

## Tasks for Component 1

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Please complete this Component 1 worksheet by completing Tasks 1.1 to 1.4.

### Task 1.1 Using the LOESS Crowd Mapping Tool

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#### Format:

This activity should take about 40 minutes to complete.

#### Preparation:

Refer to the Mission Soil Objectives on page 2 of the summary sheet at the link below. These objectives align to the categories of soil issues that can be identified using the soil mapping tool.

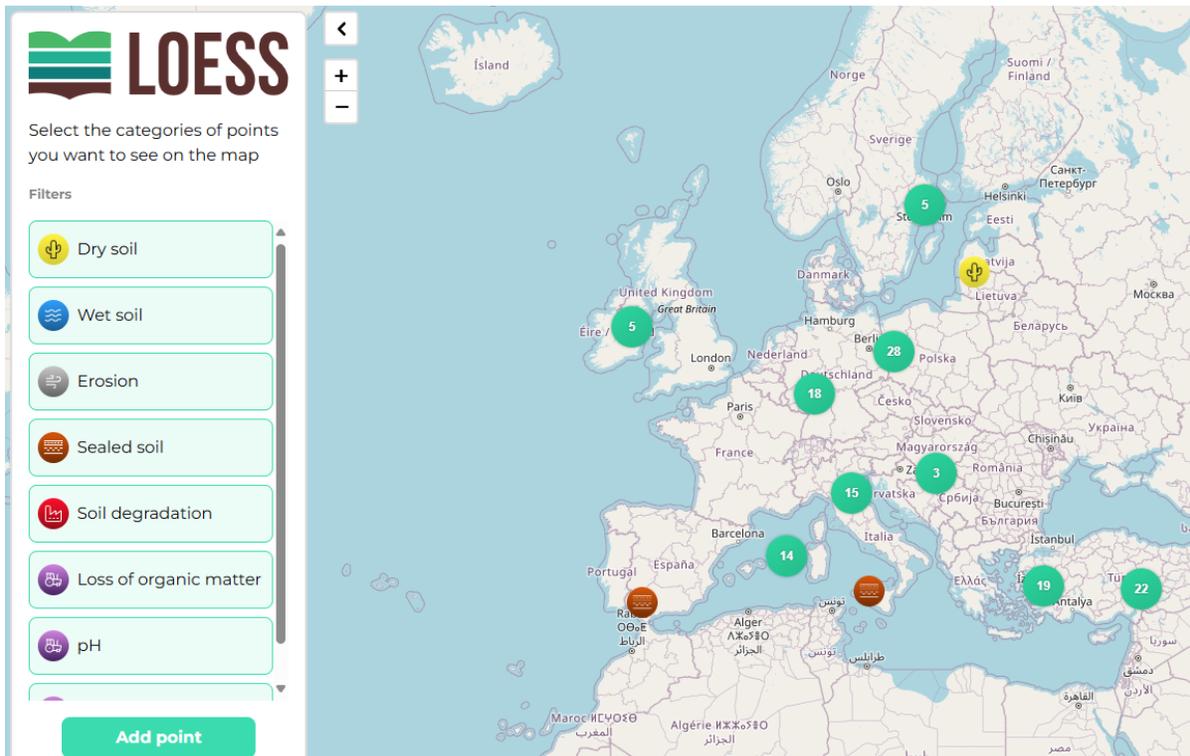
[https://mission-soil-platform.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-10/FS-Soil-Deal-for-Europe\\_EN\\_042023\\_0.pdf](https://mission-soil-platform.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-10/FS-Soil-Deal-for-Europe_EN_042023_0.pdf)

#### Task Activity:

1. Use the link below to access the LOESS Soil Map crowd-mapping tool. You will need to register by providing an email address for verification and a password. You can either download the app to your phone or access it on a desktop device.  
<https://loess-project.eu/crowdmapping-tool/>
2. Check for locations that have already been identified in your local area, your country or in a nearby country.
3. Add at least 1 location to the soil map in your region that you are aware of where unhealthy soil is known to be a problem (e.g. a region where erosion is taking place, a region where biodiversity has decreased, soil becoming arid or

waterlogged, location of a former mine or other human activity that caused soil to be contaminated). **The area identified should be public land.**

If you are not aware of local soil health issues, we suggest that you discuss this with colleagues in relevant disciplines or review local newspapers and environmental reports. Ideally, a photo should be added to the soil map.



4. Please complete the worksheet below to summarise the information that you have gathered about soil health in your area.

<p><b>Task 1.1</b></p>	
<p><b>Nearest location to you already identified on the soil health map</b></p>	
<p><b>Category of soil health problem identified there</b></p>	

<b>Location that <u>you</u> have added to the soil health map</b>	
<b>Category of soil health problem identified there</b>	

## Task 1.2 Brief Research to Identify Potential Community Partners

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### Format:

This activity should take about 60 minutes to complete.

### Preparation:

In this task, all that's involved is general scoping to identify some organisations that **might** be approached. You are not committing yourself to working with the organisations that you identify.

Read Section 4.2 on pages 17-20 of the LOESS document 'D3.1: Methodology and Guidelines for Community Engaged Research and Learning in HEIs and online module' for guidance on finding and working with a partner: <https://loess-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/D3.1-LOESS-Guidelines-for-CERL-in-HE.pdf>

### Task Activity:

1. Conduct some brief desk research to identify potential community partners for your CERL soil health project. These may include civil society organisations, local Science Shops or local initiatives.

## Session 1: LOESS CERL Module

You may or may not already be aware of some potential partners. If you need a few starting points, we suggest that you use some of the following approaches to assist you:

- Check the case studies available on the LOESS project website at the link below and filter according to your country to see national soil health projects. <https://loess-project.eu/case-studies/>

Note down any potential community partners that you identify from the case studies.

- Check the listing of Science Shops\* to see if there is one in your university or region: <https://livingknowledge.org/european-partners/>

If there is one, send them an email to enquire if they have any soil health projects currently.

*(\*Science shops support CERL activities by bridging the gap between research and society and facilitating mutual learning and cooperation processes. They provide independent research support in response to concerns experienced by civil society -see more at <https://livingknowledge.org/science-shops/> )*

- Go to the LOESS Project Deliverable 2.2 Report at the link below [Deliverable-2.2 Report-on-awareness-needs-and-vision-for-soil-education with disclaimer.pdf](#)

Check the index on page 4 to find where the section relevant to your country is. Go to the references listed at the end of the section about your country and scan them to see if any organisations are listed there that could be potential community partners that you would like to find out more about.

2. Please complete the worksheet below to summarise the information that you have gathered about potential community partners.

<b>Task 1.2</b>	
<b>Name of potential community partner</b>	
<b>Webpage with some further information</b>	

**What type of project / activity do you think this potential community partner might want to work on with you and your students? (It's ok to be quite general here at this stage)**

**If you have identified a second potential community partner, please add the information about them to the table as well.**

## Task 1.3 Review of Some CERL Resources

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### Format:

This activity should take about 40 minutes to complete.

### Task Activity:

1. Watch some of the videos linked below. We recommend watching the first one and then one or two case studies.

Make a few notes on what strikes you as the most important or useful information, as well as what you think you could apply in your context.

- Short Introduction to CERL by VUB Brussels (9 minutes)  
<https://youtu.be/jCiQbh1KWro?feature=shared>
- Community Engaged Learning case study 1; Green Campus - Maynooth University & Kildare County Council (3 minutes)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mjC1r0lxRIs> and accompanying pdf [49559\\_6 IUA Campus Engage Case Study Ref Maynooth\\_v4](#)
- Community Engaged Learning case study 2; A Playful City – University College Dublin and Sean Harrington Architects (3 minutes) –**the focus in this case is not on developing green urban spaces but this perspective could be added in future collaborations;**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f\\_Deriqxm6o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_Deriqxm6o) and accompanying pdf [49559 IUA Campus Engage Case Studies A4 UCD v9](#)

- Community Engaged Learning case study 3; Collaboration between University College Cork School of Microbiology and Green Campus (4 minutes) – **shown during first webinar**, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNILQ-9ieKU>

2. Look at the Index on page 6 of the LOESS document ‘D3.1: Methodology and Guidelines for Community Engaged Research and Learning in HEIs and online module’: <https://loess-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/D3.1-LOESS-Guidelines-for-CERL-in-HE.pdf>

Pick one or two sections from the Index that seem of most interest to you. We recommend picking a section from between Section 1 on page 8 to Section 4.3 which ends on page 23. Read the section(s) you have selected.

Make a few notes on what strikes you as the most important or useful information, as well as what you think you could apply in your context.

3. Please complete the worksheet below to summarise the information that you have gathered about implementing CERL from the resources provided.

<b>Task 1.3</b>	
<b>What strikes you as the most important or useful information that you obtained about implementing CERL from the videos and from the LOESS D3.1 Document?</b>	
<b>Was there anything in the videos and LOESS D3.1 document that you think you can apply in your own context?</b>	

## Task 1.4 Short Reflection on Where CERL for Soil Health Fits into your Curriculum

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### Format:

This activity should take about 40 minutes to complete.

### Preparation:

Read over the three tasks that you have already completed.

### Task Activity:

1. Using the three previous tasks as a basis, consider where you think CERL for Soil Health might fit into your curriculum and write a short reflection on this. Refer briefly to any sources provided that you found useful.
2. Consider your first thoughts on possible community partners or how you might identify them.
3. Use the information from the two steps above to write a **short reflection (100-150 words)**. The worksheet below includes some optional writing prompts to help you structure your reflection. Please complete the worksheet **by adding your short reflection**.

<b>Task 1.4</b>	
<b>The ways I have identified so far in which CERL for soil health fits into my curriculum are ...</b>	

<b>The questions I still have about this are ...</b>	
<b>The possible community partners I have identified are / next steps I'll take to identify possible community partners are ...</b>	
<b>The aspect(s) of Community Engaged Research and Learning for Soil Health that I now would like to find out more about is ...</b>	

