



**ENSA meeting**  
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# **Awareness raising and the Soil Thematic Strategy**

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# Progress report on the STS



## Progress report on the implementation of the Soil Thematic Strategy:

- ❖ To take stock of what done by EC so far
- ❖ To offer an opportunity for a formal response by Council, EP, CoR, EESC
- ❖ To be adopted before year end?



# Technical document on soil sealing



- ❖ One of the deliverables of the Soil Thematic Strategy
- ❖ **Practical tool** for competent authorities and all those involved (architects, civil engineers etc)
- ❖ Possible content:
  - Land take and soil sealing within the EU
  - Impact of sealing on soil functions and ecosystem
  - *Limit, mitigate, compensate* approach
  - Best practice examples
- ❖ **Expert Group** meetings: 23 March, 25 May and 3 October 2011
- ❖ **Green Week session** on 25 May
- ❖ Finalisation foreseen at the end of the year or beginning of 2012



# EU Strategy for the Danube Region COM(2010) 715, 8.12.2010



- ❖ Follows the example of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
- ❖ Has the objective of providing an integrated approach to sustainable development
- ❖ Contains a specific **soil-related *indicative* target:**
  - *Reduce by 25% the area affected by soil erosion exceeding 10 tonnes per hectare by 2020*



# Further developments-1



## Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe COM(2011) 571, 20.9.2011

*Milestone: By 2020, EU policies take into account their direct and indirect impact on land use in the EU and globally, and the rate of **land take** is on track with an aim to achieve no net land take by 2050; **soil erosion** is reduced and the **soil organic matter** increased, with remedial work on **contaminated sites** well underway.*



## Further developments-2



- ❖ **FAO's Global Soil Partnership** including an Inter-governmental Panel on Land and Soil
- ❖ Publication of a **study** on SOM fluxes carried out on behalf of the European Commission (next week)
- ❖ **Study** 'Evaluation of expenditure and jobs for addressing soil degradation in Member States, with a focus on **contamination**' (to be published in 2012-13)



## Further developments-3



- ❖ **Brochure 'Soil and climate change'**
- ❖ **Soil remediation conference** in cooperation with the office of Saxony in Brussels on 10th November 2011
- ❖ **Soil remediation and soil sealing** conference in Brussels on 29th-30th May 2012



# Thank you for your attention!



<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index.htm>