



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Soil contamination



Increase in toxic compounds (heavy metals, pesticides, etc.) in soils affects human health and/or the provision of soil ecosystem services. The three major pathways for diffuse soil contamination are atmospheric deposition, agriculture and flood events.

Soil contamination can reduce food security by decreasing crop yields and rendering crops unsafe for consumption.



World  
Soil Day  
2016

In Europe  
340 000 sites  
are thought to be  
contaminated



GLOBAL SOIL  
PARTNERSHIP



COUNTRIES ARE IMPLEMENTING  
POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES THAT ENCOURAGE  
REPORTING AND REMEDIATION  
OF CONTAMINATED SITES/SOILS