SOLO Soils for Europe

PROJECT IMPACT IN PRACTICE

Nóvoa, T., Roca, R. & Naciph, K. (2025). Identification and description of the KPIs to monitor the Mission R&I priorities.

Deliverable D5.2 EU Horizon Europe.

2. Number and type of stakeholders involved in Mission Soil projects per type

QUANTITATIVE



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INTRODUCTION

SOLO introduces a comprehensive impact assessment framework designed to evaluate the real-world effects of Mission Soil research and innovation activities across society, the economy, policy, and practice. This adaptable tool supports Mission Soil projects in monitoring and evaluation, with future potential for ex-ante assessment and project design. Beyond defining key components, qualitative indicators, quantitative metrics, and impact narratives, SOLO also outlines the mechanisms needed to effectively implement the framework in practice.

The assessment framework allows for the evaluation of 5 types of impact of Mission Soil Research and Innovation (R&I) activities:

1. **Project impact in practice**: focus on impact among land managers, advisors, urban planners and other stakeholders;
2. **Project impact on policy and administration**: focus on policy strategies and tools, and other institutional arrangements;
3. **Project impact on value chain organisation and practices**: focus on market mechanisms, business models and requirements;
4. **Broader societal impact**: focus on literacy, awareness, school programmes and education;
5. **Impact on research and innovation:** focus on academic institutions, researchers, publications and funding.

These 5 types of impact correspond to categories under which key performance indicators, both quantitative and qualitative, are grouped.



The other component of the impact assessment framework is the **impact narrative**: a compelling, substantiated statement which reflects the contributions of R&I activities to society, the economy, policy and practice beyond numbers and quantitative targets.

An **impact narrative** must describe the societal challenge to be tackled; identify the stakeholders and beneficiaries who are positively impacted, explaining how they have experienced meaningful change; describe the situation at the start of the project vis-a-vis the goal of the assessment; describe the specific outcomes and results of the R&I activities; describe changes in behaviour, practices and policies; include real-world examples and stories; be supported by quantitative and qualitative evidence; connect the impact to broader societal goals; and provide insights into the potential future implications and opportunities resulting from the developed R&I.

Number and type of stakeholders involved in Mission Soil projects per type

DESCRIPTION AND IMPORTANCE

This indicator assesses the number and type of stakeholders that are involved in Mission Soil projects. The type expresses the societal sectors and/or areas they represent.

A stakeholder is any person or group directly or indirectly affected by a project/initiative/programme, as well as those who may have interests in a project/initiative/programme and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively (Yacoub et al., 2023). For the purposes of this indicator, only stakeholders who are actively involved in Mission Soil projects including Living labs (i. e., participated in at least one activity) are considered.

Stakeholders may belong to different sectors and areas. Their diversity is acknowledged and represented in this indicator by disaggregating data per type of stakeholder and respective area of intervention.

The quadruple helix model (Carayannis & Campbell, 2009) advocates for the inclusion of stakeholders from fours sectors: academia, industry, government and civil society in processes of innovative knowledge and practice co-construction (e.g., Living Labs). The quadruple helix model thus engages the ultimate end users of innovation, combining top-down and bottom-up approaches (Nguyen & Marques, 2022). Given Mission Soil's specificity, and to assess the involvement of land managers, six types of stakeholders are considered.

The following types of stakeholder are considered in this indicator, according to the sector they represent:

- Government / Public Administration representatives
- Land managers / Practitioners
- Researchers
- Private Sector / Industry
- Non-Governmental Organisations
- Civil Society / Citizens

Stakeholders are also characterised according to their main area / subject of intervention

- Agriculture and forestry
- Environment / Nature conservation
- Spatial planning

DEFINITION

Number and type of stakeholders involved in Mission Soil projects.

MEASUREMENT

This indicator is measured by the number of stakeholders involved in Mission Soil projects, namely by participating in project activities (e.g., meeting, event, workshop, etc.) and their distribution per type of stakeholder and area of intervention. The frequency of participation is also assessed.

This indicator is also disaggregated by frequency of participation in project activities:

- 1 – 3 activities
- 4 – 10 activities
- 11 – 20 activities
- > 21 activities (inclusive)

Data is collected from project reports. Project reports must include the number of stakeholders involved in project activities, disaggregated by:

- Type of stakeholder (sector)
- Area of intervention
- Frequency of participation in project activities

LEVEL

NUTS level 3

DATA SOURCE

Project reporting

PERIODICITY

Biannual

TYPE

Input

CLASS

Governance structures



REFERENCES

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