RECARERE Project
Finding and sharing solutions to protect our soils
Aims
The RECARE project aims to:

1. Fill knowledge gaps in our understanding of the functioning of soil systems under the influence of climate and human activities.

2. Develop a harmonised methodology to assess the state of soil degradation and conservation.

3. Develop a universally applicable methodology to assess the impacts of soil degradation upon soil functions and ecosystem services.

4. Select innovative measures in collaboration with stakeholders and evaluate the efficacy of these regarding soil functions and ecosystem services as well as costs and benefits.

5. Upscale results from 17 case studies to European scale to evaluate the effectiveness of measures across Europe.

6. Evaluate ways to facilitate adoption of these measures by stakeholders.

7. Carry out an integrated assessment of existing soil related policies and strategies to identify their goals, impacts, synergies and potential inconsistencies, and to derive recommendations for improvement based on RECARE results.

A research initiative to develop effective soil degradation prevention and remediation solutions across Europe.
**RECARE Case Studies**

As soil degradation problems are caused by the interplay of biophysical, socio-economic and political factors, all of which vary across Europe, these problems are by definition site specific and occur at different scales. Therefore, 17 case studies of soil threats are included in RECARE to study the various conditions that occur across Europe and to find appropriate responses using an innovative approach combining scientific and local knowledge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOIL THREAT</th>
<th>CASE STUDY AREA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soil erosion by water</td>
<td>Frienisberg, Switzerland; Caramulo, Portugal; Peristerona Watershed, Cyprus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salinisation</td>
<td>Timbaki, Crete, Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil compaction</td>
<td>Aarslev, Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil sealing</td>
<td>Wroclaw &amp; Warsaw, Poland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desertification</td>
<td>Canyoles River Basin, Spain; Gunnarsholt, Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floods and landslides</td>
<td>Vansjø-Hobøl Catchment, Norway; Myjava Catchment, Slovakia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of organic matter - peat soils</td>
<td>Berkenwoude, The Netherlands; Örke, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of organic matter - mineral soils</td>
<td>Olden Eibergen, The Netherlands; Veneto region, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil contamination</td>
<td>Guadiamar, Spain; Copşa Mică, Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of soil biodiversity</td>
<td>Isle of Purbeck, United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Images:**
- Contamination
- Sealing
- Compaction
- Biodiversity
Dissemination of Results

As good communication is essential to optimise the value of research, the project results will be continuously disseminated through a dedicated RECARE Information Hub www.recare-hub.eu

This centralised website will enable public access to all project outputs by interested stakeholders, including farmers, advisors, industry, policy-makers, researchers and the general public. You can also follow us on Twitter @RECARE_EU and Vimeo http://vimeo.com/channels/RECARE

Start date: 1 November 2013, end date: 31 October 2018 (duration 60 months)

Contact Address

Contact address: Wageningen University, Soil Physics and Land Management Group / ALTERRA, Soil Science Centre / Coen Ritsema, P.O. Box 47 • 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands.

T: +31 317 48 65 17 • F: +31 317 41 90 00 • E: Coen.Ritsema@wur.nl • www.recare-project.eu

The RECARE project is funded by the European Commission FP7 Programme, ENV.2013.6.2-4 ‘Sustainable land care in Europe’. EU grant agreement: 603498. Project officer Maria Yeroyanni.

PROJECT PARTNERS

1 Wageningen University, The Netherlands
2 Technical University of Crete, Greece
3 Aarhus University, Denmark
4 University of Valencia, Spain
5 The Cyprus Institute, Cyprus
6 Norwegian Institute for Agriculture and Environmental Research, Norway
7 University of Aveiro, Portugal
8 Soil Conservation Service Iceland, Iceland
9 Evenor-Tech, Spain
10 Universitat Bern, Switzerland
11 Environment Agency Austria, Austria
12 ISRIC World Soil Information, The Netherlands
13 Joint Research Centre, Italy
14 Ecologic Institut Gemeinnutzige GmbH, Germany
15 Leeds University, United Kingdom
16 Stichting Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek, The Netherlands
17 Corepage, The Netherlands
18 Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden
19 Institute of Natural Resource and Agrobiology, Spain
20 Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia
21 Research Institute for Soil Science and Agrochemistry, Romania
22 Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation – State Research Institute, Poland
23 University of Gloucestershire, United Kingdom
24 Research Institute for Knowledge Systems, The Netherlands
25 Cranfield University, United Kingdom
26 University of Padova, Italy
27 Kongskilde Industries, Denmark