Analysis

The SICS 2 : use of TSICS

3 stakeholders meetings since the beginning of SoilCare (06/06/16, 11/07/17, 20/04/18), gathering 17 persons : 8 farmers, 6 representatives of public authorities, 2 researchers, 1 “soil expert”

- Stakeholders show great interest with WP8 action “soil highlight” at FRAB organic trade fare, as it is an opportunity for a mutual work on a didactic presentation about soil challenges for visitors
- SICS implementation and assessment : process is still to be stimulated -> open farm day ?

o WP3

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o WP4/5: Assessment methodology

- Analysis of monitoring plan done
- Translated into a work plan (what measures should be implemented, by who and when) for the SICS implementation
- FRAB is not used to several measures : we choose to delegate some of them ; for the others, difficulty to estimate measures duration

o WP5: monitoring - 3 SICS implemented :

- SICS 1 : early sowing of mixed cropping of wheat or rapeseed - 3 sowing dates (august, september, end of october) on 1 site, lighter protocols on 2 others farms
- SICS 2 : use of different cover-crops
- SICS 3 : mechanical weeding on cabbage (control) VS cabbage cover with straw

o WP7: policy analysis

- Interview with 5 actors : chief of agro-environmental policies for Regional Council of Brittany + 4 people of the Regional Direction for Agriculture, Food and Forests
- The 2 authorities agree with : main threats on soils in Brittany (erosion and short rotations); assessment of policy impacts and strategy for coming policies (= focus on incentive polices rather than regulation policies); conflict between farm modernization incentives and the new agro-ecological orientations.
- Soil quality is a major issue for both, even if there are a very few specific policies dedicated to it.

o WP8: Dissemination

- “Soil highlight” during FRAB organic trade fare (September 26 and 27) : a soil dedicated area with posters, machinery, animations... 8 000 visitors expected : mainly farmers (from all over France) but also students, technical experts... SoilCare partners are welcomed !
- Open farm days on farms hosting SICS trials ?
- Producing a leaflet for farmers about « how to evaluate soil quality by themselves » ? (when they try a new SICS for example)