

Dear ECSSS members,

First and foremost, in these uncertain and troubled times, we would like to reiterate our sincere good wishes to you, your families and colleagues.

Due to the ongoing effects of COVID-19 and the persistent uncertainty on travel restrictions, country lock-downs and physical distancing requirements, the Eurosoil 2021 organisers have decided to transform the physical 2021 Congress into a virtual congress from 23 -27 August. This decision has been taken by the committee in order to ensure the smooth planning and delivery of this event in the most serene and fair conditions for the participants, speakers, sponsors, contributors and organisers.

One of the key benefits of a virtual event is providing on-demand content for viewers from across the globe for a longer period of time than simply the dates of the “live” event. This allows the opportunity for a much larger audience to experience and access EUROSOIL content according to everyone’s own schedule, time zone and pace.

We see it as an opportunity to widen the audience and maximize the interactions, in particular between stakeholders, thus increasing the “connecting people and soil” value of EUROSOIL. The Organising Committee is fully committed to creating a virtual event that reflects these objectives as well as the highest standards of science, education, and innovation. We will use state-of-the-art technology to ensure fruitful exchanges, presentations of original findings and inclusion of up-to-date topics in a renewed programme. We look forward to providing you this unique experience.

We would like to share the information that is already confirmed:

- Registrations that have been made for the Eurosoil 2021 congress will be transferred to the Eurosoil 2021 virtual congress
- Discounted rates will apply for the virtual events and a revised timeline for early bird registrations & late registrations will be published on the [congress website](#) very soon
- Notifications to submitters of contributions for sessions will be circulated mid-May 2021 as already scheduled
- All accepted contributions to sessions will be maintained for the Eurosoil 2021 virtual congress
- Contributors will have the opportunity to amend/update/edit their contribution in 2021 – details of the timeline for this process will be communicated once finalised
- The Session programme topics will remain the same for the vast majority of the programme – some minor changes and updates will be made and announced in as timely manner as possible
- “Late breaking” call for contributions will open in February/March 2021 – more information will be published soon on the congress website

Additional information on the portal and how we will use the new format to foster the impact of Eurosoil will be delivered in the coming months.

We thank you for your attention - please keep updated by visiting the [Eurosoil 2021 website](#) regularly, to register on our social network, and feel free to share this email with the members of your society.

Kind regards,

Prof. Pascal Boivin

President ECSSS

(European Confederation of Soil Science Societies)