

Workplan 2017

Submitted by Jawoo Koo (IFPRI; Global Coordinator), with inputs from CSI Reps¹
Workplan Coverage January 1 – December 31, 2017 (Q1 – Q4)

CGIAR Consortium for Spatial Information (CSI) is the geospatial science Community of Practice that facilitates CGIAR's research using geospatial data and analysis. In 2017, CSI will continue undertaking activities to bring spatial scientists together through coordinated communication, community-developed products, and convening of members in various events to represent CGIAR in the geospatial domain of expertise.

Products

- 1. Position Paper – *Enabling Precision Agriculture in Tropical Agriculture*:** Building on the community-wide technical discussion at the 2016 CSI meeting in Seattle², CSI will draft a position paper on what factors would unlock the potential of precision agriculture in the tropics, assessing its feasibility for crops, livestock, forestry, and fishery. This position paper will reiterate the consensus made at the meeting that technology impacts would hinge on non-technical factors, such as functioning market systems, in the target areas and discuss the role of geospatial data and research community in CGIAR to realize the potential. *Timeline: Q2*
- 2. Technical Memo – *Guideline for Publishing Spatial Datasets with CG Core*:** CSI will identify key flagship open-access spatial datasets from members and ensure their full compliancy with the CGIAR Open Access and Data Management Policy (OADMP). Specifically, CSI will publish a technical memo providing guidance to complete the dataset with the appropriate tagging of geospatial information in the standard-compliant way using the CG Core standard (e.g., using ISO 3166-2 for sub-national administrative units). *Timeline: Q3*
- 3. Flagship Tool – *Raster Data Catalog and Analysis (RDCA)***³: To serve as an open, standard-compliant geospatial data cataloging and analysis tool, RDCA is being developed by SpatialDev. The main demand for this tool was discussed for last few years within CSI. There are many platforms already serve vector files (and some small raster files), but not one suitable for publishing large raster data files and manage them easily. RDCA is being developed as an open

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² Meeting note and agenda available at <https://cgiarcsi2016.sched.org>.

³ Development of RDCA is funded from other program budget and will not require CSI's financial contribution. As the main user group of this tool, CSI will actively involve in providing feedback in the design and development.

source project, and it will be available for everyone at CGIAR, and it will be fully OADMP-compliant. CSI will contribute the open access spatial datasets to RDCA and promote. *Timeline: Q3*

Communication

1. **Website** – CSI’s website (<http://cgiar-csi.org>) has not been actively updated, for its complexity to manage and the lack of dedicated person. CSI will revisit the current structure and simplify the contents, possibly utilizing the communication space provided within CGIAR Platform for Big Data in Agriculture program website. *Timeline: Q2*
2. **Communication Channels** – CSI is using the Office 365 Group to communicate with Center Representatives internally and Slack (<https://cgiar-csi.slack.com>) for a community-wide communication. *Timeline: Q1*
3. **Newsletter** – CSI will compile a list of recent publications authored by CSI members and other news items to circulate as a part of monthly community-wide newsletter using MailChimp. *Timeline: Q2*

Conference

1. **Big Data Convention:** CSI will organize a dedicated session at the upcoming Platform Convention in Cali (CIAT HQ) in September. Similar to the previous meetings, the agenda will include a session to share updates from centers, discuss specifically identified research opportunity and other relevant topics, possibly with invited keynote speakers from partner institutions, and also organize the CSI Business Meeting. *Timeline: Q3*
2. **Esri User Conference:** As it has been done in last several years, Esri invited CSI to the Esri User Conference this summer (San Diego, CA; July 10-14). CSI will setup a kiosk and participate agriculture-themed sessions. We can also have a small CSI meeting there, if enough CGIAR people participate. *Timeline: Q3*

Budget

The total budget CSI will receive is **100K USD**, within which 25% is earmarked for the coordination time of the Global Coordinator (Jawoo Koo at IFPRI). The remainder of the budget will be used to for the development of communication materials, subscription of related services, support travel costs to represent CSI in meetings and conferences, and other low-hanging-fruits identified to benefit the community to a large extent⁴. Given the limited operational budget, CSI will continue seeking opportunities to maximize synergy with ongoing activities from other programs.

⁴ As of writing, there is an ongoing CSI-wide discussion on the need for a global-extent simple, high-resolution agro-ecological zone data layer to be used in various domain analyses. Development of this can be potentially supported by CSI.