



SOILCRATES is a collaborative initiative aimed at restoring and preserving soil quality across Europe by increasing soil literacy in society and monitoring soil structure, soil biology, and crop-growing conditions in mineral soils. The project operates across four Living Labs (LL) in Ireland, Spain, France, and the Netherlands, established under the EU Mission "A Soil Deal for Europe" as user-centred, place-based, and transdisciplinary research and innovation ecosystems. These Living Labs bring together multiple partners to co-design, test, monitor, and assess soil health solutions in real-world conditions.

The SOILCRATES Ireland Living Lab, located across Counties Clare, Limerick, and Tipperary, focuses on addressing the specific agricultural and environmental challenges facing Ireland. Moreover, it contributes to sustainable soil management, biodiversity conservation, carbon storage, and circular farming practices.

SOILCRATES-Ireland LL core activities include:

- Mitigating nitrogen fertiliser impacts
- Enhancing drainage in heavy soils
- Supporting biodiversity and carbon sequestration
- Applying Artificial Intelligence (AI) to manage LL data

The SOILCRATES project funded 52 pilot projects under the SOILCRATES Financial Support to Third Parties programme (FSTP) across the four Living Labs with a total budget of €1.6 million, including 16 pilot projects awarded to Ireland. The selected pilots will receive financial support ranging from €20,000 to €60,000 per project. Over a period of 12 to 24 months, farmers, land managers, research organizations and local actors will test, adapt and monitor innovative practices under real-life conditions, contributing to a shared European evidence base for healthier soils, biodiversity, carbon storage and climate resilience.





SOILCRATES EU partners

SOILCRATES-Ireland Partners:



TUS
Oileolaí Teicneolaíochta na Sionainne:
Lair Tíre, An tIarthar Láir
Technological University of the Shannon:
Midlands Midwest



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