

## Editorial



Dear Partners and Members,

The year 2021 is coming to an end, without any clear prospects for the end of the CoVid 19 pandemic. In this still uncertain context, allow me nevertheless to send you the best wishes for 2022 from the whole team of the "4 per 1000" Initiative, from its Presidency, its Scientific and Technical Committee and its Executive Secretariat. May the new year bring you health, peace and a more peaceful climate.

This calming of our climate depends, as we know, on the health of the soils and their capacity to store carbon. This subject was unfortunately not retained in the Final Communiqué of the COP 26 in Glasgow, even if in the aisles, this subject was very present. We must work collegially, from now on, to ensure that this subject of "soil health" is one of the major themes of COP 27 in Egypt.

It is difficult to predict whether we will be able to organize in November 2022, a hybrid (face-to-face and online) as we did this year, a 6th day of the "4 per 1000" Initiative, or regional meetings as we had planned last year in Asia and Latin America. For the time being, these projects are still on the drawing board, and we will bring them out again if the general context improves, perhaps in 2022, or in 2023 where we are already planning a regional meeting in Northern Europe in Helsinki thanks to the support of BSAG and the Finnish authorities, in June.

However, as I underlined during the Members' Consortium meeting, the financial means at our disposal are not up to our needs and do not allow us to carry out all our missions, despite the size of our network with its nearly 700 partners. More than ever we need your support, so please contact [Beatrice Breton-Askar](#) to find the best way to support us with the means that are yours.

The end of 2021 will also mark the end of Dr. Lini Wollenberg's mandate within the STC. She was among the members appointed at the first meeting of the Consortium of Members in Marrakech in November 2016. We thank her warmly for her important contribution to the work of the STC and wish her continued success in her scientific career within the CGIAR, remaining in close contact with the STC and the Initiative.

Also in the scientific field, we convey our warmest congratulations to Dr. Lydie-Stella Koutika from the Republic of Congo, who received the Glinka World Soil 2021 Award on December 5. This is a well-deserved recognition of her remarkable scientific career, and we are very proud to have her expertise on the Initiative's STC.

I would also like to warmly welcome to the Executive Secretariat, Ms. Claudia Schepp who joined the BLE team in Bonn alongside Ms. Julia Klemme and Mr. Samuel Ottnad. In addition, during the year, Mr. Marc Bernard retired, but he continues to give the Initiative the benefit of his skills as a consultant, particularly for the "Twin Regions" project.

Finally, as indicated on social networks, La Butineuse editions will publish a new book which will be released in early 2022 to which your servant has contributed, with the evocative title "Farmers have the Earth in their hands". It should be noted that all copyright for this book in French and English will go to the "4 per 1000" Initiative. [It is currently on pre-order](#), so please support our efforts by purchasing this book.

I remind you, as I usually do, that this newsletter is yours and that you can send us the information you wish to share with our network (please use the following address: [socialmedia.admin@4p1000.org](mailto:socialmedia.admin@4p1000.org)). Moreover, if you wish that the Initiative can relay your news on its social networks, do not forget to add the mention @4p1000Initiative at the end of your publications.

It only remains for me to give you an appointment in 2022.

Until then, take care of yourself and your loved ones.

**Dr. Paul LUU**, Executive Secretary



## The 5th International "4 per 1000" Initiative Day On November 10, in Glasgow and online.

The 5th International "4 per 1000" Initiative Day was held on December 10 in face-to-face in Glasgow and also online, with the Partners Forum in the morning and the Members Consortium in the afternoon. The day was moderated by Ms. Gabrielle Bastien, Vice-President of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, and founder of the NGO "Regeneration Canada".

The theme of the Forum of Partners was 'Mobilization of stakeholders through multi-stakeholder coalitions (alliances and partnerships) for the implementation of the 2050 Strategic Plan of the "4 per 1000" Initiative'.

A high-level segment opened the event. Many personalities representing partner structures of "4 per 1000" (countries or regions, international organizations, agricultural producers' organizations, NGOs, research centers, companies, etc.) presented their point of view regarding the implementation of the 2050 Strategic Plan of the "4 per 1000" Initiative. At the end of the morning, the annual activity report of the "4 per 1000" Initiative was presented by Paul Luu, Executive Secretary, followed by the presentation of the 2020-2021 Activity Report of the STC (Scientific and Technical Committee) by Dr Cornelia RUMPEL, President of the Scientific and Technical Committee.

The Implementation Plan of the "4 per 1000" strategy was detailed by Paul Luu, Marc Bernard, consultant to the Executive Secretariat, explained its development, and presented "Twin Regions" project, one of the projects of the "4 per 1000" Implementation Plan.

In the afternoon, the Consortium of Members held its meeting. During this meeting, the Roadmap 2022 and the budget were adopted.

The Executive Secretariat would like to warmly thank all the people who contributed to the organization of this day and all those who participated in this important event in the life of the Initiative.

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

To view or replay the 38 presentations from the high-level segment of the Forum of Partners and watch the Consortium meeting, click [here](#).



## In the scientific field, the 13th meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) of the "4 per 1000" Initiative was organized in a mixed form, presentially and virtually, on November 8 and 9, 2021, under the frame of COP 26 in Glasgow.

The meeting took place in four sessions.

**Session 1 was about scientific papers.** In 2022, several papers will be published such as a special issue entitled "Sustainable management practices to increase carbon sequestration in the soil" in the international journal "Regional Environmental Change"; another entitled « The role of soil carbon sequestration to enhance human resilience for tackling global crises including pandemics" has been submitted to Lancet Planetary Health.

**Session 2 dealt with the formative assessment of projects.** The third call was launched on May 15, 2021. Seventeen proposals were submitted and, after being assessed by the STC, five of them were considered as being in line with the objectives of the "4 per 1000" Initiative.

**During Session 3 the involvement of the Initiative in different high-level actions was discussed:** CIRCASA project, EJP Soil, EU Mission « A Soil Deal for Europe », GSP-FAO, and the project "4 per 1000: C sequestration for Soil Health, Climate and Food Security: from Scientific concept to massive Implementation by Farmers".

**During Session 4, the "4 per 1000" Initiative Strategic Plan and the involvement of the STC in the Implementation Plan were discussed.** The last sessions were on the governance and outreach of the Initiative and the action plan for the next period. The STC members also discussed about its involvement on the 5th Day of the Initiative and what to transmit to the Consortium and Forum.



Members of the Executive Secretariat and the Scientific and Technical Committee of the "4 per 1000" Initiative participated in many events in particular in the framework of the COP26 and beyond.

**‘From the Ground Up - Soil health for climate change mitigation and food system transformation’ - November 3, 2021 - WWF Panda Pavilion (Blue Zone)**

Hosted by WWF CIFOR-ICRAF IICA WBCSD UNCCD and CIAT-Bioversity

This event highlighted the perspectives of different actors on soil health, how they are taking action to contribute, and the impacts that their soil-focused work is having for productivity, climate, nature and people. It also introduced a burgeoning initiative born out of the Food Systems Summit Process, the Coalition of Action for Soil Health (CA4SH), that will bring actors together to mobilize investment and strengthen the enabling environment for soil health in a way that contributes to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030 and Land Degradation Neutrality targets simultaneously.

To watch the event, click [here](#).

**‘Carbon Farming in a 2030 agenda for soil health and Climate’ - November 8, 2021 - COP26 Glasgow, ‘Pavillon Europe’**

A side event co-organized by the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, CIRAD, INRAE, IRD, the European Conservation Agriculture Federation and South Pole. With for the "4 per 1000" Initiative, CIRAD, INRAE and IRD: Claire Chenu, Eric Ceschia et Jean-François Soussana. To learn more, click [here](#). To watch the event in replay, click [here](#).

**‘Introducing the Global Soil Health Programme - Restoring the health of the world’s soil at scale and on time’ - November 8, 2021 - University of Glasgow**

The panelists included Professor Rattan Lal (The Ohio State University), Ronald Vargas (UN FAO), Leigh Ann Winowiecki (Coalition for Action on Soil Health) and Paul Luu, Executive Secretary of the "4 per 1000" initiative.

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

**‘Let’s improve soil health to fight climate change, biodiversity erosion and food insecurity!’ - November 9, 2021 - COP26 Glasgow, ‘Pavillon France’**

Co-organized by the International Initiative "4 per 1000" and the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

6 years after the launch of the "4 per 1000" Initiative during COP15 in Paris, where are we in terms of agriculture, agricultural and forest soils and the natural sequestration of carbon in soils?

Replay (from 8:00:00) [here](#).

**‘Agri - Food Transition Summit’ - November 11, 2021 - COP26 Innovation zone**

Connecting the global agri value chain from farm to fork to drive momentum towards real change aligned to the Paris Agreement supporting the SDGs. With Paul Luu, Executive Secretary of the "4 per 1000" Initiative.

To see the event, click [here](#).



**'Agroecology Europe', the European Association promoting agroecology for sustainable development of farming and food systems across Europe, organised its third Forum online as well as on-site in Barcelona from the 17th of November to the 19th of November 2021.**

The theme of the conference was "Agroecology to regenerate our food systems and communities and enhance biodiversity". The Initiative "4 per 1000" was invited to present a talk entitled "How agroecology can contribute to fight climate change and food insecurity".

The "4 per 1000" Initiative made proposals during the session on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 on the topic: "Agroecology for climate action", moderated by Valeria Forlin (Policy Officer for Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry, DG CLIMA). Other speakers were Martial Bernoux (Climate Change, FAO Division), Lauren Baker (Global Alliance for the Future of Food), María Carrascosa (Network of Cities for Agroecology), Michel Pimbert (Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience, Coventry University) and Felix Prinz zu Löwenstein (Bund Ökologische Lebensmittelwirtschaft). Each speaker gave an 8-10 minutes introductory presentation and then discussed how agroecology can offer action strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

To learn more and review the sessions, click [here](#).

**The XIX Meeting of the Ibero-American INIAs System, organised by INIA Spain, was held online on 23 and 24 November 2021. The theme of the meeting was "Agricultural Soils and Carbon Sequestration".**

The meeting was opened by the Director of INIA Spain, Esther Esteban Rodrigo, and the Vice-President for International Relations of CSIC, Ángeles Gómez Borrego. Sixteen top representatives of the INIA Network of Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Spain, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Dominican Republic and Uruguay); six Spanish Autonomous Communities (Aragon, Asturias, Catalonia, Galicia, Murcia and Valencia) and five international organisations (FONTAGRO, CGIAR, Initiative « 4 per 1000 », CYTED and GRA) took part, as well as guest speakers with extensive experience in research or scientific policy on the theme of the meeting.

All of them presented the initiatives, success stories, research groups and advances of their countries or institutions in the central theme of the meeting: agricultural soils and carbon sequestration. The importance of cooperation between institutions to jointly face the challenges of research and innovation in agriculture was highlighted.

For more information click [here](#).

**Soil Health Networking Day. Joining Forces for improving Soil Health - December 8, 2021**

Enhancing soil health is the ultimate objective of several research projects, initiatives and organizations. Joining forces is crucial to maximise their impact towards sustainable soil and land management.

To this end, coordinators of research projects on soil sciences and land use, together with organizations and networks involved in soil health and management, gathered online to identify synergies and share findings and efforts in supporting soil health and related policies. The meeting was organized and hosted by Fabio Terribile, coordinator of the LANDSUPPORT project. LANDSUPPORT H2020 project stands for "Development of Integrated Web-Based Land Decision Support System Aiming Towards the Implementation of Policies for Agriculture and Environment". After the introduction of the Soil Mission: A Soil Deal for Europe by Marta Iglesias (EC Policy Officer), and the "Soil Health from a European Perspective" by Luca Montanarella, (EU Soil Observatory, JRC), different initiatives and projects were presented: Global Soil Partnership, the "4 per 1000" Initiative, SIREN - EJP SOIL, Soil4Life, SUSCROP- Sustainable Crop Production, CIRCASA, SIEUSOIL- Sino-EU Soil Observatory for intelligent Land Use Management, AGROMIX - Agroforestry and mixed farming systems, EXCALIBUR - Exploiting the multifunctional potential of belowground biodiversity in horticultural farming, LANDMARK - Land Management Assessment Research Knowledge base, and LANDSUPPORT - Development of Integrated Web-Based Land Decision Support System Aiming Towards the Implementation of Policies for Agriculture and Environment. After presentations, speakers discussed on different approaches towards Soil Health.

You can find more information in the [link](#).

**Conference organised by the Soil and Water Conservation Section of the Spanish Soil Science Society - December 10, 2021**

**Paloma MELGAREJO (Executive Secretariat of the "4 per 1000" Initiative) gave a presentation on the "4 per 1000" Initiative entitled "Global initiatives involved in increasing soil carbon sequestration" at the on-line conference organised by the Soil and Water Conservation Section of the Spanish Soil Science Society. The conference was about "Soil management strategies in the face of climate change" and other speakers were Professor José Alfonso GOMEZ CALERO (IAS-CSIC) who spoke about the "Effect of vegetation covers on water balance in Mediterranean woody crops with respect to bare soil management and perspectives in the face of predicted climate change scenarios", Professor Artemi CERDA BOLINCHES (University of Valencia) on "Soil erosion in crop fields in the East of the Iberian Peninsula", Professor Jesús RODRIGO COMINO (University of Granada) on "Climate change, erosion and organic matter in European vineyards. Apocalypse or real solutions?" and Mónica Álvaro Sánchez (Union of Small Farmers and Ranchers, UPA, of Madrid) on "Eco-schemes and their possible impact on soil conservation".**





**Sub-Regional seminar: ‘Unlocking the potential of agroecology in the Middle East and achieving 4 per 1000 objectives’ - November 17, 2021 - Beirut, Lebanon**

Organized by the Ministry Lebanese of Agriculture, the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI), the Embassy of France in Lebanon, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). **On the occasion of this seminar, the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture and LARI announced that they were joining the "4 per 1000" Initiative.**

To learn more, please click [here](#).



**A Coalition for the Transformation of Food Systems Through Agroecology - Food Systems Summit 2021**

Current agricultural and food systems are not sustainable. They are responsible for one third of global GHG emissions, alarming biodiversity loss, environmental pollution, degradation of land and water resources and increasing social inequities while still not providing food security and adequate nutrition for all. There is a need for a profound transformation of agricultural and food systems.

Based on practical experience and evidence, the Coalition for the Transformation of Food Systems Through Agroecology supports agroecological and regenerative agriculture approaches, as a key lever to transform food systems.

To learn more click [here](#).

**Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health (CA4SH) - Food Systems Summit 2021 - Action Track #3**

Soil health is the foundation of our food systems. It is also critical to climate change mitigation and adaptation, enhancing above and belowground biodiversity, contributing to environmental restoration goals, and increasing food and nutrition security.

**Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health (CA4SH)** will link with existing initiatives, including "4 per 1000" Initiative, UNCCD LDN goals, Global Soils Partnership, Living Soils in the Americas, WOCAT, the Soil Health Initiative, RECISOIL, Soils4Climate, the Soils Investment Hub of WBCSD, as well as UNFCCC and CBD and UNFCCC Action Track 5, ‘Build Resilience to Vulnerabilities, Shocks and Stress’. Together, CA4SH will function as a coordination centre and clearinghouse focused on achieving global soil health by developing a multi-stakeholder platform and bridging between different sectors (public, private, research).

To learn more, please click [here](#).



**Soil strategy for 2030 - Reaping the benefits of healthy soils for people, food, nature and climate.**

The [EU soil strategy for 2030](#) sets out a framework and concrete measures to protect and restore soils, and ensure that they are used sustainably. It sets a vision and objectives to achieve healthy soils by 2050, with concrete actions by 2030. It also announces a new Soil Health Law by 2023 to ensure a level playing field and a high level of environmental and health protection.

The new EU soil strategy for 2030 is a key deliverable of the [EU biodiversity strategy for 2030](#). It will contribute to the objectives of the European Green Deal. Healthy soils are essential for achieving climate neutrality, a clean and circular economy and halting desertification and land degradation. They are also essential to reverse biodiversity loss, provide healthy food and safeguard human health.

"4 questions to ..."

**Dr. Lini Wollenberg**

Flagship Leader, Low Emissions Development - CCAFS/CGIAR  
Member of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative.



*"It has been an honor to serve on the Scientific and Technical Committee ..."*

**1/ Dr. Lini Wollenberg, could you introduce yourself in a few words?**

*I work on climate change mitigation in agriculture with the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). I am a social scientist and natural resource management expert, who has spent 14 years living and conducting in SE Asia, especially Indonesia.*

**2/ You have been a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative since its creation in November 2016. What are the main actions you have carried out in the past 5 years within the STC?**

*The most recent activity was working [together with Liesl Wiese-Rozanova and Viridiana Alcantara-Shivapatham on an analysis of soil carbon in the NDCs \(Nationally Determined Contributions\)](#). We wrote a journal article, held a couple of events for the UNFCCC negotiators and international organizations, and published a policy brief. I also contributed to other publications of the STC.*

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

*A prominent stakeholder platform for calling attention to soil carbon and bringing together people who would like to learn more about the potential for soil carbon to contribute to climate change mitigation while also enhancing food security.*

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

*It has been an honor to serve on the Scientific and Technical Committee and watch the debate about the role of soil carbon in mitigation evolve to become more sophisticated with more scientific attention.*



The Scientific and Technical Committee of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative has provided [an official definition of regenerative agriculture](#), and updated [reference criteria and indicators for SOC project assessment](#).



**Congratulations to Dr. Lydie-Stella Koutika from the Republic of Congo, soil scientist and member of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Initiative "4 per 1000" who won the [Glinka World Soil 2021 award](#) on December 5.**

This award recognises her contributions towards improving and expanding the knowledge of African soils and the considerable impact she has had on the scientific community and farmers' livelihoods.

Photo: Dr. Lydie-Stella Koutika



**Publication notice**  
**The first book of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative by 'Éditions La Butineuse'.**

You can pre-order the book, whose working title is "*Farmers have the Earth in Their Hands*", directly on the publisher's website by clicking [here](#) and promote it to your various audiences.

The ambition of this concise book, written for the general public, is to provide a simple and non-judgmental overview of today's agriculture and the solutions that will ensure the future of humanity on planet Earth. Starting from its scientific foundations and the history of its "r-evolutions", this book attempts to shed light on the issues at stake without sidestepping the disturbing questions. Agriculture is part of the solution to climate change, but too many people still ignore it.



**The "4 per 1000" Initiative in a figure...**

**678 Partners including 304 Members!** (December 2021)

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](#)



## Save the date!

### “Soil is a diamond - The importance of soil and its restoration” - GFFA 2022 - January 25, 2022

The Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2022 (GFFA) centers on vital issues concerning global agriculture and food policies. This international conference is hosted by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) and will take place from January 24 to January 28, 2022, prior to the launch of the Green Week. **The “4 per 1000” Initiative will participate in the expert panel “Soil is a diamond – The importance of soil and its restoration”.**

The panel will be shared between the initiative and the BMEL and will take place on January 25, 2022. The core concern of this panel is to raise awareness for the importance of soil health and its crosscutting effects on ecosystem functioning and human wellbeing. During the discussion, representatives of different stakeholder groups are invited to make their case for the importance of soil health in their respective ecological and economic setting and present their innovative approaches to foster it. In this regard, the representatives of the German humus program are invited to introduce their comprehensive approach to the exploration of suitable practices for carbon enrichment in German agriculture, while the members of the “4 per 1000” Initiative are envisaged to present their approaches to the restoration of degraded soils. For more informations, please click [here](#).

### ‘Engaging the development of a sustainable agriculture, guarantor of the unique health’ - 10 sessions from January to December 2022

The central objective of the planet A Institute® Cycle is to create with high-level experts from the public and private sectors a rethought culture of the role of Agriculture in addressing the societal, climate and geopolitical challenges we face.

For more information on Cycle 2022, click [here](#) (in French).



## Governments and local authorities They act!

**Partner in the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, the Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has launched an investment of €10 million in a pilot Soil Sampling and Analysis Program.** This substantial program is aimed at putting soil carbon, soil health and fertility at the very center of the future Irish agricultural model. For more information, click [here](#).

**Member of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal is developing numerous projects and programs.** To find out more, click [here](#).

### **New Zealand: Regenerative agriculture research receives government boost**

The New Zealand Government continues to invest in farm sustainability, this time backing two new research projects to investigate the impacts of regenerative farming practices. To learn more, click [here](#).

### **ABCCN network: a new network for farmers and crofters to highlight and share climate change mitigation actions is to be established in Scotland.**

Mairi Gougeon, Scottish Government Rural Affairs Secretary, said:

*“We need to work together to reach our climate and environment goals. We know there are farmers and crofters who are already doing some fantastic work to help reach these goals. We wanted to create something that would allow them to share their work so that others can take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as well as increasing biodiversity.”*

The Agriculture, Biodiversity and Climate Change Network (ABCCN) aims to inspire farmers and crofters to take greater action by highlighting their peers’ activities in one location online. Farmers will be able to share a wide range of information, including videos and photos, to detail the measures they have undertaken and the results.

It will be a joint Scottish Government and industry initiative made up of partner organisations who will offer their expertise on agriculture, climate and the wider environment.

To learn more, click [here](#).

### **The French Ministry of Agriculture and Food launched in November, the new plan 'Seeds and Plants for Sustainable Agriculture: a new version of the plan for agro-ecology, climate change adaptation and food sovereignty'.**

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

### **The French Ministers of Economy, Finance and Recovery, and of Agriculture and Food, presented in early December, a bill to cover all farmers against climatic hazards.**

To learn more, please click [here](#) (in French).





## International organisations They act!

### **Selection of Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices in the Senegal River Valley**

The '[Solar Irrigation Project for Climate Smart Agriculture in the Senegal River Valley](#)' is a partnership between the State of Qatar, through the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). It aims to contribute to the reduction of poverty and greenhouse gas emissions and to improve the livelihoods of rice farmers, especially women and youth, through sustainable agricultural production and increased productivity. The project is based on a partnership with SAED, the Agricultural Bank of Senegal, and FONSIS in the implementation of a three-year pilot phase.

[Mr. Ban Ki-moon, 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations, was re-elected as President of the Assembly and Chair of the Council of the Global Green Growth Institute](#) (GGGI) by Members of the Assembly and the Council for the term of 2022-2023. The appointment was unanimously approved by the 40 Members of GGGI during the annual Joint Session of the Assembly and Council hybrid meeting this year.

**Over 833 million hectares of soils worldwide are already salt-affected, as shown on the [Global salt-affected soils map](#) launched by FAO in October.**

As it marks World Soil Day, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has highlighted the threat posed by soil salinization to global food security and warned that many countries still lack adequate capacity for soil analysis. **The Director-General of FAO underlined the importance of generating reliable soil data as he announced the official launch of the [Global Soil Laboratory Assessment Report](#).** A joint effort by 241 laboratories in 142 countries, it is led by FAO's Global Soil Partnership ([GSP](#)) and its Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN) composed of more than 760 laboratories worldwide.

The Report highlights the challenges, with 55 percent of countries surveyed lacking adequate analytical capacities, including human resources, harmonization procedures and equipment. Many are unable to meet the national demand for soil analysis in Africa, Asia, and Eurasia.

To learn more click [here](#), and to download the Global Laboratory Soil Assessment Report, click [here](#).

### **Launch the International Network on Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB)**

On 3 December 2021, on the occasion of the World Soil Day official celebrations "Halt soil salinization, Boost soil productivity", **FAO's Global Soil Partnership has launched the International Network on Soil Biodiversity (NETSOB)**, as per the recommendations of the Outcome Document of the Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity "Keep soil alive, protect soil biodiversity". To learn more, click [here](#).

Member of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, **the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) works across a wide range of themes related to conservation, environmental and ecological issues.**

To find out more, click [here](#).

**The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is a Member of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative.** To learn more about their actions, click [here](#).

Member of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, **the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) coordinates the actions of West African countries, particularly in the agriculture and environment sectors.**

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

**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.



**Save the date!**

**General Assembly 2022 of the European Geosciences Union - Vienna, Austria - 3-8 April 2022**

The assembly is open to the scientists of all nations. A session on "Soils and climate change" is organized with Dr Cornelia Rumpel, chair of the "4 per 1000" STC.

The following question will be addressed: What is the impact of changing environmental conditions, and the resulting plant-soil interactive effects on soil biogeochemistry?

To learn more click [here](#).

**ChangeNOW - From 19 to 21 May 2022 - Paris (France) and online**

Do you have a solution that changes the world? Submit it now to be part of the ChangeNOW 2022 official selection! Changemakers around the globe can apply to join the finest cohort of solutions for the planet.

To register, click [here](#).

**The 2nd South American regional meeting of the "4 per 1000" Initiative**

which was to take place in Goiânia (Brazil) in June 2020 is postponed in **May / June 2022, still in Goiânia.**

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

**The regional meeting in Asia in New Delhi (India)** organized by the "4 per 1000" Initiative in collaboration with CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center), ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) and TAAS (Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences), will be held possibly in 2022 (details to come).



**Public funding bodies They act!**

**Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) MRV Sourcebook for Agricultural Landscapes**

Despite the significant potential of soil to sequester organic carbon, there are challenges to implementing carbon sequestration projects. Proposed by the [World Bank](#), this sourcebook is designed to provide a conceptual foundation for soil organic carbon measurement and monitoring in croplands and grazing lands or rangelands. It provides methods and simple step-by-step guidance to produce reliable soil carbon measurements across a variety of settings and contexts, with comparisons on what frameworks, approaches, or methods to choose relative to the goal of the assessment, costs, feasibility, and uncertainty.

To download the reference manual, click [here](#).



**Private funding bodies They act!**

**Renature support farmers & corporates in the transition towards Regenerative Agriculture.** To find out more and discover the different projects, click [here](#).

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) sign a [partnership agreement](#).



## Save the date!

**1st Latin America and Caribbean Regional Symposium (LAC)** will be held possibly in 2022 (details to come). The "4 per 1000 Initiative : Soils for Food Security and Climate", the **Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa)**, together with other local partners, will organize the 1st Latin America and Caribbean Regional Symposium (LAC). This two-days conference is hosted by the Federação de Agricultura e Pecuária do Estado de Goiás. Stakeholders representing the diversity of agricultural production systems and concepts in LAC region - small to large industrial scale production farms, farmers and farmers' organizations, policy makers, researchers, related industries, multi and bilateral funders... are welcome. More information [here](#).

### 8th International Symposium on Soil Organic Matter - Seoul, Korea - June 26-30, 2022

This symposium initially planned in 2021 has been postponed to 2022 due to the COVID-19 health crisis. After the success stories of Poitiers (France), Colorado (USA), Louvain (Belgium), Nanjing (China), Göttingen (Germany), Rothamsted (UK), Adelaide (Australia), the theme proposed in Seoul in the context of an unprecedented environmental and climatic crisis is of major importance for our community and the scientific community in general. For more information, click [here](#).

### 5th World Congress on Agroforestry: Transitioning to a Viable World - On July 17-20, 2022, in Québec City, Canada.

Agroforestry is an essential component of the needed ecological, energetic, social and economic transition. This critical transition can and must be achieved through a participatory collaboration process that helps building bridges between research, policy decisions and field work. To learn more, please click [here](#).



## Farmers and foresters organisations They act!

### Bajwa Family Ranch, a partner in the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, is a farming cooperative in Shahzada, Punjab, Pakistan.

This second-generation family farm raises livestock using Holistic Planned Grazing Methods learned from the Savory Institute, a member of the Initiative. It is the only farm in Pakistan accredited by Savory Global Hubs. To follow them on Facebook, click [here](#).

**French association created in 1994, the Organic Farmers Group of Gers (GABB32) gathers organic and biodynamic farmers of Gers (France)**, and aims to develop organic and biodynamic agriculture in the territory, communication on environmental amenities aspects of organic farming, alternative techniques, and support for the transition to organic food. To find out more, click [here](#) (in French).

### APAD represented Soil Conservation Agriculture at the Forum of the 5th "4 per 1000" Initiative Day.

On this occasion, François Mandin, farmer in Vendée (France) and President of APAD, was invited to speak in the high-level segment by videoconference in the "4 per 1000" Forum at COP26. To see or review François Mandin's intervention, click [here](#).

Gérard Rass, Secretary General of APAD, also spoke on behalf of GCAN, the consortium of farmers' collectives in Soil Conservation Agriculture at the global level (consortium created on the occasion of the COP21 in Paris).

Through these two interventions, the messages of APAD and GCAN were clear: it is imperative to support more officially the SCA and to clearly recognize the environmental services provided, but also to put farmers at the heart of this transition, especially in the future carbon projects that will be launched in the coming years.

### European Conservation Agriculture Federation (ECAAF) was constituted in Brussels on 14th January, 1999. ECAAF was conceived to encourage any issue focused on maintaining the agrarian soil and its biodiversity in the context of sustainable agriculture.

According to ECAAF, Conservation Agriculture (CA) is defined as a sustainable agriculture production system comprising a set of farming practices adapted to the requirements of crops and local conditions of each region, whose farming and soil management techniques protect the soil from erosion and degradation, improve its quality and biodiversity, and contribute to the preservation of the natural resources, water and air, while optimizing yields.

**Founded in 1962, 'Norsk Landbruksrådgiving' (NLR) is a Norwegian umbrella and service organization with a total of 24,000 members and 330 employees across the country.** NLR is a link between research and agriculture, and acquires, develops and coordinates the knowledge that advisers pass on to farmers.





## Research and training bodies They act!

### Satellite mapping of changes in forest carbon sequestration - INRAE

Trees play an essential role in the absorption of carbon dioxide or rather its sequestration. In order to measure the quantities absorbed by these trees on a local scale, the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (INRAE) has developed the [Biomass Carbon Monitor platform](#), a brand new tool unique in the world, which tracks changes in the ability of forests to remove carbon from the atmosphere.

### InfoSol INRAE team, Collective Research Impact Prize, Lauriers 2021.

Thanks to [InfoSol](#), a whole new world has opened up beneath our feet. Whether we need information on soil types, the state of French soils back in 2000, the possible presence of lead or other pollutants, or the myriad living organisms that populate our soils, these data are now available, sampled, recorded and mapped through space and time by InfoSol. The team's work has alerted us to the importance of soil as a resource, not just for agriculture but for food, the environment, our health, our towns and cities. These achievements, recognised internationally, have won InfoSol the 2021 Laurier Science with an Impact Award. And to find out more about GIS Sol, click [here](#) (in French).

### Africa-France scientific collaboration: toward a major joint study programme between African research bodies and agricultural universities, CIRAD and INRAE

Elisabeth Claverie de Saint Martin, CEO of CIRAD, and Philippe Mauguin, Chair and CEO of INRAE, announced on 7 October 2021 that they are actively working together, with some 20 African agricultural research bodies, to develop a joint study, training and innovation programme. The programme will focus on the themes of agroecology, preserving natural resources, health, food security, developing territories and jobs. To learn more, click [here](#).

### Terri4Sol: working for sustainable organic carbon management in Ivorian soils - Cirad

Cocoa, coffee, rubber and oil palm crops have boosted economic development in Ivory Coast, but agricultural output is threatened today by impoverished soils and depleted forests, leading to microclimatic changes detrimental to crops. To counter this dual phenomenon, the Terri4Sol project, coordinated by CIRAD and mostly funded by the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM), has been launched to foster sustainable management practices in the post-forest landscapes of Ivory Coast, the aim being to restore their soils and their multifunctionality. To learn more, please click [here](#).

This project was evaluated by the Scientific and Technical Committee of the "4 per 1000", during the [first call for projects for formative assessment of the Initiative "4 per 1000"](#), supported by the World Agroforestry Center, which was launched from July 15 to September 15, 2019.

**'Une Question à Un Million', The Story of an Investment in Rural and Sustainable Development.** This story is inspired by research and rural development projects in Madagascar. This is a fiction whose sole purpose is to make people think about international development assistance. It illustrates the complexity of the problems to be solved and the difficult search for effective solutions. The scenario of this story is by Tiphaine Chevallier and Isabelle Bernoux, drawings by Caroline Gaujour. Scientific referents are Narindra Rakotovoao (Cirad), Tiphaine Chevallier (IRD), Lydie Chapuis-Lardy (IRD).

To read this comic, click [here](#) (in French).

### Highlights series from a decade of forests, trees and agroforestry research in partnership for sustainable development

This publication series presents the work undertaken under the CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA), from 2011 to 2021, by FTA's strategic partners (CIFOR-ICRAF, Bioversity Alliance and CIAT, CATIE, CIRAD, Tropenbos and INBAR) and/or with other international and national partners, through a range of projects and initiatives, organized around a set of operational priorities. Each topic is presented in a stand alone publication; all the volumes make up the FTA Highlights series. To learn more, click [here](#).

### 'Soil, lever of sustainable development and adaptation to climate change: What are the current and future challenges?'

This event, which took place on December 7 as part of the celebration of World Soil Day 2021, was organized by the National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA), the Moroccan Association of Soil Sciences (AMSSOL), the Hassan II Agronomic and Veterinary Institute (IAV) the National Forestry School of Engineers, the National School of Agriculture of Meknes (ENAM), the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the Foundation "African Agriculture Adaptation Initiative", the "4 per 1000" Initiative and the Global Soil Partnership (GSP). For more information, click [here](#).





## Civil Society, associations, NGO They act!

### Investing in soil health to help transform food and agriculture systems

WBCSD's Soil Investment Hub launches [new guidance report to support food and agriculture companies to invest in impactful, high-value, and long-term solutions for healthy soils along their supply chain and beyond](#). This [report](#) identifies 13 soil investment mechanisms that have a distinct connection to material impacts and types of financial, environmental, and social returns. The guidance aims to standardize the classifications of soil as a value-chain asset and provide a portfolio of soil investment mechanisms that can be prioritized to scale healthy soil solutions.

### Regen10 to work with over 500 million farmers to scale regenerative food production by 2030.

At COP26, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and 12 partners announced [Regen10, an ambitious collective action plan to scale regenerative food production systems, worldwide, in a decade](#).

The initiative, with farmers at its heart, will work with over 500 million farmers to apply regenerative production methods and transform agricultural systems, as well as ensure roughly USD \$60 billion per year is deployed to finance the transition. By 2030, it is hoped that over 50% of the world's food can be produced in a way that drives positive outcomes for people, for nature, and for climate.

### France Nature Environnement is the French federation of associations for the protection of nature and the environment.

France Nature Environnement is the spokesperson for a movement of 5,837 associations, grouped within 46 member organizations, present throughout France, in metropolitan France and overseas. For more information, click [here](#).



## Civil Society, associations, NGO They act!

Agricultural soil holds an enormous potential to mitigate climate change by storing carbon. **The Finnish Carbon Action Platform develops and researches ways of accelerating soil carbon sequestration and verifying the results scientifically. Carbon Action 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. The Finnish Meteorological Institute is responsible for the research cooperation, while BSAG is responsible for the big picture and the cooperation with businesses and farmers. In Carbon Action scientists, farmers and companies work together to enhance carbon-storing regenerative agriculture. To learn more, please click [here](#).

### **Foodscares for People and Nature**

Member of the International "4 per 1000" Initiative, [The Nature Conservancy](#) mapped the diversity of food production around the world to inform food systems transformation. For more information and to download the 'Foodscares Report: Toward Food System Transition', click [here](#).

### **'Soil Revealed', a new mapping platform illustrates global soil carbon potential**

Solid Ground: Earth's Soils Reveal Climate, Biodiversity & Food Security Solutions. Soil carbon can help combat climate change. [The Nature Conservancy is tracking soil carbon change and has predicted the potential amount of carbon our soils could hold](#). Using [that](#), you can see the areas

**The Nature Conservancy also published the [Natural Climate Solutions Handbook](#), which provides technical guidance for assessing nature-based mitigation opportunities in countries.**

### **Agronomists and Veterinarians Without Borders (AVSF) launches 'CACAO', its podcast on fair trade commodity chains**

With the 'CACAO' podcast, Anaïs Chotard, agronomist and program manager for [AVSF](#), offers to tour the world of sustainable sectors and carries the voice of those who are changing agriculture and the world. "CACAO" will talk about agroecology, fair trade, agroforestry, solidarity, and will decipher the sustainable agricultural, medicinal, textile and food sectors, in France and elsewhere. To find out more, click [here](#).

### **Guide: agroecology to get away from pesticides**

AVSF also encourages agroecology, to limit the use of chemical inputs that are harmful to the environment and the health of farming families. The guide, Agroecology to get away from pesticides, was written by AVSF members (staff and volunteers) to help agriculture and livestock professionals to develop healthy and effective alternatives. In different countries, AVSF supports farmers in field schools, in order to experiment and develop these alternatives (use of biopesticides, compost, etc.). To learn more click [here](#) and to download this guide, click [here](#).

### **Combating desertification: solutions for communities**

Desertification is defined as the degradation of land in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas. Contrary to popular belief it does not correspond to the advance of the desert but to a progressive destruction of soils and the life they harbor. Through their international cooperation actions, local authorities can also effectively contribute to reversing the trend of land degradation.

[This collaborative path](#) is offered by the Center for International Actions and Achievements (CARI) and United Cities France (CUF). [CARI](#) has been working since 1998 for rural populations in arid zones and supports them in the defense of their rights at the local, national and international levels. CARI leads the Desertification Working Group (GTD), a network of French international solidarity actors committed to the fight against desertification.



## Save the date!

### 31st International Horticultural Congress - Aug 14-20, 2022 - Angers, France

Organised every four years since 1959 under the auspices of ISHS (International Society for Horticultural Science), the International Horticultural Congress (IHC) is the most important scientific event in the fields related to Horticulture. Its aim is to promote and foster research and education in horticultural science and to facilitate cooperation and knowledge transfer on a global scale through events and publications. Many important and topical subjects will be addressed such as: breeding, biodiversity, organic farming urban horticulture, new technologies for phenotyping, precision horticulture... To learn more, please click [here](#).

### "More carbon in the soils for multiple benefits" - 1st Northern Europe "4 per 1000" Regional Meeting - June 6-8, 2023 - Helsinki, Finland

The topics will focus on 'Healthy soils, bringing together climate change and biodiversity loss, as well as water protection and food security', 'Monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of the soil carbon exchange and storage' and 'Peat soils as a special case'.

This event will be open to researchers, farmers, NGOs, company representatives, and policymakers. The North Europe Regional meeting will be open in priority to partners and members of the "4 per 1000" Initiative, but also to countries and organizations friends of the Initiative. The meeting is targeted to the following countries: Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Luxemburg, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Poland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Ukraine. More informations [here](#).



## Private companies. They act!

The French small family business [Kaoka](#) launched an ambitious project for the conservation and regeneration of ecosystems and the promotion of agroecology in the cocoa sector in Peru, Colombia and Ecuador, with a budget of 8.97 M€.

Kaoka is the initiator and co-signatory of a public-private partnership of international scope, and signs a partnership with expert international partners: the Bioersity International Alliance - CIAT, World Agroforestry, Conservation International (Colombia) and three producer organizations. The project will run for 4 years. For more information, click [here](#) (in French).

### CultivonsNous.tv, the SVOD channel that reconciles the agricultural and urban worlds!

*"Agriculture, environment and food. I'm taking the perhaps slightly crazy gamble of bringing us all together around CultivonsNous.tv, a digital TV channel dedicated to these themes and to people in the field who are all committed to the planet, each in their own way. Through a selection of great documentaries, series and original films, I suggest you take pleasure and make discoveries, with your feet in the ground and your head in the clouds."* Edouard Bergeon, co-founder of CultivonsNous.tv and director of 'Au nom de la terre', the film with 2 million admissions. CultivonsNous.tv is a video-on-demand service dedicated to better eating, from the earth to the plate, created by Edouard Bergeon and Antoine Robin, sponsored by Guillaume Canet, produced by Alchimie. **CultivonsNous.tv offers more than 120 hours of content and every week there are new features!**

To learn more, click [here](#).

*The contents are accessible by subscription (4,99€ per month, without commitment), of which one euro is directly given to the 'Solidarité Paysans' association which has been accompanying farmers in difficulty for twenty years. By subscribing, you contribute to help them.*

As a partner in the 4 for 1000 Initiative, Pink Tea Café in the UK endeavours to work with tea suppliers who operate both ethical and sustainable methods of farming and are adopting regenerative agriculture practises. For more information, click [here](#).





## Follow the "4 per 1000" Initiative on social networks!

**@4p1000 Initiative // Please Suscribe / like / share**



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YouTube: [4p1000 Initiative](#)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCvBmNtaHxi3PcvbUkkL\\_UQg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvBmNtaHxi3PcvbUkkL_UQg)

**If you would like the "4 per 1000" Initiative to relay your publications on its own social networks, please add the following mention at the bottom of the information you publish:**

**[@4p1000 Initiative](#)**

### To watch...

[CIFOR-ICRAF Soil Scientist Leigh Ann Winowiecki talks about the importance that soil plays in restoration and how CIFOR-ICRAF is helping to monitor, evaluate and contribute to restoration efforts across the Global South.](#)

Syntropic farming is a new and ancient permaculture practice that can be implemented in any region, in any climate, in limitless ways – even in your own back yard. [For over a decade the Lotz-Keegan family have been implementing permaculture practices to regenerate a degraded hillside into an abundant food forest of native and exotic trees that feed their family, their community, the wildlife and the soil.](#)

[Soils: those companions that we misunderstand- Marc-André Selosse](#) - 'Les Mardis de l'Espace des sciences' - November 23, 2021

Soil is one of the most amazing constructions in the living world, alas, poorly managed for millennia, it literally disappears before our eyes by erosion. Marc-André Selosse, professor at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, invites us to discover it, in order to better preserve it tomorrow.

## We are all concerned!

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)





*They joined us!*

## Governments and local authorities

### Lebanon

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Town of Burghausen - Germany

To learn more, please click [here](#).

## Private funding bodies

### Earthworm foundation - Switzerland

To learn more, please click [here](#).

## Farmers & Foresters organisations

### Organisation de Défense et de Gestion de l'AOC Ventoux - France

To learn more, please click [here](#).

## Civil society & non-profit organisations

### Access Agriculture - Belgium

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Ginkyo - Netherlands

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Green Consumers' Foundation - Taiwan

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### KILABO - Mali

To learn more, please click [here](#).

## Research and training bodies

### Jan Evangelista Purkyně University - Czech Republic

To learn more, please click [here](#).

## Research and training bodies

### Lebanese Agronomic Research Institute (LARI) - Lebanon

To learn more, please click [here](#).

## Private companies

### Alvora Carbon - Brazil

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Fomex - Mexico

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Novasol Experts - France

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Orgo I Regenerative Biology Management - Germany

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Precision Ecology Partnership - United States

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Remy Cointreau - France

To learn more, please click [here](#).

### Safeland - Democratic Republic of Congo

### SoilWatch - Estonia

To learn more, please click [here](#).

[See here how to join the « 4 per 1000 » Initiative.](#)

## The international "4 per 1000" Initiative: Soils for Food Security and Climate



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

### Any ideas, any suggestions...

For the next newsletter, please send us your information, your events,... **no later than March 10, 2021**. You can send an e-mail to [socialmedia.admin@4p1000.org](mailto:socialmedia.admin@4p1000.org).