

# Soil Biodiversity Working Group

Update for ESBN Plenary, Sept  
2009, Hungary.

Dr R Creamer

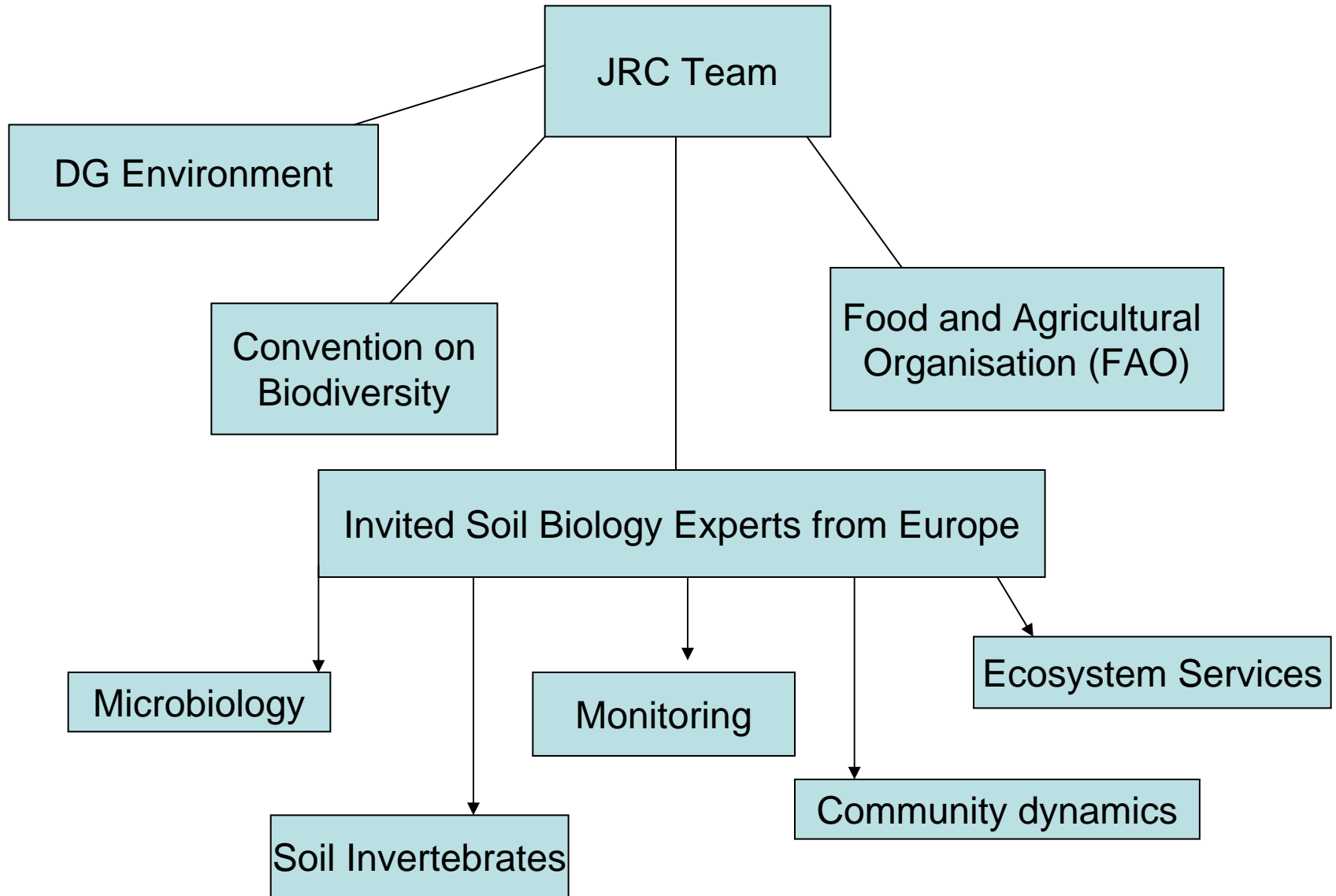
# Outline

- Requirements of Working Group
- Outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> meetings (March 2008 and March 2009)
- Current and Future activities

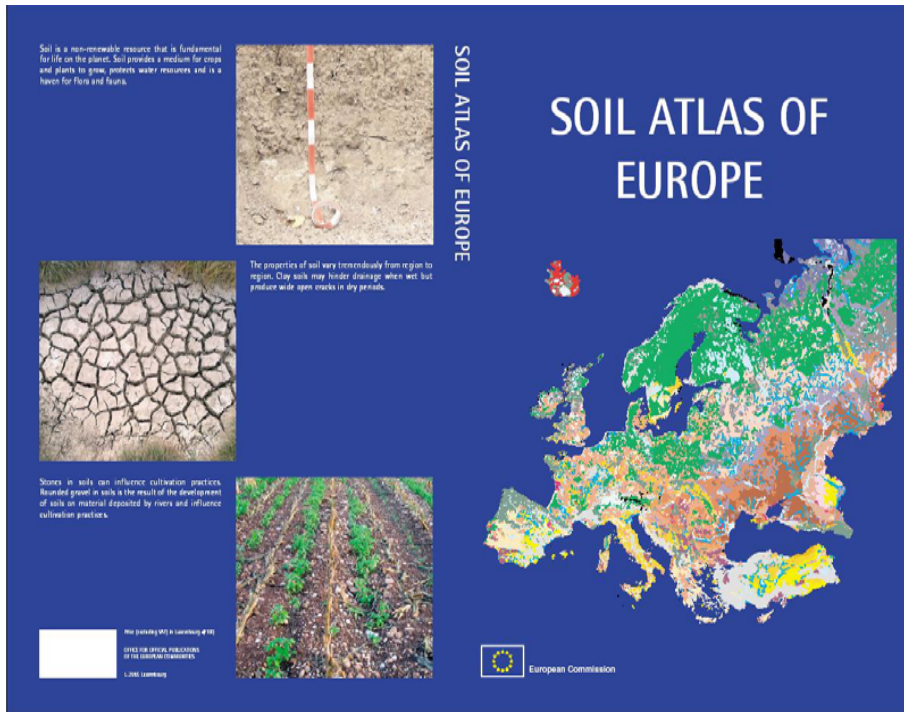
# Requirements of the WG

- The need to make progress in developing soil biodiversity products to go to the wider public.
- An Atlas of Soil Biodiversity in Europe to raise awareness of soil biodiversity and to go on the table of stakeholders
- Guidance regarding what we can do with the CBD Initiative on soil taxonomy
- The need to relate soil biodiversity to risk assessment of agrochemicals etc. including practical applications and policy relevance.

# March 2009 WG Meeting



# Biodiversity Atlas (2011)



- WHAT IS SOIL BIODIVERSITY?
- FUNCTIONS, VALUATION AND THREATS
- STATUS OF SOIL BIODIVERSITY IN EUROPE
- WHAT ARE WE DOING TO PROTECT SOIL BIODIVERSITY?
- HOW DO WE KNOW ABOUT SOIL BIODIVERSITY?
- ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SOIL BIODIVERSITY

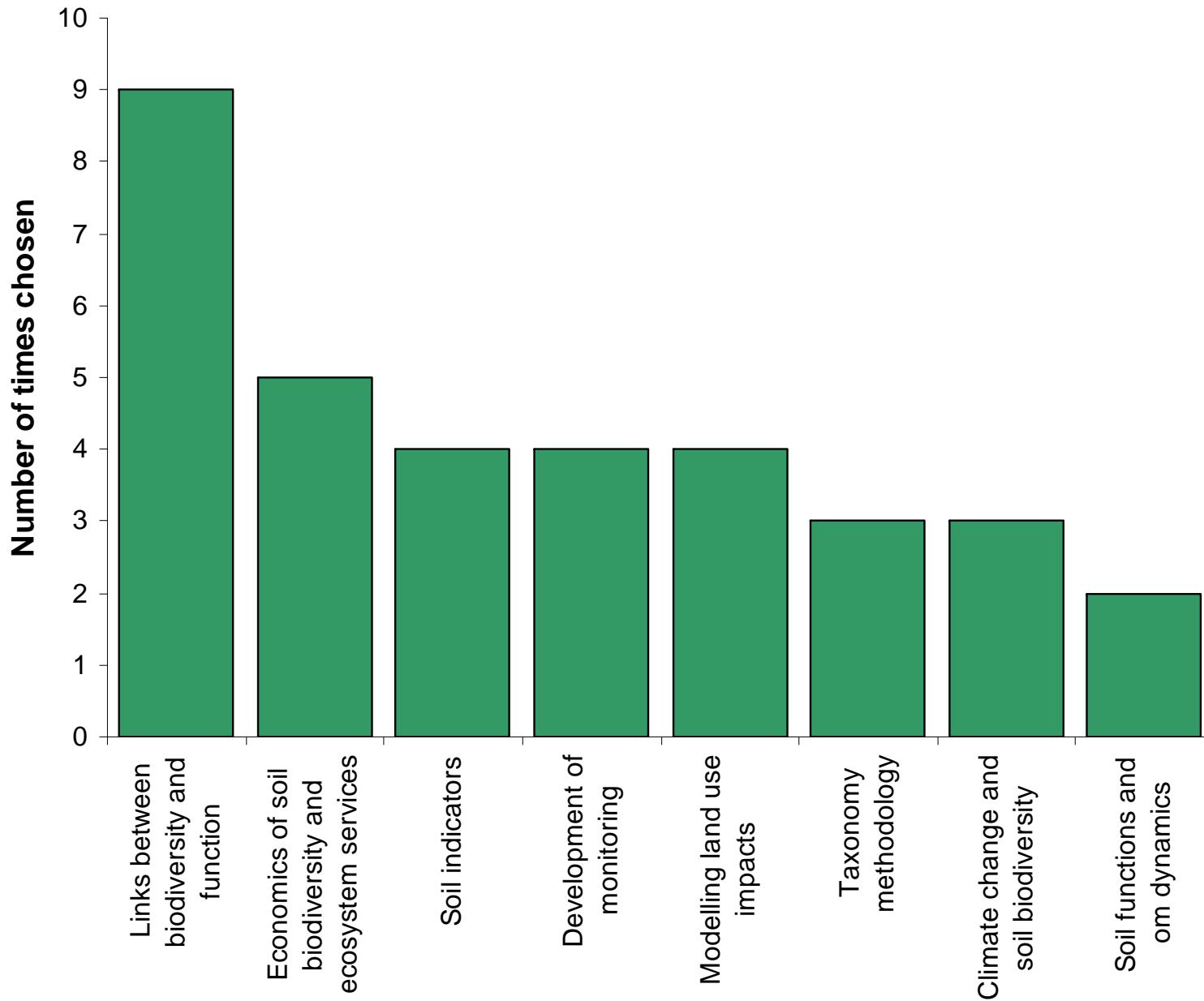
# Raising Awareness



- JRC Open Day 16 May 2009

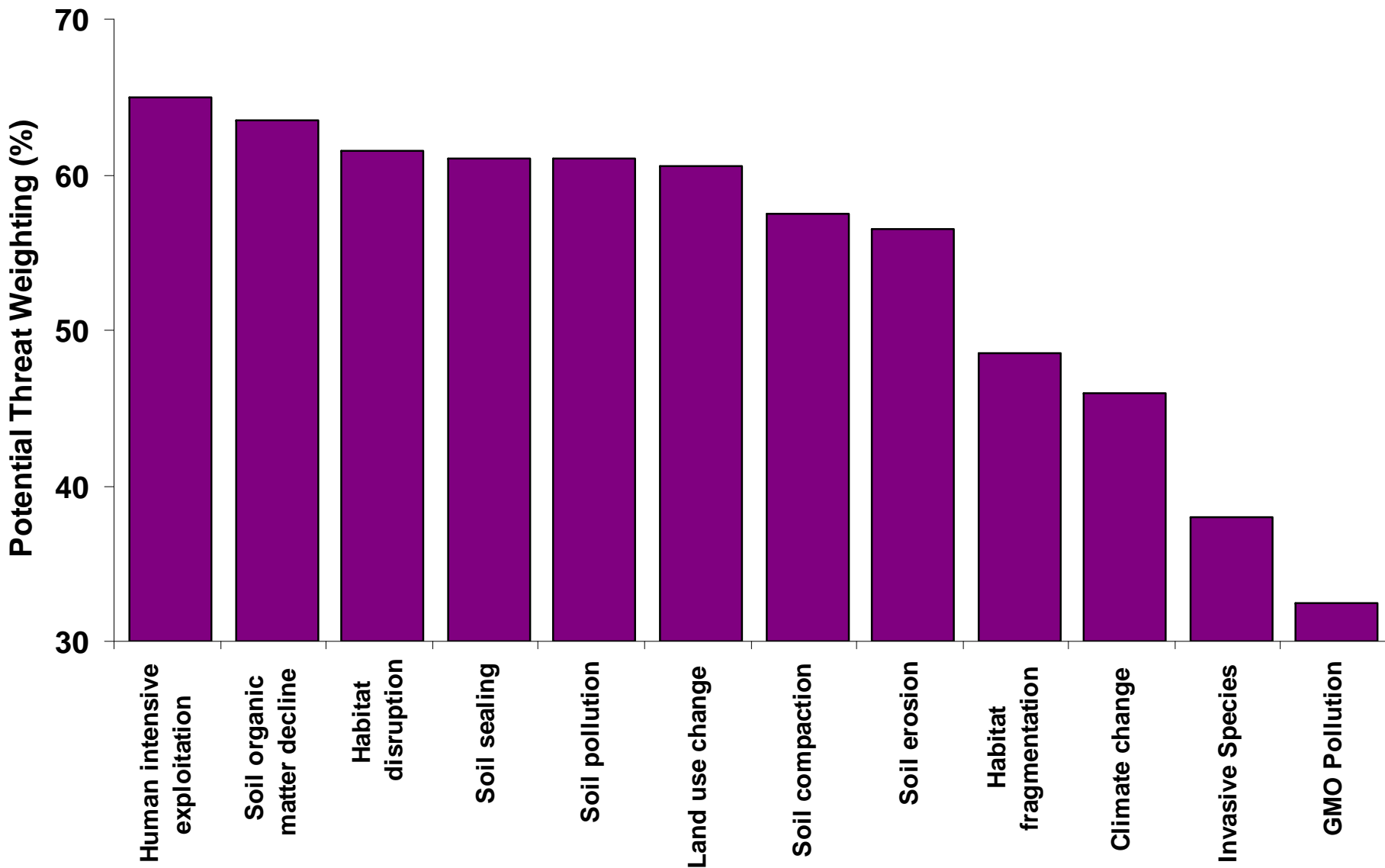
# Research Priority Areas and Potential Threats to Soil Biodiversity

- Members of the Soil Biodiversity Working Group were asked to complete a questionnaire regarding;
  - Research Priority Areas
  - Potential Threats to Soil Biodiversity



## Identification of Research Requirements





## Threats to Soil Biodiversity

# Identification of Soil Biodiversity activities on-going across Europe

- IRE – Assessment at 96 sites
- UK – NSI, Scotland; Countryside Survey 2007, UK; Soil Biological Indicators
- NL – Soil Quality Monitoring Network; BISQ; RBB pilots;
- F – RMQS; Bioindicator 2; Bacterial Biodiversity;
- SW – none
- D - EFSA: Ecoregion approach for risk assessment of pesticides/GMOs; Soil fauna at monitoring sites in Westphalia/ Baden-Wurttemberg
- P - Forest monitoring programme
- IT - Soil ecological monitoring (QBS-regional); Fungi (national)

# Future Activities

- Completion of Soil Biodiversity Atlas for 2011
- Development of database on the state of soil biodiversity in Europe
- Future awareness opportunities