

CONCEPT NOTE

Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Workshop on improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management

Mandate and background

Through decision 4/CP.23 ‘Koronivia joint work on agriculture’ the COP requested the SBSTA and SBI to jointly address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings, working with constituted bodies under the Convention and taking into consideration the vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and approaches to addressing food security.

Parties set out a road map of work under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture, as contained in annex I of [FCCC/SBI/2018/9](#) and [FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4](#) including six workshops to be held sequentially up until COP 26 (November 2020). The SBSTA and the SBI requested the secretariat to organize these workshops in conjunction with specified sessions, and encouraged admitted observers to participate in these workshops.

This third Koronivia workshop, to be held in conjunction with SB 50, focusses on improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management. The SBSTA and the SBI invited Parties and observers to submit views on the topic of the workshop by 6 May 2019. Submissions are available on the [UNFCCC submission portal](#).

Objectives and proposed approach

General objectives of the workshop

The workshop is expected to allow Parties to address matters related to improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management, by:

- Exchanging on the latest science and experiences with implementation of related activities;
- Being informed about the scope of the work and activities of the invited constituted bodies, financing entities and other organizations in relation to agriculture, with a focus on their role in assisting with implementation of related activities;
- Engaging in discussion and exchanging ideas, experiences and lessons learned on modalities for implementation of related activities;
- Considering how the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture could contribute to the work of constituted bodies, financing entities and other organizations on related activities;

- Taking into account the work on other issues, including but not limited to farmers, gender, youth, local communities and indigenous peoples.

The outcomes of the workshop are expected to help charter the way forward and to support Parties in advancing the consideration of issues as well as identifying the key elements and potential modalities for implementation of related activities.

Proposed general approach to the workshop

The workshop will be organized in four main sessions.

- **Session 1:** Country presentations;
- **Session 2:** Work undertaken by constituted bodies and financing entities;
- **Session 3:** Expert panel discussion;
- **Session 4:** All Parties and observers engage in an interactive exchange of views among themselves, guided by the co-chairs of the workshop.

There will be a short opening and closing session. Two keynote presentations set the scene and highlight latest research results as well as trends in implementation and assessment of soil carbon activities. A workshop report will be prepared after the session.

Duration: The workshop is tentatively expected to be held for two half-days on the afternoon of Tuesday, 18 June, and the morning of Wednesday, 19 June.

Proposed guidance for the Plenary Discussions

As a working proposal, the co-chairs of the workshop will suggest focusing the discussions on the contribution of Parties and observers towards implementing activities to improve soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management. It would be useful to identify concrete examples and proposals of modalities for implementation of such activities, which may include the identification of gaps and addressing challenges as well as exploring opportunities for enhanced collaboration and synergies.

Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Workshop on improved soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management
Tuesday, 18 June 2019, 15.00 – 18.00 and Wednesday, 19 June 2019, 10.00 – 13.00
Bonn, Germany

AGENDA

Day 1: Tuesday, 18 June 2019, 15.00 – 18.00

15.00: Opening (*10 minutes*)

Opening and introduction by the workshop co-chairs

15.10: Keynote presentation: Soil carbon: key to address vulnerabilities of agriculture to climate change and food security issues (*30 minutes*)

Speaker: Ms. Claire Chenu, Professor of soil sciences, INRA AgroParisTech

15.40: Session I: Country presentations (*80 minutes*)

Guiding questions for presentations:

- 1. What are your countries' experiences with improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management?*
- 2. How did your country address co-benefits and synergies with multiple objectives when improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility?*
- 3. How did your country set goals and measure progress in improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility?*
- 4. Which challenges did your country face in improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility, and how can the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture and UNFCCC constituted bodies help to address these challenges?*

Speakers:

- Brazil
- California
- ASEAN
- Russian Federation
- Senegal

17.00: Session II: Work undertaken by constituted bodies and financing entities (60 minutes)

Guiding questions for presentations:

- 1. What work is your body/organization undertaking to improve soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management?*
- 2. How does your body/organization address co-benefits and synergies with multiple objectives when improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility?*
- 3. How does your body/organization set goals and measure progress in improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility?*
- 4. Which challenges did your body/organization face in improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility, and how could the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, UNFCCC constituted bodies or other actors help to address these challenges?*

Speakers:

- World Bank
- Climate Technology Centre and Network
- Global Environment Facility
- Green Climate Fund

18.00: End of day 1

Day 2: Wednesday, 19 June 2019, 10.00 – 13.00

10.00: Opening (10 minutes)

- Reflections of day one and introduction to work on day two by the workshop co-chairs

10.10: Keynote presentation: Sustainable soil management: is it a feasible contribution to the climate change agenda? Challenges and prospects of SOC (from measuring to sequestration) (30 minutes)

Speaker: Mr. Ronald Vargas, Secretary, Global Soil Partnership

10.40: Session III: Expert Panel Discussion (60 minutes)

Guiding questions for presentations:

- 1. What are the key challenges and barriers in achieving a transformation in agriculture which leads to improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management?*
- 2. How can the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture and UNFCCC constituted bodies or other actors help to address these challenges?*

Expert panelists from the following organizations will address the guiding questions above:

- Ms. Mary Sakala, small-holder farmer, Zambia
- ENGO
- FARMERS
- Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA)
- WBCSD

11.40: Session IV: Plenary discussion (80 minutes)

Open discussion on the following guiding questions:

1. *How could the constituted bodies be further involved and synergies be enhanced for improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management?*
2. *Which modalities would be useful for the implementation of activities improving soil carbon, soil health and soil fertility under grassland and cropland as well as integrated systems, including water management?*
3. *What are concrete examples and proposals for such modalities, and which gaps and challenges need to be addressed?*

13.00: End of workshop