

Selected Newly Added Documents for December 2007 on EUGRIS: platform for European contaminated soil and water information:

EUGRIS now has a new easier to use format, which I hope you will find the time to have a quick look at. 39 resources, events projects and news items were added to EUGRIS 1 –21 December 2007. These can be viewed at: <http://www.eugris.info/whatsnew.asp>

****Then select the month and year for the updates you are interested in****

*****News, 21 December*****

Political agreement for a proposal for a Directive establishing a framework for the protection of soil failed
<http://www.eugris.info/DisplayNewsItem.asp?NewsID=499>

Resources added include this selection:

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), 2007
Previously-Developed land that may be available for Development: England 2006 - Results from the National Land Use Database of Previously-Developed Land (NLUD)
The estimates in this Statistical Release are compiled from information on individual sites supplied by local authorities in England. They give a snapshot for 31st March 2006.

Authorities were asked to update information on the sites provided previously and to provide details of new sites that had come into scope since their previous return. Out of the 362 local planning authorities, including National Parks, in England 337 (93 per cent) provided information.

J. Slootweg, 2007.

European Critical Loads of Cadmium, Lead and Mercury and their Exceedances

The critical load is a measure of how much metal input from anthropogenic sources a system can tolerate. It is the threshold below which significant harmful effects on human health and on the environment do not occur, according to present knowledge. In this report deposition levels were compared to critical loads, to identify areas where ecosystems were at risk (i.e. where the critical load is exceeded). results show that:

***Cadmium was not a widespread risk in 2000 and caused exceedances only in one country (Germany) due to agricultural inputs (e.g. fertilisers).**

***The risk to human health posed by lead deposition decreased from 1990 on but was still widespread in 2000: in EU-25, 71.8% of the ecosystem area (e.g. area of land and water investigated) was subject to excess lead deposition in 1990. This was reduced to 8.1% in 2000.**

***The risk from mercury remained high in 2000: in EU 25, 77.4% of the ecosystem area in 1990 was at risk of ecosystem effects (terrestrial and aquatic) and 51.2% in 2000.**