

# 67<sup>th</sup> EURAF Executive Committee Report

7<sup>th</sup> October 10:00 – 11:30

Report written by Nuria Ferreiro-Domínguez and Rosa Mosquera-Losada

## **Present:**

Elected Executive Committee: Rosa Mosquera-Losada, Anastasia Pantera, Fabien Balaguer, Joana Amaral Paulo

National Delegates: Johanna Bjorkland, Andrea Pisanelli

Apologies: Gerry Lawson, Jeroen Watte, Josep Crous, Andrea Vityi, Christian Dupraz, Patrick Worms, Robert Borek, Mark Vonk, Yousri Hannachi

## **1 EURAF Project Activity**

### **1.1 Ecosystem Services**

- SFS-29-2017: Socio-eco-economics – socio-economics in ecological approaches, 14 Feb 2017 (First stage), 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage), €5 million.
- SFS-27-2017 Permanent grassland – farming systems and policies.
- SFS-28-2017: Functional biodiversity – productivity gains through functional biodiversity: effective interplay of crop pollinators and pest predators, 14 Feb 2017 (First stage), 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage), €10 million.
- RUR-03-2017: Towards 2030 - policies and decision tools for an integrated management of natural resources, 14 Feb 2017 (First stage), 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage), €8 million

Rosa Mosquera has found the previous calls of interest for Agroforestry. She is leading on SFS-27 with assistance from Nuria Rodriguez of a public foundation, Fundación Empresa-Universidad Gallega (FEUGA) paid by USC. Barbara Smith (University of Coventry) is leading on SFS-28, but competition is high. There are possibilities of consortium for SFS-29, that are working around EURAF. No news from RUR-03-2017, anyone else wish to lead it?

**Action:** whoever wants to participate in these 4 calls, ask Rosa to update the information

### **1.2 Knowledge transfer**

- RUR-10-2016-2017: Thematic Networks compiling knowledge ready for practice, 17 Feb 2016, €2 million (closed). AFINET
- RUR-12-2017: Networking European farms to boost thematic knowledge exchanges and close the innovation gap, 14 Feb 2017, €7 million
- RUR-15-2017: The benefits of working with others – fostering social capital in the farming sector, 14 Feb 2017, €3 million
- RUR-16-2017: Optimising interactive innovation project approaches and the delivery of EU policies to speed up innovation in rural areas, 14 Feb 2017 (First stage), 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage), €5 million

From this calls AFINET was funded last year under a similar call RUR10-2016-2017, so silvoarable and silvopastoralism will not be considered as a thematic network as already has been funded, however, other networks dealing with other agroforestry activities like

homegardens or forest farming could be of interest. There are no people working with EURAF in the other projects, anyone else wish to lead one?

**Action:** whoever wants to participate in these calls or need EURAF to collaborate, ask Rosa to update the information

### **1.3 Cost Actions**

- Felix Herzog will draft a proposal on “Agroforestry” with a focus on silvoarable or silvopastoral. Rosa and Anastasia will contact him ([felix.herzog@agroscope.admin.ch](mailto:felix.herzog@agroscope.admin.ch)) to ask how is the submission going on. Anastasia has no recent information neither.<sup>1</sup>

**Action:** Anastasia and Rosa will try to contact Felix because the deadline is approaching.

### **1.4. Education**

- ERASMUS+: Education. Rosa was talking with Charles Burriel about the possibility of continuing with long learning programmes associated to AF because Charles is retired. He confirmed he will be able to keep leading these calls.
- RUR-13-2017: Building a future science and education system fit to deliver to practice, 14 Feb 2017 (First stage), 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage), 7 million, Nobody working on this.
- ITN. Germany. Proposal from the University of Cottbus (Germany) to create an International Training Network (Marie Curie) on agroforestry across Europe, mainly dealing with land restoration. In this call EURAF will be an associated partner.

**Action:** whoever wants to participate in these calls, ask Rosa to update the information

### **1.4 Submitted proposals**

- SUBER Erasmus + VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING. Lead: IRMASL, Spain (no feedback yet )
- PASTTREE (1<sup>st</sup> stage approved in ERANET-SUSAN programme “Innovative management and use of woody plants on pastures for sustainable cattle production systems”) Lead: University of Liège (ULg), Belgium. First step approved, Second step submitted.

**Action:** whoever wants to know updated information of these calls, ask Rosa to update the information. Cross our fingers to succeed! Rosa also said that the European Commission is preparing the next calls of the H2020. Paul Burgess has been invited to give a talk in December so EURAF should work in this task.

### **1.5 Funded projects**

- **AGFORWARD accounting:** Rosa explained the economic situation of EURAF in the AGFORWARD project. In the white table we can observe the initial situation, in the green table the amount of money already justified and in the red table the amount of money that EURAF has to justify.

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<sup>1</sup> Once asked after the meeting, Felix confirmed he is currently working in the draft

INITIAL SITUATION	rtd (50%)	other (100%)	TOTAL
personnel costs	59531	71877	131408
subcontracting	0	0	0
other directs	14000	16761	30761
indirects	14706,2	17727,6	32433,8
lump			
Total	88237,2	106365,6	194602,8
maximum eu contrib	44118	106365	

JUSTIFIED	RTD (50%)	other	TOTAL
personnel costs	23141,14	39182,14	62323,28
subcontracting	0	0	0
other directs	0	13139,71	13139,71
indirects	4628,22	10464,37	15092,59
lump	0	0	0
Total	27769,36	62786,22	90555,58
maximum eu contrib	13884,68	62786,22	76670,9

TO JUSTIFY	rtd	other	TOTAL
personnel costs	36389,86	32694,86	69084,72
subcontracting	0	0	0
other directs	14000	3621,29	17621,29
indirects	10077,98	7263,23	17341,21
lump	0	0	0
Total	60467,84	43579,38	104047,22
maximum eu contribution	30233,32	43578,78	73812,1

50%                      100%

Rosa reminded that RTD money should be cofinanced by 50%, and "other" has no cofinanced funds.ç

The commission gave already some money in advance (around 113016 euros), EURAF justified 90555, 58 euros, which means that there are 22460,42 euros left. However the 90555,58 euros used to justify 76670 were really justified as the rest (up to 90555 euros) were "cofinancing concept". So if the project ends today we have a deficit of 36345 euros, but in the account there is yet 22460, so a negative balance of 13884,68 euros appeared if the project ends today. See the below numbers:

Already given by the European Commission: 70016 + 43000=	(a)	113016 euros
Really spent	(b)	90555,58 euros
Really justified	(c)	76670,90 euros
If the project ended now we have a deficit of	(e)= (a) - (c)	-36345,1 euros
But, I only have in the account	(f)= (a) - (b)	-22460,42 euros
Real deficit	(g)= (e) - (f)	-13884,68 euros

## POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

No spend the money associated to RTD. To avoid the loss of this money and as the USC has carried out the EURAF work in AGFORWARD and it is able to cofinance the funds, Rosa will work with ISA, USC and Cranfield to move the money and the duties to USC for this amount.

Use indirect costs: (20%, not needed to justify with bills) to pay the deficit in the next year. So we need to spend 69423,4 euros of "other costs" (100% funded) to generate the 12884,68 euros. But, we only can spend 43579,78 in the category of "other costs" meaning that only 8715,75 Euros will be generated. So the real deficit will be: 4168,93 (from 12884,68-8715,75) at the end of the project

On the other side, we should know how much money has EURAF to pay in the account to pay the part of the "other costs"? In the bank, EURAF has 40668,78 euros, so still needed 2910 to cover the 43578 euros of other costs. Probably we will receive close to 20000 euros more from the Commission after September report approval. If not on time, we will have money from AFINET to cover this. Rosa will contract Nuria or anyone else from her team with this money to help with the duties left in AGFORWARD, to fulfil the low salaries that will be involved (due to the high salary assigned to Anja Chalmin) to adjust the person month, and to cover with the money of her team the salary of the contracted person in order to adjust all the accounting.

## PROBLEM

No amendments are needed to move money but there is a need to move the activity tasks so this requires amendment of the contract.

ACTIONS: Rosa will work with Fabien, ISA, USC and Cranfield to ask for the amendment.

- AFINET: Will start next 1 January

## **2 EURAF Policy activities (CDG, others)**

### **2.1 Already finished**

20 September 2016 CDG on Rural Development. Rosa participated in this CDG and she said that the meeting was very interesting. In the meeting they addressed the next points, as can be seen in the newsletter. Specially, good examples of RDP implementation at landscape level, like the collective implementation of AEC measure in The Netherlands. Of high interest was also the presentation of examples of good practices in MS/region. The RAPCA was mentioned as a good environmental practice were payments are based on biodiversity results rather than on implementation of activities. The cooperation measure including the operational groups link was also explained, but it will be further developed in the forthcoming months. Rosa explained that this should be followed to link regional operational groups related to agroforestry. Andrea Pissanelli explained that one was presented in Italy without results, and Rosa mentioned that in Galicia several operational groups related to agroforestry were also presented but the call was not solved yet.

### **2.2 Forthcoming (date confirmed)**

- Arable Crop, 11/10/2016: JOINT MEETING OF THE SUGAR EXPERT GROUP AND THE CDG "ARABLE CROPS" ON "THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION SUGAR MARKET" Nobody was interested to go due to the subject.
- Anastasia Pantera will be in the New value chains from multifunctional forests. Rosa was also aware that Joan Alibes from Galicia will be present in the meeting thanks to the featured farm of the EURAF Newsletter, which is an excellent new. The meeting will be the next 11, November in Vien.
- Innovation sub-group of the ENRD, 20<sup>th</sup> October, if no one wishes to go, Rosa will go. Fabien mentioned that it was of high interest but he has no possibility to go for the date. Nuria Ferreiro will be present.
- ENRD steering committee 25<sup>th</sup> October, Rosa will go
- Arable Crops 4 November (Christian talk to be confirmed)
- Environment Climate change, 10 November (Rosa and Gerry talks to be confirmed)
- Organic farming, 25 November (Jo talk to be confirmed)
- Direct Payments and Greening, 2 December (talks to be confirmed)
- Forestry and Cork, 9 December

### **2.3 Forthcoming (not confirmed yet)**

- Arable Crop, 14 December
- PAC, 16 December

**Actions:** Please inform Rosa if you wish to go to any of the meetings. Rosa will confirm if Jo talk for the CDG of Organic farming is possible. Christian will be in charge of the arable crop CDG talk in November about carbon sequestration in silvoarable systems, once confirmed. Rosa and Gerry to talk in the environment and climate change CDG meeting, if confirmed. Rosa will ask for the AF talks to the chairs of the other CDG.

### **2.4 Public Consultations**

No relevant public consultations directly related to EURAF but we should keep track continuously

**ACTION:** contact Rosa Mosquera if you want to participate in any public consultation

## **2.5 Focus Group**

The Focus group name is “Agroforestry: introducing woody vegetation into specialised crop and livestock systems”. Therefore the focus group is related with silvopastoral and silvoarable systems. EURAF members were quite successful in the agroforestry focus group. [Eight EURAF members](#) were selected by the EC to support this agroforestry focus group. The first meeting will be in December in France. The coordinating expert ([Karin Eksvärd](#)) must deliver an initial document before the meeting. The coordinating expert is member of EURAF as the delegate of Sweden Johanna Björklund informed.

## **3 EURAF Conference 2018**

Two offers had been received (**Nijmegen, Holland** and **Orvieto, Italy**). A web meeting will be held besides the EC meeting of October with presentations requested from the two national teams. Rosa will set up a doodle poll for dates. Rosa will circulate documents received and Gerry is collating these into a single document with a standard format answering (for example) the following questions:

- How much organization needed from EURAF?
- How are sponsors being contacted?
- Details on conference facilities (i.e. streaming and others)?
- Arrangements for budgeting (with clarity that no reimbursement is possible from EURAF)

Rosa thinks that it is important that the EURAF conference is set up in an appropriate date to avoid celebrating the conference with other agroforestry important events (for example, AFTA conference). Rosa said that maybe we could organize one conference per year (a general conference every two years and in the middle a more specific conference such as a symposium). This will allow us to use all the efforts that both Italians and Dutch EURAF are willing to deliver. Anastasia thinks that this will originate a lot of work for EURAF members. This option could be discussed during the October meeting. Joana AP said that EURAF should participate in more side activities in other key agroforestry events. Rosa answered that some examples have been developed, like for example in the farmer organizations or the EGU, among others.

**ACTION:** Rosa Mosquera will set up a doodle poll to organize the meeting with the two teams

## **4 EURAF Newsletter & Dissemination Activities**

Newsletter will be ready for the next week with very interesting news. Andrea Pisanelli said that he can write some new for the next newsletter.

**ACTION:** Nuria and Mercedes Rois to take over the newsletter.

**The next EC meeting is scheduled for the FRIDAY 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 at 10:00 CET**