Moja Global Strategy Board Meeting: Minutes

Thursday, 5 July 2018

Agenda:

The agenda was shared in advanced and can be found here.
On request of the Strategy Board, the acceptance of the Grant from ACIAR was added as a separate agenda item.
The items on the agenda were:
- Updates on activities over the reporting period
- Approach to Cost Sharing
- Approval of ACIAR Grant
- Management of moja global Funds
- Replacement of Co-Director
- Any other business

Attendance:

Present:
1. Peter Graham, Chair
2. Molly Bartlett, Board Member
3. William Agyemang-Bonsu, Board Member
4. Werner Kurz, Chair of the Technical Steering Committee, Observer in this meeting
5. Steve Winslow (Scott Nicholas joined later), Linux Foundation Representative, Non-voting 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. Jackson Kimani, Board Member
2. Radomir Balazy, Board Member

Welcome:

The Chair welcomed the participants.
All participants introduced themselves.

Update on Developments over the Reporting Period

1. The Strategy Board **noted** the progress listed in Annex 1 and of the additional information provided here:
    a. UK funding: The efforts to develop a proposal submitted to the UK Space Agency have stopped due to administrative complications. UK Gov remains very committed to support moja global and is exploring various other channels to release pilot funds. The UK Gov also remains committed to a large investment in MRV for the land sector. Other channels being tried for pilot

funds include the FAO. The funding would be channeled through the FAO but managed by the GFOI partners. UK has met with FAO and FAO has submitted a concept note which includes GBP 500K for FLINT testing and GBP 500K for needs assessments. It is very positive that UK remains supportive. The communication with FAO is not optimal and could be considered a risk.

b. WB workshop in Mexico: moja global has submitted various proposals to the WB in the past but these proposals were not funded. WB has shared an agenda for a workshop in Mexico in September. WB has developed this proposal with other groups including SilvaCarbon and Conafor. The agenda is rather ambitious is to some extent based on the development FLINT could have reached, had it been funded when the proposals were submitted to the WB. So it is important to manage expectations as FLINT development has been slower than expected. As with the FAO, the communication with the WB has not been optimal and could be considered a risk.

Approach to Cost Sharing

1. The Strategy Board suggested minor corrections to and **approved** [The Criteria for the Appointment of Grantor and User Appointees](#) (Redlined version). The clean version can be found [here](#).
2. The Strategy Board **agreed** to to review this document again not later than April 2019 to ensure it reflects approaches to cost sharing adopted by moja global.
3. The Strategy Board **approved** the following principles as guidance for the discussions with participants on their contributions to moja global:
   a. Engagement with participants will be on the basis of the Strategic Plan and the cost related to each target. Participants are requested to take on targets from the Strategic Plan and make contributions in kind or in cash to reach these targets. (Reference was made to the metaphor of a wedding list or registry, i.e. moja global determines its priorities and then goes out to its participants to support these priorities.)
   b. Governmental participants are engaged to contribute in kind in proportion to the benefit moja global generates for the participants. A seat on the Strategy Board is provided to the governmental participant coordinating the contribution.
   c. Governmental participants will use their influence to lobby their organisation, government and donors to make cash contributions to moja global.
   d. Service providers include 10% moja global contribution to donor proposals to provide a seat on the Strategy Board for the recipient governmental recipient
   e. Service providers contribute a % of their revenue generated by moja global related products and services (e.g. subscriptions.) Seat goes to the service provider once threshold has been surpassed (The Linux Foundation fees can be included in the threshold or in addition.)

Approval of ACIAR Grant

1. The Strategy Board **approved** to accept the grant from ACIAR through Mullion Group.
   a. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) is an Australian Government statutory authority under the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. ACIAR assists and encourages Australian agricultural scientists to use their skills to identify and find solutions to agricultural problems of developing countries. ACIAR is investing in measuring and managing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. ACIAR is particularly interested in the open source platform provided by FLINT to build agricultural models including livestock.
   b. The Grant is a percentage of a contract Mullion Group has signed with ACIAR to demonstrate integration in Fiji.
   c. Additional contributions are possible as a proposal on livestock emissions has been submitted for consideration.
2. The Strategy Board **emphasized** that it wants to approve Grants to moja global in accordance with the moja global Charter and advised to consider the approval of principles or conditions for the contracts moja global accepts to be written into.

Management of moja global Funds

1. The Strategy Board **confirmed** the procedures to accept funds and approve expenditure as follows:
   a. A Grant agreement (or participation agreement) is signed by the Grantor and The Linux Foundation (LF)
   b. Grants are transferred to LF bank account
   c. A contribution of 9% for LF is deducted (6% if total contribution to LF exceeds 1 million USD)
   d. A description of activities and a detailed budget for the use of the funds is approved by the Strategy Board. The budget can have some flexibility but can never exceed the total funds available.
   e. The Co-Directors are responsible for the implementation of the activities in accordance with the approved description and budget
   f. Invoices for incurred expenditure are submitted to LF
   g. LF reimburses expenditure in line with the approved budget
   h. Co-Directors report back to the Strategy Board each meeting on progress until completion
2. The Strategy Board **approved** the following funding priorities in principle as insufficient funding is available to support all these activities. Any expenditure on these priorities is only allowed after the Strategy Board has approved detailed activities and budgets:
   a. Presentation of moja global in India

    b. Presentation of moja global at the *International Conference on Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Food Security* in Berlin.

    c. Prepare COP side-event with Poland
        i. The Strategy Board **requested** that the side-event be coordinated with moja global participants especially UNFCCC.
        ii. The Strategy Board suggested that a Strategy Board meeting in person could be considered at COP

3. The Strategy Board **approved** the following description and budget for the first of the above funding priorities, as follows:

    a. Preferred outcome: India tests FLINT to estimate emissions and sinks from the land sector.

    b. Description of the task:
        i. Contact the Indian Government and obtain an appointment with the Secretary of the
        ii. Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
        iii. Travel to India, to present moja global and its tools to the Secretary MoEFCC, representatives from Forestry, Climate Change, Agriculture and Informatics.
        iv. Follow-up meetings with Forestry and Informatics.
        v. Follow-up meetings with other Government Agencies as suggested by MoEFCC.
        vi. Meetings with International Institutions (WB, UNDP, etc.) and potential donors.

    c. Timing:
        i. Travel to India will be undertaken from 13 to 22 of July.
        ii. The meeting with the MoEFCC will take place on 16 July.
        iii. The follow-up meetings will be arranged between 16 and 21 July.

    d. Budget for the task: To allow some flexibility, the budget items below are maximum expenditures. In reality the expenditures will be lower so the total will not exceed 10'000 AUD, which is the total available budget.

		USD
Total expenditure upto 10'000 AUD	Upto	7375.00
Contribution to The Linux Foundation 9%	Upto	663.75
Economy Ticket Brussels-Delhi	Upto	780.00
Per Diem Delhi UN rate USD 216 max 9 days	Upto	1944.00
Fee max 5 days	Upto	5000.00

Replacement of co-director

1. No candidates for the moja global Co-Director have been identified.
2. The Strategy Board continues to search but has not specific suggestions at this time.

Other business

1. No additional items were proposed
2. The Strategy Board recognized the importance of finding funds to compensate the Co-Directors to ensure the viability of moja global.

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. <mark style="background-color: yellow">Yellow</mark> means item might be falling behind. <mark style="background-color: red">Red</mark> means item has fallen behind.

1. Results: new user countries, sub-national entities, organisations and companies:
    a. 1 out of 5 new user countries (Total 7 users: Canada, Kenya +5 new users): Poland is confirmed as the first of the 5 new user countries. This task is still considered on track as various initiatives can quickly result in additional users:
        i. A contract to introduce the FLINT in Indonesia is in place and can start after some additional approvals from the Indonesian bureaucracy.
        ii. As reported in previous meetings, Colombia and Mexico have already tested the FLINT and funding would turn them into full users.
        iii. The World Bank is planning its workshop for Latin American countries in September to introduce the FLINT and design work plans.
        iv. Following the presentation of the FLINT earlier this year, PNG is still considering how to proceed.
        v. Following the presentation of the FLINT earlier this year, Jamaica has released a request for proposals to install a MRV system.
        vi. The Canadian Province Quebec will be sending two staff members to the Pacific Forestry Center in the second half of July. Quebec is testing GCBM on small data sets. This collaboration will slowly grow with positive technical support opportunities.
        vii. India has expressed an interest in moja global. A presentation is planned for July but no confirmation has been received yet.
    b. 0 out of 3 <mark style="background-color: yellow">paying members</mark>: Considering that the Strategy Board has decided to allow new users to join without contribution for at least 1 year, it is not likely that this target will be achieved. However, other approaches to income will be developed and alternative income streams will be achieved. Hence this item is marked yellow (might not be achieve) rather than red (will not be achieved.)
    c. 1 out of 3 strategy board members from user countries: Poland has joined. The Kenyan counterparts have decided in a recent meeting not to join yet. It is not exactly clear why Kenya is reluctant to join. Considering the various planned activities as listed above, it is expected that by the end of the year, 2 additional users will have joined moja global.

d. 1 out of 2 other strategy board members: UNFCCC has joined. No other organizations are currently being targeted but the various collaboration opportunities outlined above might lead to additional member organizations.

e. One low or middle income country is making progress towards using the FLINT for their official MRV AFOLU including official reporting: Kenya is still on track to use SLEEK (its version of the FLINT) to report its FREL by the end of the year.

2. Processes:
   a. Open Source: <mark>open repository, complete documentation</mark>: No progress has been made on these items as we cannot open the repositories or complete the documentation without dedicated resources. Once documentation is up to date and repositories are open, sufficient resources are needed to support interested parties.
   b. Communications and outreach:
      i. 16 out of 20 countries: Fiji, Jamaica, Belize, Colombia, Mexico, PNG, Togo, UK, Germany, Norway, Australia, Cambodia, India (Union, 2 states), US (SilvaCarbon), EU (DG Clima), Poland. This item is still on track as Poland is planning a side event at COP2018. Most likely more than 4 additional countries will be in the audience.
      ii. 7 out of 20 organisations/companies: World Bank, FAO, UNDP, CSIRO, Jindal Global University, Planet (Mini-satellites), Stantec. This item is still on track as moja global will deliver its paper at the International Conference on GHG Emissions and Food Security, in Berlin 10 to 13 September 2018. More than 13 additional organisations will be in the audience.
      iii. Other communication efforts will not be achieved as there are no resources to develop and deliver these items.
         1. 0 out of 5 <mark>media outlets</mark>,
         2. 0 quarterly <mark>newsletter</mark>,
         3. 0 quarterly <mark>website update</mark>,
         4. 0 out of 2 <mark>webinars</mark>:
         5. 0 out of 4 explanatory <mark>videos</mark> 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 White Paper here
   d. Internal Operations:
      i. Appoint <mark>new Management Board Director</mark>: Continuous efforts to identify an additional director has not resulted in suitable candidates yet.
      ii. Formalize strategy implementation process: done
      iii. Formalize <mark>operations of Technical Steering Committee</mark>: The Technical Steering Committee is functioning on an ad-hoc basis at the moment. Formal procedures are necessary when the repositories are made

completely open. As indicated above, as this moment there are no resources to support the opening of the repositories.

3. Capacity enhancement / FLINT Features:
   a. Projections: ongoing work and operalization 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. As reported in the previous meeting, the Tier 1 modules for all land uses are in progress
      ii. Design and develop a proof of concept for non-CO2 agricultural emissions: Has not started yet
      iii. Mullion has been invited by ACIAR to present options to link emissions from livestock to other land sector emissions
   d. Supply Chain Concept: Design the system and processes for measuring emissions from land in a supply chain. Contacts with Quantis continue but no further progress has been made.
   e. Project level software (carbon markets): Design the system and processes: Paper completed

4. Finance
   a. UK funding agreement: in progress but the original engagement through the UK Space Agency has been discontinued. UK is exploring other options through the FAO.
   b. EU funding agreement: The collaboration with the EU JRC continues but due to staff capacity shortages on the JRC side, it is unlikely that any funding will be provided to moja global. Training on the use of the CBM-CFS3 at JRC in Europe involved 1 day of training on GCBM (i.e. based on FLINT platform) that generated a lot of interest. However, Giacomo's group is very much focussed on Reference Levels and the associated implementation (for which they need CBM-CFS3) and Andrea's group, while interested is waiting for new directives from Brussels. We also briefly discussed the Brazil pilot – but the person leading this at JRC is not focussed on carbon or GHG but very much on land use change modelling. GCBM/FLINT implementation is unlikely in the short term largely because JRC simply does not have the capacity among their staff.
   c. At least 1 other funding agreement: Both World Bank and ACIAR are still potential sources of funding. As will be discussed, funding might be introduced as a percentage of donor investment in MRV systems based on FLINT.
   d. Pipeline with at least 2 additional funding streams for 2019: They have not been identified yet, but chances are still realistic.