



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

The Belgian Soil Laboratory Network - BESOLAN -

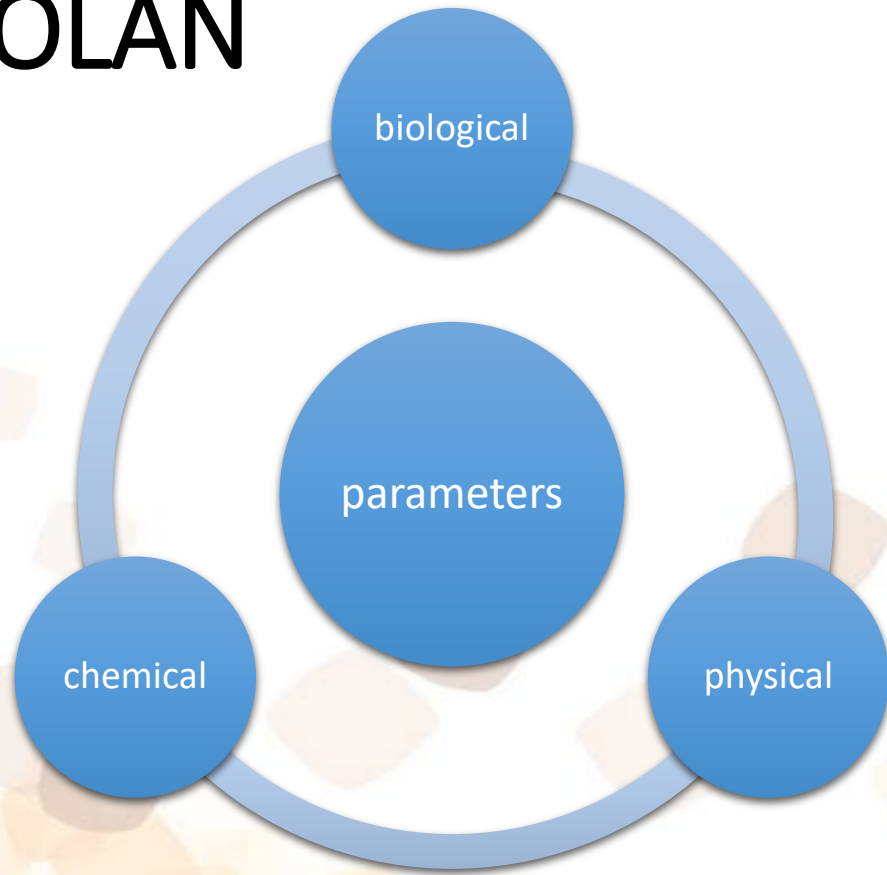
*Ms. Clémence Mariage, Mr. Gilles Colinet
& Mr. Kristof Tirez*

GLOSOLAN

GLOBAL SOIL LABORATORY NETWORK



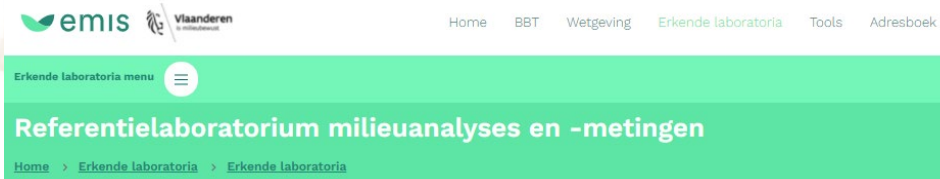
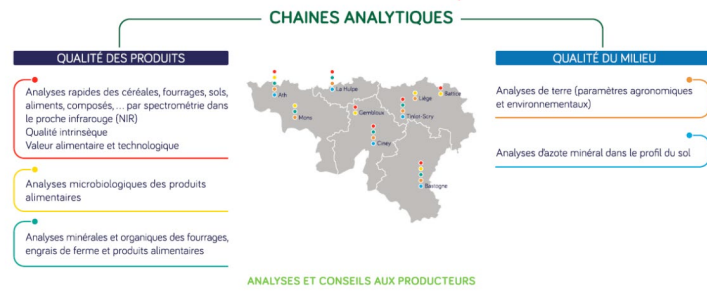
BESOLAN



The BESOLAN network was established to respond to the need for inventory and harmonization of soil analysis methods/data and bring Walloon, Brussels and Flemish actors together in an information exchange network.

How to establish a NASOLAN : a stepwise approach

Step 1 : Identify coordinators / regional reference laboratories and create webpage



How to establish a NASOLAN : a stepwise approach

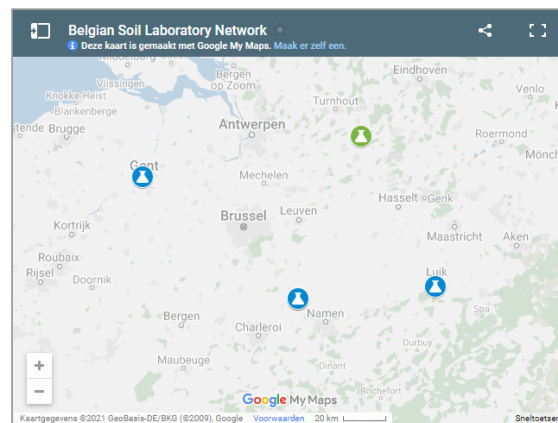
Step 2 : Identify the actors (Belgian soil experts) and invite for registration in GLOSOLAN (21/03/2022)

Information on the soil laboratories belonging to the NASOLAN

Belgium Laboratories in NASOLAN :					
Name	Address	member since	Type of Laboratory	Type of analysis performed	Head of the laboratory
Institut Scientifique de Service Public	ISSaP - Siège social de Liège Rue Chéra, 200 B-4000 LIEGE	15-Feb-2018	Public	Chemical, Pollutants, Fertilizer, Physical, Biological	Xavier Velthe
Plateau technique du Physique et Mécanique du sol	Passage des déportés 2, 5030 Gembloux	12-Apr-2018	University	Physical	Prof. Aurore Degré
UGentSoilLab	Campus Coupure Blok B, 1ste verdieping Coupure Links 653, B-9000 Gent Belgium	24-Aug-2020	University	Waiting for information	Prof. Stefaar De Neve

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Geographical distribution of the soil laboratories within the country



How to establish a NASOLAN : a stepwise approach

Introduction webinar to GLOSOLAN/EUROSOLAN and BESOLAN on
Monday the 21th of March 2022, 14:00 – 16:00 (CET)

- ✓ **Welcome** (Ms. Lucrezia Caon, Mr. Filippo Benedetti, Coordinators of the Global Soil Laboratory Network, FAO)
- ✓ **Introduction to the Global Soil Partnership** (Ms. Martien Swerts, Belgian Global Soil Partnership focal point)
- ✓ **The Global Soil Laboratory Network** (Mr. Elh Moustapha Abdourahaman, vice-chair GLOSOLAN)
- ✓ **The Europe and Eurasia Laboratory Network** (Ms. Marija Romić, chair EUROSOLAN)
- ✓ **The Belgian Soil Laboratory Network, BESOLAN** (Ms. Clémence Mariage, Mr. Gilles Colinet, Mr. Kristof Tirez)
- ✓ **Standardization of Physical Soil Measurement Protocols**, SoPhie (Ms. Aurore Degré)
- ✓ **Soil spectroscopy** (Mrs. Clémence Mariage)
- ✓ **registration to GLOSOLAN/BESOLAN** (Ms. Lucrezia Caon, Mr. Filippo Benedetti, FAO)
- ✓ **Questions and answers**

Global Soil Partnership

Home	Overview	Partners	Regional partnerships	ITPS	Technical networks	Areas of work	Resources
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Publications
Multimedia
Communication material
Soil Doctor posters
Photo galleries
GSP Events Archive
Highlights Archive

Launch of the Belgian Soil Laboratory Network | BESOLAN

The Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN) was established in 2017 to build and strengthen the capacity of laboratories in soil analysis and to respond to the need for harmonizing soil analytical data. Harmonization of methods, units, data and information is critical to (1) provide reliable and comparable information between countries and projects; (2) allow the generation of new harmonized soil data sets; and (3) support evidence-based decision making for sustainable soil management. In order to downscale its activities and better adapt them to the local context, the Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN) is structured in regional and national soil laboratory networks. National Soil Laboratory Networks are established by grouping together soil laboratories operating in the same country, under the leadership of the National Reference Laboratory.



11/05/2022 Following the successful establishment of national soil laboratory networks in other countries around the world, on March 21, the Belgian Soil Laboratory Network (BESOLAN) was launched through a virtual event attended by 37 stakeholders including laboratory managers and representatives of the regional Belgian governments (the Walloon region, the Brussels region and the Flemish region). The event was opened by Ms Caon Lucrezia from the FAO's Global Soil Partnership (GSP), who recalled the

importance of establishing National Soil Laboratory Networks to downscale the activities of the GLOSOLAN and to bring Belgian laboratories' needs and priorities to the attention of GLOSOLAN. This will allow GLOSOLAN and GSP/FAO to include and address these requests in their global and regional strategies and work plans. Ms. Caon closed by thanking VITO and the Axe Echanges Eau-Sol-Plantes, GxABT, Liège University for leading the establishment of BESOLAN.

The event counted on the participation of Ms. Martien Swerts, Belgian focal point to the GSP, Mr. Elh Moustapha Abdourahaman, vice-chair of GLOSOLAN, and Ms. Marija Romić, chair of EUROSOLAN, contextualizing the launch of BESOLAN at the global and regional level. Ms. Clémence Mariage, Mr. Gilles Colinet and Mr. Kristof Tirez from the organizing institutions, introduced participants to BESOLAN in terms of wet chemistry and soil spectroscopy activities. Referring to soil physical measurements, Ms. Aurore Degré from ULiège - Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech made the link between BESOLAN and the Soil Program on Hydro-Physics (SoPhie). Ultimately, participants were invited to spread the voice on BESOLAN in order to motivate laboratories to join this new Network and to unite their efforts on the harmonization of soil laboratory data and methods of analysis at the national level. Finally, the event was rounded off by the BESOLAN webpage, which has been significantly updated to mark the launch of the Network and to keep it fully up-to-date with information and references.

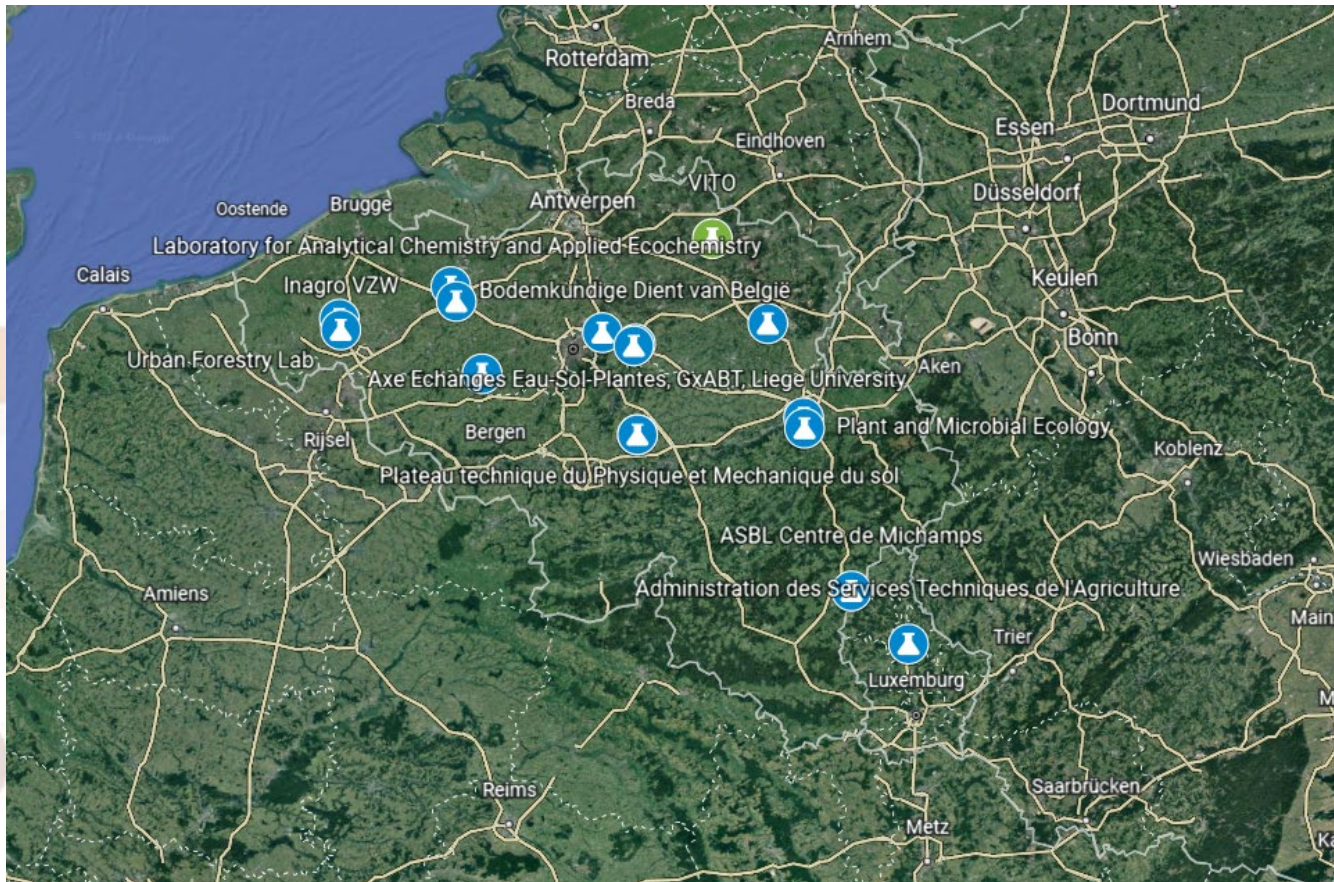
External URL

<https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/glosolan/national-soil-laboratory-networks/country/Belgium/en/>



BESOLAN

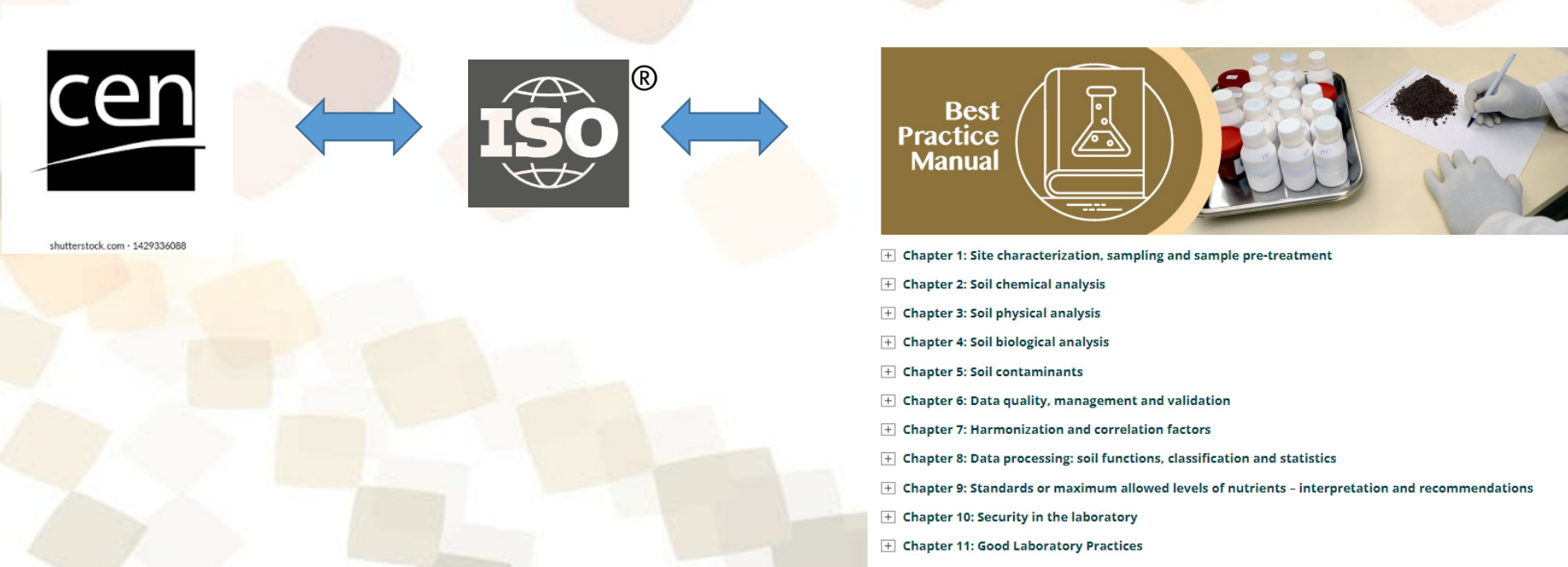
- Status: the Belgium Soil Laboratory Network (BESOLAN) is under establishment. An introduction webinar to BESOLAN was organized on 21/03/2022. [Click here to access the BESOLAN launch event highlight.](#) A regional network is already established in the Walloon region, since 1989 and in the Flemish Region since 1991.

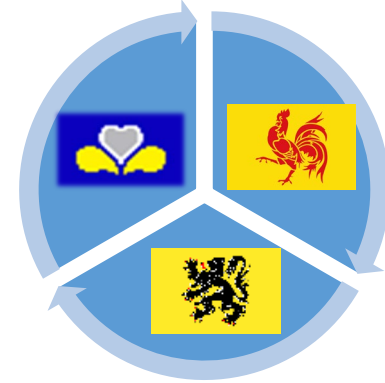


- 2 reference laboratories
- 16 Belgian laboratories
- 1 Luxemburg laboratory

How to establish a NASOLAN : a stepwise approach

Step 3 : Inventory of methods for chemical, physical and biological parameters, “matrix” of soil properties of BESOLAN members (parameters/methods versus laboratories, who does what ?)





How to establish a NASOLAN : a stepwise approach

- Step 4 : share information in network (topic related seminars)
 - Determination of soil organic carbon monitoring (current practice in different regions)
 - Soil spectroscopy (activities of regional Champions on Soil spectroscopy within GLOSOLAN)
 - Link to the International Network of Soil Information Institutions
 - Harmonization of environmental regulatory methods CWEA / CMA / BOC / BAM (link with Belgian interregional technical working group on environmental regulatory monitoring, ISSEP)
- Exchange information with technical working groups EUROSOLAN / GLOSOLAN
- Advertise GLOSOLAN activities, meetings and trainings, motivating national laboratories to take part in them

BESOLAN



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Thanks for your
attention

