

SoilCare Information HUB

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2	University of Newcastle upon Tyne	UNEW	United Kingdom
3	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	KUL	Belgium
4	University of Gloucestershire	UoG	United Kingdom
5	University Hohenheim	UH	Germany
6	Research Institute for Knowledge Systems	RIKS	Netherlands
7	Technical University of Crete	TUC	Greece
8	Joint Research Centre	JRC	Italy
9	University of Bern	UNIBE	Switzerland
10	Milieu LTD	MLTD	Belgium
11	Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research	NIBIO	Norway
12	Bodemkundige Dienst van België	BDB	Belgium
13	Aarhus University	AU	Denmark
14	Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust	GWCT	United Kingdom
15	Teagasc	TEAGASC	Ireland
16	Soil Cares Research	SCR	Netherlands
17	Instituto Politecnico De Coimbra	IPC/ESAC	Spain
18	National Research and Development Institute for Soil Science, Agrochemistry and Environmental Protection	ICPA	Romania
19	University of Padova	UNIPD	Italy
20	Institute of Agrophysics of the Polish Academy of	IAPAN	Poland
21	Wageningen University	WU	Netherlands
22	University of Pannonia	UP	Hungary
23	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	SLU	Sweden
24	Agro Intelligence Aps.	AI	Denmark
25	Crop Research Institute	VURV	Czech Republic
26	University of Almeria	UAL	Spain
27	Fédération Régionale des Agrobiologistes de Bretagne	FRAB	France
28	Scienceview Media BV	SVM	Netherlands
29	Milieu Consulting SPRL	Milieu	Belgium

D8.1 SoilCare Information Hub

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With contributions from all project partners

1 Introduction

The SoilCare Information Hub is the central collection point and dissemination portal for the information and findings from all the deliverables of the SoilCare project: <https://soilcare-project.eu/>. All the dissemination outputs from the project are located on the Hub and available for download directly by the end-users and by project partners to distribute further. Information is provided in various formats targeted at the different audiences interested in the outputs of the project. The Hub not only contains project information and findings but also provides practical information for farmers on different soil-improving cropping practices. The aim of this report is to describe the content and functions of all the menus and web pages on the Hub.

2 Different pages and functionality of SoilCare Information Hub

This section describes the content and functionality of all the web pages on the SoilCare Information.

2.1 The Home Page

The aim of the SoilCare Information Hub Home page is to attract the attention of users and to facilitate navigation to other website pages. On entry to the Hub, a visually appealing image of an arable field is displayed with the project strapline. This page also has the main menu for the Hub along the top, with 5 key sub-menus, which are:

- Home
- Soil-improving Cropping Systems
- Study Sites
- Resources
- Blog

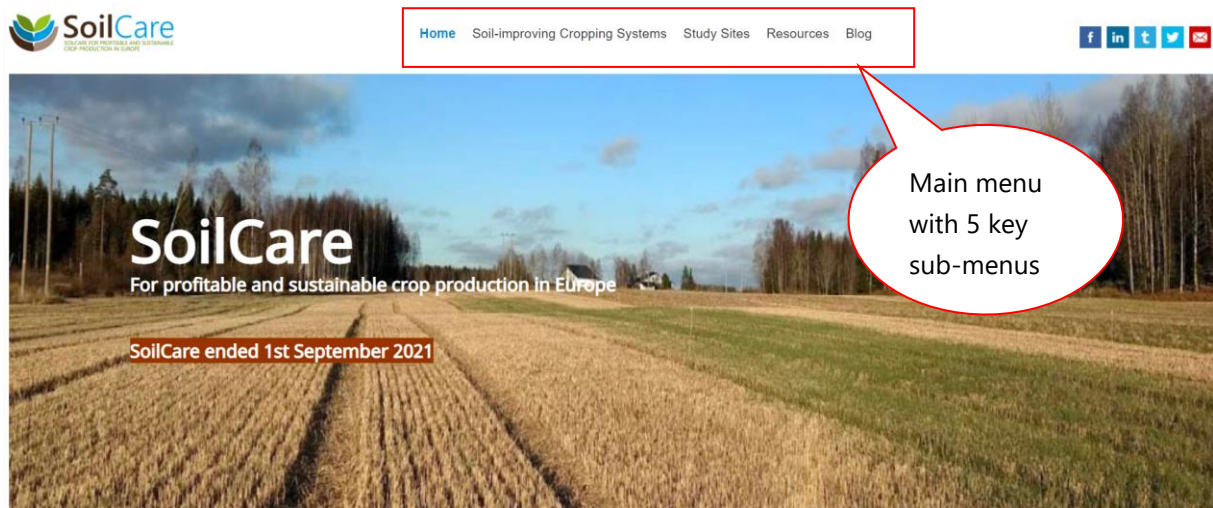


Figure 1 Home page on entry to Hub

To the top left of the Home page is the website search facility and to the top right is a translation facility which enables the website text to be translated into all 14 languages represented in the SoilCare project.

To the right of the Top Menu are clickable icons for the SoilCare social media channels, which will continue to be active for several months after the project has finished.


By scrolling down the Home page different sections of the Hub can be reached. The next section provides a link to find out more about the aims and objectives of the project and the different work packages.

The following section provides access to the different outputs of SoilCare differentiated by three target audiences, which are explained with an icon and text (see Figure 2). Clicking on the individual icons takes the user through to a webpage with the different project outputs categorised by end-users. Clicking on the "More resources" button takes the users to a list of all the resources.

Resources designed for you

Below, you will find sustainable crop production resources curated for different types of users.

Farmers



SoilCare contains the latest information on identifying and evaluating promising soil improving cropping systems and agronomic techniques.

Policy-makers



Find out more about land care strategies relevant to your region and our integrated assessment of existing policy.

Researchers



Access a wealth of European research data on soil-improving cropping systems and the efficacy of land care strategies.

[More resources](#)

Figure 2: Access to project resources differentiated by end-users

In the next section of the Home page, an interactive map with a zoom facility is displayed (see Figure 3) which links to details about the experiments undertaken in the 16 Study Sites that form part of the SoilCare project. Clicking on a red dot takes the user to the individual study site pages (see Figure 10).



Figure 3: Interactive map of SoilCare Study Sites

The final section of the Home page displays 3 of the SoilCare videos with a 'More videos' button (see Figure 4) that takes the user to the Videos page under Resources

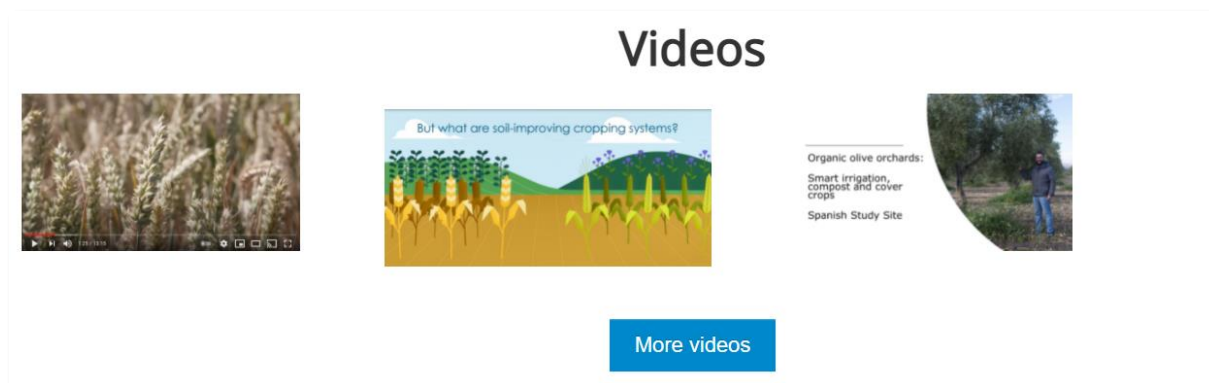


Figure 4 Links to SoilCare videos from Home page

At the bottom of the Home page is the SoilCare Twitter Feed which will continue to be active for several months after the project has finished.

In the footer of the Home page the project funding details, copyright and disclaimer informaton, Sitemap, Contact details and Login for registered users are displayed (see Figure 5).

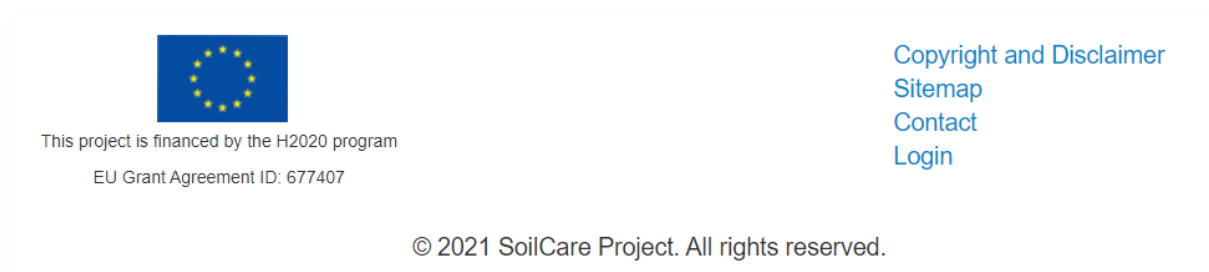


Figure 5 Home page footer

2.2 Soil-improving Cropping Systems Menu

The Soil-improving Cropping Systems (SICS) Menu contains detailed information about all the SICS trialled in the project as well as a repository of practical information for farmers about specific soil-improving cropping practices.

2.2.1 Concept of SICS

The first sub-menu explains the concept of SICS as well as providing a link to an animated video which explains the concept.

The next 4 sub-menus provides details of all the SICS that were trialled as well as links to further practical information of interest to farmers organised by the 4 SoilCare SICS clusters

2.2.2 Soil-improving crops

This page presents 11 experiment fact sheets which summarise the findings of the experiments related to soil-improving crops. Under each fact sheet is a link to the fact sheet in the local language.

The links at the bottom of the page take the user to further practical information for farmers (see Figure 6).

Further existing practical information on rotations, cover crops and intercropping that will be of interest to farmers can be found below.



Crop Rotations



Cover Crops and Green Manures



Intercropping and Crop Mixes

Figure 6 Links to repository for additional practical information on soil-improving crops

This practical information is presented in tables which describe the resources, including title, language, country, format, a summary description and organisation publishing the resource (see Figure 7)





Title	Language	Country	Format	Description	Organisation
Best4Soils: Green Manure and Cover Crops Practical Information	EN	Europe	Video	Different aspects of cover crops and green manures are presented in the video	 BEST4 SOIL
Cover Crops: A practical guide to soil and system improvement	EN	UK	Guidance document	Information on the selection and management of cover crop options	 NIAB TAG
Opportunities for cover crops in conventional arable rotations	EN	UK	Fact sheet	UK AHDB Cereals and Oils document introducing cover crops and providing case studies.	 AHDB
Green Manure and cover crops in organic systems: guide to choosing species	FR, EN, IT	France	Guidance document	A detailed description of each species that can be used to guide farmers choice.	 Organic Farm Knowledge

Figure 7 Example of repository table

2.2.3 Fertilisation/amendment

This page presents the 6 experiment facts sheets for the SICS cluster on fertilisation/amendments, followed by a table of further practical resources related to this topic.

2.2.4 Soil Cultivation

The Soil Cultivation page presents the 9 experiment fact sheets for the SICS cluster on soil cultivation with links at the bottom of the page to further practical resources related to minimum tillage, zero tillage and managing trafficking (see Figure 8)



Figure 8 Links to repository for additional practical information on soil cultivation

2.2.5 Alleviation of compaction

This page presents the 3 experiment facts sheets for the SICS cluster on alleviation of compaction, followed by a table of further practical resources related to this topic.

2.2.6 Related projects

The final sub-menu contains a table of projects related to the aims of SoilCare, with the project logo and a short description of the project provided (see Figure 9).

Project Name	Project Description
 https://www.best4soil.eu/	BEST4Soil are building a community of practice network across Europe by inter-connecting growers, advisers, educators and researchers. This network promotes knowledge ready for practice on 4 best practices (compost, green manure, intercropping, diversification, (bio) solarisation) for the control of soilborne diseases.
 https://www.soldarity.eu/	H2020 project aiming to enhance scientific research & innovation capacity in soil science and precision agriculture
	Aims to develop, upscale and disseminate soil restoring strategies in three major agricultural systems (cereal-based rotations, tree crops and grasslands), different farm typologies and environmental conditions in Europe, China and New Zealand
 https://www.landsupport.eu/	Aims to develop an innovative DSS platform to support farmers' associations, spatial planners, environmental agencies and policy-makers in their work.
	The project aims to fuel the competencies of advisors who will support and facilitate #interactivemovation in EU agriculture & forestry.

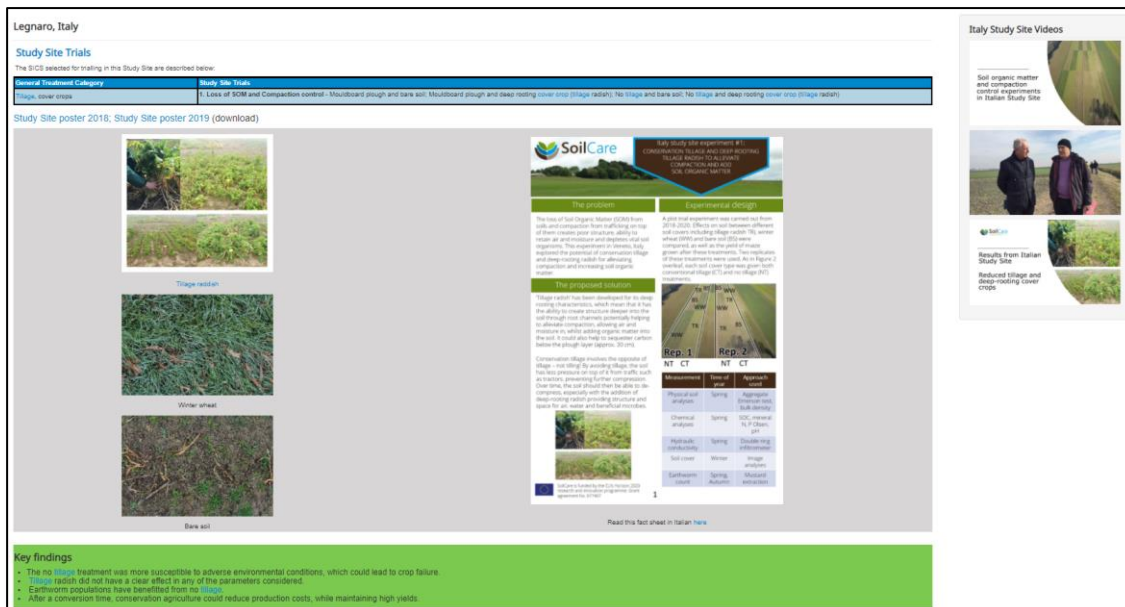
Figure 9 Table of related projects

2.3 Study Site Menu

A dedicated web page is presented for each of the 16 Study Sites. These are presented in a similar format (see Figure 10):

- A table summarising the SICS trialled in the Study Site
- Links to Study Site posters prepared over the project period

- For each SICS trialled, images from the experiments and the front cover of the Study Site experiment fact sheet which links to the pdf and a link to the pdf in the local language.
- Summary of key findings for each of the experiments
- Geographical description of Study Site area
- Description of cropping systems in Study Site area.



Legnaro, Italy

Study Site Trials

The SICS selected for testing in this Study Site are described below:

Trial	Study Site Trials
General Treatment Category	Conservation Agriculture
Plough seed cover	1. Lack of SOM and Compaction control: Mouldboard plough and bare soil; Mouldboard plough and deep rooting cover crop (Stripes, ridges); No stripes and bare soil; No stripes and deep rooting cover crop (Stripes, ridges)

Study Site poster 2018; Study Site poster 2019 (download)

Key findings

- The no tillage treatment was more susceptible to adverse environmental conditions, which could lead to crop failure.
- Plough ridges did not have a clear effect in any of the parameters considered.
- Earthworm populations have benefited from no tillage.
- After a conversion time, conservation agriculture could reduce production costs, while maintaining high yields.

Italy Study Site Videos

Soil organic matter and compaction control experiments in Italian Study Site

Results from Italian Study Site: Reduced tillage and deep-rooting cover crops

Figure 10 Section of Study Site page for Italy

2.4 Resources Menu

The Resources web page contains all the outputs from the SoilCare project. The different sub-menus can be accessed either from the dropdown box, or via the Resources web page (see Figure 11). Each sub-menu is now explained in turn:

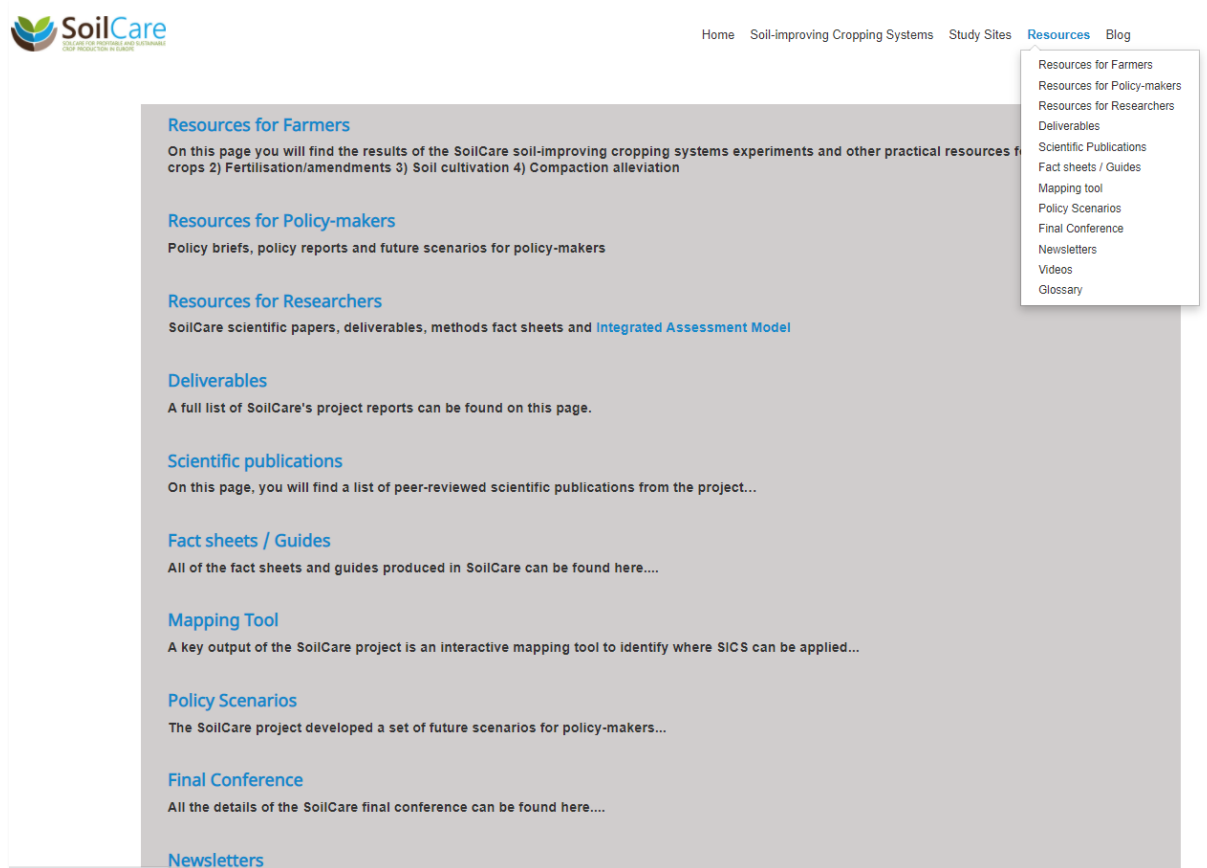


Figure 11 Resources web page

2.4.1 Resources for Farmers, Policy-makers and Researchers

The Resources for Farmers, Policy-makers and Researchers links takes the user to the same webpages as the buttons on the Home page.

2.4.2 Deliverables

The project deliverables web page lists all the key reports from SoilCare with a link to the pdf files. The list excludes those reports that are for internal use only or were part of the methodological development, rather than a key output of the project. The reports are divided by Work Package and a date of publication is provided for each.

2.4.3 Scientific publications

This webpage contains details of over 25 peer-reviewed scientific papers and one book chapter produced from the SoilCare project. These papers are listed in chronological order, with the most recently published paper first. For each paper, the title of the paper is given, the authors, the abstract, the publication and a link to the paper.

2.4.4 Fact sheets/ Guides

The next link takes the user to a web page with an accordion menu that links to all the fact sheet or guides produced in the project (see Figure 12).

Fact sheets / Guides	
SOIL-IMPROVING FARMER GUIDES	+
SOIL THREAT-SPECIFIC SICS FACT SHEETS	+
EXPERIMENT FACT SHEETS	+
FACT SHEETS FOR RESEARCHERS	+
POLICY BRIEFS	+

Figure 12 Accordion menu of all fact sheets / guides

The next 2 links focus on two key outputs of the project.

2.4.5 Mapping tool

This web page provides a summary of the SICS potential index and the interactive web mapping tool. A link is provided to the mapping tool.

2.4.6 Policy scenarios

This page takes the user to a web page which describes the four Policy scenario developed in the project. Links take the user to a pdf with a description of each of the scenarios and a video explaining each scenario (see Figure 13).

A description and a video providing details of each scenario can be found below.

Scenario 1: Local and sustainable (for those who can afford it)	Description of Scenario 1	
Scenario 2: Under pressure	Description of Scenario 2	
Scenario 3: Race to the bottom	Description of Scenario 3	
Scenario 4: Caring and sharing	Description of Scenario 4	

Figure 13 Links to description and videos of 4 policy scenarios

2.4.7 Final conference

The SoilCare final was held on 24th June 2021. This page contains videos of the individual sessions and links to the presentations.

2.4.8 Newsletters

Links are provided to the 8 SoilCare newsletters that were prepared and distributed throughout the lifetime of the project.

2.4.9 Videos

Twenty-eight of the main dissemination videos produced from SoilCare are presented on this webpage. These are divided into: 1) overview videos, 2) Study Site videos and 3) videos featuring stakeholder farmers. At the bottom is a link to the SoilCare YouTube channel where all the videos are hosted. There are 55 videos available on the YouTube channel which also includes presentation videos given during meetings and instructional videos. All the videos

that were previously on the Vimeo channel have been moved to this YouTube channel as the licence for the Vimeo channel will not continue beyond the end of the project.

2.4.10 Glossary

The Alter Glossary which was installed on the website at the start of the project has been retained in the final version of the SoilCare Information Hub. SoilCare sought cooperation at the start of the project with the RECARE, iSQAPER and LANDMARK projects to combine the glossaries of all these projects into a single glossary on soil and agriculture which has been updated and contains 465 terms. This website component highlights specific terms on all webpages and provides a definition for these terms when hovered over.

2.5 Blog

The final menu on the Top Menu is the Blog, which has been maintained on the SoilCare Information Hub to give users some further insights into the work undertaken in the Study Sites.

3 Legacy of the SoilCare Information Hub

The SoilCare Information Hub will be maintained for 5 years after the end of the project. It will be hosted by a consultancy company based in The Netherlands. The Resources pages which contain repositories (The SICCS cluster pages – crop rotations, cover crops intercropping, minimum tillage, zero tillage, managing trafficking, fertilisation/amendments and alleviating compaction) will occasionally be updated with new information. After the 5-year maintenance period, the website will remain online indefinitely in a static form.