Soil Networking in the Mediterranean region

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CIHEAM member countries (www.ciheam.org)



Total population (in millions of inhabitants) in 1965 and 2002

CIHEAM and its Institutes (www.ciheam.org)



Main activities of CIHEAM

- Training
- Research
- Cooperation
- Knowledge Dissemination



Main scientific areas of MAI-B

- Land and Water Resources Management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Mediterranean Organic Agriculture
- Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in the countries with Mediterranean Climate

EU-funded MEDCOASTLAND THEMATIC NETWORK

MAJOR GOAL

Mediterranean coordination and dissemination of soil conservation practices to combat land degradation and enhance sustainable use of natural resources in the Mediterranean region with special emphases on coastal areas

This goal was achieved through:

Information Retrieval (3,000 files downloaded)

EDCOASTI

- Functional Internet-based Knowledge Database and Forum on LD
- Organisation of workshops, publishing proceedings, newsletters
- Laid the foundation for continued collaboration even after the life time of the project by signing a Memorandum of Understanding



Network structure. PR = Researcher, PDM = Decision Maker, PA = Association of land / soil users

MEDCOASTLAND PUBLICATIONS



Adana, Turkey 2-7 June 2003



Marrakech, Morocco 12-16 February 2004





PROMUTING PARTICULATORY MANAGEMENT of the LAN

Bari, Italy 6-11 September 2005



MEDCOASTILAND

NET





MEDCOASTLAND PROJECT 2002-2007





Main soil degradation factors in the Mediterranean

- Water and wind erosion
- Soil sealing and urbanisation
- Loss of organic matter and biodiversity decline
- Nutrient mining
- Chemical pollution and contamination
- Floods and landslides
- Salinisation

Overgrazing and vegetation degradation

4.000

2.000



Robinson Projection

Kilometers

10.000

8.000

June 2006

Arable land compared against total land per country



Arable land and population trend in the Mediterranean



Source: Elaborations of MAI B based on Plan Bleu 2005 data

Human interventions on the territory

Rocky soil



Man made soil









Human interventions on the territory

Grape cultivation in man made soils in Apulia, southern Italy





MEDCOASTLAND PROJECT

TEDCOASTILAND

NIPL



- Complete and update the Euro-Mediterranean Soil
 Database at 1:1 Million
 - Co-ordinate national and regional Georeferenced Soil Databases at scales 1:250,000 and/or larger
 - Prepare a Soil Atlas of the Mediterranean
- Establish a Mediterranean Soil Museum
- Organise soil survey summer schools and training courses on field assessment of soil degradation and application of soil conservation measures
- Provide specific knowledge-based support policy to the European Commission

Mission Statement

The mission of ROSOM is to provide local, national, and regional soil information in the Mediterranean region. As a non-profit entity its main goal to increase awareness and education on soils and to coordinate, develop and support collection of region-wide soil data and promote/conduct research studies enabling scientists, agencies, policy and decision makers and other stakeholders at all levels to enhance sustainable use and management of soil resources.

Why ROSOM?

- Provide accurate, reliable, up-to-date soil information in the Mediterranean region
- Increase soil awareness and education throughout the region
- Improve and harmonise methodologies and approaches for developing region and/or basinspecific sustainable land and water management (SLWM) strategies
- Estimate the "real" extent of soil degradation and desertification in the Mediterranean
- Assist in promoting indigenous technical knowledge in ecosystem management

ROSOM: Objectives and Goals

Mediterranean countries and their different limits



Source : Gaussen & De Philippis - FAO



Thank you very much for your kind attention !