

Exploring potential common ground

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Exploring potential common ground

- ▶ As part of a UBA research project, a guided workshop could explore potential common ground
- ▶ Guided and prepared with involvement of and input from experts
- ▶ Open to all ideas
- ▶ Where to start?
 - => Is there some common ground that is already established?
 - => Soil Strategy of 2006 => "Reality" check in view of developments since 2006

Where to start

- ▶ Since the SFD has been taken off the table, the 2006 Soil Strategy is basically the only EU-wide “common ground” on soil
- ▶ But it is quite old and there have been developments since 2006, e.g.
 - 2011 Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe
 - 2012 COM implementation report
 - 2013 EAP7, review report and EP resolution 2018
 - 2015 SDGs, in particular the LDN target
 - 2015 Paris Agreement
- ▶ => Is the Soil Strategy still adequate? Is there potential for new common ground in view of developments?

Where to start

- = > is the Soil Strategy still adequate?
- ▶ “Reality check” of the Strategy is just a starting point for our discussion. It is not meant to be a review similar to the EU’s “REFIT” exercise
 - ▶ What has become (more) relevant now but is not in the Strategy?
 - ▶ => Thought starter for what could be a basis for common approaches.

Thought starter: Potential issues

- ▶ What has become (more) relevant now but is not adequately addressed in the strategy?
- ▶ Potentially:
- ▶ SDG “land degradation neutrality” target
 - => Requires conceptually a minimum of planning
- ▶ Paris Agreement:
 - => Link soil organic carbon to climate policy

Workshop and preparations

- ▶ Aim:
 - Real, substantive, open discussion on areas for which there is interest in exploring EU approaches to soil protection
 - Not just more knowledge about soil, also identify potential instruments and actions
- ▶ How? Guided and prepared with involvement of and input from experts
- ▶ Workshop prepared in-depth by
 - Scoping exercise
 - Seeking input from experts
 - Preparatory meeting. Different topics, small working groups
 - Discussion papers.
 - Final workshop – spring / summer 2020

Thank You!

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