

Announcements

JEROEN HUSING

BGBD Project Coordinator TSBF-CIAT,

United Nations Avenue, P.O. Box 30667-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

email: j.husing@cgiar.org Tel: 254-20-524772

The Annual Meeting and Project Steering Committee meeting, February 2004

Preamble

From February 23 to 27, 2004 the BGBD project will conduct its annual meeting. This year's annual meeting will be held in Kenya, close to the Embu benchmark area, one of the two designated benchmark sites in Kenya as opposed to the original venue in Brazil. I prefer to refer to these meetings as 'annual meetings' rather than 'global workshops' as has been done in previous years. This year's meeting will be coded as AM04.

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of the annual meetings will primarily be to review what has been done and achieved in the previous year and to plan for the year ahead. For this reason, the Project Steering Committee meeting is planned to feature alongside the annual meeting. Technical issues, like methods for the inventory of DGBD, are best addressed in workshops separate from the annual meeting with participation of representatives from relevant disciplines from each country and of external advisers, such that the critical mass of participation is present. You need a minimum number of participants to discuss these technical issues effectively. In future it may be convenient to combine the annual meeting with the workshops of the working groups should there be many people featuring in both meetings and depending on the objectives to be achieved. It may certainly be an option to consider for next year when we aim to present results of phase one of the project.

In this year's programme you will find that the working groups feature prominently. In my considered opinion, it seems appropriate to discuss the

activities for the next year per working group since working group activities are associated with the project outcomes and because strategic decisions taken by the working groups will determine the activities of the project. Like the country programmes, the working groups should report on work done over the past reporting period and their priorities and plan for activities in the subsequent reporting period.

If we could consider the previous year to be the initiation phase of the project, then this year should be dedicated more to getting the project operational. This year's annual meeting should therefore direct itself towards putting proper structures in place and having conditions fulfilled that ensure the project delivers on the tasks it set out to fulfil in phase I. Thus, the meeting and deliberations should be pragmatic. The focus therefore should be on practical solutions to issues rather than on theoretical aspects of the project. As far as theoretical issues are concerned, the meeting should set out the way forward to resolving them rather than trying to address them during the meetings.

Programme

Please find on the next page the tentative programme for this year's annual meeting. We will try to reduce time allocated for the PSC meetings in order to give the PSC members the opportunity to participate in the working group discussions. Please note that this programme is tentative and is subject to change for any logistic or technical reason.

The purpose of the annual meetings will primarily be to review what has been done and achieved in the previous year and to plan for the year ahead.



Announcements

Continued...

Programme for the BGBD Annual Meeting (February 23-27, 2004)

Monday 23/01/04 AM

Meeting Room I

Session 1 (plenary)

Opening of the annual meeting

Progress reports

- Project coordinator
- Country reports

Monday 23/01/04 PM

Session 1 (continued)

Session 2 (plenary)

WG1

- Tasks, activities & plans of WG1
- Methods for inventory of BGBD

Tuesday 24/01/05 AM

Meeting Room I

Session 2 (continued)

Session 3 (plenary)

WG2

- Tasks, plans & activities of Wg2
- Issues on sampling strategy
- Issues on landscape analyses

Tuesday 24/01/05 PM

Session 4 (parallel)

PSC meeting

Tuesday 24/01/05 PM

Meeting Room 2

Session 5 (parallel)

WG1

- Processes and services
- Indices for monitoring BGBD

Session 6 (parallel)

Wg2

- DB Content and Structure
- Issues concerning data analyses

Wednesday 25/01/04 AM

Meeting Room I

Session 7 (plenary)

WG3

- Task, organization and plans of WG3

Session 8 (plenary)

WG4

- Tasks, organisation & plans of Wg4
- Framework for economic valuation of BGBD

Wednesday 25/01/04 PM

Meeting Room I

Session 9 (parallel)

PSC meeting (cont.)

Wednesday 25/01/04 PM

Meeting Room 2

Session 10 (parallel)

WG1/2 continued

Session 11 (parallel)

WG3

- Community involvement
- Basket of (mngt) options and framework for farmer experimentation

Session 12

WG4

- Framework for M&E and Impact assessment

Thursday 26/01/04 AM & PM

Field Visits

Friday 27/01/04 AM

Meeting Room I

Session 13 (parallel)

PSC meeting (continued)

Session 15 (plenary)

- Report from working groups
- Report from PSC meeting

Friday 27/01/04 AM

Meeting Room 2

Session 14 (parallel)

- Working group meetings continued

Friday 27/01/04 PM

Meeting Room I

Session 16 (plenary)

- Plan of activities for 2004
- Closure

The purpose of the annual meetings will primarily be to review what has been done and achieved in the previous year and to plan for the year ahead.

