



## Editorial

# #7

January, 2020

Dear Members, Dear Partners,

2020 begins after a year rich in events and advances for our Initiative. First of all, on behalf of the President Dr. Ibrahim MAYAKI, the Vice-President Stéphane LE FOLL, all the members of the Scientific and Technical Committee and in particular its President Dr. Cornelia RUMPEL, as well as all the team of the Executive Secretariat, let me extend my best wishes for the new year,

**Thanks to the continued support from the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food**, to whom we are sincerely grateful, we were able to organize in excellent conditions our [3rd "4 for 1000" day](#), as well as the 8th meeting of the STC, within the ministry itself in Madrid.

The Spanish Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr Luis PLANAS, together with Mr Didier GUILLAUME, French Minister for Agriculture and Food, and Mr Wolfgang ZORNBAACH from the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, opened the **high-level segment, which brought together 14 VIPs, including 3 ministers**.

**The 4th Partners' Forum, with the topic "Moving from a pilot project to a large-scale change" as common thread**, provided an opportunity to take stock of the situation at the scientific level with insights from IPCC, CIRCASA and STC, at the level of operators in the field who contributed to the issue of the NDCs of countries Parties to the UNFCCC, to the development of policies at the country level (France), to the changes undertaken by farmers themselves on all continents, as well as at the industry level, particularly on their value chains. In a format different from previous years, the floor was given to each college of partners so that they could share in plenary, their expectations and, desire to contribute within the context of the Initiative's objectives.

During the afternoon, the **5th Consortium of Members**:

- welcomed **new Partners and Members** (435 and 208 respectively at the end of the day), who in part had been approved by the Initiative Bureau at its second meeting in October 2019;
- endorsed the **2020 roadmap** which includes a new international call for projects for evaluation; with the support of the Executive Secretariat and the STC, the development by the Bureau of a medium-term vision and action plan for the Initiative; the continuing preliminary work on the decision to create a "4 per 1000" foundation and the collaborative platform revitalization to serve partners and members;
- confirmed a **2020 annual budget** of 961 k€, of which 240 k € will be devoted to 3 potential regional meetings: North America (Montreal, March 17 and 18), South America (Brazil from June 17 to 19) and Asia (New Delhi in October),; and after having approved the 2019 expenditure, and renewed the call for voluntary contributions from partners and members. In response to the call, announcements made by the Spanish, German, French and Finnish Ministries of Agriculture, as well as IRD and CIRAD, may be noted;
- appointed **two new members of the Scientific and Technical Committee**, in the person of Professor Budiman MINASNY (Australia) and Professor Saïdou Nourou SALL (Senegal), and wished to reopen a [call for Applications](#) in order to be able to appoint two new members including one woman, with skills in social and economic sciences;
- commended the work carried out by the **Bureau** created in 2019 at its request, and entrusted it with the important task of developing the vision and the Initiative action plan, while continuing to moderate the colleges. The Executive Secretariat thus plans for the Bureau to meet several times in 2020 (1<sup>st</sup> meeting on February 3), and in particular to allow the Consortium to validate the vision and the action plan by electronic procedure before June;
- confirmed the organization of the **4<sup>th</sup> "4 per 1000" Initiative Day on November 18 on the sidelines of COP 26 which will be held in Glasgow**, November 9-19, 2020.

Finally, as I traditionally do, I call on you Members and Partners to send us all information relating to your actions, events, achievements, etc., so that we can relay them in this newsletter that is yours, as well as on the website and social networks.

Best wishes to you and your loved ones for 2020.

**Dr. Paul LUU, Exécutive Secretary**

## Save the date!

**Screenings-debates: documentary "Welcome to earthworms" - Montpellier (France)**, with Sarah Singla - farmer, François Stuck - director and Paul Luu - "4 per 1000" initiative

- **Sunday February 9, 2020 at 10:30 am - Cinéma Utopia** (5 av. de docteur Pezet, Montpellier), collaborative breakfast - 10:30 am the film. Price: € 4,00

- **Monday February 10, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. - Agropolis International** (1000 avenue Agropolis, Montpellier). Discussion with scientists from the regional community. Free entry.

This [documentary on soil conservation and regeneration agriculture](#), directed by François Stuck and produced by the association IDEtorial in partnership with Clé de Sol.

**"Northeast Healthy Soil Network Symposium: Preparing the Northeast Agricultural Sector for an Uncertain Future" - Feb 20-21, 2020 - Boston, (USA)**

This Symposium is co-organized by the "4 per 1000" Initiative, TUFTS University, the Consulate General of France in Boston and the Embassy of France in the United States.

Conference website [here](#)

Participation on **Thursday February 20 is only possible by invitation.**

Friday 21st is open to everyone by **registering [here](#).**

**Global Symposium on soil Biodiversity - Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity - 10-12 March 2020 - FAO HQ, Rome, Italy**

[This Symposium](#) is jointly organized by the UN FAO and its Global Soil Partnership (GSP), the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS), together with the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI).

**The main objective is to fill some critical knowledge gaps and promote discussion** among policy makers, food producers, scientists, practitioners and other stakeholders on solutions to live in harmony with nature.

Registration to the symposium is free of charge [here](#).

**Call to participate in a session co-organized by Desertnet International and "4 per 1000" Initiative as part of Eurosoil 2020 (Geneva, Switzerland) - August, 24, 2020**

The [Eurosoil](#) congress was held for the first time in 2000, and organized every four years since then (Reading, GB in 2000; Freiburg, DE in 2004; Vienna, AU in 2008; Bari, IT in 2012; Istanbul, TR in 2016). The congress focuses on soil science. In recent editions, the environmental implications have been gaining importance. In each call, about 1000 scientists gathered in several dozen sessions with thousand oral and poster presentations.

The aim of the 2020 edition of Eurosoil is "Connecting People and Soil" with special emphasis on the relationship between Soils and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

*"The objective of Eurosoil 2020 is to bring together leading research scientists working on soil related topics and stakeholders dealing with issues of public concern, such as soil degradation and consequences of climatic changes. The important bridging role of soil practitioners to translate scientific knowledge into practice will be emphasized during Eurosoil 2020."*

**The "Agricultural fields - Opportunities and limits of carbon and water storage" session will be organized in oral and poster presentation.** This session on soil organic carbon (SOC) sequestration in agricultural land is framed in SDG 13 to promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation.

SOC sequestration is a tool for an effective transition to sustainability and climate change adaptation and mitigation. This is challenging in regions with water scarcity, as the process and benefits may be not that evident.

The session pretends to answer the following questions:

- How long does it take to recognize the benefits of increased SOC?
- How SOC sequestration in soils improves the ability to withstand droughts?
- What are the limits of SOC sequestration in a given edaphoclimatic context?

**Answers will help to design financial aid to accompany land users in their transition to land sustainability.**

This session should be of interest to scientists, and policy and decision-makers. It is supported by two multi-stakeholder networks: [Desertnet International](#) and the ["4 per 1000" Initiative](#). They will promote the participation of their members and associates and will look for testimonies of policy-makers and land users.

Click [here](#) to find out the Submission Guidelines.

Click [here](#) to submit your contributions (deadline 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020)

Click [here](#) to find out the General Programme.



## Save the date!

**Regeneration Canada** is pleased to announce the next edition of **the Living Floors Symposium in Montreal, in March, 18-21, 2020!**

The 2020 Symposium will focus on the climate emergency and real regenerative solutions leading to collective action. The "4 per 1000" initiative organize a North American regional meeting, March 17 and 18, just prior to this symposium.

More information about the symposium [here](#)

**Enhancing investment in soil health and carbon storage: Frontiers for linking finance and carbon accounting - 30th March 2020, World Bank, Washington, DC**

CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), the Nature Conservancy, World Bank and the "4 per 1000" Executive Secretariat are pleased to invite you to a workshop entitled 'Enhancing investment in soil health and carbon storage: Frontiers for linking finance and carbon accounting'.

To read the program, click [here](#).  
**Registration required (click [here](#)), before February 11, 2020.**

**IUCN World Conservation Congress - 11-19 June, 2020 - Marseille, France**

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is where the world comes together to set priorities and drive conservation and sustainable development action. The event has three main components: The Members' Assembly, where IUCN Members vote on priority actions; the Forum, a global marketplace of conservation science and innovation; and the Exhibition, where exhibitors can showcase their work to Congress participants and the public.

For more information, click [here](#).

## Mission on Horizon Europe: Design and Impact by and for the Spanish Society

COP 25 - MADRID - December 12, 2019

The event was organized by the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, and by the Ministry for Ecological Transition, within the framework of the COP25 held at IFEMA-Madrid. The general purpose of this event was to report on the next European Framework Program for Science and Technology, Horizon Europe, and discuss its missions. The day was proposed as an exercise to discuss and contribute to the design and content of the five areas defined in the Missions, among which is the Mission on "Soil health and Food".

Neville Reeve, from the A4 unit of the European Commission introduced the event, followed by an institutional opening with debate by Pedro Duque, Minister of Science, Innovation and Universities, and Lina Gálvez, vice-president of the Industry, Research and Energy Committee of the European Parliament (ITRE).

The debate in the Soil and Food Mission group was led by Annette Schneegans, representative of the European Commission, Carmen Vela, representative of the Steering Committee and Rocío Lansac, representative of the Subgroup for Missions of the Parallel Program Committee ("Shadow") from Horizon Europe. The meeting was attended by a large group of professionals related to the subject (ca. 30) of different participating entities ("Stakeholders") and was moderated by José Manuel González of CDTI. Paloma Melgajero attended the event as "4 per 1000" Initiative representative.

The initial objective of the meeting was to identify interests regarding the Mission, such as areas of action, challenges, actions to develop, instruments in Horizon Europe, necessary innovations and mechanisms for synergies. More information on [this link](#).



## Soil and the SDGs: challenges and need for action - Brussels, 25 November 2019

[This conference](#) aimed to provide an opportunity for policy makers, public institutions, researchers, industry and civil society to exchange knowledge and practices on the implementation in the European Union (EU) of soil and land-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Throughout the day, representatives from the EU institutions and Member States, the European Environmental Agency, the scientific community and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) provided insights on the issue from different perspectives.

Jean-François Soussana (INRA, France), Vice-chair of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Initiative "4 per 1000", presented the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land as a co-author of the report. Paloma Melgajero, Scientific Officer of the "4 per 1000" Executive Secretary attended the conference.

**Second Ministerial Conference of the Initiative for the Adaptation of African Agriculture (AAA) to climate change (Ben Guerir, Morocco, November 4-5, 2019)**

A few weeks before the [COP25](#), Morocco convened the second ministerial conference AAA. The objective was to place the AAA Initiative back on the international agenda and request additional transition funds for "climate-smart" agriculture. As food insecurity on the continent is exacerbated by climate change, three countries, Somalia, Chad and Tunisia, announced on Tuesday (November 5th) that they will join the AAA Foundation – a coalition of 35 African countries (out of 54) to bring the interests of Africa and its agriculture to the climate negotiations.

Launched on the occasion of COP22, the [Triple A initiative: "Adaptation of African Agriculture"](#), aims to reduce the vulnerability of Africa and its agriculture to climate change while ensuring food security for all Africans. The initiative promotes and fosters the implementation of concrete projects to improve soil management, control of agricultural water, climate risk management and financing capacities and solutions. Since its inception, AAA considered the 4 per 1000 Initiative in Africa to be the "soil" component of their own Initiative. Contacts were made for the development of a memorandum between the two initiatives with regard to their common objectives: soil health and carbon sequestration on the African continent.

On January 16, 2019, Morocco created the Adaptation of African Agriculture to climate change Foundation, called "AAA Initiative Foundation". This foundation, launched on the initiative of HM King Mohammed VI and chaired by the Moroccan Minister Mr. Aziz Akhannouch, allows to raise funds from international donors and counts among its members ministers, eminent representatives of the scientific community, and international donors including the World Bank and the African Development Bank. Its mission, among others things, to defend the cause of African agriculture, to constitute in this sense a force of proposal near the African public authorities, to provide assistance services, advice, expertise, evaluation, audit and inspection in relation to the adaptation of African agriculture to climate change and all related strategic issues.

This high-level event with significant resources was organized in partnership with the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) and the OCP group. It brought together 28 foreign delegations, including 21 African ministers, representatives of African governments, international financial institutions such as the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the African Bank of development (AfDB), the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (Agra), AFD (French Development Agency), GIZ (Germany), ENABEL (Belgium), (...), Ms. Josefa Sacko, AUC (African Union Commission) Commissioner in charge of rural economy and agriculture, the OCP (Cherifian Office for Phosphates) as well as many internationally renowned scientists.

**On Monday 4 November, a scientific day was organized** during which around fifty leading international experts and scientists discussed the food security problems posed by climate change in Africa. **Many stakeholders, including Cirad and the "4 per 1000" Initiative, spoke in favor of a multifaceted agro-ecological transformation of African agriculture.**

A round table of donors also took place and was an opportunity for the various financial institutions to examine the mobilization of financial funds.

The African countries present at the round table were: Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo Brazaville, Somalia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Gabon, Angola, Lesotho, and Swaziland. Delegations from Niger and Kenya were present as observers.

**The Minister of Agriculture, Marine Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests, Aziz Akhannouch, called for the mobilization of the resources necessary to bring agricultural adaptation projects to the forefront.** *"The challenges facing Africa in the face of climate change are enormous, thus necessitating rapidly and tangibly strengthening the financing of adaptation to climate change in Africa,"* said Mr. Akhannouch, speaking at the opening of the Conference held under the theme "Food security in the face of climate change".

Africa is one of the regions of the world hardest hit by climate change: *"The harmful effects of climate change - droughts, scarcity of water resources, desertification, floods, storms - pose serious threats to the food security already fragile in Africa, and impact in particular small farming, subsistence farming and the most vulnerable populations"*, he deplored. The minister said that **the cost of adapting to climate change for Africa alone is \$ 7-15 billion a year by 2020 and could reach \$ 35 billion by 2050 and \$ 200 billion by 2070, even assuming stabilized warming below 2° C**, calling, in this sense, all the countries adhering to the Triple A to mobilize and commit to the concretization of the activities and works carried out by the foundation and inviting each country to formulate its own needs and solutions in the face of climate change. It also encouraged the scientific community to continue its research and innovation efforts to support the adaptation of agriculture to the challenges of climate change, by ensuring the development of concrete tools and innovative processes accessible to all farmers, as well as the financial community to mobilize the resources necessary to carry out agricultural adaptation projects.

In the Sahel, shaken by inter-community conflicts, the financing of agriculture can play a role of "weapon of peace", estimated the participants. Provided that flexible means are found to finance irrigation projects, the purchase of quality seeds or inputs, or even access to credit for smallholders.

The ministers present asked the countries of the North to respect their commitments of the Paris Agreement and pleaded for more funding from international donors while recalling that they needed technical assistance to set up fundable projects. They deplored the low disbursement of available funds.

A joint declaration by the ministers present was adopted at the end of the session. To read the joint declaration, click [here](#).

## Save the date!

The "4 per 1000" Initiative, Brazilian Federation of Zero Tillage and Irrigation (FEBRAPDP) and Embrapa will organize the 9th Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) and the Latin America Regional Meeting in Brazil from June 17 to 19, 2020 (details to come).

### 8th World Congress on Conservation Agriculture "Profitable and Sustainable Farming with Conservation

**Agriculture" (8WCCA) - June 29th- July 2nd, 2020, Bern (Switzerland)**

Conservation agriculture (CA) is acknowledged to be a sustainable system of agricultural intensification that improves soil health and is therefore a key element in ensuring the production of food and other agricultural products, while providing additional ecosystem services, even in threatening scenarios linked to the consequences of climate change and the increase in the world population. During the three days of the Congress, many topics will be discussed in depth in plenary sessions, round tables, parallel sessions and poster sessions, with the aim of promoting wider adoption of CA worldwide. Congress website [here](#).

The "4 per 1000" Initiative is organizing, in collaboration with CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center), ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) and TAAS (Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences), an Asia regional meeting in New Delhi (India) in October 2020 (details to come).

Pour une Agriculture du Vivant regularly organizes training in France. More information [here](#).

More events [ici](#)



## Governments and local authorities They act!

The French Agency for the Environment and Energy Management (ADEME) produced an infographic in December ["Why worry about our soils?"](#) (in French).

[Several grants were announced in December by USDA in support of conservation farming programs in the United States](#). Many of these investments will help build the field of regenerative agriculture and help address the climate threat. Congratulations to all the american winning organizations and universities!



## International Organisations They act!

### The CIHEAM provides grants for field research

Until February 29, 2020, the [CIHEAM](#) is opening a call for contribution for its **"Field Research Initiative" (FRI) project**.

The FRI supports PhD students and young researchers to apply, broaden and disseminate the results of their research, contributing to:

- eradicate hunger and malnutrition,
- enhance the sustainability and resilience of agriculture,
- improve water use and livelihoods,
- reduce rural poverty
- support the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

while reducing the negative effects of migratory pressures in the region.

The CIHEAM invites PhD students and young researchers to conduct **short-term field research** related to food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture and rural development, climate change mitigation and plant health in order to enhance practical skills.

This Field Research Initiative (FRI) will give successful applicants the opportunity **to engage with community-based local and rural organisations** like producer organisations, cooperatives or small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as with specialised laboratories and centres of excellence.

The purpose of the FRI is to **strengthen interactions** between young scientists, rural communities and local organisations, promote knowledge exchanges, empower youth with practical skills, share good practices and innovative tools for sustainable agriculture and rural poverty reduction, and foster networks and employment opportunities for young researchers and PhD students across the Mediterranean region, also through **South-South Cooperation**.

A special focus will be made for the [International Year of Plant Health \(IYPH\)](#). 3 out of the 10 grants will be awarded to proposals providing innovative/sustainable solutions to pests/diseases of primary importance for the Mediterranean and African regions.

The first ten proposals will be broadcasted (poster/videos) during the final event of the IYPH celebrations in the key event of Helsinki 2020 for global visibility.

[Download the call for application here](#).

"Our main action is to gain acknowledgement of the value of Soil Conservation Agriculture to meet climate challenges, by federating French farmers' associations. » **François Mandin**

## « 4 questions to... »

### François Mandin



#### 1/ François Mandin, could you introduce yourself in a few words?

François Mandin, 55, married, three children. Farmer in Vendée (France) for 33 years on a family farm of mixed farming and tourism (camping and rural gite), in association with three partners. In soil conservation agriculture for over 20 years, involved in the [APAD](#) network (Association for the Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture) for 10 years and President of the national association for 1 year.

#### 2 / What are the main actions taken by your organization in connection with the "4 per 1000"?

**We are currently one of the farmers' associations representing the "Farmers" college in the "4 per 1000" Bureau**, seat that we share with [AAPRESID](#) (Argentine Association of Direct Sowing Producers) on behalf of GCan (Global Conservation Agriculture Network), our international network of farmers' associations in Soil Conservation Agriculture (SCA).

Our main action is to gain acknowledgement of the value of SCA to meet climate challenges, by federating French farmers' associations. We want to gain acknowledgement of the central role that we farmers play in transforming production models in the field. We are also spokespersons to public authorities to ensure that the real value of SCA is taken into account in public policy.

**We support farmers in their training in SCA and deploy an organic matter analysis program in the fields to characterize and quantify the carbon storage potential on farms (DYCASOL Project).**

**We would like to associate the "4 per 1000" Initiative with this project, with our global network GCan, and "4 per 1000" farmers' associations who wish to do so.**

We also support the creation of a national label worn by French farmers to gain acknowledgement of their concrete commitment to the climate on their farms. We will launch this project at the next Paris Agricultural Show and the "4 per 1000" Initiative will be associated with this important moment.

#### 3/ What does the "4 per 1000" Initiative represent for you?

We were present in the Minister of Agriculture's round table at the COP21 in Paris. This initiative so that the question of soils and their link to carbon can take its full place, was essential for us.

This initiative must allow, by political, scientific and professional recognition, to identify the impact of production methods on the sustainability of practices.

The "4 per 1000" must accompany by political and financial support the associations of farmers who engage. Because this new production model which will link production and environmental protection is not part of top-down models, but in the hands of farmers themselves starting from their reality.

If the 4 per 1000 Initiative were to simply support scientists and provide a forum for policy makers, it would fail in its goal of promoting carbon storage in soils.

The climate emergency forces us to put the means as close to the ground and therefore to those who do. This is what this initiative represents for me.

#### 4/ What message do you want to convey to the "4 per 1000" Members and Partners?

An encouragement to recognize actions in the field to encourage financial and economic actors to support actors in the field by promoting their decision-making autonomy, their collective organization and the use of simple and shareable result indicators everywhere.



## Farmers and foresters organisations

### They act!

[The Association for the Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture \(APAD\)](#), created in 1998, brings together farmers, technicians and regional associations, distributed throughout France. APAD is driven by the dynamics of the group. APAD members exchange and experiment within 13 regional collectives and a national association, to develop Soil Conservation Agriculture (SCA), the agricultural model of tomorrow.

APAD brings together 1,000 farmers and technicians, who identify, develop, master, reproduce and promote agronomic techniques leading to soil protection.

The APAD network carries out various actions: animation of farmers' groups, projects, training, awareness-raising and communication... and proposes in particular a ["farmer's toolbox in SCA"](#) (in French).

### **The Farm Carbon Toolkit has launched the 2020 edition of its British Farmer of the Year competition.**

The [Farm Carbon Toolkit](#) was created in 2009 to enable farmers to connect with other farmers to reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The aim of FCT is to encourage and support farmers and growers to reduce their farm greenhouse gas emissions, increase their farm energy resilience and in doing so also improve their farm business in the future.

In Great Britain, the national Soil farmer of the Year competition aims to find the best farmers and growers who are engaged with and passionate about managing their soils in a way that supports productive agriculture, biodiversity, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and builds soil organic matter and carbon.

### **Soil Farmer of the Year 2020 : The competition is now open!**

More information about the competition this year is [available here](#).

Farmer applications are made through an [online questionnaire](#) and if you want to nominate a farmer to be recognised please email Becky [here](#) for an application form.

**The application window closes on the 5th March 2020.**



## Research and training bodies They act!

**The first call for proposals for a formative evaluation by the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) of the "4 per 1000" Initiative** was launched on 15 July 2019 and closed on 30 September 2019. Thirteen projects were submitted to the call (the names of the thirteen projects are listed on page 5 of the [previous newsletter No. 6, November 2019](#)). The projects have been evaluated by the members of the STC and the summary report of the evaluation as well as the recommendations for improvement of the projects will be sent to the project holders at the end of January. The process was discussed by the CST at the last meeting held in Madrid last December during COP25, and was presented to the Consortium at the ["4 per 1000" Initiative Day](#). Several comments were suggested to improve the second call for proposals."

### **CIRAD - Overview of carbon certification labels in agricultural and forest soils – seeking information**

As part of its involvement in the "4 for 1000" Initiative, CIRAD (Centre for International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development) is working on an inventory of the labels offering certification of soil carbon sequestration. If you are interested in the topic and have more information, please contact [julien.dememois@cirad.fr](mailto:julien.dememois@cirad.fr) and [alexia.dayet@4p1000.org](mailto:alexia.dayet@4p1000.org).

**The Carbocert project is an operational group for the quantification and certification of organic carbon sequestered in agricultural soils and in the plant structures of the main agricultural crops in the Mediterranean environment.** Funded by the European Union and the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Carbocert project is notably supported by [IRTA](#). To view the presentation of the Carbocert project in Spain, click [here](#) (in Spanish).

### **Agropolis International has just published its 25th thematic dossier devoted to integrated approaches to human, animal, plant and environmental health.**

The collection of Agropolis International files is a tool for presenting and promoting the skills of the Occitania regional scientific community on major scientific, technological and societal issues, in the thematic areas of the association and its members. Each file is devoted to a specific theme. The research laboratories and training concerned are presented, and the research work illustrated by concrete examples. To read the file, click [here](#).

**The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is the world's largest knowledge-led platform on integrated land use, dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement.** The Forum takes a holistic approach to create sustainable landscapes that are productive, prosperous, equitable and resilient and considers: five cohesive themes of food and livelihood initiatives, landscape restoration, rights, finance and measuring progress. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research ([CIFOR](#)), one of [CGIAR SO](#) research centers; in collaboration with its co-founders [UNEP](#) and the World Bank and Charter Members.

### **"Mathieu sur une sol vivant" - A film directed by Bastien Defives, with collaborative funding from CEA, Cirad, CNRS, INRA and IRD**

[This film delivers the testimony of a farmer, Mathieu Yon](#), who challenges his entourage, research and decision-makers about the climate change he is facing, the soil he is working to make more fertile and the practices he is trying to implement in "good intelligence with the environment".

By gathering his point of view, the film is part of the continuation of the [Sète workshop](#) and the dynamics of strengthening collaborations between researchers in the human and social sciences and researchers in the natural sciences. This testimony was filmed in autumn 2019, in Viviers estate in Clapiers (Hérault, France) in the test area of the Terracoopa cooperative.



**In scientific area, the meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) of the "4 per 1000" Initiative was organized at the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries in Madrid, in December 9-10, 2019.**

- **Session 1** was about "Writing of papers and book". An special issue will be published in 2020 in the international journal "Regional Environmental Change" (SpringerNature, impact factor 3.1) with the title "Sustainable management practices to increase soil carbon sequestration: what are their contribution to climate change mitigation, adaptation and food security in different ecosystems and regions of the world". The special issue will be divided in five sections from different regions of the world (America, Asia, Europe, Africa and Oceania).

**Session 2** was about the formative assessment of projects. The first call for formative project assessment was launched the 15 July 2019 and closed the 30 September 2019. Thirteen projects were presented and sent to the STC members to be assessed.

- **Session 3 was on the involvement of the Initiative in high level global actions.**

The work on "Enhancing Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) ambition for soil organic carbon protection and sequestration" has been already done by Liesl D. WIESE, Viridiana ALCÁNTARA-SHIVAPATHAM and Lini WOLLENBERG. [The preliminary main results are shown in the link.](#)

[The full analysis was presented at the Day of the Initiative](#) (12/11/2019).

Within the process of the Koronivia joint work on agriculture, a group of research and higher education institutions and programs ABDN, CAES, CATIE, CEA, CEIGRAM, CIMMYT, CIRAD, GASL, GRA, IBC&SB, IIASA, IICA, INIA, INRA, IRD, IITA, ISRIC, LRI, MSU, SFRI, "4 per 1000" STC, ULS, UAAS have submitted its science based views for the workshop taking place at SBSTA/SBI 5& in November 2019 on topic 2(d) Improved nutrient use and manure management towards sustainable and resilient agricultural systems (DOC 6- *KJWA submission to topic 2d*).

Jean-François SOUSSANA informed on the actions and results of the CIRCASA project, particularly on the International Research Consortium, public: private partnership to be formed next year at the end of the project, a consortium politically very sensitive and potentially very big with involvement of as many countries as possible.

[Cristina ARIAS-NAVARRO, INRA Scientific Officer gave a presentation at the Day of the Initiative.](#)

Claire CHENU, coordinator of the project, informed about the EJP Soil Initiative which will have the kick-off meeting next February 2020. It is a 5 five years initiative involving European partners (national research institutes and funders) focused in mapping issues, training and research through launching of calls.

The outreach of the Initiative and the roadmap and the actions to be done from this meeting to the next were discussed in last session.



## Civil Society, associations, NGO - They act!

On January 22, Kiss the Ground launched online leadership training programs "Become a Kiss the Ground Soil Advocate".

The training lasts 7 weeks and is accessible from anywhere in the world via "Zoom Wednesdays" from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm PST. All classes are registered.

Kiss the Ground's online training will teach you how to be an informed and inspiring advocate of the powerful solution that is regenerative agriculture. [For more information and to register, click here.](#)

### Carbon Action - Baltic Sea Action Group (BSAG)

[Carbon Action](#) is a Finnish platform that develops and researches ways of accelerating soil carbon sequestration and how to verify the results scientifically. It also introduces climate-friendly, regenerative farming practices to Finnish farms.

Carbon Action is a project introduced in 2017 by [Baltic Sea Action Group](#) (BSAG) with initial funding from Sitra. Carbon Action brings together scientists, farmers and businesses to work together for sustainable agriculture.

Laura Höijer, content director of the Baltic Sea Action Group, summarizes in [her blog](#), the 3rd Day of the "4 per 1000" Initiative which was held last December 11, in Madrid during COP25.

### Can Farmers Be Climate Champions?

If you eat food, listen up! David McMillan, chef at "Joe Beef - Liverpool House", wants to talk to you about regenerative agriculture. It's one of the least known yet most promising solutions to climate change. [This video](#) has directed by Jean-Marc Abela and produced by Equiterre et Regeneration Canada.

### GIERI (Intervention Group for Farming and Integral Rehabilitation) launched the Shabunda project to protect the Shabunda rainforest in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The equivalent of 80,000 rainforest football fields disappears every day. 50,000 km<sup>2</sup> of tropical forest is destroyed each year, which corresponds to an area larger than Denmark!

The goal of the project is to develop methods to sequester carbon and reduce total GHG emissions in the region. The project aims to engage the local population in a long term effort to manage the forest and its resources for growth and sustainability while generating tangible benefits and income.

[GIERI](#) is a nonprofit organization registered in the Democratic Republic of Congo since 1997.

[To learn more and help protect the Shabunda Forest click here.](#)



## Private companies They act!

Capitalizing on a 10-year track-record with corporate investors, **Livelihoods is launching a 3<sup>rd</sup> Carbon Fund to help corporates, financial investors and cities accelerate climate action and deliver social impact at scale.**

The Third Livelihoods Carbon Fund (LCF3) has a deployment target of €100 million with the aim to improve the lives of 2 million beneficiaries in developing countries, while delivering up to 23 million carbon offsets over the entire duration of the fund. In the continuity of the Livelihoods Carbon Fund #1 (LCF1,2011) and the Livelihoods Carbon Fund #2 (LCF2,2017), **this new fund will invest in community-based solutions for the restoration of natural ecosystems, agroforestry and regenerative agriculture.** For more information, click [here](#).

**“The Ecology of Fungi” by Marc-André SÉLOSSE, French biologist specialized in botany and mycology.**

[This video](#), produced by [Ver de Terre production](#), presents a field trip on the ecology of mushrooms (lifestyle and ecological roles). This field trip was followed by the students preparing the Agrégation des Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre, with the kind permission of the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon.

Created in 2017, Ver de terre production is an organization for training and dissemination of knowledge of agro-ecology techniques and living soils.



## The "4 per 1000" Initiative in a few figures...

**435 Partners and Members!** (December, 2019)

All countries or organizations that wish join the Initiative (see [here](#) how to join) send their application to the Executive Secretary who controls the completeness.

If the application is complete, the Executive Secretary submits the list of new partners and members to be approved to the Consortium of Members or to the Bureau (depending on the time of year), at the beginning of each meeting.

After this formal approval, the new partners and members are included in the official list.

[Listing of the Consortium of Members and Forum of Partners of the Initiative \(December, 2019\)](#)

To support and donate to the “4 per 1000” Initiative, please contact Ms. Béatrice Breton-Askar, our Resource Mobilization Senior Officer: [beatrice.breton-askar@4p1000.org](mailto:beatrice.breton-askar@4p1000.org)

To view the presentation file, click [here](#). We thank you in advance for your support.

### Activities related to the activities of the "4 per 1000" Initiative

[FoodShot Global](#) FoodShot Global published his 2019 Annual Report: Innovating Soil 3.0. To read this annual report, please click [here](#).

**Earth And Man project plans to establish a self-sufficient 2,5 acres vegetable market garden, addressing hunger and local food sovereignty in South Africa.** Earth And Man will provide meaningful, dignified employment and development, for youth in particular. The farm will serve as a best-practice demonstration farm, showcasing the productivity and viability of regenerative agriculture while simultaneously tackling climate change and environmental degradation. This model can and will be replicated across the country. **To read and support the project, click [here](#).**

Holistic land management pioneer and co-founder of the Savory Institute, [Allan Savory](#) joins Seley DeYarus, host of Regenerative Voices™ Elevating Stories Activating Change Podcast, in a conversation about his journey and current thoughts on how to effect meaningful transformation to address the global climate crisis. To listen and learn, click [here](#).



### The "4 per 1000" Initiative on social networks



Facebook Page: [4p1000 Initiative](#)

[www.facebook.com/4p1000](http://www.facebook.com/4p1000) or [fb.me/4p1000](https://fb.me/4p1000)

Facebook Group: [All 4p1000](#)

[www.facebook.com/groups/all4p1000](http://www.facebook.com/groups/all4p1000)



LinkedIn : [4p1000 Initiative](#)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/4p1000initiative/>



Twitter : [@4per1000 #4p1000](#)

[www.twitter.com/4per1000](http://www.twitter.com/4per1000)

***"We are relying on you to keep the Initiative going! For this, we need you to "like", share, follow, relay and encourage your contacts to join us."*** Dr Paul Luu, Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretariat is still looking for a secondment related to a Communication officer and webmaster. If your institution or organization wishes to provide such a secondment, please contact Dr. Paul LUU: [paul.luu@4p1000.org](mailto:paul.luu@4p1000.org)

## The “4 per 1000” Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate



### We are all concerned!

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Every single one of us can take action to get things moving forward. Together we can make a difference. Our actions, individual or collective, can make things happen.

#### [Join the Initiative!](#)

The Executive Secretariat needs stronger means to implement its annual roadmap and organize statutory meetings in particular of the STC or regional meetings. If you wish to contribute to our common effort, please contact the Executive Secretariat: [secretariat@4p1000.org](mailto:secretariat@4p1000.org)

### Any ideas, any suggestions...

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For the next newsletter, please send us your information, your events,... no later than April 15, 2020. You can send an e-mail to the Executive Secretariat [secretariat@4p1000.org](mailto:secretariat@4p1000.org)



[www.4p1000.org](http://www.4p1000.org)