COMMON FORUM Autumn meeting 2026

7-9 October, 2026
Lisbon, Portugal

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MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

HOSTING COUNTRY



HOSTING ORGANISATION

apa portuguese environment agency

LOCATION

Lisbon, Portugal

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AGENDA COMMON FORUM

WEDNESDAY, 7 October 2026

	VENUE: APA
09:30 – 09:45	**Welcome and meeting info** • Introduction to and presentation of the COMMON FORUM Christian Andersen, chair • Welcome by host, Ana Cristina Carrola, APA management board, PT
09:45 – 10:30	**Session 1: CLM in Portugal**
	• Legal dispositions on Soil Contamination ; Sandra Silva, APA, PT • Soil Monitoring Law implementation developments in Portugal; Carlos Guerra, Coimbra University, PT
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30	**Session 2: EU policy and Soil Monitoring Law implementation**
	• Commission initiatives; Bavo Peters, DG ENV • Prioritisation methodology of substances according to article 8 and PFAS reflections; Arwyn Jones, JRC ISPRA (online) • Considerations regarding the implementation of the SML based on a study within ISLANDR; Jussi Reinikainen, SYKE, FI • Questions/issues regarding SML implementation

12:30 – 13:00	**Session 3: Background values, STV and OTV**
	• SML developments regarding STV/OTV and diffuse contamination (metals & organics) – JRC findings; Arwyn Jones, JRC Ispra (online) • Q/A
13:00 - 14:00	Light lunch
14:00 – 15:30	**Session 3: Background values, STV and OTV**
	• Introducing the COMMON FORUM Working group on diffuse contamination; Christian Andersen, chair • The importance of the allocation factor in setting limit values; Reto Tietz, Bafu, CH • Establishing Natural Geochemical Background Values for Soils in the Porto Metropolitan Area, Paula Ávila, National Laboratory of Energy and Geology – LNEG; Laura Constante Reis, APA, PT • Scientific basis for developing STV and OTV values for Heavy Metals soil contamination in Italy; Antonella Vecchio et al.,ISS, IT • Open questions / discussions
15:30 – 16:00	Break
16:00 – 16:45	**Session 4: European Projects**
	• The MIBIREM project – Toolbox for microbiome based remediation; Thomas Reichenauer; Austrian Institute of Technology, AT • The ISLANDR project - Soil Health Assessment in ISLANDR: Supporting Sustainable Land Management; Nazaré Couto, CENSE, NOVA FCT, PT
16:45 – 17:30	**Session 5: Towards a draft guidance for site-specific risk assessment (acc. to EU SML Art. 24.1.j);** Dietmar Müller-Grabherr, EAA, AT

	• Introduction, what happened so far
	  ○ feedback, comments received (an overview)
	  ○ managing the variety of expectations
	  ○ Look out: the revised table of content
	  ○ Q/A

20:00	informal get together

THURSDAY, 8 October 2026

	VENUE: APA
09:15 – 10:45	**Session 5: Towards a draft guidance for site-specific risk assessment (acc. to EU SML Art. 24.1.j)**, continued; Dietmar Müller-Grabherr, EAA, AT

	• Human Health Risk Assessment
	  ○ Q/A
	• Ecological Risk Assessments
	  ○ Q/A
	• Groundwater Risk Assessment
	  ○ Q/A
	• General issues
	• AOB: collecting reactions
	• Outlook to the further process
	  ○ Q/A

10:45 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 13:00	**Session 6: Management of excavated soil**
	• Re-use of excavated soil: quality assurance, sampling plan and requirements; Arthur de Groof, RIVM, NL • Sampling within excavated soil management and latest developments regarding the forthcoming Finish regulation on excavated soil; Jussi Reinikainen, SYKE, FI • Soil and other naturally occurring material excavated – by-product; Sílvia Ricardo, head of waste department, APA, PT • Guidelines for excavated rock from infrastructure projects in Sweden; Mats Fröberg, SEPA, SE • Excavated Soil Management and Reuse in Catalonia – regulation and common practices; Jordi Serra León, Gencat, Catalunya, ES
13:00 – 14:00	Light lunch

14:00 - 14:40	**Lisbon Drainage Plan – Site visit presentation**
15:00 – 15:30	Transport from Portuguese Environment Agency (APA) to site visit
15:30-18:00	**Site visit :** Lisbon Drainage Plan (Plano Geral de Drenagem de Lisboa - PGDL) is a project dedicated to construction of two major underground drainage tunnels and associated infraestrutures. Its main goal is to respond to increasingly frequent, and severe flooding caused by extreme rainfall events. The visit will take place at the entrance of the Chelas-Beato tunnel, where we will observe on-site soil management practices. The total investment of the PGDL is about 250 million Euros, and it is considered one of the greatest interventions for climate adjustment in Europe.
19:30	Meeting Dinner + Fado

FRIDAY, 9 October 2026

	VENUE: APA
09:15 – 10:30	**Session 7: News from countries and initiatives (continuation)**
	• Soil remediation values for lead (based on lower toxicological reference values; Griet van Gestel, OVAM, BE/ FL • Re-evaluation of lead in soil in the 'soil-human' exposure pathway; Annegret Biegler-Engler, UBA, DE • Remediation projects in Latvia, including the Inčukalns sulfuric acid tar ponds remediation; Māris Skudra, Madara Zingere, VVD, LV • Amendment of the Flemish Soil Decree – what is the current status?; Johan Ceenaeme, OVAM, BE/FL • Historically contaminated sites - revising the Austrian mission statement and estimates on costs; Dietmar Müller-Grabherr, EAA, AT
10:30 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:30	**Session 8: PFAS**, Johan Ceenaeme, Nathalie Buijs, OVAM, BE/FL
	• Presentation and discussion of the COMMON FORUM / NICOLE PFAS paper • Access to the PFAS team's documents; • An overview of the PFAS team's activities; • A discussion on future expectations.
12:30 – 13:00	**Closure of the meeting**, Christian Andersen
	• Network discussions • Meeting Wrap-up • Network issues • Outlook spring meeting • Closure
13:00 – 14:00	Light lunch