



The “4 per 1000: soils for food security and climate” Initiative



First Meeting of the Consortium

17 November 2016
Marrakesh

Opening ceremony and high-level discussion

With Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle, head of the General Directorate at the French Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry in the chair (in the absence of a President of the Initiative), the opening ceremony included statements by the following personalities:

- France, H.E. **Stéphane Le Foll**, Minister of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry
- Spain, H.E. **Isabel Garcia Tejerina**, Minister of Agriculture, Food and the Environment
- ECOWAS, **Marcel De Souza**, President
- FAO, **Maria-Helena Semedo**, Deputy Director-General
- CGIAR System Organisation, **Elwyn Grainger-Jones**, Executive Director

The ceremony continued with a high-level discussion in which the following took part:

- Côte d'Ivoire, H.E. **Mamadou Sangafowa Coulibaly**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Senegal, H.E. **Papa Abdoulaye Seck**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Infrastructure
- Finland, H.E. **Kimmo Tiilikainen**, Minister of Agriculture and the Environment
- Uruguay, H.E. **Tabaré Aguerre**, Minister of Agricultural Policy and Food
- Austria, H.E. **Andrä Rupprechter**, Federal Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, the Environment and Water
- IUCN, **Inger Andersen**, Director General
- CIHEAM, **Cosimo Lacirignola**, Secretary General
- IFOAM, **Andre Leu**, President
- Network of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organisations of West Africa (ROPPA), **Djibo Bagna**, President,
- OIV, **Monika Christmann**, President
- World Bank, Dr **Sennhauser**, Director, Agriculture Global Practice
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), **Ronan Dantec**, spokesperson

Update on governance and Consortium membership

A presentation was provided on the governance structure as set out in the Declaration of Intention for the formation of a “4 per 1000” Consortium.

As of the date of the meeting, membership status was as follows:

- More than 200 partners had signed the Paris Agreement (33 countries), thereby becoming members of the Forum.
- More than 80 signatures had been submitted for the Declaration of Intention of the Consortium, each signature representing a member of the Consortium.

Election of the President and Vice-President

Following a reminder by the Executive Secretary of the role and term of office (2 years) of the President and Vice-President, the following were elected:

- President: **Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, Executive Secretary of NEPAD (absent for health reasons),
- Vice-President: **Stéphane Le Foll**, Minister of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry of the French Republic.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President, Stéphane Le Foll, chaired the remainder of the meeting of the Consortium.

Formation of the Scientific and Technical Committee

The Executive Secretary reminded of the composition and roles of the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) and the term of office of its members (2 years, renewable). He described the open process of selection leading to the proposal for its composition submitted to the Consortium:

- Eight men and six women,
- High-level scientists (articles, books) and/or professionals working in the field,
- A majority of experts in soil science, the carbon cycle and agronomists with extensive experience in food security, adaptation and mitigation, plus wide geographical experience,
- A satisfactory balance between geographical origins: Asia (3), Europe (4), Africa (3), North and South America (3), Oceania (1).

Called to serve by name and by acclamation, the following members of the STC were appointed:

- Dr **Farshad Amiraslani** – Management of socio-eco-natural resources (Iran)
- Professor **Claire Chenu** – Soil science – soil organic matter (France)
- Dr **Magali Garcia Cardenas** – Agroclimatology (Bolivia)
- Dr **Martin Kaonga** – Carbon biogeochemistry in agroforestry (Zambia)
- Dr **Lydie-Stella Koutika** – Soil science - soil organic matter (Republic of Congo)
- Dr **Jagdish Ladha** – Soil fertility and plant nutrition (India)
- Dr **Beata Madari** – Soil science - Carbon and nitrogen cycles (Brazil)
- Dr **Cornelia Rumpel** – Forestry - terrestrial organic matter (Germany)
- Dr **Yasuhito Shirato** – Scientific specialist in agriculture and soils (Japan)
- Professor **Pete Smith** – Soils & Global Change (United Kingdom)
- Professor **Brahim Soudi** – Agronomist - Soil science (Morocco)
- Dr **Jean-François Soussana** – Plant physiologist (France)

- Dr **David Whitehead** – Crop physiologist - forestry (New Zealand)
- Dr **Lini Wollenberg** – Management of natural resources (USA)

Overview of the Forum workshops

At the invitation of the Vice-President, **Pierre Radanne**, President of 4D, a non-profit association, speaking as a key witness, provided an overview of the Forum workshops held during the morning.

He pointed to a strong resurgence of agronomy in agricultural practice on the ground. Workshop participants articulated the need to restore farmers to central importance for the food security issue. The aim must also be to arrive at a strategic vision of the climate issue in line with the entirety of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The participants recommended that a system be set up for the support and the flexible, shared evaluation of projects under the “4 per 1000” Initiative, particularly with respect to the application of research. It is important to take into consideration the diversity of agriculture across different regions.

The workshops also highlighted the importance of time as a factor, a fact familiar to the farming world. For workshop participants, the “4 per 1000” Initiative embodies a medium- to long-term process that runs counter to the timeframes of present-day urban societies.

A more detailed summary of each workshop:

Workshop 1 – Contribution to NDC definition and implementation: The desire is for a robust system providing a range of benefits, which would represent substantial value-added. Creation of a “4 per 1000” hub is strongly recommended to support the Initiative, based in research and focused on action.

Workshop 2 – Expectations regarding reference criteria for project evaluation: The desired set of reference criteria must be a comprehensive, multidimensional tool covering the environmental, social and economic goals and issues. It must be straightforward and dynamic. Its construction must involve all stakeholders and it must start out from what is already available.

Workshop 3 – The collaborative platform and the networking of actors: It is important to involve the stakeholders in the construction of the platform (design, test, review). Inclusion of farmers is of key importance and the formation of farmers’ committees would be useful. It must enable information to be collected from all involved and to disseminate information.

Workshop 4 - What funding is available for projects aligned with the goals of the Initiative?: The expectations for the funding aspect of projects fall into several categories: networking, facilitation of the setting up of projects, provision of tools for project evaluation and monitoring, knowledge and the sharing of information. It is of key importance that projects should offer social and economic benefits along with resilience and sustainability for farmers in order for them to feel a sense of ownership over the long term. In addition, alongside the variety of funding sources, it is important that those sources should be secure and effective.

2017 Roadmap

The orientations of the research programme

Michel Eddi (CEO, CIRAD) provided a presentation, speaking on behalf of the five institutes that have started to reflect on the orientations to be given to the scientific programme (CGIAR, CIRAD, INRA, IRD and Ohio State University).

The goal is a research programme that is relevant, founded on reliable data and organised around four core areas:

- Global and regional studies of the potential for the sequestration of organic carbon in soils, the relevant processes and the co-benefits for yields and adaptation,
- Extension of knowledge, design and co-development of “4 per 1000” farming and forestry practices, in addition to evaluation of their biophysical impacts,
- The socioeconomic aspects of the adoption of “4 per 1000” methods, official policies, funding mechanisms and impacts in the area of sustainable development,
- Methodologies for measurement and surveillance, reporting and verification (MRV) of carbon sequestration in soils (local and national levels).

This international scientific research and cooperation programme will be defined and led in close conjunction with the STC and the Consortium. It will contribute to and participate in international events (COP, OECD, FAO, GSP, etc.) and undertake research activities in coordination with other research programmes on related issues. Scientific and technical publications are planned, along with training and transfers of capacity.

It is proposed that this international scientific research and cooperation programme should be driven by a leading scientific team with the assistance of a scientific secretariat able to submit proposals to the STC and the Forum’s “Research & Educational bodies” college.

The broad lines of the general orientations of the international scientific research and cooperation programme were duly adopted.

2017 Work Programme and Budget

The Executive Secretariat (ES) set out the orientations and activities for 2017, emphasising the need for the Initiative to raise its profile and step up the development of exchange mechanisms for information, data, collaborative efforts, funding, projects, and so on. To achieve this, the ES proposes to work on the following:

- Organisation of meetings of the Initiative’s governance bodies,
- Development of cooperation on soil carbon sequestration,
- Construction and launch of a complex website for a range of purposes (information exchange, linking up partners, etc.),
- Development of a communication plan,
- Gathering the resources, both human (formation of the core of the Executive Secretariat by means of assignments of personnel) and financial (investment and operating expenses), for its operation.

The ES detailed the various items on its work plan for 2017, and specifically the deliverables planned over the year:

- Indicators and reference criteria for the evaluation of projects on the basis of the work done by the STC,
- The orientations of the international scientific research and cooperation programme, responding to a proposal by the STC,
- Launch of the “4 per 1000” website, including the digital resource centre and collaborative platform,
- Adoption of a communication plan,
- Development of cooperation in the area of soil carbon sequestration.

Concerning the **2017 budget**, the ES provided a detailed presentation of planned expenditure and expected or confirmed resources. In summary:

- **Annual expenditure of K€835:**
 - Organisation of meetings of the Forum (1), Consortium (2) and STC (3): K€315;
 - Communication strategy, documents and other material: K€75;
 - A website to include the digital resource centre and collaborative platform: K€225;
 - Operation of the Executive Secretariat (K€220)
- **Annual resources:**
 - Confirmed: 1 Executive Secretary post and K€100 (France);
 - Expected: 3 posts filled by staff on assignment for the Executive Secretariat and K€735.

The 2017 Work Programme and Budget was duly adopted.

The 2017 Roadmap 2017 was duly adopted.

The timetable for 2017, including the meeting calendar for the Forum, Consortium and STC

The ES set out the provisional timetable for 2017, stating that some actions will depend on the financial resources allocated to the Initiative:

- Formation of the Executive Secretariat team; launch of the calls for tender for the creation of the website; definition of a communication strategy; launch of a number of partnerships with the initiatives and partners linked to “4 per 1000” issues, and preparation of the meetings of the STC and Consortium in the first calendar quarter;
- Organisation of the second STC meeting on indicators and the orientations of the international scientific research and cooperation programme; possibly the organisation of a second Consortium meeting and a third STC meeting in the second quarter;
- Launch of the website and organisation of Forum, Consortium and STC meetings during COP23 in the second half of the year.

The 2017 timetable was duly adopted.

Conclusions of the Consortium

A number of statements enabled the ES to clarify the following:

- So long as the issue of the hosting of the Executive Secretariat has not been settled by means of a suitable administrative arrangement, ADECIA will continue to support to the operation of the ES.
- Teaching and training, notably by means of innovative, virtual communication tools (MOOC), will be an integral part of the Initiative's website.
- The ES, assisted by the President and Vice-President, will devote every effort to actively seeking out the financial and human resources required for implementation of the 2017 roadmap.
- The ES welcomes all proposals for collaboration based on existing means to ensure the effective implementation of the network to link up project promoters and funding providers.
- All Initiative documentation and communication will be multilingual, starting with English and French and adding Spanish as soon as possible.