



# European Parliament

## How to really feed the world? Fighting hunger at the root

# Listen to the Soil !

*Greens/EFA*  
*Wednesday's food day*  
*Brussels – 18/10/2017*





**Soil is an increasingly scarce resource, which is non-renewable, and is the basis of the human right to healthy and sufficient food, and of many ecosystem services vital to survival, and should therefore not be treated as an ordinary item of merchandise**



**Soil = Life**











MY LIFE TIME ...



1cm = 100/200 years  
15000 years

Soils are a common environmental good  
and future generations



Forum Nazionale  
**SALVIAMO IL  
PAESAGGIO**  
DIFENDIAMO I TERRITORI





# Weeds control methods ?

Soils are a common environmental good belonging to present and future generations



# Think on me and ...



Chemicals?

Localised  
Fire ?



Glyphosate ?



Electricity ?



Hot  
water ?



Heated  
steam?

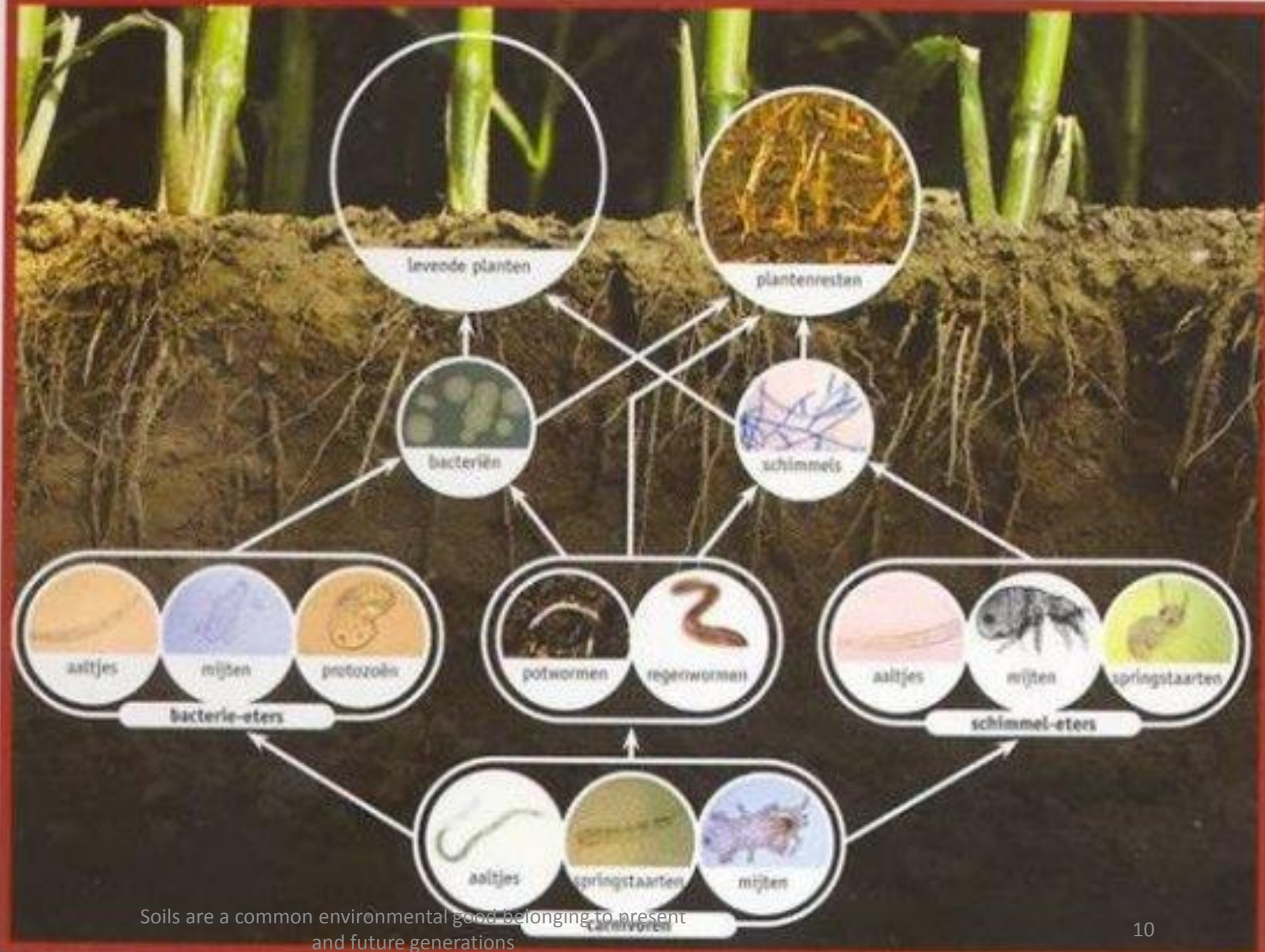


Soils are a common environmental good belonging to present and future generations





...  
all  
my  
friends



Soils are a common environmental good belonging to present and future generations



# Which farmer is my best friend?



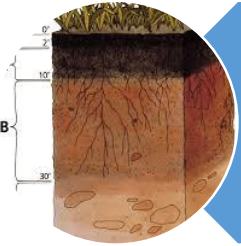
The one who produces the most?  
The one who earns the most?  
The one who has more land?  
The one who has more livestock?  
The one who has more workers  
paid with black money?



# ... my best friend farmer is ...



The one that respects the health of people



The one that nourish the soil and not only the plants



The one that respects the human dignity (no slave workers, no children work, ...)



The one that respect the environment (avoiding pollution, desertification, ...)



# *My friends farmers, they know me very well ...*

- they changed from plant cultivation to soil cultivation!



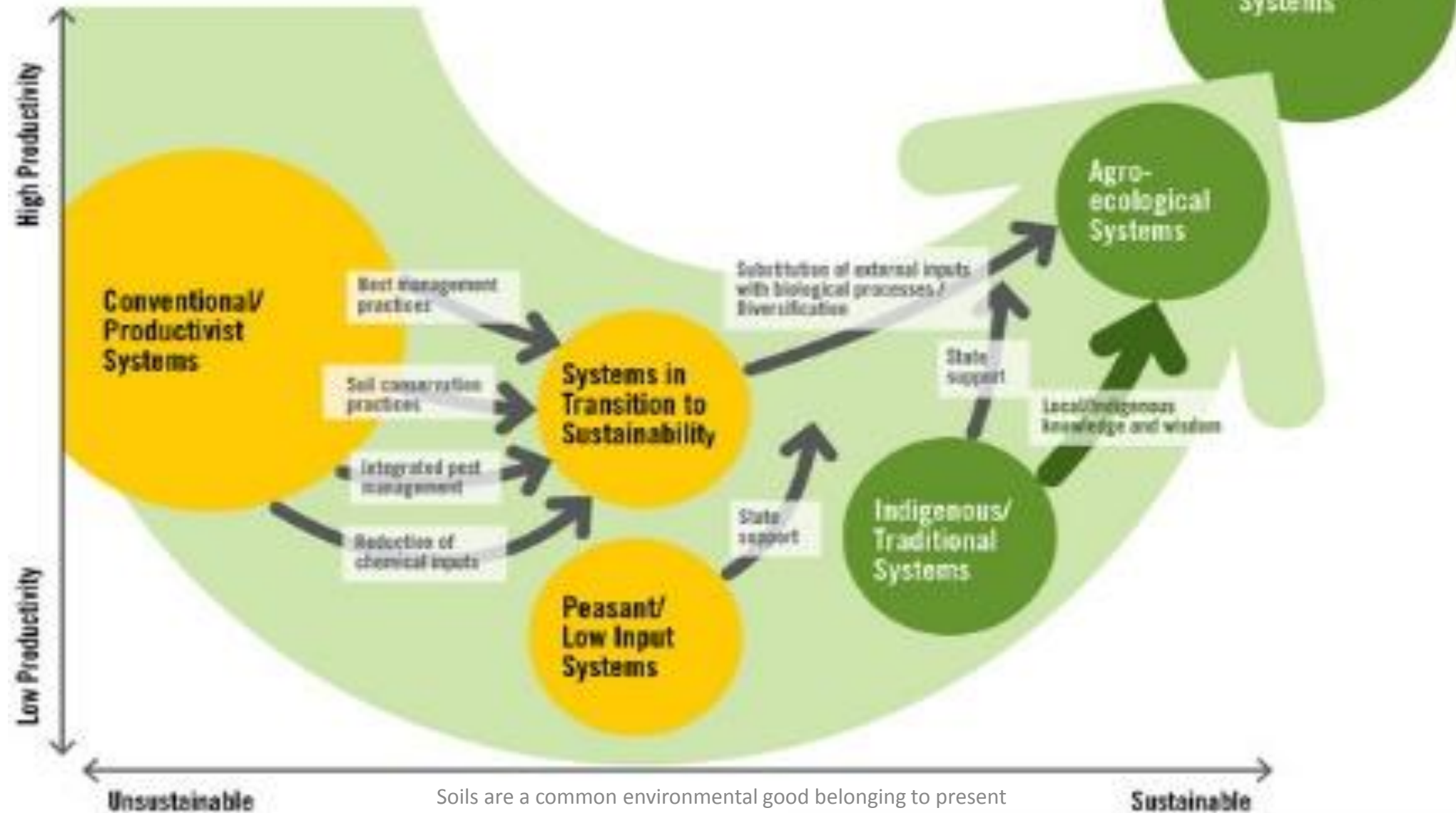
- they respected the necessary Transition Time!



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# Agroecology

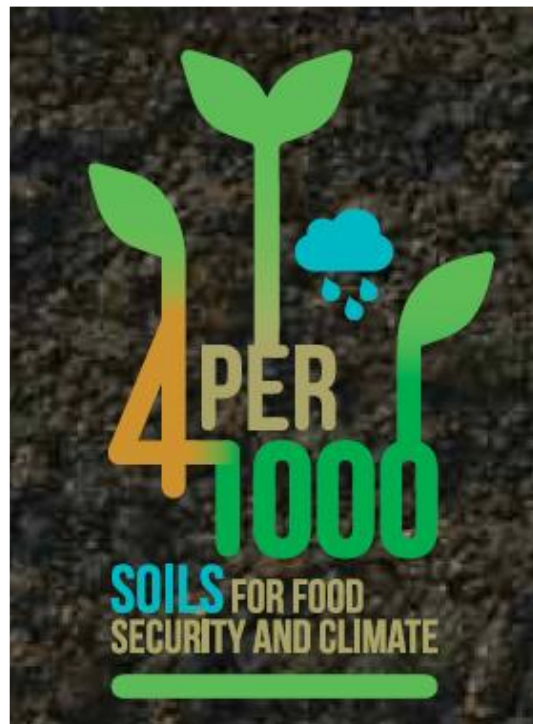


Soils are a common environmental good belonging to present and future generations

Source: Latin America and the Caribbean, Summary for Decision Makers, p. 9



4 for 1000 Initiative!



## 4 PER 1000 CARBON SEQUESTRATION IN SOILS FOR FOOD SECURITY AND THE CLIMATE

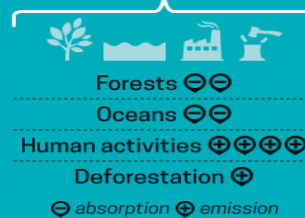
Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt

The quantity of carbon contained in the **atmosphere** increases by **4.3 billion tons** every year

**+4.3** bn tons carbon / year



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



The world's **soils** contain **1 500 billion tons** of carbon in the form of organic material

absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> by plants



storage of organic carbon in soils

**1 500** bn tons carbon

If we increase by **4‰** (0.4%) a year the quantity of carbon contained in soils, we can halt the annual increase in CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, which is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect and climate change

increased absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> by plants :



farmlands, meadows, forests...



**+4‰** carbon storage in the world's soils

= more fertile soils  
= soils better able to cope with the effects of climate change

### HOW CAN SOILS STORE MORE CARBON?

The more soil is covered, the richer it will be in organic material and therefore in carbon. Until now, the combat against global warming has largely focused on the protection and restoration of forests. In addition to forests, we must encourage more plant cover in all its forms.



Never leave soil bare and work it less, for example by using no-till methods



Introduce more intermediate crops, more row intercropping and more grass strips



Add to the hedges at field boundaries and develop agroforestry



Optimize pasture management – with longer grazing periods, for example



Restore land in poor condition e.g. the world's arid and semi-arid regions

"This international initiative can reconcile the aims of **food security** and the **combat against climate change**, and therefore engage every concerned country in COP21."

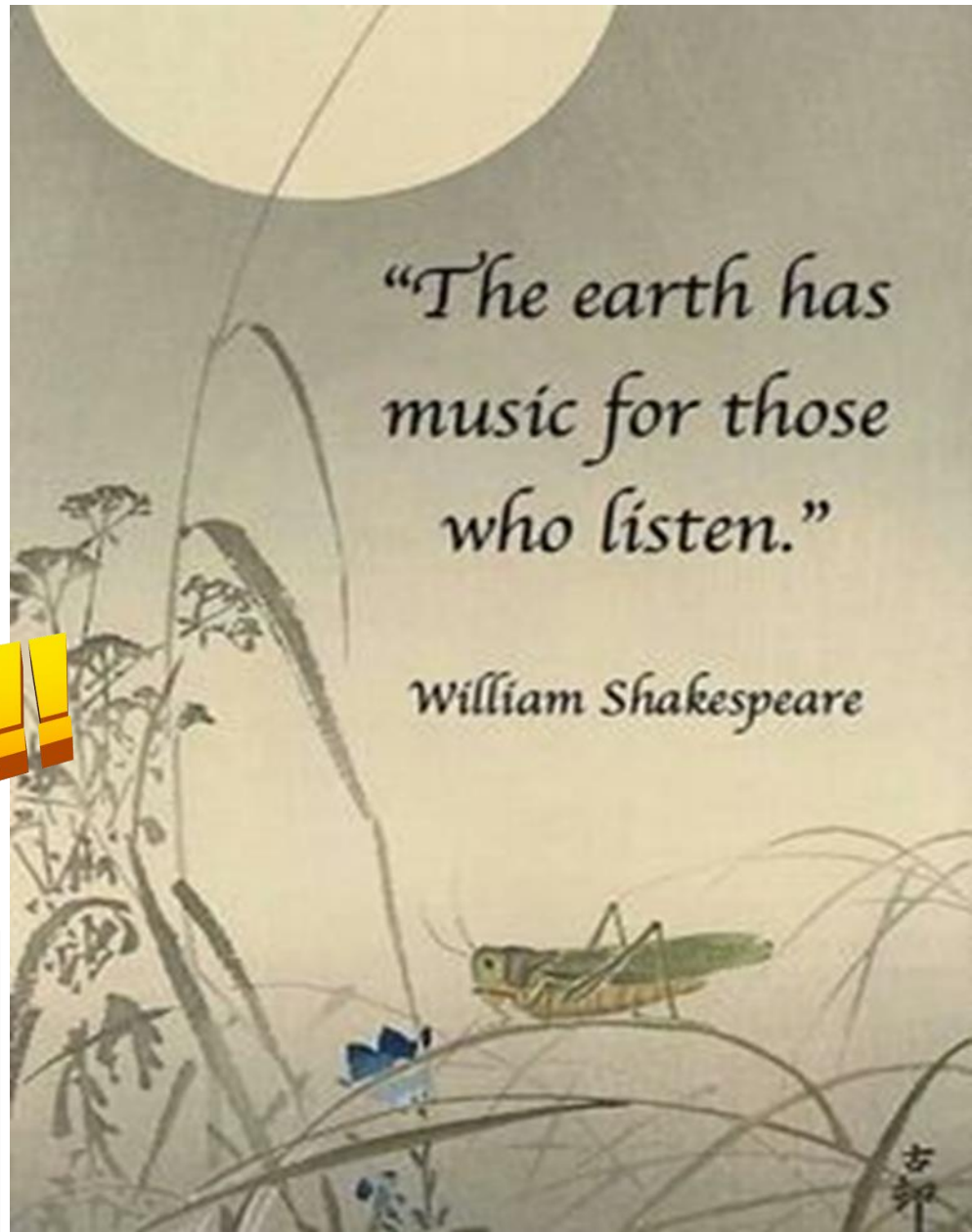
Stéphane Le Foll, French Minister of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry

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Thank you for  
listening to  
me today ...

**Be happy !!!**



... and please  
**talk** with me  
in the future!

**Sincerely Yours,  
The Soil**

Soils are a common environmental good belonging to present  
and future generations