

How to restore soils and strengthen sustainable farming in Europe?

New EU Soil Mission project MultiSoil launched in Finland

Across Europe, agricultural soils need support to maintain their fertility, biodiversity, and resilience so that they can cope with climate change, pests, and intensive farming. Food production, water quality, and ecosystem stability can be secured by adopting farming practices that preserve soil and enhance beneficial interactions between plants and microorganisms.

The new EU-funded MultiSoil project, coordinated by the **Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)**, aims to advance knowledge and practical solutions that support the long-term development of more sustainable farming systems.

“Our goal is to co-create, test, and demonstrate innovative agricultural practices that improve soil and plant health, support biodiversity, and reduce the use of chemical inputs,” says project coordinator Pirjo Yli-Hemminki from the Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke).

Co-creating practical solutions for soil health

MultiSoil brings together a total of 15 partners from Finland, Sweden, Estonia, Poland, Germany, Austria, Italy, and Spain. They work closely with farmers, advisors, researchers, policymakers, and industry actors, and seek to turn scientific knowledge into practical, field-ready solutions for healthier and more productive soils.

“The project combines field trials, local innovations, and stakeholder input. It will test practices such as adding organic materials to improve the soil, using soil enhancing microbes and diversified cropping systems across European pedoclimatic zones, from Boreal to Continental and Mediterranean,” Yli-Hemminki continues.

Key outputs will include a toolbox of best practices and guidelines complementing integrated pest management, tailored to regional conditions, along with data on the environmental, economic, and social benefits of the tested measures, providing robust support for sustainable farming and future soil policies.

Further information:

- *MultiSoil (Multifunctional Soil Biodiversity: Unlocking Potential for Healthy Cropping Systems)* focuses on soil restoration, pollution reduction, and improved soil structure to enhance biodiversity and crop productivity. It contributes to the **EU Mission “A Soil Deal for Europe”**.
- Project duration: 1.9.2025–28.02.2030.
- Funding: Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme.
- Project Website: www.multisoil.eu
- Collaboration with other EU soil projects, such as **DeliSoil** (www.delisoil.eu), **Precilience** (www.precilience.eu/), and **SOILRES** (<https://soilres.eu>) to exchange knowledge and align efforts for healthier European soils.

Project Logo

