

CONFERÊNCIA

Delivering valuable scientific impacts: from the design of a project to key outputs – high impact publications, policy and practice

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Resumo

Introduction: Effective policy and best practice depend on thorough research enabling the flowing of accurate information, in the right way to the right people at the right time [1]. Scientific information related to forensic soil science has been assisting the investigation of serious crime, wildlife and environmental crime. Evidence underpins the development of science, namely on the use of analytical methods on different soil types and geologies [2]. In this matter, indicative scientific outcomes generated within the scope of projects settled in the UK, Brazil and Portugal are given. **Objectives:** We aim to illustrate how these pieces of work increase the robustness and awareness in the use of forensic soil science worldwide [1]. **Material and Methods:** Scientific outcomes were generated within the scope of the projects SoilFit and SoilFUN [2]; from the work carried out with the Brazilian Federal Police and Samara Testoni, and from ongoing research being carried out at IUCS-CESPU. Examples from the areas of the Life Sciences, Environment, Water, Food, Animals will be discussed. **Results:** In the UK, Standard Operating

Procedures (SOPs) and protocols are used, staff carrying out such investigations being accredited with the National Crime Agency. In Brazil, specialists from the Civil, Scientific and Federal Police have used SOPs for soil sampling in cases of homicide and fraud, together with training for experts without backgrounds in the natural sciences [3]. A student network has been created to integrate research with case work practice in Brazil and Latin America [4]. In Portugal, research has been carried out in both trace evidence analysis and in biomarker detection to identify potential burial sites [5]. Such integration and cross nation testing of analytical methods and approaches has been brought about by a series of international research exchanges and training. **Conclusions:** Evidence for policy and practice includes the testing of procedures through robust research findings under different national contexts. Peer-reviewed publications and presentations enhance uptake of findings from research [1]. Each nation requires to test and produce their own SOPs, cooperate with the investigating authorities to align to their own criminal justice systems, making the world a safer place.

Keywords: food, environment, evidence, intelligence, soil

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