



*«4 per 1000 Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate»*



## **GUIDELINES FOR THE SECOND CALL OF FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS**

**Opening 15 May 2020**

**Deadline for submission 15 July 2020**



## 1-INTRODUCTION

**The second call of projects for formative assessment is opened on May 15, 2020.** The most relevant information on the scope of the call, application procedure, calendar, criteria used for the evaluation of projects and contact details could be found in the link created in the webpage of the Initiative “4 per 1000” Initiative (<https://www.4p1000.org/call-projects>).

## 2- WHAT IS “4 PER 1000” INITIATIVE

The “4 per 1000” Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate, part of the Global Climate Action Plan, comprises an international research and scientific cooperation program and an action plan aimed at increasing soil organic carbon (SOC) sequestration in order to increase food security, mitigate and adapt to climate change. Its overarching goal is to assist contributing countries and non-state organizations to develop evidence-based projects, actions and programs, referred to as "projects" hereafter, to promote and encourage actions towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions through protecting and increasing SOC stocks at a rate of a 4/1000 per year as an aspirational goal.

## 3- AIM OF THE CALL

The objective of this assessment is double:

**Modality 1** goes to new projects looking for funds to be implemented. In this case the aim is to improve project actions and elevate the chances for approval by funders. There will be no commitment from the “4 per 1000” Initiative to ensure funding for the projects.

**Modality 2** goes to on-going projects looking for "recognition" within the framework of the "4 per 1000" Initiative through the STC assessment. In this case the aim is to aid projects, through expert advice, in achieving goals that are in conformity with the aims of the “4 per 1000” Initiative and that methods are in place to monitor progress during project implementation

The procedure is applicable for the implementation of an agricultural practice, for the development or implementation of a project (e.g. soils restoration in a given area) or of a policy proposal. Research projects may be assessed if they include an implementation aspect. This may include project holders (individuals or organizations) from various regions and conditions.

A set of criteria, indicators, methods and units of measurements has been developed by the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) of the “4 per 1000” Initiative, and approved by the Consortium, to provide guidance to project proposers and formative assessment of projects.

The assessment will be carried out by the STC of the “4 per 1000” Initiative, with help from external reviewers if required, using the set of indicators described in the link



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[https://www.4p1000.org/sites/default/files/content/consortium\\_3-3\\_-\\_4p1000\\_reference\\_criteria\\_and\\_indicators\\_for\\_project\\_assessment\\_from\\_stc.pdf](https://www.4p1000.org/sites/default/files/content/consortium_3-3_-_4p1000_reference_criteria_and_indicators_for_project_assessment_from_stc.pdf).

After completion of the assessment process, the project holders will receive a report including the assessment result and recommendations from the STC. A short description of the projects that are in conformity with the aims of the 4 per 1000 Initiative will be introduced in the website and will receive a final consideration of the assessment for its supporting by appropriate funding from funders compatible with the goal of the Initiative.

### 4- APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The call will be officially published on May 15, 2020 on the web page of the “4 per 1000” Initiative ([www.4p1000.org](http://www.4p1000.org)).

**The deadline for the submission of projects is July 15, 2020, 12 CET. Guidelines and call documents are available in the webpage of the Initiative (<https://www.4p1000.org>) under the link <https://www.4p1000.org/call-projects> .**

The call documents are:

- 1) the application form, with the basic information of the project, and
- 2) a template with a questionnaire to be filled very carefully with a maximum of information and details concerning the project by the project holder and an evaluation form to be filled by the evaluator.

It is mandatory to use these two templates. The presentation of the project in another format will lead to the invalidity of the application.

The two templates should be downloaded from the link in the webpage, filled properly, and **electronically submitted, by the project holder, via mail to [secretariat@4p1000.org](mailto:secretariat@4p1000.org), indicating in the subject “4p1000 PROJECT CALL”**.

Any other document that the project holder considers useful for the comprehension of the project (a general document presenting the project, its target, objectives, etc...) should be also attached. The assessment team could ask for more information if needed and, if necessary, would have teleconferences with the project holders.



## 5- SCHEDULE AND RELEVANT DATES

The 4 per 1000 Executive Secretariat is the point of contact between the project holders and the Initiative 4 per 1000 for all general matters related to the call. Questions concerning the submission of projects and other general questions should be sent to: [secretariat@4p1000.org](mailto:secretariat@4p1000.org)

ACTIVITY	DATES
PHASE I	
Opening the call	May 15, 2020
The call is open for applicants	May 15 – July 15, 2020
Closure of the call	July 15, 2020
Administrative revision	July 15 – July 30, 2020
PHASE II	
Review and assessment of the projects	August 1 - October 31, 2020
Results submitted to the project holders	January 31, 2021

## 6- SELF-ASSESSMENT

Prior to the assessment of a project by the STC, we recommend to use tools for the estimation of the carbon balance such as the tools from the Carbon Benefits Project: <https://cbp.nrel.colostate.edu/>, or the EX-Ante Carbon balance tool (EX-ACT) by FAO (<http://www.fao.org/tc/exact/outil-ex-act>). These are available free of charge after registration.

## 7- INFORMATION AND CONSULTATIONS

The “4 per 1000” Executive Secretariat is the point of contact between the proposers of the projects and the “4 Per 1000” Initiative for all general matters related to the call. Questions concerning the submission of projects and other general questions should be sent to the Executive Secretariat at: [secretariat@4p1000.org](mailto:secretariat@4p1000.org).