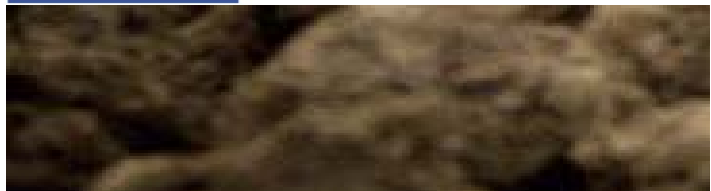




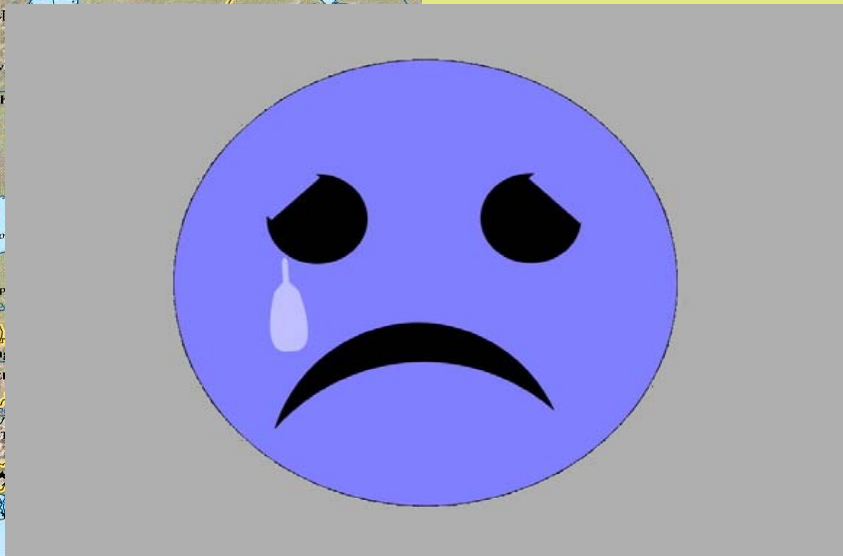
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG-JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
Institute for Environment and Sustainability
Soil and Waste Unit

Towards consistency in tools for the risk-based assessment of soil quality in Europe

F.A. Swartjes¹, M. d'Allesandro², Ch. Cornelis³,
E. Wcislo⁴, D. Müller⁵, B. Hazebrouck⁶,
C. Jones⁷, C.P. Nathanail⁸



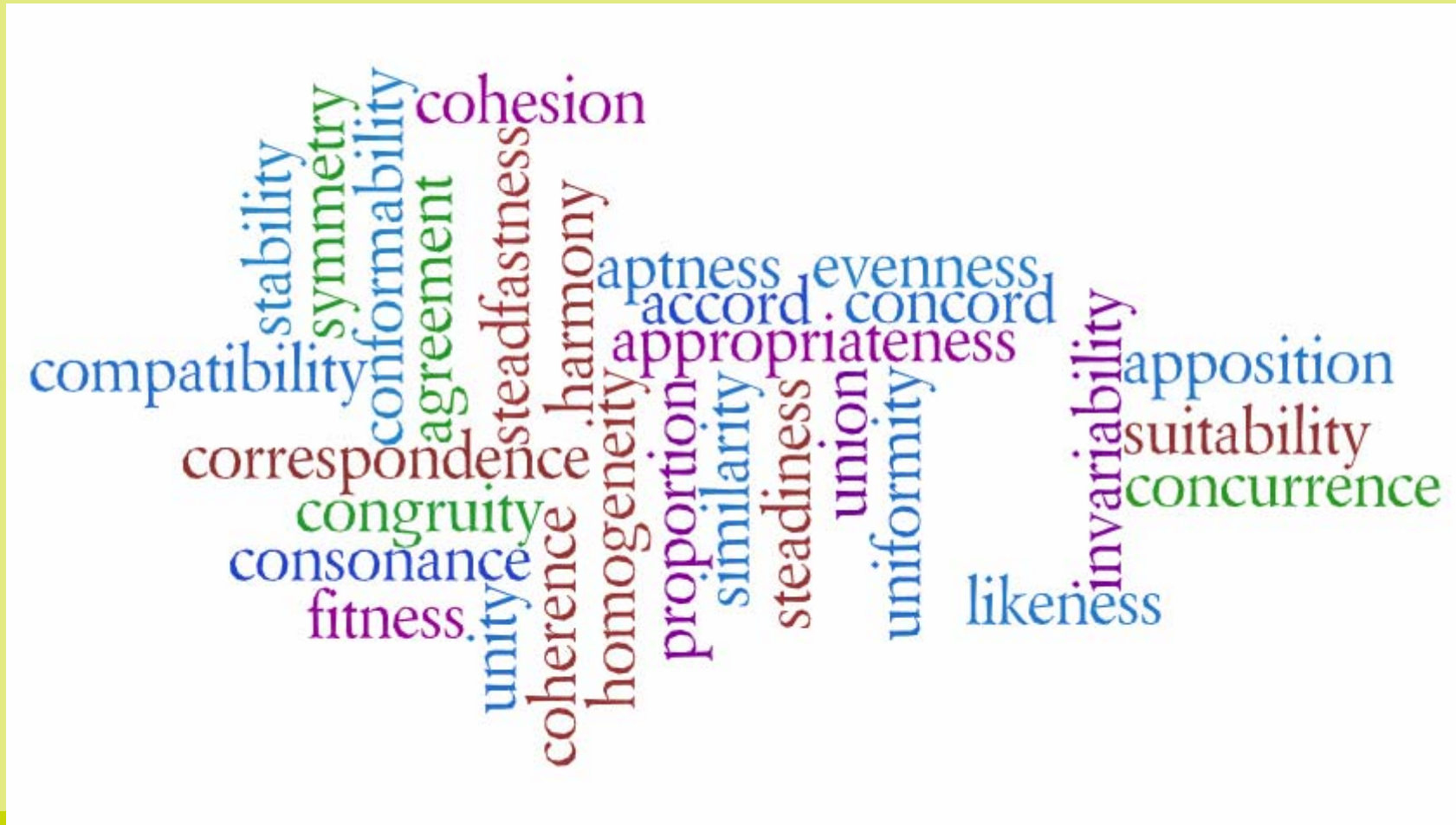
SENTIMENTS ABOUT HARMONIZATION



Harmonisation wordle

agree
chime fit tune
unison mindcohere set
suit compose reconcile
correlate attune proportion
reconciliate cooperate symphonize
synthesize coordinate
orchestrate onecombine
integrate unify adjust
adapt singblend arrange
accord relate
carol unite

Consistency wordle



SOME BARRIERS



- ❑ Many players
- ❑ Many countries have advanced procedures
- ❑ Many RA tools have been formally implemented
- ❑ Talking takes time



REASONS FOR DIFFERENCES IN RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- **Within Europe differences in:**
 - geography
 - socio-cultural aspects
 - regulatory/ political viewpoints!!
 - scientific basis!

REGULATORY/ POLITICAL DIFFERENCES

- ❑ Protection targets!
- ❑ Protection level human health/
ecological soil quality
- ❑ Availability of documentation

SCIENTIFIC DIFFERENCES

- ❑ Algorithms and input parameters human exposure models
- ❑ Critical exposure/ Reference dose for non (genotoxic) carcinogens
- ❑ Relation soil concentration – effects on ecological processes
- ❑ Quantifying bioavailability



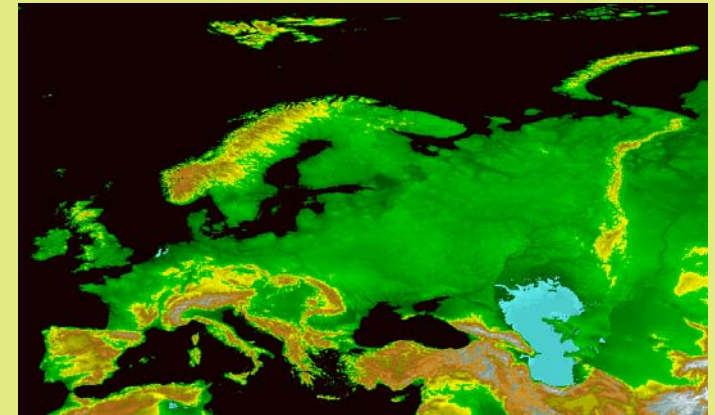
More consistency!

WHY MORE CONSISTENCY?

- ❑ Understanding (differences in) SQSs
- ❑ Consensus on technical framework
(Soil Framework Directive?!)
- ❑ (Political decision making: national responsibility!)

WHAT DOES INCREASING THE CONSISTENCY IMPLY?

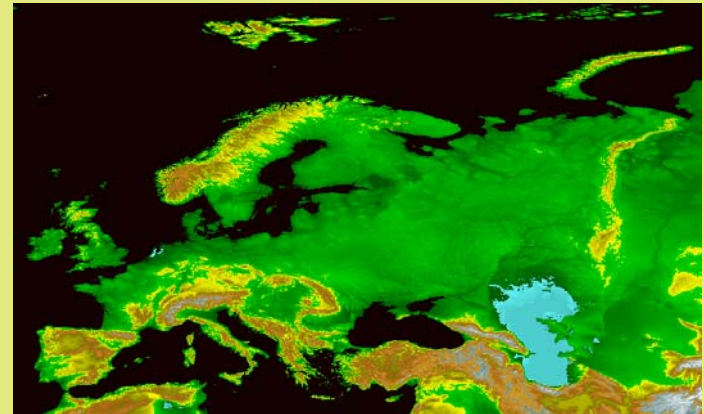
- ❑ One set of SQSs? No!!
- ❑ The same blueprint? No!
- ❑ → Toolbox, including
 - standardised tools
 - flexible tools



FLEXIBLE TOOLS

Accounting for differences in:

- ❑ Geography
- ❑ Culture/ social aspects
- ❑ Political decision making



Towards a more consistent toolbox ...

CONTINUOUS ACTIVITIES:

International networking and information sharing:

1. Technical
2. Policy and regulation: MS & EC

Collaboration:

3. Identification and evaluation of relevant events and documents.
4. Contributing to events, reviewing of relevant documents and approaching relevant people from these initiatives.

Communication:

6. Presenting the strategy and inviting for comments.
7. Publishing about HERACLES, risk assessment methodologies, the Repository and the Toolbox

SHORT TERM ACTIVITIES:

Catalogue:

8. Scoping and structuring the Catalogue.
9. Launching the Catalogue (electronic).
10. Develop format for *descriptions* of Risk assessment tools and possible additional information in the Catalogue
11. Invite organisations to describe Risk assessment tools and supplementary information in the Catalogue.

Financial basis:

12. Investigate possibilities for long term funding (from 2010).

Involvement international projects:

13. Participate in relevant international projects.
14. Contribute to relevant international projects.

LONG TERM ACTIVITIES:

Toolbox/ Risk assessment tools

15. Assess and categorise Risk assessment tools into:
 - suitable for standardisation (standardised RATs);
 - not suitable for standardisation, but need for guidance;
 - other *RATs*;
 - missing tools;
16. Develop standardised RATs
17. Develop guidance for flexible RATs.
18. Develop procedure for dealing with other/ missing RATs.
19. Development of a Toolbox (electronic).
20. Implement system for development/ updating Toolbox.

<http://www.rivm.nl/bibliotheek/rapporten/711701091.html>

Kiitti!

(thank you)

rivm

National Institute
for Public Health
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