



**ECOBASE**  
Eco-Friendly Nature-based solutions to  
mitigate soil degradation

**Transnational Event and 4th Technical Meeting of the ECOBASE Project, Ljubljana, Slovenia**

The Chamber of Aetoloakarnania participated in the transnational event highlighting strategies for healthier soils and resilient agricultural systems in the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion as well as in the 4th technical meeting of the project on 31 March - 2 April 2026 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.



The project team also visited the Agricultural and Forestry Institute of Ptuj, which provides professional support and advice, acting as the main "translator" of European guidelines into applied agricultural practice in the Podravje region.

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**Project Partners**

- University of Patras (Lead Partner), EL
- Chamber of Aetoloakarnania, EL
- Padova Chamber of Commerce, IT
- Municipality of Gjirokastër, AL
- Centre for Climate Change, Natural Resources and Energy of University of Donja Gorica, ME
- University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, RS
- Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Institute of Agriculture, MK
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, ME
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry – Chamber of Agricultural and Food Enterprises, SI
- Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia, Agriculture and Forestry Institute Ptuj (KGZ Ptuj), SI

**Associate Partners**

- Region of Western Greece, EL
- Agri-Food Partnership of Western Greece, EL
- Agricultural Cooperative of Fruits & Vegetables, Grains and Olive Oil of Amaliada, EL

**Soil Week & Earth Day – Supporting EU action on soil**



The projects ECOBASE (Interreg IPA ADRION) & TAGsTwo (Interreg Greece Italy 2021-2027) were jointly presented at the Soil Week, in the context of Earth Day celebrations, as invited projects of the Horizon Europe SOLO – Soils for Europe project at the OSI event in Grado on 16 - 17 April 2026.

ECOBASE presented ecosystem-based approaches for soil protection, sustainable land use sustainability and mitigation of soil degradation across the Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion.

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### The invisible effects of floods on soil quality and productivity

The Chamber of Aetoloakarnania invites you to visit the article by Dr. Tsantilas Christos, Agronomist - Soil Scientist.

Through this, the consequences of intense and extreme floods are highlighted, which, in addition to the visible disasters (loss of life, loss of crops and destruction of property and infrastructure), also cause a series of significant changes in the quality of soils and their productivity, the restoration of which to the desired state is a slow process.



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### Ancient messages for the modern world

Recent studies show that pollution from mining and metalworking has been affecting the Greek environment since ancient times. Mining, a source of power and prosperity for Ancient Greece, released heavy metals such as lead into the air, soil and water, while also contributing to widespread deforestation. The environmental impacts were so evident that they were even recorded by Plato in his work "Critias".

These findings are a reminder that economic growth and technological progress often come with significant ecological costs, the consequences of which can last for centuries.



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### The role of soil health in Norwegian urban and landscape planning

On 21 April 2026, the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) organised an online event called "Soil Week" on the role of soil health in the country's urban and landscape planning. In the presence of scientists, public road officials and real estate developers, it was noted that while Norway has strict laws on agricultural land, soil within cities remains an unrecognised resource.

The event concluded that urban soils are treated as "dead" material and not as living systems because their value in water regulation, biodiversity and carbon storage is not monitored or understood. It was also highlighted that there is a significant gap between scientific knowledge and professional practice. The development of a national framework for monitoring urban soil health was proposed for both scientists and spatial planners.



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