

Guiding principles for G20 MACS Activities

The following are “guiding principles for working groups and initiatives emanating from MACS”, herein after referred to as “activities”. These guiding principles are consistent with and build upon the **Terms of Reference of MACS** which states: ***“MACS itself is not an operational structure to resource and execute joint activities.” and “The MACS and its objectives should be utilized in support of the G20 working groups and/or meetings of their respective Ministers/Sherpas. The intent is to utilize MACS objectives to provide G20 policy leadership with agricultural research and development guidance from the G20 agricultural chief scientists.”***

- Activities should be consistent with MACS Terms of Reference and these guiding principles.
- If activities are to be formally presented at the MACS and included in the MACS agenda, activities should be proposed to the MACS leadership troika at least 3 months prior to the MACS meeting at which the activity is proposed to be raised. Inclusion of the proposal on the MACS agenda is at the discretion of the G20 MACS Chair.
- Activities may only commence following presentation at the G20 MACS meeting if there are no objections.
- Activities should be referenced in the G20 MACS communique the year it is launched.
- Activities should be time limited to 2 years and should provide the MACS with a written final report or product within this period. Activities may continue after the 2 year time period, but at this point they should be self-sustaining and no discussion, presentation, or report should be required at future MACS meetings. However, written stocktaking reports may continue. Exceptional situations may be identified by the G20 MACS troika and the Chair may decide at their discretion to include past activities on the MACS agenda.
 - For example, if the proposal is launched at 2020 MACS, the final report and/or presentation should be made no later than the 2022 MACS.
- Only G20 members may lead activities and the leads should verify G20 activity participants in writing.
 - For example, if an activity requires a survey to be conducted of the G20 members, participation in the survey itself should not be construed as meaning the member is a participant in the activity.
- Activities should be referenced in the MACS communique when a final report or product is presented to G20 MACS members during a MACS meeting.
- Activities may be referenced in public documents as: “initiated at”, “launched at”, and/or “announced at” the G20 MACS. Activities should not be identified/branded in public documents as “G20 MACS [insert activity name]”. Where possible references in public documents should cite the G20 MACS meeting and/or communique where the activity was mentioned. Transparency in public documents is encouraged when activities have changed scope or scale since initiation.