



Regenerating Soils,
Rethinking Livestock

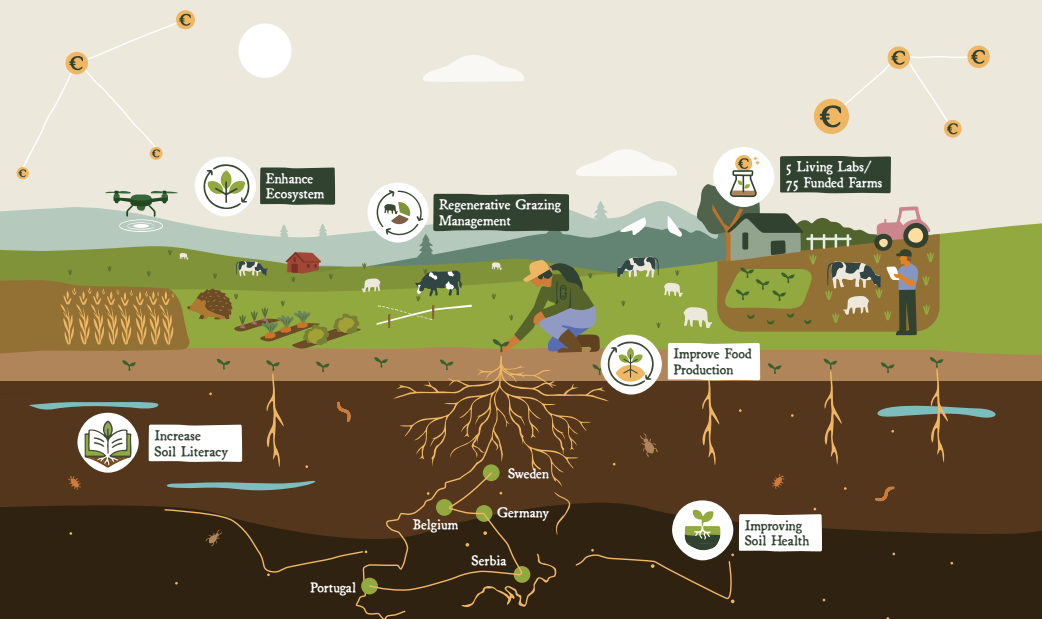


A cow is grazing in a lush green field. In the background, there is a dense line of trees. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

GroundWork brings together farmers, scientists, and communities to regenerate soils and promote sustainable agriculture. Using innovative grazing practices adapted to each region, it is restoring degraded soils, reducing pollution, and combatting climate change. With Living Labs in five countries, the project is showing that nature-friendly agriculture can be productive, resilient, and provide sustainable food for a healthier future.

Soil Mission in Action

GroundWork strengthens the resilience and sustainability of European livestock systems by tackling soil degradation and environmental pressures through regenerative agriculture. The project supports the EU Mission **“A Soil Deal for Europe”** by improving soil health, enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services, increasing soil carbon storage, and boosting soil literacy among land managers and stakeholders.



We focus on

Regenerative Grazing Practices: Developing and testing adaptive, rotational and mixedgrazing systems that improve soil structure and fertility, enhance water retention and carbon storage while maintaining productivity.

Soil Health & Biodiversity: Restoring soil organic matter, supporting microbial life and increasing biodiversity above and below ground.

Co-creation & Learning: Bringing together farmers, researchers and policymakers through continuous knowledge exchange, capacitybuilding and participatory monitoring.

Scaling & Policy Support: Developing financial incentives and policy frameworks that reward regenerative outcomes and support wider adoption across Europe.



Living Labs

Through five Living Labs (LL) in Portugal, Germany, Belgium, Sweden and Serbia, innovative grazing practices are co-designed with farmers, tested in real farming conditions, and adapted to diverse soils, climates and farming realities. Each LL has a different focus:



Portugal LL: Supporting farmers to integrate regenerative grazing with traditional systems, restoring soils and biodiversity while informing water-smart land-use policy.



Germany LL: Working with dairy farms to integrate regenerative management approaches that improve soil health, ecosystem resilience and farm viability in the context of climate change.



Sweden LL: Enabling farmers to reintroduce livestock through regenerative grazing, strengthening resilient and peer-driven learning.



Belgium LL: Testing cover-crop grazing with sheep and cattle to improve soil fertility, diversify farm income, and guide regenerative incentives.



Serbia LL: Turning livestock waste into valuable soil resources through regenerative grazing and circular manure management to improve soils and inform policy.

Contact

Project Coordinator: CyRIC, groundwork@cyric.eu

Media Relations: REVOLVE, press@revolve.media



groundwork-project.eu

in www.linkedin.com/company/groundwork-eu



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