

ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES

November 4th 2024, 11:00 AM

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www.geo-wb6.net
info@geo-wb6.net

Introduction to LUCAS soil survey

LUCAS stands for Land Use/Cover Area frame Survey and is a harmonised in situ land cover and land use data collection exercise that extends over the whole of the EU's territory. It means that data are gathered through direct observations made by surveyors on the ground. LUCAS is funded and executed by Eurostat and its objective is to set up area frame surveys for the provision of coherent and harmonised statistics on land use and land cover in EU. In addition, its purpose is to provide information on agriculture, environment, landscapes and ground evidence for calibration of satellite images and act as a register of points for specific surveys such as soil, biodiversity etc. LUCAS was launched as a pilot survey in 2001 and has continued ever since. The EC Joint Research Centre (EC-JRC) is responsible for the LUCAS soil survey. It has conducted five of such soil surveys in 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018 and 2022. In 2015, LUCAS was implemented for the first time also in the Western Balkans, except for Kosovo. The methodology is described in detail by the JRC will be discussed during the presentation.



Prof. Dr. Pandi Zdruli

CIHEAM Mediterranean
Agronomic Institute of Bari