

Research project

"ECHO - Engaging Citizens in Soil Science: The Road to Healthier Soils"

Short description of the research project:

ECHO is a Research and Innovation Action co-funded by the European Union (GA NO. 101112869) and the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) (GA no. 10068004) that aims to engage citizens in protecting and restoring soils by building their skills and enhancing their knowledge on soils.

As part of the project activities, the ECHO Soil Challenge - Soil Stories is an educational and awareness-raising contest designed to encourage teachers, educators and ECHO Soil Ambassadors to engage children and young people in exploring soil through creative, scientific, and educational projects inspired by the ECHO informative materials, such as the SoilLab for Teens.

Participation in the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories is open to applicants based in the following eligible countries: Italy, Poland, Spain, Scotland, Greece, Romania, Germany, Portugal, Finland.

Participation in the contest is entirely voluntary. Participants (e.g., teachers, educators, ECHO Soil Ambassadors) may choose to submit a project on their own initiative or on behalf of a class or group. To enable participation in the contest, applicants (i.e., teachers, educators, ECHO Soil Ambassadors) are requested to provide their personal data necessary for: (1) participants identification and registration, (2) management of the submission process, (3) evaluation of the submissions and (4) communication with applicants regarding the contest.

Only the data strictly necessary for these purposes will be collected and processed, in accordance with applicable data protection legislation.

Data protection information pursuant to Articles 13 and 14 of EU REGULATION 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation, hereinafter "GDPR")

Dear Participant,

Thank you for your interest and participation in the above-mentioned research project and ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest. Personal data collected in the framework of this contest will be processed by RE SOIL FOUNDATION, partner of the ECHO project, exclusively for purposes related to the organisation, management and implementation of the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories.

The following information is provided in accordance with GDPR 2016/679 and the relevant national legislation in force:



1. Data controller is RE SOIL FOUNDATION, located in Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24, 10129 Torino (Italy), in the person of the President and legal representative pro tempore.



2. Data protection officer (DPO) of RE SOIL FOUNDATION, can be contacted at the following e-mail address: info@resoilfoundation.org



3. Categories of data processed

3.1 For the purposes of the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest, the collection and/or processing of the following participant's personal data is necessary: name, surname, e-mail address, institution affiliation, role (e.g., teacher, educator, ECHO Soil Ambassador), country of participation. The submission form is addressed exclusively to adult applicants (e.g., teachers, educators, ECHO Soil Ambassadors). No personal data of minors (participants under 18 years of age) are collected directly through the submission form. Submissions must not include identifiable personal data of minors, including but not limited to names, images, video recordings, audio recordings, or any other information that may directly or indirectly enable the identification of a minor involved in the project.

In the case of Category 3 submissions involving exclusively participants aged 18 or over, and in the case of Category 4 (ECHO Soil Ambassadors), additional personal data such as photo, audio recordings or video

	recordings may be processed only in relation to adult participants and solely on the basis of explicit consent, provided by each adult participant involved, for the specific purposes described in Section 4.
	<p>4. Purpose of processing</p> <p>4.1 The personal data provided by the participant through the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest submission form will be processed exclusively within the framework of the above-mentioned activity at RE SOIL FOUNDATION for the following purposes: (1) identification and registration of participants, (2) management of the submission and evaluation process, (3) communication with applicants regarding the contest – including request for clarification and announcement of results, and (4) organisation of the recognitions-related activities – including certificates, publication of winning projects and final webinar involvement.</p> <p>Where applicable (Category 3 and Category 4 involving exclusively participants aged 18 or over), additional processing of identifiable content (e.g., photo, audio, podcast or video recording) may take place for the purposes listed above. Such processing will occur only on the basis of explicit and documented consent provided by each adult participant involved. The consent form will clearly distinguish between: (1) consent for participation in the selection and evaluation process, and (2) authorisation for the publication of non-anonymised content on ECHO digital platforms. RE SOIL FOUNDATION will provide a dedicated consent form template to be used for this purpose. Each adult participant must complete and sign the consent form individually. Personal data will not be used for purposes unrelated to the contest.</p>
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>5. Methods of processing</p> <p>5.1 Personal data will be processed in accordance with the principles of fairness, lawfulness and transparency, minimization and restriction of data storage, accuracy, integrity and confidentiality, in full compliance with the GDPR and the relevant national legislation and will be carried out in such a way as to ensure their security.</p> <p>5.2 Processing of personal data may be carried out by manual and/or automated means, including the use of computer. Processing will be carried out by individuals expressly authorized to process personal data in accordance with Article 29 of the GDPR and operating under the direct authority of the Data Controller, who has instructed them to do so, or by subjects qualified as Data Processors in accordance with Article 28 of the GDPR (e.g. cloud providers, ...).</p> <p>5.3 The online submission form includes a dedicated section for privacy consent. Submission of the application and upload of materials are technically enabled only after the applicant has provided the required consent by selecting the mandatory checkbox.</p> <p>5.4 In the case of Category 3 submissions involving exclusively adult participants (i.e., aged 18 or over), and Category 4 submissions, RE SOIL FOUNDATION will provide a dedicated consent form template. Each adult participant involved in the submitted project must individually complete and sign this consent form in order to authorise the processing of identifiable content (e.g., photo, audio or video recording). The consent form will clearly distinguish between: (1) consent for participation in the selection and evaluation process, and (2) authorisation for the publication of non-anonymised content on ECHO digital platforms.</p>
 ↓ 	<p>6. Data recipients</p> <p>6.1 Participant's personal data will be accessed by authorized members of RE SOIL FOUNDATION strictly for the purposes described in this notice. Access to personal data is limited to what is necessary for the organization and management of the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest.</p> <p>6.2 For the purpose of selecting the winning projects, an evaluation jury composed of experts from the ECHO consortium will be appointed. The jury will receive and assess the submitted materials in anonymised form. Personal data identifying the applicants (such as names and contact details) will not be disclosed to the jury until the end of the evaluation process (e.g., for winners' recognitions communication purposes).</p> <p>6.3 Operations of dissemination and communication of contest results (e.g., through conferences, seminars, the ECHO website or social media channels) will take place as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For Categories 1–3, where projects may involve minors (participants under 18 years of age), publication will be limited to the name of the school or organisation and the project title. No personal data of minors, or any other information that may directly or indirectly enable the identification of a minor will be disclosed. ▪ For Category 3, if the submission involves exclusively participants aged 18 or over, identifiable information relating to adult participants (e.g., photo, audio or video recording) may be published only on the basis of explicit and documented consent provided by each adult participant involved. RE SOIL FOUNDATION will provide a dedicated consent form template to be used for this purpose and it will clearly distinguish between: (1) consent for participation in the selection and evaluation

	<p>process, and (2) authorisation for the publication of non-anonymised content on ECHO digital platforms. In the absence of such consent, publication will be limited to the name of the school or organisation and the project title.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Category 4 (ECHO Soil Ambassadors), identifiable information such as name of the ECHO Soil Ambassador, organizational affiliation and project title may be published subject to explicit and documented consent. Where the submission is made by an individual ECHO Soil Ambassador, consent must be provided by that individual. Where the submission involves a group of adult participants, each adult participant must individually provide explicit and documented consent using the consent form template provided by RE SOIL FOUNDATION, which clearly distinguishes between (1) consent for participation in the selection and evaluation process, and (2) authorisation for the publication of non-anonymised content on ECHO digital platforms. <p>In all cases, publication will be limited to what is strictly necessary for communication and dissemination purposes of the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest and in a manner that does not make data subjects identifiable beyond what is necessary or desirable.</p>
	<p>7. Transfer of personal data to third countries</p> <p>Personal data will be processed by the Data Controller within the territory of the European Economic Area (EEA). If processing outside the EEA is required, it will adhere to the GDPR's restrictions and safeguards (Articles 44-49)</p>
	<p>8. Storage periods</p> <p>8.1 Data will be retained for the duration necessary to manage the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest and related administrative and reporting obligations within the ECHO project framework. Once the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest is over we will keep your data for a further period of 1 year. Participants will always have the possibility to opt-out.</p> <p>8.2 Winning projects may be published on the ECHO website, social media channels, or other communication materials in accordance with Section 6.3. Such publications will be made as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Categories 1-3, where projects may involve minors (participants under 18 years of age), publication will be limited to the name of the school or organisation and the project title. No personal data of minors or any other information that may directly or indirectly enable the identification of a minor will be disclosed. For Category 3, if the submission involves exclusively participants aged 18 or over, identifiable information relating to adult participants (e.g., photo, audio or video recording) may be published only on the basis of explicit and documented consent provided by each adult participant involved. RE SOIL FOUNDATION will provide a dedicated consent form template to be used for this purpose and it will clearly distinguish between: (1) consent for participation in the selection and evaluation process, and (2) authorisation for the publication of non-anonymised content on ECHO digital platforms. In the absence of such consent, publication will be limited to the name of the school or organisation and the project title. For Category 4 (ECHO Soil Ambassadors), identifiable information such as name of the ECHO Soil Ambassador, organizational affiliation and project title may be published subject to explicit and documented consent. Where the submission is made by an individual ECHO Soil Ambassador, consent must be provided by that individual. Where the submission involves a group of adult participants, each adult participant must individually provide explicit and documented consent using the consent form template provided by RE SOIL FOUNDATION, which clearly distinguishes between (1) consent for participation in the selection and evaluation process, and (2) authorisation for the publication of non-anonymised content on ECHO digital platforms. <p>This information will be processed solely for dissemination, communication, and outreach purposes for the duration of the ECHO project and may remain publicly accessible thereafter for documentation purposes, unless the involved school, organisation or ECHO Soil Ambassador request its removal.</p>
	<p>9. Provision and source of data</p> <p>9.1 The provision of data is voluntary but necessary for the participation in the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories contest. Any refusal to provide the data or any lack of consent to their processing will not lead to any consequences other than the impossibility of participating in the contest.</p> <p>9.2 Personal data are directly provided by the data subject – i.e., the contest participant – through the online submission form.</p>
	<p>10. Legal basis of processing</p> <p>10.1. The lawfulness of the processing of personal data is based on:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the consent expressed by the data subject (art. 6, par. 1, lett. a. of the GDPR); performing a task in the public interest (art. 6, par. 1 lett. e. of the GDPR)
	<p>11. Automated decision-making</p> <p>11.1. Participant shall not be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing of the personal data provided by you which produces legal effects concerning the participant or similarly significantly affects the participant.</p>
	<p>12. Rights of the data subject</p> <p>12.1 In quality of data subject and participant in the ECHO Soil Challenge – Soil Stories challenge, the participant has the rights set out in sections 2, 3 and 4 of Chapter III of the GDPR (e.g., the data subject can request from the Data Controller the access to their personal data or their rectification and cancellation or restriction of processing as well as the right to object to their processing).</p> <p>12.2. The data subject also has the right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> withdraw their consent at any time without affecting the lawfulness of the processing based on the consent given before its withdrawal. In this case, no further personal data will be collected, without prejudice to the use of any data already collected in order to establish, without altering them, the results of the research or of any data which, originally or after their processing, cannot be traced back to an identified or identifiable person; lodge a complaint with the relevant national supervisory authority as well as to exercise the other rights recognised by the applicable legislation (Art. 15 ff. GDPR). <p>Regarding the exercise of these rights, you may contact RE SOIL FOUNDATION and send a copy of the request to info@resoilfoundation.org</p>
	<p>13. Amendments to this Privacy Notice</p> <p>13.1 RE SOIL FOUNDATION reserves the right to amend or update this Privacy Notice where necessary. In the event of material changes affecting the way personal data are processed, the Data Controller will provide appropriate notice before such changes take effect, either by publishing an updated version on the relevant webpage or, where appropriate, by direct communication to the data subjects. Participants are encouraged to review this Privacy Notice periodically in order to remain informed about how their personal data are processed and protected.</p>