

ESPP input to EU public consultation on the Soil Strategy Roadmap

10th February 2021

The European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP) promotes the implementation of sustainable phosphorus management in Europe, in particular phosphorus recycling. ESPP is a non-profit organisation, funded by its members bringing together companies, knowledge institutes and public organisations, in sectors including chemicals, fertilisers, water and waste management and recycling technologies. ESPP acts through stakeholder and inter-sectoral industry dialogue, networking, information dissemination and elaboration of joint proposals to policy makers.

ESPP (European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform) **supports the objectives of the Zero Pollution Action Plan**

We particularly welcome the **inclusion of nutrients as a critical part of an integrated pollution monitoring and action framework**. We note that nutrient planetary boundaries are cited in Q.4.2 and excess nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus) in air and water in Q.4.3 of the consultation.

Regarding digital solutions, ESPP underlines the need to develop **digital monitoring of farm inputs and outputs, in particular for nutrients, as proposed in the EU CAP FAST tool for nutrients**.

ESPP suggests that the Zero Pollution Action Plan should integrate with the EU **Farm-to-Fork objective to reduce nutrient losses from soil to water by 50%**.

Actions should address pollution to soil, including contaminants in agricultural inputs, in by **reduction at source of contaminants** susceptible to reach secondary nutrient materials (e.g. PFAS/PFOS, veterinary pharmaceuticals, ...) in coordination with Circular Economy objectives (nutrient recycling).

These objectives will require improved in-field monitoring and digitalisation of agricultural inputs and outputs, which should be initiated by **making obligatory the proposed CAP FAST (Farm Sustainability Tool for Nutrients)**.