

# *moja global* Strategy Board Meeting: Minutes

Tuesday, 30 April 2019

## **Agenda:**

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

Items on the agenda were:

- Review of Achievements Against Strategic Plan for first quarter of 2019
- Review current funding approach
- Replacement of co-director

## **Attendance:**

Present:

1. Peter Graham, Chair
2. Molly Bartlett, Board Member
3. William Agyemang-Bonsu, Board Member
4. Jackson Kimani, Board Member
5. Krzysztof Stereńczak, Observer and potential Board Member
6. Werner Kurz, Chair of the Technical Steering Committee, Observer in this meeting
7. Scott Nicholas, Linux Foundation Representative, Non-voting in this meeting
8. Guy Janssen, Co-Director Management Board, Non-voting in this meeting
9. Rob Waterworth, Co-Director Management Board, Non-voting in this meeting

## **Welcome by the Chair**

1. Dr hab. Krzysztof Stereńczak, prof. IBL and Deputy Director at the Polish Forest Research Institute introduced himself briefly. He is a forester with a science and research background. His PhD is on laser scanner technology to collect data and forest parameters. IBL is specialized in forest inventory. It is running various programs including an ongoing LIFE program on monitoring forest stands. IBL is building a new GCBM team and is participating in this meeting to learn more about how IBL can be involved and what are the expectations.
2. The chair introduced the other participants

## **Review of Achievements Against Strategic Plan from 2019**

Based on the information in Annex 1, an overview was provided of the progress towards strategic targets during the first quarter of 2019. Only selected issues were discussed in more detail:

1. EMO Canada:
  - a. Is a grant provided by Natural Resources Canada under the [Expanding Market Opportunities](#) mechanism. The aim of the program is to enhance

Canada's environmental reputation and forestry expertise among other things. The total amount is about 150K CAD.

- b. The Grant has 3 components and the work is about to be completed. More information will be available through the final report (by end of May)
          - i. Opening code repositories on GitHub
          - ii. Design Uncertainty Module
          - iii. Reach out to Canadian Federal, Provincial and Territorial Gov. Institutions.
2. World Bank funding is delayed but is going ahead. The likely approval dates are in mid-May.
  - a. The fund promised by the World Bank are part of the FCPF fund that is due to wind down. In the last Participants Committee Meeting the final allocations of the readiness fund were discussed. A total of 6 million USD was allocated for MRV-related expenditure. Based on the success of the FLINT workshop in Mexico for Latin American countries, some of the 6 million USD was allocated for 3 pilots, module development and verification services based on FLINTpro.
  - b. Work was planned to be completed by May but has not been started. It was indicated that the delay is due to internal approvals. The new delivery date is mid-July.
3. UK funding has not been released. It is not clear what the status is, but follow-up actions are planned to find out what has happened.
4. CFS Workshop in Victoria
  - a. Support provided by UNFCCC and SilvaCarbon
  - b. Twenty participants from Canada, Chile, Ecuador, India, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Poland, the United States, and Uruguay
  - c. Workshop had 3 days of CBM-CFS3 training and 1 day of GCBM (i.e. FLINT based)
  - d. 2 participants spent an extra week at the CFS Lab using their country's specific data sets
  - e. Chile has requested a follow-up training in country and Nicaragua has also requested follow-up support.
5. An update on the UNFCCC FLINT workshop in Ghana was discussed later in the meeting:
  - a. The World Bank has decided not to support the UNFCCC workshop (despite promises in the past)
  - b. This is particularly surprising in light of the changing realities around transparency and REDD+. More than ever countries need information about tools that command trust
  - c. UNFCCC continues to explore other collaborations including with SilvaCarbon and possibly with the Gov. of Australia

6. Later in the meeting an update on the EU LIFE proposal was requested:
  - a. The first phase is now completed: All representatives of EU countries in the WG 5 of DG Clima have been contacted. 12 countries have expressed an interest to collaborate on a joint proposal.
  - b. Some basic ideas for the substance of the proposal have been put forward but these ideas need to be worked out in detail over the next month. Combined with a budget.
  - c. The deadline for the proposal is September.
7. Later in the meeting, UNFCCC informed the group that the vacancy announcement for the intern has been published and will close on 12 May. The evaluation process will take about 1 month.
8. **Strategy Board acknowledges the progress made.** While there is a lot of effort invested, progress seems to take more effort than expected. Therefore the Board concluded that it is important to complete what we have in the Strategic Plan and try not to add more tasks.

### **Extension of Wedding List Approach**

1. In April 2018, the Strategy Board decided to suspend the membership fee approach for all potential members (including organisations and companies) for a period of 1 year. The Strategy Board agreed to review this approach in this Board Meeting (April 2019)
2. The April 2018 agreement for 1 year is as follows:
  - a. From the moment they start using FLINT, potential members from governments, organisations, or companies 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 government, organisation or company uses FLINT
  - b. Focus is on contributions in-kind or within the community to achieve the Strategic Plan. Cash contributions are voluntary, but still needed.
3. Observations from consultations:
  - a. Current Strategic Plan was completely met with financial and in-kind promises from members and other supporting organisations (WB, UK, etc.) BUT promises are not kept. So operating environment remains very uncertain.
  - b. Users need to prove added value before they can make a financial contribution (This is a process of several years.) Not the modality of membership is the problem, but the added value of the software.
  - c. There is a difference between developed countries and developing countries: In interviews with Canadian counterparts (from various ministries as well as from Provinces and Territories), the respondents indicated that they prefer a system of membership contributions that are linked to the financial resources

a potential member has available. However, Latin American countries are very unlikely to be able to make a contribution as a membership.

- d. Added value of collaboration is understood by all (Canada, LA, EU), but the cost of collaboration (i.e. moja global budget) is considered an obstacle. Other organisations have dealt with this start-up problem through either using salaried people who use a small part of their time for coordination of the organisation (e.g. SWAT) or having 1 key sponsor who guarantees core staff for a few years (e.g. GCCSI).

**4. Strategy Board acknowledges the observations but agrees a strategic shift might be necessary.**

- a. The Strategy Board agrees that the Wedding List Approach has worked somewhat but that cash contributions are necessary for short term sustainability. The key contribution is to have financial support for a neutral co-director.
- b. It is necessary to review the strategic positioning of moja global and recast the program into a form that donors find attractive. There is a need for a better storyline to get buy-in from other donors. The potential value of collaboration is obvious, but the moja global marketing has not been done well.
- c. The key changes in the landscape are: the Paris rule book has been agreed; the transparency framework is in place with a support mechanism that could support moja. The NDC partnership under WRI could be another channel supporting moja global. Other funds have been announced (e.g. Fund for Forest Sinks.)

**5. Strategy Board has decided to:**

- a. Allow the current arrangement to continue until the next Board Meeting.
- b. Have a targeted discussion around the issue of strategic positioning by email and through various exchanges.
- c. Report back in next Board Meeting

**Replacement of co-director**

- 1. Kenneth Andrasko has **not** accepted a position as Co-Director
- 2. New Co-Director is urgently needed; the current situation is not sustainable.
- 3. **Strategy Board acknowledges that this issue is linked to the strategic repositioning mentioned in the previous item.**
  - a. Alternative options like co-directors sponsored by organisations (e.g. WRI) could be considered
  - b. The discussion around the strategic positioning of moja global can be combined with the invitation of co-directors who are on the payroll of supportive organisations

## Other business

1. IBL offered support for any EU LIFE proposal moja global would initiate.
  - a. Poland is building a new team to run GCBM
  - b. There are national funds available to support a LIFE proposal
  - c. IBL has experience with writing LIFE proposal and running LIFE projects
2. ICFC informed that it has just joined the Green Budget Coalition (<https://greenbudget.ca>), which makes annual budget recommendations to the Canadian government. They are working on the 2020 recommendations now, and are asking the Canadian Govt to scale up their international finance commitments to \$2 billion CDN a year and allocate half of it to forest carbon/REDD activities. ICFC will include a reference to the CFS work and its outreach to developing countries.

## Annex 1: Progress to Date Against moja global Strategic Plan 2019

Target for end of 2019	
<b>Results</b>	<b>Progress</b>
5 new users ((sub-)national gov., organisations, or companies)	-
1 low or middle income country uses FLINT as official AFOLU MRV	-
1 low or middle income country leading module development	-
2 strategy board members from user countries	-
2 other strategy board members	-
<b>Features of moja global Software</b>	
User Interfaces for FLINT	-
Rules Based Projections Module	Terms of Reference
Uncertainty Module	Design done
Forest Module (Tier 3)	-
Wooded grasslands Module	-
Dead Organic Matter Module (litter, deadwood)	-
Agricultural Soils Module	-
Grasslands Module	-
Perennial Crop Module	-
Fire Module (incl. savanna burning)	-
Manure Management Module	-
Annual Crop Module	-
Supply Chain Concept	Proposal submitted
Proof of Concept for Nesting of Project Level Results	-
<b>Capabilities of moja global Organisation</b>	
Open repository: Set up processes, complete documentation	Repos Open

<p>Communications and outreach: 10 Gov (Nat - Sub-nat.), 5 organisations/companies, 4 media outlets, 4 newsletter, 4 website update, 2 webinars/workshops, 2 explanatory videos on website</p> <p>Internal Operations: Appoint new Management Board Director, Formalize operations of Technical Steering Committee (at least 4 minuted meetings, link to workshops to facilitate face-to-face)</p>	<p>CFS workshop UNFCCC planned UNFCCC intern ToR</p> <p>-</p>
<b>Financial Resources</b>	
<p>Canadian Funding Agreement</p> <p>World Bank Funding Agreement</p> <p>Submit proposal to EU LIFE program</p> <p>Submit proposal to King Baudouin Foundation</p> <p>Submit proposal to ESA</p> <p>2 other Funding Agreements</p> <p>Pipeline with 2 additional funding streams for 2020</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>-</p> <p>Countries contacted</p> <p>Proposal submitted</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>