

A young child with curly hair is shown from the chest up, holding their hands out towards the camera. Their hands are covered in dark soil. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a bright sky.

# Green Paper

## The urgent necessity of healthy soils

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Everybody should be able to live in a healthy environment. Not only we but also future generations. The soil-sediment-watersystem is the basis for a healthy environment. Therefore we have to restore, protect and sustainably use this scarce resource!

# The Why?

## The importance of healthy soils

Soils are our basis

Stop inequality between generations and countries

Healthy soils are essential for healthy people, well being and welfare

Give soils a voice



# The what? This is what we need

Ambition to change

Challenges to address



## Challenges

**Restore/strengthen the balance between urban and rural areas**

**Identify the best ways to move from global assessments to local action**

**Involve the land user when addressing the quality of the soil-sediment-water system**

**Sustainably use and protect soil-sediment-water systems**

**Place healthy soil on the agenda and broaden the scope from soil contamination solely to soil function restoration for societal challenges**

**Give soils a voice to underpin the objectives of the EU Green Deal**

**Mark the approach of known and future emerging contaminants by the knowledge and experiences achieved in dealing with PFAS**

# The How?

## This is what we have to do

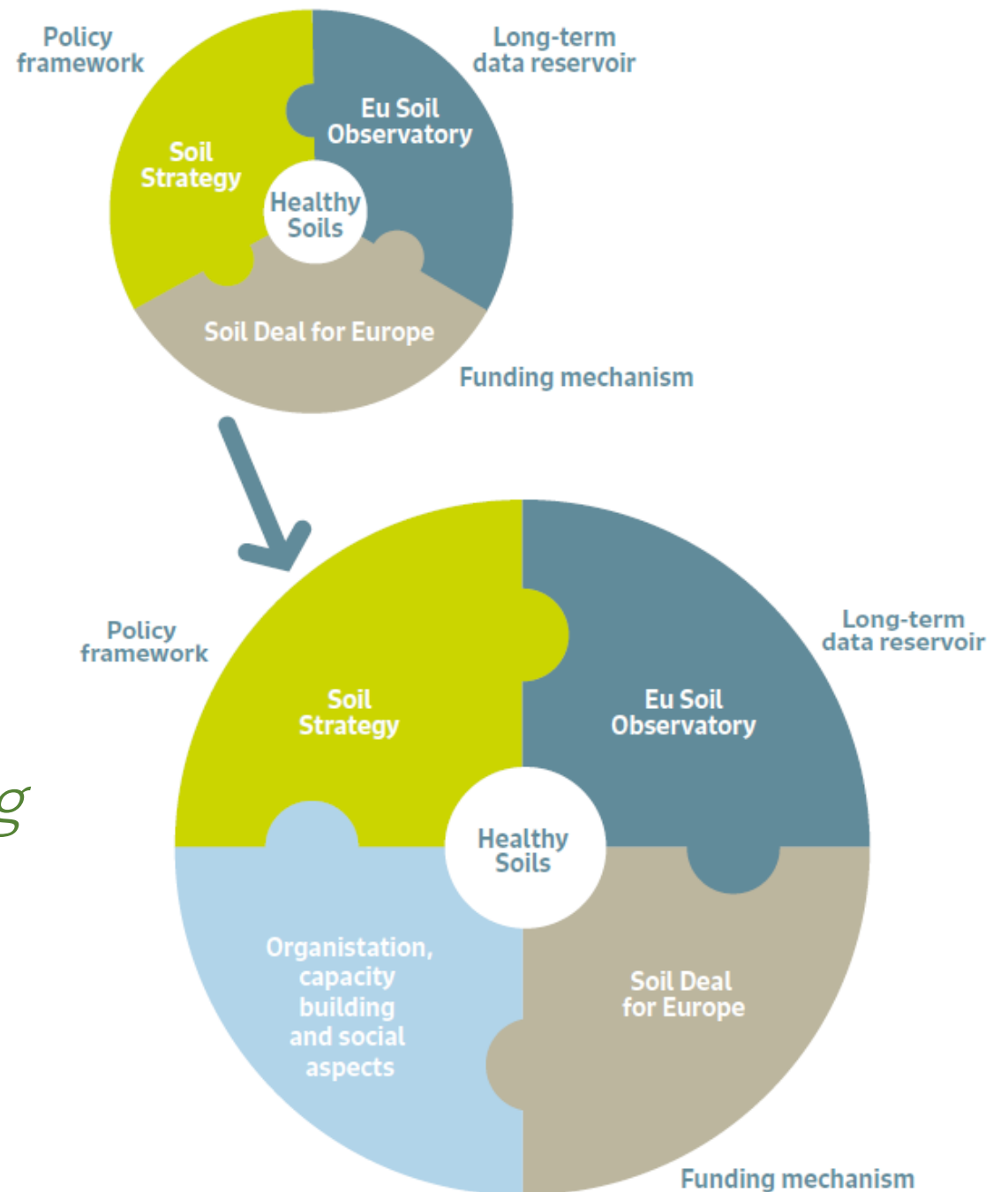
Focus on action

Pillar 1 Policy and economy

Pillar 2 Research and innovation

Pillar 3 Data transformation

Pillar 4 Organisation, *capacity building*  
& social aspects



# 10 point action plan

- 1 Give soils a voice in decision making
- 2 Acknowledge the intrinsic value of soils
- 3 Transition in *mind-set* and actions is essential
- 4 Take responsibility, take control
- 5 Set land degradation to zero
- 6 Approach soil remediation programmatically
- 7 Connect soil with societal challenges
- 8 Develop new business models
- 9 Start new research and innovation models
- 10 Data, data en more data

## Challenges

Restore/strengthen the balance between urban and rural areas

Identify the best ways to move from global assessments to local action

Involve the land user when addressing the quality of the soil-sediment-water system

Sustainably use and protect soil-sediment-water systems

Place healthy soil on the agenda and broaden the scope from soil contamination solely to soil function restoration for societal challenges

Give soils a voice to underpin the objectives of the EU Green Deal

Mark the approach of known and future emerging contaminants by the knowledge and experiences achieved in dealing with PFAS

## Four Pillars of Action

1. Policy and economics

Actions 1 3  
5 6  
8 9

2. Research, development and innovation

Actions 3 7  
8 9  
10

3. Data transformation

Actions 10

4. Organisation, capacity building and social aspects

Actions 2 3  
4 8  
9

## 10-point action plan

- 1 Give soils a voice in decision making and actions
- 2 Acknowledge the intrinsic value of soils
- 3 Transition in mindset and actions is crucial
- 4 Take responsibility, take control
- 5 Set land degradation to zero
- 6 Programmatic approach soil remediation
- 7 Connect soil with other societal challenges
- 8 New business models
- 9 New research and innovation models
- 10 Data, data and more data

## *Sharing is caring*

This Green paper is for everybody! Download the paper this link  
[Green Paper: 'The urgent necessity of healthy soils' | TAUW](#)



## Planet Soil (Under your feet)

[\(298\) Planet Soil trailer - YouTube](#)

Thanks for your attention!

Together we work on healthy soils for everybody

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