

73rd EURAF Executive Committee Report

11th April 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,

National Delegates: Josep Crous Duran, Robert Borek, Jan Weger (instead Bohdan Lojka)

Apologies: Anastasia Pantera, Joana Amaral Paulo, Joao Palma, Andrea Pisanelli, Mark Vonk, Norbert Lamersdorf

1. EURAF PROJECT ACTIVITY

Proposals (awaiting response)

- 1.- MSCA-ITN-ETN, EsLar, Doctorate Programme about agroforestry and land restoration, one stage
- 2.- COST Action, OC-2016-2-21377 "Agroforestry for sustainable intensification and ecosystem services" one stage
- 3.- iGRASSLAND, SFS 27, permanent grassland management and ICT-tools, two stages
- 4.- REFARM, SFS 29, socio-economy studies, REFARM - REsilientFARMing practices for Europe, two stages
- 5.- RENUCLEA, SFS-30, Reduced GHG Emissions and enhanced NUtrientCycLing within Agroecosystems (RENUCLEA), two stages
- 6.- AGRICALL, SFS-34, Multi-actor systemic approach for innovative agri-food chains, two stages
- 7.- SUBER: SUBER Erasmus + VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING, two stages

These proposals are being evaluated and we will receive news on the resolution in mid-April

New proposals (ongoing)

1. MSCA-RISE-2016: Research and Innovation Staff Exchange. This proposal is led by Sara Burbi (Coventry University, UK) **(presented!) SIPASYS**
2. Interreg: Applications encouraged under Priority axis 4 Environment & Resource Efficiency. Rosa said that these types of projects are led by the government and not by an institution. Rosa was with Gustino Mezzalira in Veneto (Italy) and Gustino said her that he was interested in participating in this proposal.

Actions: Please contact Rosa to update the information.

Projects

1. AGFORWARD

Rosa said that she sent us the second policy report. The deadline is June and therefore we have time to discuss it. Rosa received some comments from Vasilios and Anastasia. They think that the agroforestry definition needs some minor modifications:

Modification suggested by Vasilios and Pantera:

The integration of woody **species** as an overstorey on a land (first component) with an agricultural crop or pasture in the understorey (second component), which may be consumed by domestic animals (third component). The woody species can be evenly or unevenly distributed and deliver products (e.g., fruits, forage) or other ecosystem services.

Existing:

*The integration of woody **vegetation** (first component) **in at least two vertical layers on land, with the bottom layer providing an agricultural product** such crops or forage/pasture (second component) which may be consumed by animals (third component). The woody component can be uneven or evenly distributed and **the woody component can deliver an agronomic product** (fruit, forage) or some other ecosystem services*

Rosa asked Gerry for help to understand the meaning in English of understorey and overstorey. Gerry thinks that the modifications proposed by Vasilios and Anastasia are correct. However, Gerry thinks that we need something short and broad. Rosa also thinks that we have to be very clear with the Commission. Rosa asked us to review the policy report as soon as possible.

✓ First assessment of CAP!

Rosa is very grateful for the photos which were used in her presentation. She said that now the Commission is very interesting in adaptation tools to the climate change. Rosa has to present this presentation again and she would like to make some modifications. She will circulate the presentation among us.

Questions

- a) Not aware about the FAO definition including woody needed for fulfilling the Global European Commitments (i.e. Kioto protocol), taking notes to fulfil the FAO requirements
- b) Minimum woody vegetation proportion in a land for being considered agroforestry. Patrick suggested 10% but 5% is the size of the current greening
- c) How wish we to include agroforestry in the greening?
 - c.1. Organic farming?
- d) Measure 222 and 8.2. To propose agroforestry in both types of lands?

One option is to link measure 222 and 8.2 without losing direct payments. Should we focus only on Pillar 1 or focus on Pillar 2? Rosa thinks that this is the time to take decisions and participate in the reform of the CAP!

Notes from the floor:

- a) Payment for results. For example if you improve the biodiversity or the quality of the water you will receive money. A clear example is the [RAPCA](#) in Andalusia, Spain
- b) Adaptation more work to do than in mitigation
- c) Amount of money needed to develop agroforestry. Rosa thinks that the Cranfield people could help us to determine the money needed to develop agroforestry.
- d) Main problems for adoption

Gerry sent us a link to show us that agroforestry is the most effective of the greening measures <http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/efa/about.htm>

- e) Simplification

Actions: Please review the policy report as soon as possible.

2. AFINET

Joao is working on the AFINET web page. The AFINET web page will be independent of the EURAF web page but both will be linked. Rosa explained that the AFINET website has to be translated to all the languages included in the consortium and EURAF members can help with the translation to some extra languages. Rosa suggested that the website should also be translated at least into two more languages not included in the consortium, at least German and Greek. Moreover, AFINET should be use a repository (Openair). The next AFINET meeting will be in the ORC (UK) in June coinciding with the [Agroforestry conference](#) and the FWF annual meeting.

2. EURAF POLICY ACTIVITIES

- **Already carried out in March and April**

Focus group, 21 and 22 March 2017 Great success!. Rosa is in charge of a mini paper on adaptation and mitigation to the climate change

Best practices addressing environmental needs", 23-24 March 2017 - Brussels (Thanks to all contributors!! The photos were really good and the meeting a success!)

CDG on arable crops, 5 April, Dario. Rosa sent us the report of the meeting which was prepared by Dario. In the morning the meeting was on cotton and in the afternoon on tobacco. Rosa said that Patrick knows an agroforestry system established with tobacco and it would be interesting to prepare a presentation on this type of agroforestry system for the next CDG on tobacco.

- **Forthcoming events**

May

- Paris, 3-5 May (FAO), policy and technical support for carbon sequestration. PK Nair suggested the name of Rosa to participate in this meeting. Stephen Le Foll will be there and probably Rosa will have a meeting with him to talk about CAP. Rosa will prepare a presentation and she will circulate it among us.
- CAP, 3 May. Gerry said that he can go
- Arable crops, 5 May
- Organic Farming, 12 May, Victor and Belen
- Direct Payment and Greening, 19 May, Dario

June

- Arable crops, 2 June
- Forestry and cork. Not confirmed and changed from previous date (7 June) to 8 June. Gerry said that he can go
- Environment and Climate Change 7 June. Gerry said that he can go.

Those dates in red are provisional, in green confirmed

Actions: Please inform Rosa if you wish to go to any of the meeting. Rosa will circulate among us the presentation of the meeting in Paris.

3. OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Patrick Worms
 - a) Further collaboration for the creation of the Agroforestry International Union (IUAF)
 - b) Further collaboration with Russia, working in wheat improving production thanks to the woody component. Rosa thinks that it would be a good idea to translate the documents.
 - c) Help with the EURAF activities

- GACSA (practice abstracts). FAO has created the GACSA and Rosa has been recently named as facilitator of the GACSA. They asked her to collaborate doing a FAO practice brief about agroforestry in temperate areas. Rosa sent us an example on silvopasture that has been accepted but we have to include some cases studies. Rosa thinks that we could include 4-5 cases studies with photos and an explanatory text. Moreover, from now we will receive some drafts also from:

- a) Silvoarable: Fabien Balaguer, France
- b) Homegardens: Johanna, Sweden
- c) Riparian Buffer Strips, Vania Kachova, Bulgaria
- d) Forest farming: Antonio Rigueiro

We could also prepare a practical abstract about agroforestry systems. Rosa thinks that maybe Gerardo Moreno and Andrea Pardini could prepare the practical abstract about agroforestry systems.

- European Structural and Investment Funds
 - a) The people is worried about the Brexit (COPA-COGECA)
 - b) It is important to increase the communication activities

- We are carrying out a very important activity in Europe to promote agroforestry. Melanie thinks that now we need:
 - a) Tackle European Parliament
 - b) Tackle European Council (bilateral meetings)

- Rosa will participate in the AFTA conference in Virginia (round table about policy to start with IUAF).

Actions: *Please contact Rosa to prepare the FAO practice abstracts*

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Research and Technology: [Public Stakeholder Consultation – Evaluation of Public-Public Partnerships \(Art.185 initiatives\) in the context of the Horizon 2020 Interim Evaluation](#) 27.01.2017 – 30.04.2017

[Open Public Online Consultation on modernising and simplifying the common agricultural policy \(CAP\)](#) Deadline:02.05.2017 Rosa sent us a draft and she will send it to us again with the comments of all of us.

Actions: *We all have to check the draft sent by Rosa as soon as possible.*

5. EURAF Newsletter & Dissemination Activities

The newsletter of May is completed and Nuria will send us a draft at the end of April. Javier and Joana are taking care of the EURAF facebook. Robert sent us some links to include in the EURAF facebook (<https://twitter.com/SustainFarm> and <https://www.facebook.com/Sustainfarm-1072063189550960/>)

Actions: *Nuria and Mercedes Rois will take care of the newsletter and Javier and Joana will take care of the facebook.*

6. EURAF fees

Bulgaria, Switzerland, Germany, Czech Republic, UK and Greece have paid the 2017 fees. Nuria contacted with the delegates of these countries to update the lists of the EURAF members. Congratulations to Switzerland by the increase of EURAF members (almost 100!)

***Actions:** the EURAF delegates will take care of the EURAF members fees.*

7. EURAF CONFERENCE

Rosa said that the next EURAF conference will be officially announced in June. There are many people who want to collaborate in the organization of the conference and Rosa is putting these people in contact with Mark Vonk.

***Actions:** Mark Vonk will take care of the EURAF conference with the help of the EURAF EC through Rosa contact.*

8. OTHER

Gerry sent us a document about LULUCF. Rosa said that Gerry is doing an excellent work and maybe he could prepare a small presentation about LULUCF for all of us.

Robert Borek said that he will be at this conference: [Wooded Rural Landscapes in Central and Eastern Europe, biodiversity, culture legacy and conservation](#) and Josep and Joao will be at a conference on cork in May.

***Actions:** Please review the document sent by Gerry as soon as possible*

The next EC meeting is scheduled for the 2nd of May 2017 at 10:00 CET