Soil protection under LIFE

Bavo Peeters

D1 Unit – Land Use and Management
DG Environment
European Commission

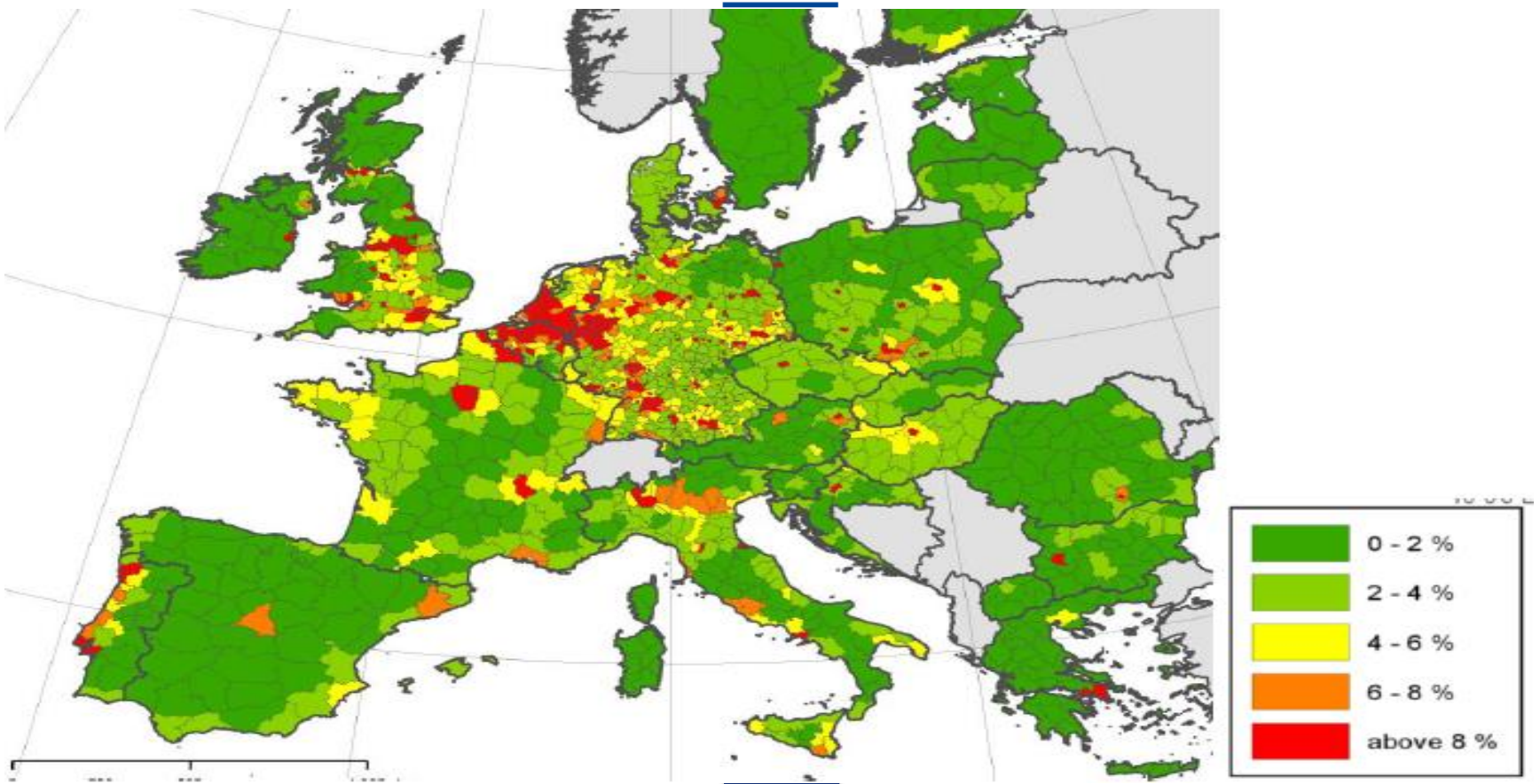
Soil Thematic Strategy



EU policies with a link to soil protection

Adaptation Strategy	Biodiversity Strategy	Circular Economy Action Plan	EU Forrest Strategy
Drinking Water Directive	Effort Sharing Decision	Environmental Impact Assessment Directive	Renewable Energy Directive
Resource Efficiency Roadmap	Soil Sealing Guidelines	Waste Framework Directive	Cohesion Fund
Water Framework Directive	Environmental Liability Directive	Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive	Nitrates Directive
Birds and Habitat Directive	Common Agricultural Policy	Landfill Directive	Groundwater Directive
Pesticides Directive	Fertilizer Regulation	European Regional Development Fund	Mercury Regulation
LULUCF Decision	Floods Directive	National Emission Ceiling Directive	Sewage Sludge Directive
Industrial Emissions Directive	European Social Fund	Horizon 2020	LIFE

Soil sealing



Implementation of actions in line with the Soil Sealing Guidelines ([2]) with improved efficiency compared to market solutions with a view to achieving **region- or nationwide spatial development without further land take or soil sealing**. Such actions shall consist in at least one of the following:

— limitation and/or other remediation actions focused on contaminated sites,

— mitigation of soil sealing, and/or

— compensation for soil sealing.



Guidelines on best practice to limit, mitigate or compensate

soil sealing

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/pdf/guidelines/pub/soil_en.pdf

Executive summary

1. Objective and structure

2. Setting the scene
   - 2.1. Introduction
   - 2.2. Current situation and trends
   - 2.3. Drivers

3. Impacts of soil sealing

4. Examples of best practice
   - 4.1. Land take targets
   - 4.2. Land planning
   - 4.3. Land planning guidance
   - 4.4. Protection of agricultural soils and valuable landscapes
   - 4.5. Peri-urban areas
   - 4.6. Brownfield regeneration
   - 4.7. Improving the quality of life in large urban centres
   - 4.8. Information exchange between municipalities
   - 4.9. Soil quality in city planning
   - 4.10. Sustainable buildings
   - 4.11. Eco-accounts and compensation systems
   - 4.12. Water management

5. Tackling the problem of soil sealing: common aspects

6. Limiting soil sealing

7. Mitigating the effects of soil sealing
   - 7.1. Use of permeable materials and surfaces
   - 7.2. Green infrastructure
   - 7.3. Natural water harvesting system

8. Compensating soil sealing
   - 8.1. Re-using topsoil
   - 8.2. De-sealing (soil recovery)
   - 8.3. Eco-accounts and trading development certificates
   - 8.4. Sealing fee

9. Awareness raising

European Commission

UNCCD
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

CBD

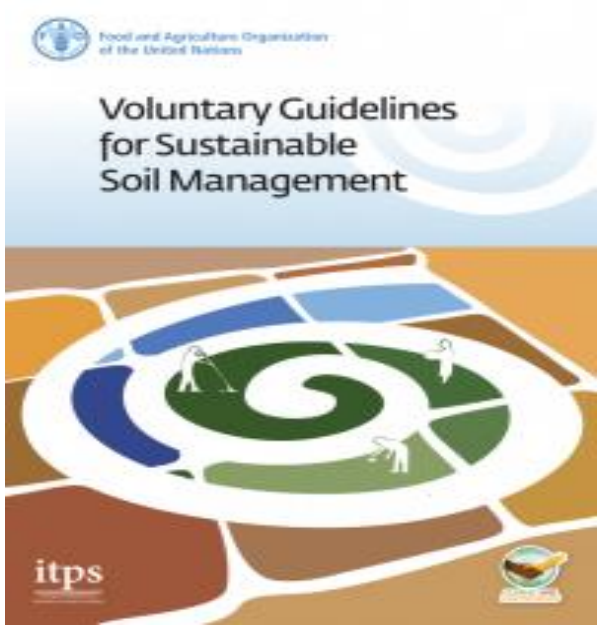


GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

European Commission

Implementation of **integrated sustainable soil management practices** in line with the Voluntary Guidelines for Soil Sustainable Management (3) through regional, national or transnational networks or organisations.



http://www.fao.org/3/a-bl813e.pdf

Contents

Foreword	V
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background and rationale	1
1.2 Objectives	2
1.3 Nature and scope	2
1.4 Target audience	2
1.5 Definition of sustainable soil management	3
2. Challenges for achieving sustainable soil management	5
3. Guidelines for sustainable soil management	7
3.1 Minimize soil erosion	7
3.2 Enhance soil organic matter content	8
3.3 Foster soil nutrient balance and cycles	8
3.4 Prevent, minimize and mitigate soil salinization and alkalinization	10
3.5 Prevent and minimize soil contamination	10
3.6 Prevent and minimize soil acidification	11
3.7 Preserve and enhance soil biodiversity	11
3.8 Minimize soil sealing	12
3.9 Prevent and mitigate soil compaction	12
3.10 Improve soil water management	13
4. Dissemination, use and evaluation of the VGSSM	15