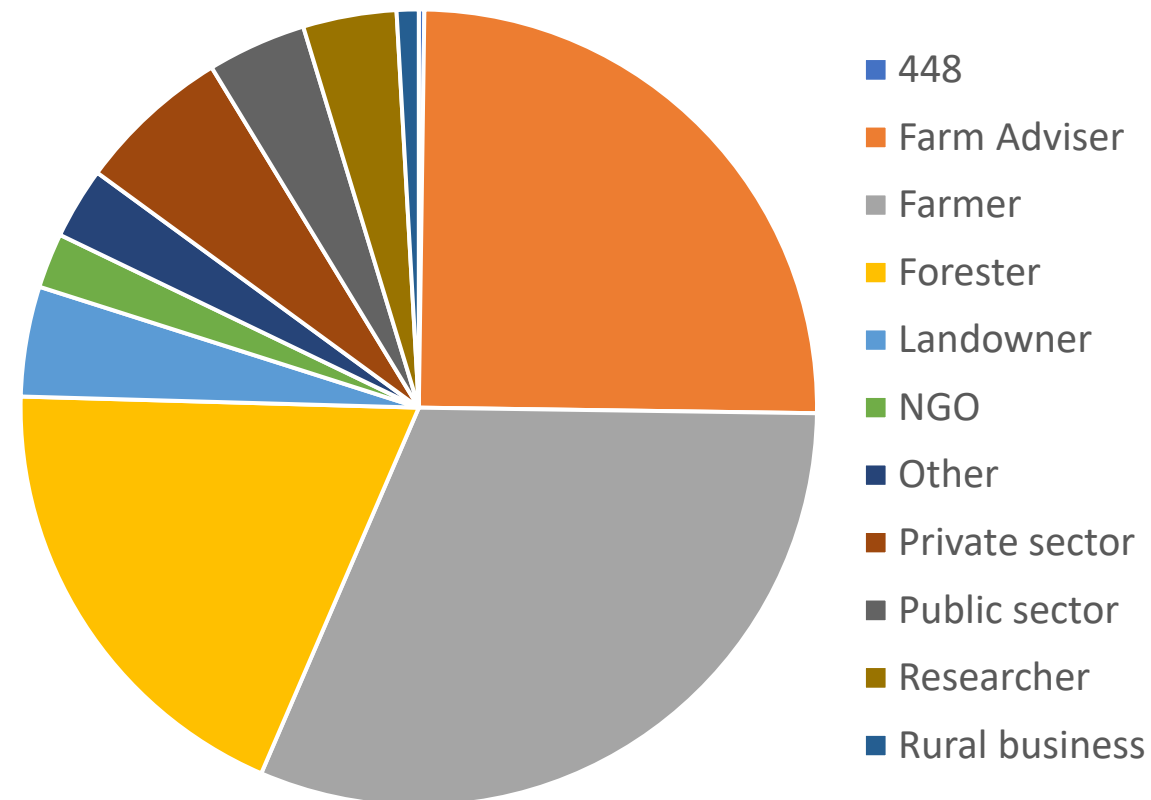
Public consultation: results

People want to be compensated for ecosystem services (n=436)

Lifetime of an initiative should be :

- 20 years (n= 223)
- Between 10 -20 years (n= 112)

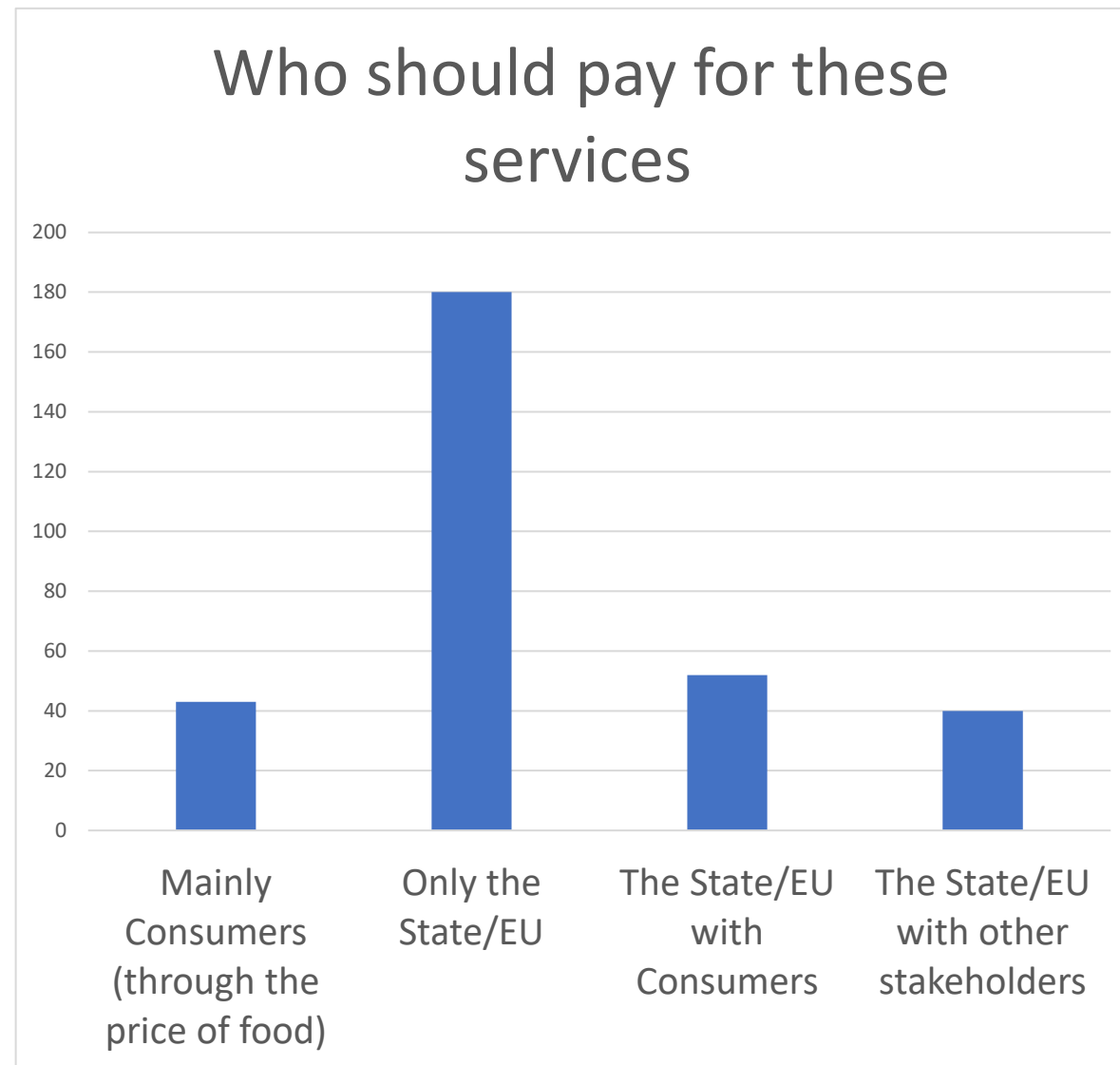
Which of the following best describes you
(select one)?



What should be included in a framework? (N=404)

- 1) emission reductions or avoidance,
- 2) carbon removals,
- 3) co-benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem restoration.

- 1, 2,3 => n=204
- 1+ 2=> n= 170
- 3 => 30

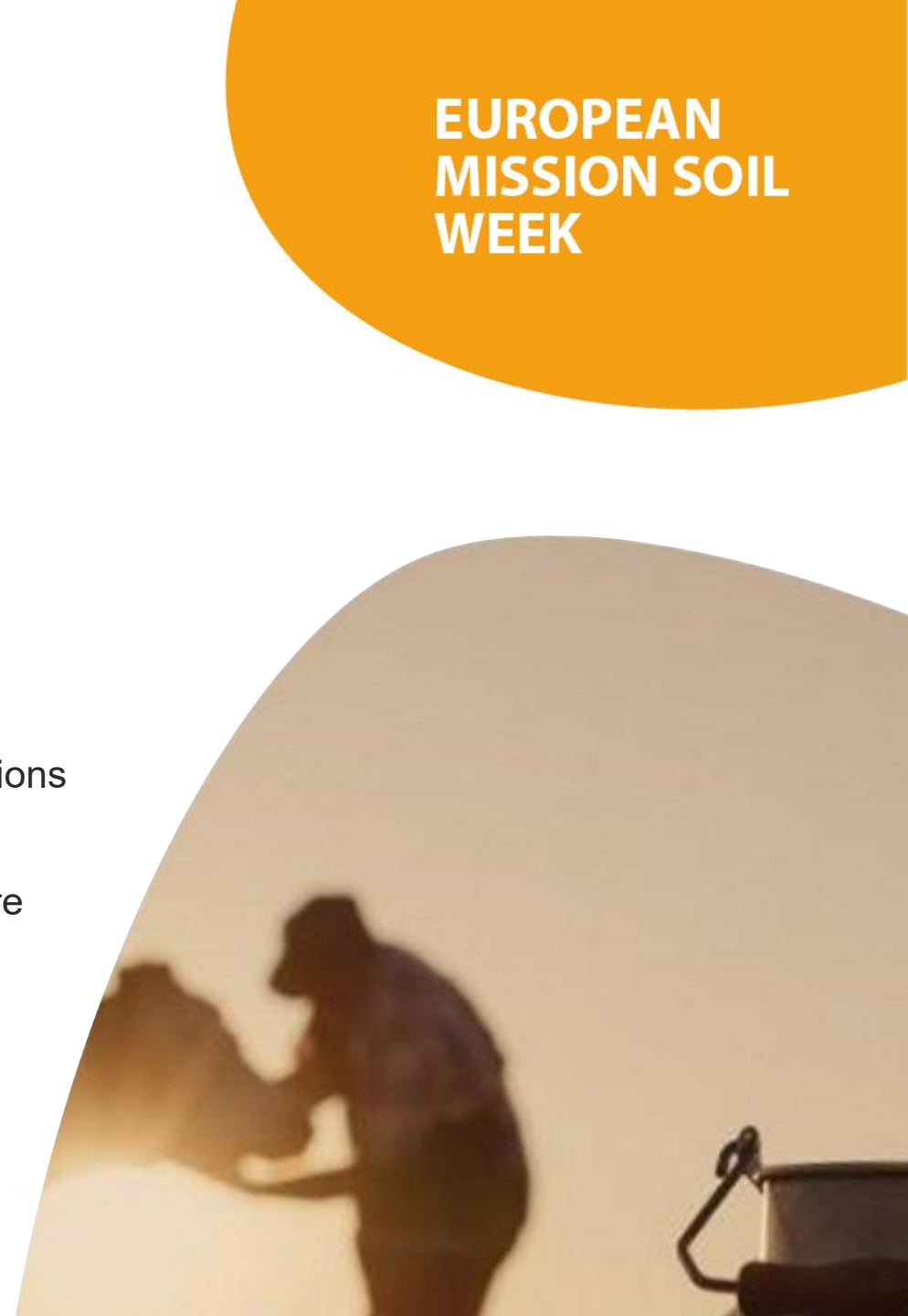


Conclusions

- Interest in Carbon farming is high
- Willingness to participate high
- Expectations of CF are MASSIVE
- Integral approach is preferred by (Irish) stakeholders

=> Panel

- Steering on targets provides flexibility and space for location specific solutions [NL]
- Integral approach allows also realising other targets beyond carbon capture [NL]





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Moderator

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Claire Chenu

Senior scientist and Coordinator of
the EU co-funded programme EJP
SOIL

*INRAE (French National Research Institute
for Agriculture, Food and Environment)*

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Panel discussion

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**Tristano Bacchetti
De Gregoris**

Founder & Director of R&I

SAE Innova



Christian Holzleitner

Head of Unit – Land Economy & Carbon
Removals

*European Commission,
DG Climate Action (CLIMA)*



Cristiano Ballabio

Project Officer – Land Resources
& Supply Chain Assessment

*European Commission, Joint
Research Centre (JRC)*



Saskia Visser

Cluster Manager – Resilient and
climate neutral regions

EIT Climate-KIC

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1st European Carbon Farming Summit

Save the date!

5-6-7

March ²⁰²⁴

Contribution submission
will open soon

Place

Valencia

Which practices for European soils?

Regional agrosystems
Farmer acceptance
Co-benefits
Trade-offs
Value Chains

What standards and certification mechanisms?

Quality Criteria
Baselining
Overlapping schemes
Additionality
Offsetting and claims

How to monitor carbon fluxes?

Data harmonization
Model calibration
Emerging technologies
Remote Sensing
Monitoring initiatives



Website:
www.carbonfarmingsummit.eu



More information also at:
www.project-credible.eu



Any question please email to:
saskia.keesstra@climate-kic.org

Organised by:



CREDIBLE
EU carbon farming



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Programme Day 1 - Tuesday, 21 November

EUROPEAN MISSION SOIL WEEK

Time	Session Name	Building name
9:30 – 10:15	Welcome and opening session	<i>Main hall – Building A</i>
10:15 – 11:00	Setting the scene for the Mission Soil	
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 13:00	The Mission Soil in a nutshell	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 16:00	Breakout session 1 - Soil health for climate	<i>ICA Institute - Building C</i>
	Breakout session 2 - Soil health for food	<i>Press Room - Building D</i>
	Breakout session 3 - Farming practices for soil health	<i>Blas Cabrera Institute - Building B</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break	<i>Main hall - Building A</i>
16:30 – 16:45	Reporting from breakout sessions	
16:45 – 17:45	Launch of the international research consortium on soil carbon	
17:45 – 18:15	Mission Soil photo competition award ceremony	
18:15 – 19:00	Cocktail & Networking	

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Coffee Break (Main Hall – Building A)

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@EUgreenresearch



@euagrifood



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