

Moja Global Strategy Board Meeting: Minutes

Wednesday, 18 April 2018

Agenda:

The agenda was shared in advanced and can be found [here](#).

The items on the agenda were:

- Introductions
- Updates on activities over the reporting period
- Replacement of Co-Director
- Minor changes to the Strategic Plan
- Revision of Cost Sharing Arrangements
- Acceptance of the Polish Forest Research Institute as a member
- Any other business

Attendance:

Present:

1. Radomir Balazy, Applying Board Member
2. Peter Graham, Chair
3. Molly Bartlett, Board Member
4. Jackson Kimani, Board Member
5. Werner Kurz, Chair of the Technical Steering Committee, Observer in this meeting
6. Rob Waterworth, Co-Director Management Board, Non-voting in this meeting
7. Guy Janssen, Co-Director Management Board, Non-voting in this meeting

Excused:

1. William Agyemang-Bonsu, Board Member
2. Scott Nicholas, Linux Foundation Representative

Introductions:

The Chair welcomed the participants.

All participants introduced themselves.

Update on Developments over the Reporting Period

1. In Annex 1, an overview is provided of the most important developments over the reporting period.
2. The Strategy Board **requested** to adjust the reference to countries in the first Strategic Goal and change it to “Countries, subnational entities, organisations and companies”

Replacement of co-director

1. No candidates for the moja global Co-Director have been identified.
2. The following actions have been **agreed**:
 - a. Send out the profile of the ideal candidate again (See below)
 - b. Propose candidates by June 1.
 - c. Guy will send out regular reminders to all Board Members
3. As **requested**, the ideal profile for the new Co-Director agreed in January:
 - a. Find someone who does not need remuneration in the short term and has time to invest in moja global. (Recently retired?)
 - b. On the nexus network-fundraising-substance expertise, the Strategy Board believes that an established network in the sector will be the most important as it is likely to ensure that the person meets the other 2 criteria: fundraising and expertise in AFOLU MRV.
 - c. The Strategy Board agrees that knowledge of emissions from agriculture would be a good complement to the current expertise.
 - d. Considering that the scale of funding in the pipeline is considerable, the new Co-Director should have experience with financial and risk management of large grants and contracts.
 - e. Experience with consulting for public institutions
 - f. Interest (or even experience) in software development
 - g. moja global aims for gender balance within the team

Minor Adjustments to the 2018 Strategic Plan

1. Based on the discussions at the GFOI, a request has been received for 2 additional strategic targets for this year:
 - a. One low or middle income country has used FLINT for official reporting
 - b. moja global adds at least 1 tool to its suite of tools (currently only 1 tool: i.e. FLINT)
2. The Strategy Board **decided** to:
 - a. **Accept** the following addition as item 1.e. of the Strategic Plan: “One low or middle income country is making progress towards using the FLINT for their official MRV AFOLU including official reporting.”
 - i. The goal focuses on proving that a country of average capacity and resources can operationalise the FLINT
 - b. **Reject** the additional item referring to an additional tool in the suite of moja global.
 - i. moja global’s long term aim is to host a range of tools that facilitate the management of the land sector.
 - ii. The types of tools that could have been considered are for example:
 1. FAO sustainability of Open Forest and SEPAL no plan on how to keep the tools going.
 2. Datacube: good idea but technically complicated

3. Peter Cassetta from CSIRO has produced software to check and improve time series of land cover. He will open source this software soon but is trying to better understand how to build a community around open source software
- iii. The proposal was rejected because there are no resources available to focus on this goal and it will require considerable resources to set up and maintain another repository, in particular the testing and maintenance.

Revision of Cost Sharing Arrangements:

1. Following careful consideration, the Strategy Board **decided** on a concept for cost sharing arrangements:
 - a. moja global suspends the membership fee approach for all potential members (including organisations and companies) for a period of 1 year
 - b. From the moment they start using FLINT, potential members from gov, org, or com can join moja global and its Strategy Board for one year without any obligations. moja global focuses for 1 year on inviting users into the organisation. The criterion for a seat on the Strategy Board is that the gov, org or com uses FLINT
2. Strategy Board **requested** Co-Directors to engage Strategy Board members to explore:
 - a. What contributions Strategy Board members (and/or the organisations they represent) can make to the achievement of the Strategic Plan (in-kind or other)
 - b. What moja global can do to overcome the challenges users have to contribute to moja global/FLINT (in-kind or other) (e.g. IP arrangements to contribute to Open Source)
 - c. What moja global can do to help users reach their strategic goals
3. Strategy Board **requested** Co-Directors to develop communication material that explains:
 - a. The unique nature of open source (i.e. it is not in competition with other commercial MRV platforms)
 - b. The exact nature of the contribution, i.e. cost sharing arrangement. The users decide that it is beneficial to centralise specific functions (e.g. communications). As a result the cost of these centralised services needs to be covered in a way that ensures that those who reap the biggest benefit contribute proportionally more to the cost. (Designing systems that balance simplicity with fairness) Such cost sharing contributions can be called a membership fee, or a licence fee, or a procurement if that facilitates the ability of the potential member to comply with its administrative rules. Further communication with new members will inform this process.
 - c. The cost benefit for users (Value proposition)
 - d. Solutions to common problems (like IP)

4. Strategy Board **requested** Co-Directors to reach out to various potential members (National and Sub-national) to invite them to use the FLINT.
 - a. Focus on use of FLINT not on membership
 - b. There are many bodies in a country that could use FLINT. Several entities from one country can be users and thus Strategy Board members.
 - c. Use network of Strategy Board to reach out to potential users

Acceptance of Poland as a Member of moja global

1. The Strategy Board agreed to welcome a representative of the Polish Forest Research Institute (IBL) as a Strategy Board member based on the following information:
 - a. IBL is a parastatal with its own board but established and partially funded by the Polish Ministry of Environment
 - b. IBL focuses forest research and improvement of forest management methods
 - c. IBL is planning to use FLINT (GCBM) to model Polish Carbon Farms. IBL has been requested by the State Forests to develop research into improvements in forest management that will lead to the maximum possible CO₂ sequestration. FLINT would be used to predict the impact of different management methods.
 - d. IBL is not responsible for the Polish AFOLU MRV account.
 - e. IBL could develop its own system but believes it would be beneficial to build on an existing system like FLINT
 - f. IBL does not have the ambition to be on the Strategy Board but welcomes the opportunity to have a voice and vote in determining the future of FLINT
 - g. IBL can make contributions in kind including coders and helping to apply for international grants
 - h. IBL can contribute the results of its wide results including improvement of algorithms for CO₂ absorption
 - i. IBL can provide the opportunity to present FLINT at COP 2018 in Poland
2. The Strategy Board **suggested** that IBL considers using the word FLINT for the generic platform and GCBM for the modules running on the FLINT platform. It can choose a name for the Polish modules it will develop that can run on the FLINT platform.

Other business

1. Strategy Board **decided** that Rob Waterworth can continue in his position as Co-Director of moja global.
 - a. The Strategy Board **takes note of the potential conflict of interest** reported by Rob Waterworth, Co-Director of moja global and Director of Mullion Group:
 - i. Mullion Group has received investment to develop a commercial platform that can offer FLINT Pro, i.e. FLINT Software as a Service for companies and governments

- ii. Mullion Group will actively search for clients starting this year
 - iii. There could be a perception that Rob's work as co-director is no longer independent
- b. The Strategy Board **decided** that there is no need for action until the next Strategy Board meeting considering that:
 - i. All improvements to the open source modules will be contributed back to moja global
 - ii. The commercial offer can facilitate country adoption of FLINT
 - iii. Rob will update the Strategy Board when clients for the FLINT Pro sign up

Annex 1: Most Relevant Developments over the Reporting Period

Below the structure of the Strategic Plan is followed to provide an overview of progress achieved to date. **Yellow** means item might be falling behind. **Red** means item has fallen behind. **Blue** means proposed additional strategic target. **Blue text** means changes proposed during the Strategy Board meeting.

1. Results: new user countries, **sub-national entities, organisations and companies**:
 - a. 0 out of 5 new user countries:
 - i. Poland is presenting their interest in this meeting
 - ii. Colombia and Mexico have discussed a workplan with moja global
 - iii. Indonesia continues testing with Australian funding
 - iv. 6 Latin American countries have been suggested by the World Bank
 - v. Jamaica will send a request for proposal
 - vi. Papua New Guinea has expressed interest after a presentation
 - vii. Some Canadian Provinces and Territories have expressed an interest in using the FLINT
 - b. 0 out of 3 paying members
 - c. 0 out of 3 strategy board members from user countries
 - d. 1 out of 2 other strategy board members (UNFCCC)
 - e. **One low or middle income country is making progress towards using the FLINT for their official MRV AFOLU including official reporting**
2. Processes:
 - a. Open Source: open repository, complete documentation: **No progress**
 - b. Communications and outreach:
 - i. 13 out of 20 countries: Colombia, Mexico, PNG, Togo, UK, Germany, Norway, Australia, Cambodia, India (Union, 2 states), US (SilvaCarbon), EU (DG Clima), Poland
 - ii. 7 out of 20 organisations/companies: World Bank, FAO, UNDP, CSIRO, Jindal Global University, Planet (Mini-satellites), Stantec
 - iii. 0 out of 5 media outlets,
 - iv. 0 quarterly **newsletter**,
 - v. 0 quarterly **website update**,
 - vi. 0 out of 2 webinars,
 - vii. 0 out of 4 explanatory videos on website

- c. Collaboration:
 - i. Clarify open-governance collaboration and ecosystem. Document country open-source rules. Revise budget in line with clarified role and activities of moja global. Membership fee review: Done. Please find [draft White Paper here](#)
- d. Internal Operations:
 - i. Appoint new Management Board Director: in progress
 - ii. Formalize strategy implementation process: done
 - iii. Formalize operations of Technical Steering Committee: Pending
- 3. Capacity enhancement / FLINT Features:
 - a. Projections: ongoing work and operationalization of a spatially explicit, rules based projection system: Ongoing but not completed
 - b. Wood products: A new module that can use the results of a FLINT run to develop estimates of wood products in use and their fate: Completed successfully
 - c. Agriculture module:
 - i. Complete Tier 1 modules for all land uses: Ongoing but not completed
 - ii. Design and develop a proof of concept for non-CO2 agricultural emissions: Not started
 - d. Supply Chain Concept: Design the system and processes: Not started
 - e. Project level software (carbon markets): Design the system and processes: Paper completed, release pending approval of World Bank
- 4. Finance
 - a. UK funding agreement: in progress
 - b. EU funding agreement: no progress
 - c. At least 1 other funding agreement: World Bank?
 - d. Pipeline with at least 2 additional funding streams for 2019