



European Union Network for the Implementation  
and Enforcement of Environmental Law

# IMPEL Soil Conference (ISC) 2015

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*Final Report*

*January 2016*

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## **i. Introduction to IMPEL**

The European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) is an international non-profit association of the environmental authorities of the EU Member States, acceding and candidate countries of the European Union and EEA countries. The association is registered in Belgium and its legal seat is in Brussels, Belgium.

IMPEL was set up in 1992 as an informal Network of European regulators and authorities concerned with the implementation and enforcement of environmental law. The Network's objective is to create the necessary impetus in the European Community to make progress on ensuring a more effective application of environmental legislation. The core of the IMPEL activities concerns awareness raising, capacity building and exchange of information and experiences on implementation, enforcement and international enforcement collaboration as well as promoting and supporting the practicability and enforceability of European environmental legislation.

During the previous years, IMPEL has developed into a considerable, widely known organization, being mentioned in a number of EU legislative and policy documents, e.g. the 7th Environment Action Program and the Recommendation on Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections.

The expertise and experience of the participants within IMPEL make the network uniquely qualified to work on both technical and regulatory aspects of EU environmental legislation.

Information on the IMPEL Network is also available through its website at:

[www.impel.eu](http://www.impel.eu).

## ii. General Information

<b>Title report:</b> IMPEL Soil Conference (ISC) 2015	<b>Number report:</b> 2015/10
<b>Project manager:</b> Giuseppe Sgorbati (Italy)	<b>Report adopted at:</b> Written procedure spring 2016
<b>Authors:</b> Lorenzo Bonardi (ARPA Lombardia, Italy), Giuseppe Sgorbati (ARPA Lombardia, Italy)	<b>Number of pages:</b> Report: 7 Annexes: 17
<b>Project team</b>  Giuseppe Sgorbati (Italy), Mark Aitken (UK), Paolo Giandon (Italy), Daniel Gruza (Czech Republic), Michele Munafò (Italy)  Other participants from ARPA Lombardia (Italy), in support to the project manager: Lorenzo Bonardi, Max Mauri; Camilla Acquistapace (regarding the organization of the Conference), Alessandra Negriolli, Debora Di Matteo, Alessandro Inverso, Antonella Masala (regarding the communicative aspects)	
<b>Executive summary:</b> The conference has been successfully organized and has met the objective of sharing experiences, regulatory approach, problems and solutions in order to cope with the numerous challenges in this field and to support the implementation of good practices about soil protection among practitioners at EU level. There was also a focus on the role and activities of Environmental Authorities and Regulators, in particular with reference to IMPEL Members, on the protection of Soil and its Functions.	
<b>Disclaimer:</b> This report is the result of a project within the IMPEL-Network. The content does not necessarily represent the view of the national administrations.	

## 1 Summary

The project has been needed because there was a strong general demand for sharing experiences, regulatory approach, problems and solutions in order to cope with the numerous challenges in this field and to support the implementation of good practices about soil protection among practitioners at EU level and to focus on the role and activities of Environmental Authorities and Regulators, in particular with reference to IMPEL Members, on the protection of Soil and its Functions.

## 2 Aim and scope

- Strengthening of IMPEL identity in Water and Soil area, with a special focus on Agriculture
- Development of relationships with other Authorities acting in water and soils and related areas
- Growing of interest inside and outside IMPEL on water and soil issues
- Contribution in general raising of interest on soil issues
- Increase of number of organization participating in IMPEL

## 3 Activities

During the 2015 these activities were held for the project:

- Definition of the project team
- First project team meeting in Milan: March, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>
- Production of a first draft of the Conference program
- Liaising with EU Authorities involved in 2015 FAO International Year of Soil and EXPO 2015 organization, and with other Authorities working on connected events
- Call for papers
- Second project team meeting in Rome: June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>
- Final program
- Organization of the Conference
- IMPEL Soil Conference in Milan: October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>
- BtB Water & Land ET meeting in Milan: October 9<sup>th</sup>
- Meeting on the project results with the EU Commission: Bruxelles December 4<sup>th</sup>

#### **4 First project team meeting**

The first project team meeting was held in Milan on March, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>; it was attended by 8 participants (Giuseppe Sgorbati, Lorenzo Bonardi, Max Mauri, Paolo Giandon; Jean Paul Janssens; Michele Munafo; Aitken Mark; Daniel Gruza).

#### **5 Second project team meeting**

The second project team meeting was held in Rome on June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>; it was attended by 6 participants (Giuseppe Sgorbati, Lorenzo Bonardi, Paolo Giandon; Jean Paul Janssens; Michele Munafo; Aitken Mark).

#### **6 Conference**

The workshop was attended by 45 participants from 15 countries and with the attendance of the FAO and the European Commission; the program is in attach. The Conference documentation can be downloaded from ARPA Lombardia's website (<http://ita.arpalombardia.it/ita/impel-ISC2015.asp>). During the conference participants completed a questionnaire about their own engagement on conference topics and interests.

#### **7 Last meeting**

Meeting on the project results with the EU Commission on 4<sup>th</sup> of December with Giuseppe Sgorbati and Fabio Carella.

#### **8 Follow up**

Some of the topics of the Conference have been included in 2016 IMPEL projects (i.e. "Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) Baseline", "Good Practice for Tackling Nitrate Pollution from Farms & Farmsteads", "Reducing Pesticides in Water", "Water Over-Abstraction and Illegal Abstraction Detection and Assessment"). Questionnaire results were very useful to better understand W&L group main interests.

#### **9 Conclusions**

- The conference contributed to a further deepening of the awareness and understanding of the importance of soil protection
- Further deepening of the understanding of relevant EU legislation, working methods of the involved organizations and authorities and the exchange of good practices
- There is no complete insight in the soil quality at EU level

- A legal basis for data collection on soil quality and data sharing is lacking. Consequence: no monitoring of the soil quality at EU level, no coordination on data collection and data analysis
- The need for a legal framework for soil monitoring and data analysis should be discussed and considered (what is a EU soil strategy without data?)
- The conference gave fundamental ideas for topics to work on in future projects
- To promote compliance, awareness at the target group is a condition. It should be considered to make an inventory in the theme of 'water and land' where awareness raising is of importance. (Example the use of pesticides by farmers)
- Within the EU several evidence led and risk based approaches do exist. An inventory has been made by IMPEL. Building on that a harmonized approach will be developed that can assist countries in their actions to be taken
- A broad variety of good practices has been shared. Based on priorities to draft 'good practices documents' (rationale of the topic, approaches, consistency, actions ...). Example: nitrate pollution
- Several soil monitoring and management approaches have been shared. An inventory of used methods and techniques will be made in close cooperation with the Joint Research Centre and shared with the IMPEL members
- Mapping key organizations and encourage them to join the developing water/land community within IMPEL. (Creating a network of people working with 'water and land issues' as inspectors or policy makers)
- Maintain and further developing close links with the Water Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy framework (European Commission)

## **10 Annexes**

### **10.1 Terms of Reference**

### **10.2 Conference program**

### **10.3 Conference conclusions**

TOR Reference No.: 2015-10	Author(s): G.Sgorbati (ARPA Lombardia Italy)
Version: 1.1	Date: 10_01_2015
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WORK UNDER THE AUSPICES OF IMPEL</b>	

## 1. Work type and title

1.1 Identify which Expert Team this needs to go to for initial consideration	
Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waste and TFS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water and land	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nature protection	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cross-cutting – tools and approaches -	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Type of work you need funding for	
Exchange visits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peer reviews (e.g. IRI)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Development of tools/guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comparison studies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessing legislation (checklist)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please describe):	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Full name of work (enough to fully describe what the work area is)	
IMPEL Soil Conference 2015 in the framework of International Year for Soils 2015 declared by UN and EXPO 2015 (Milan Italy): “feeding the planet, energy for life”.	
1.4 Abbreviated name of work or project	
IMPEL Soil Conference (ISC) 2015	

## 2. Outline business case (why this piece of work?)

2.1 Name the legislative driver(s) where they exist (name the Directive, Regulation, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoping study of the European Commission on International Year for Soils 2015</li> <li>• Soil Thematic Strategy COM(2006) 231</li> <li>• EU proposal for a Soil Framework Directive</li> </ul>

- WFD Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy

## 2.2 Link to IMPEL MASP priority work areas

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Assist members to implement new legislation  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 2. Build capacity in member organisations through the IMPEL Review Initiatives                | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3. Work on 'problem areas' of implementation indentified by IMPEL and the European Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

## 2.3 Why is this work needed? (background, motivations, aims, etc.)

2015 has been declared by the United Nations as “international year of soils”. A scoping study of the Environment Directorate-General of the Commission has been made to support awareness raising initiatives and the development of events on this topic (see: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/scoping\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/scoping_en.htm) ).

At the meantime, Milan (Italy) in 2015 will hosts “EXPO 2015”: non-commercial Universal Exposition, held every four years in selected countries (last edition was in Shangai, having 40 million visitors).

The Expo will lasts 6 month (May – October 2015), and it will have, as leading theme, “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”. 20 million visitors are expected. Obviously, the link with environmental protection, soil and water as fundamental substrate for food production, with agricultural themes in general is straightforward.

Also the Commission endorse this point of view: *“The IYS will also be the background setting for possible events and initiatives at the World Expo 2015 in Milan (.....) . In fact, the above mentioned scoping study recommends to use the food theme as a dominant topic to shape the common perception on our soil resources, aiming at a more efficient use”* (see web page above).

An elemental analysis of environmental issues related to agriculture, are “double sided”:

- 1) Impact of agriculture on the environment (e.g.: nitrates, pesticides pollution, incorrect use of water Co2 and Co2 like emissions)
- 2) Impact of environmental issues on the agriculture (e.g.: fallout of pollutants, polluted waters, quality of soils)

In this general framework, Italy Environmental Agencies and Authorities are going to organize events (e.g. conferences, seminaires ...) to discuss the related topics and to share, in a strategical view, experiences and point of view regarding monitoring and inspection issues on land, soil and water. These events will be designed to have a wide international audience, considering the worldwide dimension of EXPO and of UN – IYS, and contribution from International Organizations operating in this field will be sought.

In the framework of these initiatives, IMPEL may have an important role, helping in steering programs and themes in a direction useful to share experience of practitioners at EU level and, in a practical way, holding an its own Conference, to be designed in cooperation with Italian Authorities, more focalized to IMPEL’s present and future activities.

## 2.4 Desired outcome of the work (what do you want to achieve? What will be better / done differently as a result of this project?)

Growth and strengthening of relationships among IMPEL’s members about land, soil, water protection, and with other organization at international level.

Contribution to the debate on activities on relationship between agriculture and environment at international and world level.

Focalization of activities of interest for IMPEL, and activation of interest in IMPEL members.

Exchange of experience to foster development of IMPEL activities in land and water

**2.5 Does this project link to any previous or current IMPEL projects? (state which projects and how they are related)**

To be checked

**3. Structure of the proposed activity**

**3.1 Describe the activities of the proposal (what are you going to do and how?)**

The activities will bring to the definition and realization of a Conference on Soil and to the scientific cooperation with Authorities the design and setup of side events about UN International Year for Soil (IYS) and Expo 2015.

The envisaged activities are:

- 1) Definition of an Impel Core Team to follow the project, meeting of the Core Team
- 2) Liaising with EU Authorities involved in 2015 UN IYS and EXPO 2015 Organization, and with Other Authorities working on connected events.
- 3) Production of a First Draft of the Conference Program; call for papers at IMPEL members
- 4) Cooperation in Scientific Committee (if created) for planning and management of event(s).
- 5) Execution of the Conference: 1,5 – 2 days
- 6) Preparation of a report/publication as legacy of the conference
- 7) If possible, in the framework of the conference, a back to back meeting of IMPEL Water and Land Expert team will be held.

**3.2 Describe the products of the proposal (what are you going to produce in terms of output / outcome?)**

- 1) Output:
  - a. Conference
  - b. Proceedings of the conference
- 2) Outcomes
  - a. Strengthening of IMPEL identity in Water and Soil area, with a focus on Agriculture
  - b. Development of relationships with other Authorities acting in water and soils and related areas
  - c. Growing of interest inside and outside IMPEL on water and soil issues
  - d. Contribution in general raising of interest on soil issues
  - e. Increase of number of organization participating in IMPEL

**3.3 Describe the milestones of this proposal (how will you know if you are on track to complete the work on time?)**

The activities will bring to the definition and realization of a Conference on Soil and in the scientific cooperation with Authorities the design and setup of side events about UN International Year for Soil (IYS) and Expo 2015.

The envisage activities are:

- 1) ASAP: Definition of an Impel Core Team to follow the project, meeting of the Core Team (possible core team: 3 members from W&L ET, From Board, from IMPEL Secretariat)
- 2) Within December 2014: liaising with EU Authorities involved in 2015 UN IYS and EXPO 2015 Organization, and with Other Authorities working on connected events.
- 3) Within January 2015 Production of a First Draft of the Conference Program; call for papers at IMPEL members
- 4) January – October: Cooperation in Scientific Committee (if created) for planning and management of event(s).
- 5) May – October 2015: Conference
- 6) October – December 2015: report/publication

### 3.4 Risks (what are the potential risks for this project and what actions will be put in place to mitigate these?)

- 1) Complexity of the two main event (IYS and EXPO) and time to event: starting of the operations asap
- 2) Bad coordination among possible different initiatives: make a continuous survey of upcoming activities
- 3) Funding: looking also for EU support to the initiative, sponsorships

## 4. Organisation of the work

### 4.1 Lead (who will lead the work: name, organisation and country) – this must be confirmed prior to submission of the TOR to the General Assembly)

Giuseppe Sgorbati (ARPA Lombardia, ITALY) + co leader (TBD)

### 4.2 Project team (who will take part: name, organisation and country)

Members from W&L ET, from Impel Board, from IMPEL Secretariat

### 4.3 Other IMPEL participants (name, organisation and country)

Attending at the conference:  
Participants from all IMPEL organizations

### 4.4. Other non-IMPEL participants (name, organisation and country)

Participants from other Environmental Protection and Agricultural organization from EU, COM, participants from UN (if possible)

## 5. High level budget projection of the proposal. In case this is a multi-year project, identify future requirements as much as possible

	Year 1 (exact)	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
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<b>How much money do you require from IMPEL?</b>	33385			
<b>How much money is to be co-financed</b>	TBD			
<b>Total budget</b>	TBD			

## 6. Detailed event costs of the work for year 1

	<b>Travel €</b> (max €360 per return journey)	<b>Hotel €</b> (max €90 per night)	<b>Catering €</b> (max €25 per day)	<b>Total costs €</b>
<b>Event 1</b>	1440 (4 x 1)	360 (4 x 1)	125 (5 X 1)	1925
<preliminary meeting 1>				
<December 2014>				
<Location:TBD>				
< No. of participants: 5>				
<No. of days/nights: 1>				
<b>Event 2</b>	720 (2 x 1)	360 (2x2)	150 (3x2)	1230
<1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting with other org.>				
<January 2015>				
<Location:TBD>				
<No. of participants: 3>				
<No. of days/nights: 2>				
<b>Event 3</b>	720 (2 x 1)	360 (2x2)	150 (3x2)	1230
<2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting with other org.>				
<April 2015>				
<Location: TBD>				
<No. of participants: 3>				
<No. of days/nights: 2>				
<b>Event 4</b>	14400 (40x1)	10800 (40x3)	2000 (40x2)	27200
<Conference>				
<TBD: May - October>				
<Location: Milan>				
<No. of participants: 40>				
<No. of days/nights: 3>				
<b>Event 5</b>		1800 (20x1)		
<Back to back meeting with the Conference of W&L ET>				
<TBD: May - October>				
<Location: Milan>				
<No. of participants: 20>				
<No. of days/nights: 1>				
<b>Total costs for all events</b>	17280	13680	2425	33385

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## 7. Detailed other costs of the work for year 1

<b>7.1 Are you using a consultant?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>7.2 What are the total costs for the consultant?</b>	
<b>7.3 Who is paying for the consultant?</b>	
<b>7.4. What will the consultant do?</b>	
<b>7.5 Are there any additional costs?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Namely:
<b>7.6 What are the additional costs for?</b>	
<b>7.7 Who is paying for the additional costs?</b>	
<b>7.8. Are you seeking other funding sources?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Namely: Com, Sponsors
<b>7.9 Do you need budget for communications around the project? If so, describe what type of activities and the related costs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Namely:

## 8. Communication and follow-up (checklist)

		By when
What		

<p><b>8.1 Indicate which communication materials will be developed throughout the project and when</b></p> <p><i>(all to be sent to the communications officer at the IMPEL secretariat)</i></p>	<p>TOR<sup>✓</sup> *</p> <p>Interim report<sup>✓</sup> *</p> <p>Project report<sup>✓</sup> *</p> <p>Progress report(s)<sup>✓</sup></p> <p>Press releases</p> <p>News items for the website<sup>✓</sup> *</p> <p>News items for the e-newsletter</p> <p>Project abstract<sup>✓</sup> *</p> <p>IMPEL at a Glance<sup>✓</sup></p> <p>Other, (give details): Final report and Proceedings of the Conference</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p><b>8.2 Milestones / Scheduled meetings (for the website diary)</b></p>			
<p><b>8.3 Images for the IMPEL image bank</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes                      <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>		
<p><b>8.4 Indicate which materials will be translated and into which languages</b></p>			
<p><b>8.5 Indicate if web-based tools will be developed and if hosting by IMPEL is required</b></p>			
<p><b>8.6 Identify which groups/institutions will be targeted and how</b></p>			
<p><b>8.7 Identify parallel developments / events by other organisations, where the project can be promoted</b></p>			

<sup>✓</sup>) Templates are available and should be used. \*) Obligatory

## 9. Remarks

*Is there anything else you would like to add to the Terms of Reference that has not been covered above?*

*In case of doubts or questions please contact the  
IMPEL Secretariat.*

*Draft and final versions need to be sent to the  
IMPEL Secretariat in word format, not in PDF.*

*Thank you.*



## 2015 IMPEL Soil Conference

*“Many Soil Functions, many reasons to protect it”*

in the framework of UN International Year For Soils and of Milano Expo2015

**Milano, Italy - 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2015**

**VENUE:**

**Sala Pirelli, Consiglio Regionale della Lombardia – Via Fabio Filzi 22 – 20124 Milano**

### PROGRAMME

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October**

**Morning - Opening Session – h. 10:00**

<b>Institutional Welcome</b>	<b>Environment Ministry Of The Lombardy Region</b>
<b>Welcome address</b>	<b>Alessandro Peru, Impel National Coordinator - Italian Ministry of Environment</b>
<b>Why the Conference: IMPEL and Soil</b>  <i>co-chairing of opening session:</i> <b>CHRIS DIJKENS</b> , Vice Chair of IMPEL Board– Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu (NL) <b>GIUSEPPE SGORBATI</b> , IMPEL Water and Land Expert Team Leader – ARPA Lombardia (IT)	
<b>Global Awareness for Soil Global Protection: the International Year of Soil</b>	<b>ROLAND VARGAS</b> , FAO, Land and Water Division
<b>Soil Protection: the position of the European Commission</b>	<b>JOSIANE MASSON</b> , EU Commission, Directorate-General for Environment Agriculture, Forest and Soils
<b>Policy relevant soil data and information in support of EU Policies</b>	<b>LUCA MONTANARELLA</b> , Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, Land Resources Management



2015  
International  
Year of Soils



2015 IMPEL Soil Conference

“Many Soil Functions, many reasons to protect it”

Milano (IT) 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October**

**Afternoon - First Session: Agriculture – h. 14:15**

<i>co-chairing:</i> <b>ANETTE DODENSIG PEDERSEN</b> <b>PAOLO GIANDON</b> <b>Introduction to the Session</b>	
<b>Presentation of IMPEL’s Water and Land Expert Team activities about agriculture: Tackling diffuse pollution from agriculture</b>	<b>ANETTE DODENSIG PEDERSEN,</b> IMPEL Water and Land Expert Team Deputy Leader – Environmental Protection Agency – Danish Ministry of Environment and Food
<b>Agriculture and Environment: Experiences from an Italian Environmental Agency</b>	<b>STEFANO TIBALDI,</b> AssoArpa <b>FRANCO ZINONI,</b> ARPA Emilia Romagna (IT)
<b>Optimizing Pesticide Monitoring</b>	<b>ANN-KARIN THORÉN,</b> Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
<b>Risk based approach to targeting farm inspections</b>	<b>JAMES DAVIES,</b> Environment Agency (UK)
<b>Moving horizons: a help from the sky to the earth. Results and future on damage detection in agriculture.</b>	<b>FABRIZIO STELLA,</b> AVEPA - Agenzia Veneta per i Pagamenti in Agricoltura (IT)



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2015 IMPEL Soil Conference

“Many Soil Functions, many reasons to protect it”

Milano (IT) 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015

**Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**Morning - Second Session: Soil, Industry and Wastes – h. 9:15**

<i>co-chairing:</i> <b>JEAN-PIERRE JANSSEN</b> <b>FABIO CARELLA</b> Introduction to the Session	
<b>IMPEL Deco Project: an overview on tackling soil pollution</b>	<b>FABIO CARELLA,</b> ARPA Lombardia (IT)
<b>2010/75 IED: the Baseline Report</b>	<b>JEAN-PIERRE JANSSENS,</b> Bruxelles Environnement – IBGE (BE)
<b>The soil component in prioritizing 2010/75 IED Inspections</b>	<b>MAURO VALENTINI,</b> ARPA Lombardia (IT)
<b>Monitoring of contaminants of interest for inhalation exposure within contaminated sites</b>	<b>MARCO FALCONI and ANTONELLA VECCHIO,</b> ISPRA (IT)
<b>Soil Protection Implementation from the point of view of professionals supporting Enterprises</b>	<b>VINCENZO GIOVINE and GIOVANNI PORTO,</b> Lombardy Geologist Association (IT)
<b>Content of heavy metals in dumps of Eastern Herzegovina</b>	<b>VESNA TUNGUZ,</b> University of East Sarajevo (BIH)
<b>Landfills and soil contamination</b>	<b>SAID EL FADILI,</b> Bruxelles Environnement – IBGE (BE)



2015  
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2015 IMPEL Soil Conference

“Many Soil Functions, many reasons to protect it”

Milano (IT) 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015

**Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> October**

**Afternoon Third Session: Soil Monitoring, Land management – 14:15**

<i>co-chairing:</i> <b>SIMON BINGHAM</b> <b>MICHELE MUNAFÒ</b> Introduction to the Session	
<b>Soil as non-renewable resource: soil consumption and its monitoring</b>	<b>MICHELE MUNAFÒ</b> ISPRA (IT)
<b>Common Forum's perspective on future needs for a more integrative approach on soil and land management</b>	<b>DOMINIQUE DARMENDRAIL,</b> Common Forum
<b>Metals and metalloids in soils: a monitoring experience</b>	<b>PAOLO GIANDON,</b> ARPA Veneto (IT)
<b>The sustainable development approach of project “SUOLI”: mitigating soil consumption in Lombardy while fostering new industrial installations</b>	<b>ENRICO ZINI,</b> ARPA Lombardia (IT)
<b>Soil Inventory in the Brussels Region</b>	<b>AURÉLIE DULIÈRE,</b> Bruxelles Environnement – IBGE (BE)
<b>Soil monitoring system in the Slovak Republic as a basic tool for determination of soil degradation processes and soil protection</b>	<b>JOZEF KOBZA</b> - National Centre for Agriculture and Food Soil Science and Conservation Research Institute (Slovak Republic)
<b>Diffuse pollution and soils</b>	<b>SIMON BINGHAM and MARK AITKEN,</b> SEPA (UK)



2015  
International  
Year of Soils



# *2015 IMPEL Soil Conference*

## *'Many Soil Functions, many reasons to protect it'*

*(Milano, 7 – 8 October 2015)*

## Conclusions and way forward

# Conclusions and way forward (1)



- A successful 2015 IMPEL Soil Conference ‘Many Soil Functions, many reasons to protect it’
- 45 participants from 15 countries
- The agreed objective has been met:
  - sharing experiences, regulatory approach, problems and solutions in order to cope with the numerous challenges in this field and to support the implementation of good practices about soil protection among practitioners at EU level
  - focus on the role and activities of Environmental Authorities and Regulators, in particular with reference to IMPEL Members, on the protection of Soil and its Functions.
- First joint event related to the theme “Water and Land’ as one of the five IMPEL area’s of work
- Inspired by the attendance of the FAO and the European Commission



# Conclusions and way forward (2)



- The conference contributed to a further deepening of the awareness and understanding of the importance of soil protection
- Further deepening of the understanding of relevant EU legislation, working methods of the involved organizations and authorities and the exchange of good practices
- There is no complete insight in the soil quality at EU level
- A legal basis for data collection on soil quality and data sharing is lacking. Consequence: no monitoring of the soil quality at EU level, no coordination on data collection and data analysis
- The need for a legal framework for soil monitoring and data analysis should be discussed and considered (what is a EU soil strategy without data?)



# Conclusions and way forward (3)



- The conference gave fundamental ideas for topics to work on in future projects
- To promote compliance, awareness at the target group is a condition. It should be considered to make an inventory in the theme of 'water and land' where awareness raising is of importance. (Example the use of pesticides by farmers)
- Within the EU several evidence led and risk based approaches do exist. An inventory has been made by IMPEL. Building on that a harmonized approach will be developed that can assist countries in their actions to be taken
- A broad variety of good practices has been shared. Based on priorities to draft 'good practices documents' (rationale of the topic, approaches, consistency, actions ...). Example: nitrate pollution



# Conclusions and way forward (4)

2015  
International  
Year of Soils



- Several soil monitoring and management approaches have been shared. An inventory of used methods and techniques will be made in close cooperation with the Joint Research Centre and shared with the IMPEL members
- Mapping key organisations and encourage them to join the developing water/land community within IMPEL. (Creating a network of people working with ‘water and land issues’ as inspectors or policy makers)
- Maintain and further developing close links with the Water Framework Directive Common Implementation Strategy framework (European Commission)

