



# ACTIVITIES REPORT

## *2016 – 2017*



## Introduction

Since the beginning of the 1990s and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, humanity is aware of what it must accomplish at the global level, in the face of threats and challenges. The challenges facing the world today in terms of climate change cannot be solved without a multiplicity of actions at all levels, from world citizens, to heads of states as powerful as they are, through international organizations with their worldwide reach.

Changing habits and drastically reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from human sources will not be enough to stem the runaway effect that climate change is starting to have on a global scale.

This is why it is necessary to work, simultaneously, to reduce the rate of presence of these gases in the atmosphere. As such, agriculture and forestry have a unique role to play in achieving this result. They cannot only continue to reduce their own gas emissions at sectoral level, but they can also work to absorb ever more carbon through photosynthesis, and store in a sustainable and stable manner in the agricultural and forest soils. The latter will thus see their organic matter content, their capacities in terms of fertility, water retention and resistance to degradation via erosion, increase significantly

This is the full meaning of the "4 per 1000" Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate, which we have the honor and pleasure to chair through the Consortium of its members and the Forum of its partners. It is no coincidence that more than 260 partners, including 130 members, have joined us since the inception of the Initiative and that these numbers continue to grow.

Barely 2 years after its birth, this Initiative has already shown a certain maturity, and international recognition that only underscores the imperative need to protect soils and lands, providing vital resources for humanity and its perennity.



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