



Soil event at EXPO 2015 on 20th October 2015

Final agenda – 09/10/2015

Introduction

The Directorate General for Environment of the European Commission organises a Soil event in EXPO 2015 in Milan on 20th October. This event is one of main contributions of the European Commission to the International Year of Soils 2015 aiming at raising awareness on the importance of healthy soils for healthy life.

The theme of EXPO 2015 being "Feeding the planet – Energy for life"; the Commission wishes to highlight the link between soils and climate change (importance of soil organic matter for carbon storage, impact of climate change on soil degradation – erosion, desertification, landslides etc.) - also important in the context of Climate Change negotiations in COP21 in Paris at the end of this year. Furthermore, the importance of healthy soils for feeding the world which is closely linked to food security and agriculture will be addressed.

The event will take place in the conference room of EU Pavilion starting at 10:30 and finishing at 16:00. It will be followed by a cocktail offered to the participants. This event is open to registered participants only.

Agenda

Soil event at EXPO 2015 – "Healthy Soils for Feeding the planet and for Climate Change adaptation", conference room in EU Pavilion, 20th October 2015

Final agenda

10:00 Registration - Coffee

10:30 – 10:45 Welcome – Introduction, European Commission, DG Environment

10:45 – 12:30 **Session 1 – Soils and Climate change: how is it linked?**

- Moderator: DG ENV.B1

- Keynote speaker: "The impacts of climate change and subsequent extreme weather hazards on land and soils: how to manage, prevent or mitigate them?", Prof. Bernardo de Bernardinis, President, ISPRA Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research
- Presentation of IPCC findings on the links between Climate Change and land use and soils, Prof. Pete Smith, Professor of Soils and Global Change, University of Aberdeen
- Presentation of the links between Soils - agriculture practices and Climate Change and the French "4/1000" initiative, Dr. Dominique Arrouays, INRA Orleans, France
- Panel and discussions – Prof. Bernardo de Bernardinis (ISPRA, Italy), Prof. Pete Smith (University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK), Dr. Dominique Arrouays (INRA, France), Prof. Bas van Wesemael (UCL Louvain, Belgium)

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*

13:30 – 15:30 ***Session 2 – Healthy soils for feeding the planet***

- Moderator: Prof. Claire Chenu, AgroParisTech, Ambassador of the International Year of Soils
- Video screening of the project RECARE
- Panel - Debate with farmer representatives on soil sustainable management
 - o Ms Liisa Pietola, Head for environmental affairs, Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK), Finland & Chairwoman of COPA-COGECA Working Party on Environment
 - o Alice Cerutti, Vice President, European Young Farmers (CEJA), Italy
 - o Bram Moeskops, Senior Scientific Coordinator, IFOAM EU, Belgium
 - o Stein Brubæk, dairy farmer, Norway & leader of Norske bonde-og Smabrukarlag (NBS), member of Via Campesina
 - o Sebastien Roumegous, Collectif pour le Développement de l'Agro-écologie, France
 - o Barbara Di Rollo, Expert on Soil Management and Horticultural Sector, Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori, CIA, (Italian Confederation of Agriculture), World Farmers Organisation (WFO) representative

15:30 – 16:00 *Open debate with Civil Society representatives*

- Presentation of the *People 4 Soil* initiative
- Debate

16:00 End of the event

Cocktail