



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



EUROPEAN SOIL PARTNERSHIP

Fourth Plenary Meeting 10-12 May 2017
FAO HQ, Rome

Chair

Elena Havlicek

Secretary

Marc van Liederkerke



EUROPEAN SOIL
PARTNERSHIP

Fourth Plenary Meeting

ROLE OF THE ESP AND OF THE ESP PLENARY

- ✓ Facilitate cooperation and knowledge sharing within the region
- ✓ Improve governance of the soil resources within the framework of the GSP
- ✓ Support ESP aspects related to the ITPS work

- ✓ Appoint the chair, vice-chairs, secretariat (2 years mandate)
- ✓ Provide a feedback
- ✓ Take decisions (implementation plan)
- ✓ Guide on emerging issues, mobilization of resources



Fourth Plenary Meeting

MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

- ☑ Progress reports (GSP, ESP, EASP)
- ☑ **Implementation Plan 2017-2020**
- ☑ ESP global activities
- ☑ **Mobilization of resources**

- ☑ Exchange of information
- ☑ ESP members inputs



Fourth Plenary Meeting

PARTICIPANTS

about 40 participants from 20 ESP countries and the EC

12 national FP or deputy FP

Armenia, Austria, Belgium, *Greece*, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey and the European Commission

Representatives of 10 countries with FP

Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Kosovo, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Russia, United Kingdom

Countries with FP, not represented

Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Montenegro, Norway, Moldova, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan



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Extract from the novel « EARTHY REMAINS » (Donna Leon 2017)

« What were you doing for them? » Brunetti asked?

« **I was an edaphologist.** »

« What does that mean? » Vianello interrupted with real curiosity, looking away from the pages towards her.

(...) « It means I tested the soil to see what nutrient were in it. Or were lacking. And the salt content »

« In the soil? » the Inspector asked.

« Yes. » She looked at Vianello. At his nod, she continued.

« When we found out what there was too much of or too little of, **FAO tried to find a natural way to rebalance the soil** by rotating crops or planting something that would fix nitrogen in the soil. Or encouraging the farmers to rely less on pesticides and chemical fertilizers. » She smiled, and Brunetti could see her relax even more. Straight-faced, she explained, « **I tried to convince them that cow-shit's the best.** »

