

4w3: TerrAgenda: A manifest for healthy soil in 2030!

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In the Netherlands soil and land are under pressure. Societal challenges and the need for transitions increase this pressure with claims on space and soil ecosystem services, while the landscape and eco- and geosystem services already suffer severe degradation. Soils and land are essential for welfare and wellbeing. Therefore circular use of soils and land are essential.

It's already more than 6 years ago that the Sustainable Development Goals were published. For SDG 15, life on land, only small progression is made. It's time for a change. How to speed up? We still have a lot of questions to answer and solutions to find: 'despite our soil protection policy degradation continues; do we need enforcement or other measures?' 'What do we need to connect farmers, nature conservators and civilians to find solutions to pay for carbon?' 'how do we sustainably urbanize and at the same time realize circular land use and no net land take?' 'how can we diminish our footprint?' 'can or does only the land owner decide how land should be managed?' ...

Dutch stakeholders from public and private sectors, the knowledge community and NGOs, got together and drew up a Manifest accompanied by a 'living action program' with actions and agreements to give a boost to achieving SDG 15.3 and thus to achieving a lot of the societal goals.

Main core of the agenda is: 'embrace the natural system, give soils a voice, appoint an ambassador and connect networks'. This is part of area development in urban and rural regions.

We want to share ideas, practices and knowledge gaps and we want to explore if this approach can be up-scaled to an international level.

The aims of this session are:

- share information on the process towards TerrAgenda
- exchange ideas and good practices on ways to come to land degradation neutrality (LDN)
- Identify knowledge gaps and policy hiccups to achieve LDN
- Identify manners to give soils a voice in decision making and activities
- exchange practices in rural and urbanized areas

Set up

Introduction to the TerrAgenda by Co Molenaar and Margot de Cleen

Pitch by one of the soil ambassadors of the TerrAgenda

Breakout sessions