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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).