INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO SOIL MANAGEMENT IN VITICULTURAL LANDSCAPES
The project

SOIL4WINE is a Life project aimed at improving soil management in the agriculture sector and at defining tools and methodologies to support soil’s functions and ecosystem services.

The project proposes a demonstration activity that will contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the EU Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection and of the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe, as required under LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency sub-programme.

The actions proposed will tailor land use management in order to achieve the soil ecosystems valorization and will have an additional benefit in describing and supporting terrestrial biodiversity. Project results can also give information useful to define future policy decisions.

Planned actions

**ACTION 1**
- Guidelines for good soil health practices able to efficiently address soil threats in vineyards.

**ACTION 2**
- Decision tool for self-evaluation of soil threats, choice and implementation of the best solutions.
- Web based Decision tool as a: i) stand-alone application accessible through the SOIL4WINE website and ii) component of an existing web-based DSS for sustainable viticulture.

**ACTION 3**
- Data on effectiveness and feasibility (both technical and economical) of the innovative solutions.
- Increase of soils’ quality in the demo farms: organic matter +10%; water aggregate stability and microbial activity (QBS-ar) +50%; soil compaction -10%; soil nitrate -25%.
- Increase of the ecosystem status and related services from inadequate to favorable.

**ACTION 4**
- Evaluation (in physical and monetary terms) of the soil ecosystem services and indirect effects on the landscape value of the proposed solutions in the study area.
- Feasibility study of policy tools on Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) to ensure sustainable financing of soil conservation and protection solutions.

**ACTION 5**
- Methodology for participatory and promotional involvement of different stakeholders in the process of innovation transfer (3 stakeholder groups formed).