Norway grants

"Enhancement of sustainable soil resource management in agriculture (E2SOILAGRI)"

Activity Implementation

31.10.2022

No.	Activity	Progress	Progress until 30.09.2021	Progress until 31.12.2021	Progress until 30.04.2022	Progress until 31.08.2022	Progress until 31.10.2022
1.	Improving reliable, country-specific soil information of agricultural land						
1.1.	Improving the historical soil information database	**54%**	• 3000 soil profiles out of 15 000 were added to historical soil information database.	• 6000 soil profiles out of 15000 were added to historical soil information database.	-	• 7000 soil profiles out of 15000 were added to historical soil information database.	• 9000 soil profiles out of 15000 were added to historical soil information database.
1.2.	Development of a national soil classification system	**60%**	• Draft version of the new Latvian soil classification system was made; • Draft version of guidelines for determination of soil diagnostic features, sampling and analysis was created.	• Draft version of the new Latvian soil classification system is validated and improved in field works.	• Validation and improvement of draft version of the new Latvian soil classification system is ongoing.	• Validation and improvement of draft version of the new Latvian soil classification system is ongoing.	• Proposals for improvement of the new Latvian soil classification system were prepared. • Validation and improvement of draft version of the new Latvian soil classification system is ongoing.
1.3.	Development of soil mapping methodology on agricultural land	**54%**	• Draft version of methodology for soil description, classification, and mapping on a scale of 1:10 000 was prepared. • Draft version of methodology for soil mapping on a scale of 1:10 000, 1:50 000, 1:100 000 in accordance was created.	• 57 soil profile pits were dug, described, sampled for standard soil profile information layer in Cesu municipality.	• 25 soil profile pits were dug, described and sampled in Jelgavas municipality.	• 53 soil profile pits were dug in Jelgavas municipality. • Additional 15 soil profile pits were dug in Cēsu municipality	• Soil mapping was started in Taurene parish. • Proposals for improvement of the mapping methodology were prepared. • Validation and improvement of draft version of the mapping methodology is ongoing.
1.4.	Mapping of peatland distribution	**36%**	• Draft version of methodology for the assessment and mapping of peatland distribution in agricultural land was created.	• 120 out of 487 soil profile digs in peatlands were checked.	• Work on machine learning model for mapping peatland distribution has started. • 2000 points were surveyed to calibrate the model.	• 240 out of 487 soil profile digs in peatlands were checked. • Work on machine learning model for mapping peatland distribution is ongoing.	• Work on machine learning model for mapping peatland distribution is ongoing and data for validation of the model were gathered.
1.5.	Training in soil description and mapping on a scale of 1:10 000 in accordance with the soil classification of Latvia and World Reference Base	**100%**	-	-	• Preliminary work on organizing the training has started.	Organized training for 10 experts on soil description and mapping according to soil classification of Latvia and World Reference Base.	-
1.6.	Development of proposals for the improvement of regulatory enactments on soil governance issues	**0%**	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Establishment of a national soil carbon monitoring system						
2.1.	Establishment of a soil carbon monitoring network on agricultural land	**73%**	• Criteria for monitoring point selection were established; • Laboratory equipment for total nitrogen determination by Kjeldahl method was procured; • Samples from 44 out of 200 points were collected and analyses has begun.	• Samples 80 out of 200 monitoring points were collected and analysed.	-	• Samples from 85 out of 200 monitoring points were collected.	• Samples from 144 out of 200 monitoring points were collected and analyses were started.
2.2.	Establishment of the Soil Carbon Monitoring Database of agricultural land, which is integrated into the State Crop Monitoring Information System	**70%**	• Work on database development was started.	• Work on database development continues.	-	• A test version of State Crop Monitoring Information System soil organic carbon monitoring database was prepared.	• State Crop Monitoring Information System soil organic carbon monitoring database was prepared.
3.	Development of GHG emission factors and drafting of proposals for the inclusion of the elaborated emission factors into the national GHG inventory report	**38%**	• Three test sites were established and data collection has begun.	• Data collection from test sites is ongoing.	• Data collection from test sites is ongoing.	• Data collection from test sites is ongoing.	• Data collection from test sites is ongoing.
4.	Exchange of experience on sustainable management of soil resources by Norwegian experts						
4.1.	Involvement of Norwegian experts in the implementation of the project	**50%**	• Work on organizing Norwegian experts' initial visit was started.	• Initial study visit and interviews with target groups and partners was carried out. • Draft version of project's inception report was prepared.	• Inception reports was published (https://hdl.handle.net/11250/2978145).	• Work on organizing Norwegian experts' mid-term evaluation visit was started.	• Mid-term evaluation visit carried out by Norwegian experts;

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4.2.	Acquisition of soil mapping experience in Norway	**100%**	-	-	• Experts from University of Latvia, Ministry of Agriculture and State Plant Protection Service acquired soil mapping and classification experience in Norway. • Norwegian experts prepared report on Norwegian Soil Information System (https://hdl.handle.net/11250/2992191).	-	-
5.	Participation in international activities related to soil issues	**70%**	-	• Experts participated in international activities related to soil issues.	-	• Experts participated in international activities related to soil issues.	• Experts participated in international activities related to soil issues.
6.	Implementation of publicity measures	**58%**	• First project conference was organized (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6pv03Ci_R8). • One training seminar was organized (out of four); • Event about the planned field works in Vecpiebalgas municipality was organized.	• Second training seminar was organized (out of four).	• Event about the planned field works in Jelgavas municipality was organized.	• Second project conference was organized (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhRnxHwHpMM).	-