Soil Organic Carbon in EU Soils

Healthy soils for healthy food, people, nature and climate within the European Green Deal

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4 per 1000, 9th December 2020
Green Deal and soil organic carbon (SOC)

- Forests are a C sink
- Agriculture still emits 10% of total EU GHG emissions
- No decreasing trend in the last years!
- Need to reduce non-CO$_2$ emission and sequester C in soils

The European Green Deal
von der Leyen Commission

No net emissions of GHG by 2050
Soils in Horizon Europe and Missions

- Soils are threatened: 60-70% of all soils in Europe are unhealthy as due to current management practices, pollution, urbanisation and the effects of climate change
How to support SOC levels?

- Quantify SOC
- Promote C sequestration
- Create common monitoring schemes
JRC activities on SOC

Biogeochemical modelling

LUCAS soil
EU Soil Observatory: Supporting EU Soil Policies

Goal 1: EU-Wide Soil Monitoring

Goal 2: A stronger European Soil Data Centre

Goal 3: Monitoring of soil related policies

Goal 4: Support to Research & Innovation

Goal 5: Provide an European Soil Forum