Lighthouses and Living Labs:

For improved soil health in farm, forestry and urban systems

Please provide some inspirational examples of demonstration & participatory farm, forestry and urban initiatives which could be described as Lighthouses or Living Labs. Definitions for these are provided below. We hope to provide examples in the MB document soon to be submitted to the Commission to indicate their success in raising awareness; increasing uptake of best practice; developing innovative practices; and supporting training and education.

Many thanks for your help.

The EU mission Board of Soil Health and Food.

Please submit completed form to: [AGRI-SOIL-MISSION-BOARD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:AGRI-SOIL-MISSION-BOARD@ec.europa.eu)

Definitions:

Lighthouse (LHs):

**Demonstration** of **current best management practices** which improve soil health using a systems based approach.

**Research** activities to be clearly linked to one or more of the soil health targets using a systems based approach with clear tracking of multiple outcomes (economic, social, environmental, etc) over time using robust monitoring approaches.

Active **outreach activities** and ongoing biophysical and social science embedded in all activities to better quantify the risks and opportunities, cost-benefits analysis, wider systems impacts including those on the wider food and forestry system to improve the evidence base and encourage wider uptake both within and beyond the LH boundaries.

Active **outreach programmes** to include: High level of engagement activities for citizens; practitioners; advisory services; data scientists and technologists; planners and policy makers, educators and trainers. Support in the co-construction of emerging LH and LL within and beyond the immediate regional context.

Living Labs (LLs):

**Co-design and co-construction** of innovative practices beyond current understanding linking citizens, practitioners; advisory services; biophysical and social scientists, data scientists and technologists; planners and policy makers and educators and trainers. This requires a dedicated governance which could also be established at the level of a regional cluster of LLs.

Continued **experimental** and **research activities**, clearly linked to several of the soil health targets using a systems based approach with clear tracking of outcomes over time using robust monitoring approaches.

**Robust scientific approach** embedded taking an interdisciplinary and always when possible, a transdisciplinary approach.

Wide range of **outreach activities** as for LHs.

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| **Facility type** | *LH ; LL or Both ?* |
| **Location** | *Country & Region* |
| **Name of facility** | *Name of farm, forestry, urban or network to identify it ?* |
| **Contact name** | *Name of main contact person and email or website if available?* |
| **Communities involved** | *Please indicate groups involved e.g.*    *Farmers ; Foresters ; Food specialists ; Agr-i or forestry industry ; Urban planners ; Academics ; Local schools ; Advisory services; consultant  ;…….. add more if needed?*  *Then list organisations here if relevant– please list name of organisations only to keep it brief.* |
| **Land Use** | *Please select from : Farmland ; Forestry ; Urban ; Mixed*  *Then add a short description…….*  ***20 words max*** |
| **Purpose / Issues being explored** | *Bulleted list of issues being tested / dmonstrated / innovated e.g. :*   * *REduced use / alternatives to inorganic fertilisers* * *Reduced use of control chemicals* * *Solutions to reduce erosion and land degradation* * *Rewetting of peatlands* * *Increased diversity / rotation of crops* * *Continuouse cover forestry* * *Increase in community gardens* * *Increasing in urban green space* * *Re-use of water/wastes* * *Other…..* |
| **Successes / outcomes** | *A* ***brief*** *descritpion of main successes e.g.*   * *Improvement in soil health e.g. % increase in soil organic carbon* * *increase in particpation in initiative from X to Y ;* * *number or % of farms or forests in local area which have adopted best practices ;* * *number of positive feedback responses from visitors;* * *clear influence on policy (e.g. named in policy document or mentioned in a press release) etc…..*   ***40 words max*** |
| **Outreach activities** | *List type of demonstration and outreach activities undertaken* ***in brief***  *e.g.*   * *hosting training courses;* * *school visits;* * *social media* * *etc..* |