



Soil health concept in the Soil monitoring law proposal

Webinar series on 'Integration of Soil Health in decision-making processes at various scales'

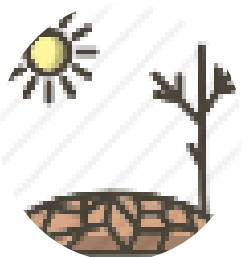
First webinar November 5th, 14:00 - 16:15 hrs (Zoom)

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DG Environment
D1 Land Use & Management

Healthy soils as key contribution to 4 EGD objectives



Healthy soils for achieving the Union's overarching objectives concerning **climate change mitigation and adaptation** and **biodiversity**



Healthy soils for preventing and mitigating the impacts of **natural disasters** and increasing the **drought resilience**



Healthy soils for increasing/ensuring the EU's **long term capacity** to produce **sufficient, safe and nutritious food**



Healthy soils for protecting the **health** of EU citizens



Soil Monitoring Law

Directive on soil monitoring and resilience

01

Objectives

Healthy soils
by 2050



02

Definitions

Including criteria for
healthy soil



03

Monitoring & assessment

Descriptors, measurements,
methodologies



04

Services & support

Certification and data support



05

Sustainable soil management

Principles and land
take mitigation



06

Contaminated sites

Identification, investigation, risk
assessment, management,
registration



07

Reporting

Informing the public
and evaluation

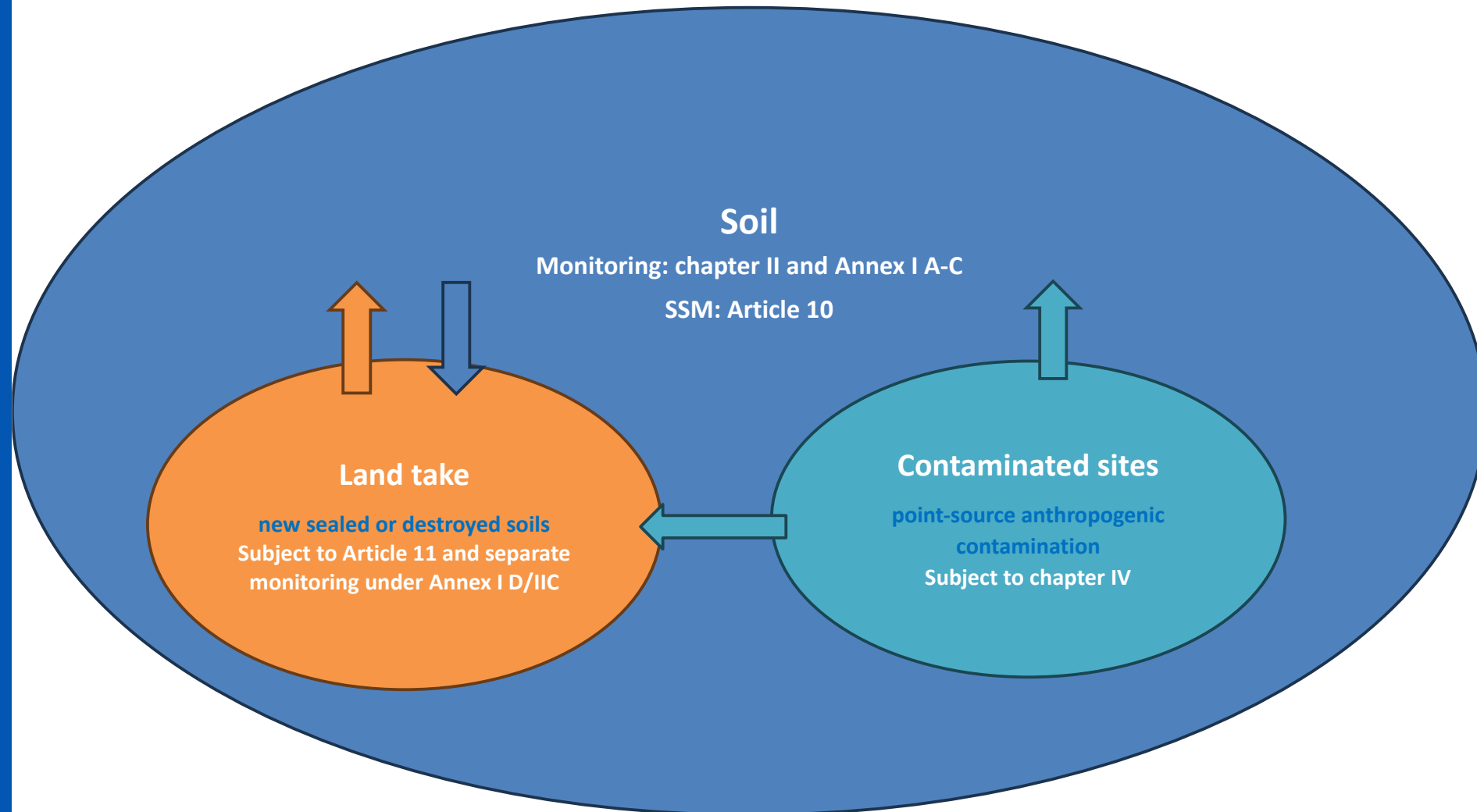


European
Commission

Soil monitoring law proposal – scope of application

based on the Council General approach of 17 June 2024

- All soils are covered by the SML – a flexible approach with general, science-based definitions and tailored regimes.
- Distinct regimes – not overlapping (e.g. Article 8(2) 2nd sentence), but soils can move from one category to another.
- All services provided by soil are recognized, including as a platform for extraction, energy or transport - and need to be balanced (e.g. recitals 2b, 30e).



Overview of SML Annex I descriptors

Soil descriptor	aspect of soil degradation
Electrical Conductivity	salinization
Soil erosion rate	loss of soil by erosion
SOC concentration	loss of organic matter
Bulk density in subsoil	compaction
Bulk density in topsoil	
Extractable phosphorus	excess nutrients
Nitrogen in soil	
Concentration of heavy metals	contamination
Concentration of other contaminants	
Soil water holding capacity	loss of capacity for water retention
Soil acidity (pH)	acidification
Soil basal respiration	loss of soil biodiversity

land take/soil sealing area/%	land take and soil sealing
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Thank you!

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