

70th EURAF Executive Committee Report

4th January 10:00 – 11:30

Report written by Nuria Ferreiro-Domínguez, Antía Villada and Rosa Mosquera-Losada

Present:

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

National Delegates: Andrea Vitjy, Vania Kachova

Apologies:

1. EURAF PROJECT ACTIVITY

The new projects are indicated in blue, the projects in which EURAF participates are written in green and in blue. In black we can find the projects in which EURAF could be involved but no request for EURAF has been done.

• Ecosystem services

NEW [RUR-02](#): “Coastal-rural interactions: Enhancing synergies between land and sea-based activities” [link](#)

NEW [RUR-09-2017](#) “Business models for modern rural economies“ (<https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/rur-09-2017.html>)

Rosa said that a public company of Spain is the leader. The consortium is created but they need cases studies. Galicia will participate with a case study (Chestnuts and pigs). Rosa will send us the abstract of the proposal and if any of us want to participate please contact Rosa. The deadline is February.

[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 (Barbara Lead)

[SFS-29-2017](#): Socio-eco-economics – socio-economics in ecological approaches 14 Feb 2017 (First stage) 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage) 5 million, USC (María Loureiro lead)

[SFS-27-2017](#) Permanent grassland – farming systems and policies (Rosa lead)

[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

[RUR-05](#): Novel public policies, business models and mechanisms for the sustainable supply of and payment for forest ecosystem services

NEW [SFS-34](#): “Innovative agri-food chains: unlocking the potential for competitiveness and sustainability” [link](#)

NEW [SFS-30](#): “Closing loops at farm and regional levels to mitigate GHG emissions and environmental contamination-focus on carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus cycling in agro-ecosystems” (Jaconette)

• Knowledge transfer

[RUR-10-2016-2017](#): Thematic Networks compiling knowledge ready for practice 17 Feb 2016 2 million, already AFINET, Next year “non wood forest production: mushrooms” Probably next year

[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

- **Cost action**

Agroforestry, Felix Herzog, excellent job from Felix and Anastasia, about to be sent.

- **Education**

ERASMUS + Education (EFI)

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

ITN. Germany

- **Submitted**

SUBER: SUBER Erasmus + VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING, Joana PASTTREE, ERANET-SUSAN (Innovative management and use of woody plants on pastures for sustainable cattle production systems) **First step approved! Second step submitted!**

Action: please contact Rosa to update the information and also if any of you wishes to participate in RUR-09.

2. EURAF ACCOUNTING

- **AGFORWARD**

The economical report was approved by the Commission. A discussion was initiated with Paul Burgess about money that has 50% to be cofinanced as mentioned in the last EC.

*New contract has to be done with the already existing money. Dario from USC will be contracted. He has excellent English skills, is keen on agroforestry, and has been going to the Arable CDG, which is of his interest.

Action: Rosa will prepare the new contract

- **EURAF fees**

Czech Republic, Germany and UK have paid the 2017 fees. We have not received more fees yet. The Spanish agroforestry association (AGFE) had a meeting before Christmas break and they are working on this.

Action: the EURAF delegates should take care of the EURAF members fees

3. EURAF POLICY ACTIVITIES

- **Already carried out in December**

9 December Forestry and Cork (Rosa, Gerry). Gerry will prepare a small new about this meeting which will be published in the next EURAF newsletter.

16 December, CAP (Rosa, Eloi). Rosa said that she and Eloi Villada participated in this meeting. Eloi worked during 30 years for the Galician government on issues related to the CAP and the direct payments. He is member of AGFE and EURAF. Rosa also said that the European Commission is working in the new CAP.

20 December Europe's Response to Sustainability Challenges Delivering on the UN 2030 Agenda (Javier, Rosa, not paid by Commission neither EURAF). Rosa said that it was a quite political meeting and agroforestry was mentioned a couple of times. This is an international meeting, with participants from all over the world including EEUU. In this meeting themes like "sustainable eco-intensification" were mentioned.

- **End January first February (not paid). Rosa will participate in a meeting with FAO to work in the Agroforestry International Union.** The aim of the International Agroforestry Union is the integration of ICRAF, AFTA and EURAF among other institutions. Some statutes were created but the process of creation was stopped. The process can be restarted now and Ravi will be in charge of that together with Rosa and Patrick.
- **New calendar 2017. No meetings in January! Only one scheduled (not confirmed yet)**
 Arable Crops: 7 February
 Rural Development: 15 February
 Arable Crops: 7 March
Forestry and cork 7 June?
 Without data: Environment and Climate Change, Organic Farming, Direct Payment and Greening and CAP

Actions: Gerry and Rosa will prepare a small text on the meetings in which they participated to publish in the next EURAF newsletter. Rosa will be in a meeting with FAO to work in the Agroforestry International Union. Please inform Rosa if you wish to go to any of the meetings.

4. NEXT WORLD AGROFORESTRY CONFERENCE

Rosa said that the Conference will be in Europe but the place is not decided yet.

5. EURAF Newsletter & Dissemination Activities

Nuria said that she is preparing the next newsletter (January 2017) which will be published as soon as possible. Fabien said that it is important to publish the newsletter in the month indicated in the title of the newsletter. Rosa said that we have to publish the newsletter every two months to maintain the ISSN number and we will try to publish the newsletter of March at the end of February.

Joana said that in the next EC meeting we should talk about the management of the EURAF facebook with Jeroen. EURAF is also in twitter (@EURAF_AF).

Rosa mentioned the possibility to pay to substitute Skype by [Gotomeeting](#). We would have to pay 50 euros per month.

Rosa said that the following conferences are very interesting because some of them have sessions related with agroforestry.

- **19th European Grassland Federation (EGF) Symposium**

The 19th European Grassland Federation (EGF) Symposium will take place in Sardinia, Italy during 7th – 10th May 2017. The title of the Symposium is "Grassland resources for extensive farming systems in marginal lands: major drivers and future scenarios". More info [here](#).

- **15th North American Agroforestry Conference**

The 15th North American Agroforestry Conference will take place in Virginia, USA during 27th – 29th June 2017. The title of the Conference is "Agroforestry for a Vibrant Future: Connecting People, Creating Livelihoods, Sustaining Places". The Conference is for agroforestry producers, researchers, educators and those involved with related work in the fields of the permaculture and agroecology. More info [here](#).

- **15th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology**

The 15th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology will take place in Rhodes, Greece, during 31st - 2nd August-September 2017. An Agroforestry session is organized within the conference. More info [here](#).

- **IUFRO Anniversary Congress 2017**

The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) is organizing their 125th Anniversary Congress “Interconnecting Forests, Science and People”. The congress will take place in Freiburg, Germany, from 19th -22nd September 2017. The Congress will include an agroforestry session “Agroforestry - the future of land use management?”. More info [here](#).

Rosa said that Dirk Freese is preparing an agroforestry session on biomass and she was invited to participate. She also said that there is a very interesting conference in May in Vienna on landscape and human health.

Gerry sent us an email with this information “there will be a big meeting in the UK on Agroforestry on 23rd June with multiple organizers ... including the Farm Woodland Forum (which will organise technical sessions and a field trip). EURAF members might be interested, although the focus is on the UK. Booking is possible through [THIS SITE](#)”

ACTION: Nuria and Mercedes Rois to take over the newsletter. Rosa will ask to Nuria Rodríguez (Feuga) about the Gotomeeting and other aspect related with the EURAF communication.

6. Other

Master students from Austria sent an email to Rosa to fill a query. The questionnaire covers various topics related to agroforestry in mountain regions. Please try to fill the query. Here the link: <https://goo.gl/forms/7bozJJdEC4lthnDw2>

Joana said that EURAF will be presented in the international conference that will be closing CEF 40 years' celebrations and Rosa said that she will participate in a forum organized by the Ministry of Spain in which EURAF and AFINET will be also presented.

The next EC meeting is scheduled for the 1st of February 2017 at 10:00 CET