

79th EURAF Executive Committee Report

13th September 10:30 – 11:30

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

Present

Elected Executive Committee: Rosa Mosquera-Losada, Gerry Lawson, Jeroen Watté

National Delegates: Andrea Pisanelli, Andrea Vityi, Bohdan Lojka, Vania Georgieva Kachova, Yousri Hannachi, Norbert Lamersdorf, Konstantinos Mantzanas, Robert Borek, João HN Palma, Josep Crous Duran, Jo Smith, Christian Dupraz

Apologies: Anastasia Pantera, Fabien Balaguer, Joana Amaral Paulo, Bert Reubens

1. ROSA REPORT

1.1 EURAF PROJECT ACTIVITY

1.1.1 PROPOSALS

Proposals (awaiting response, red not successful)

1. COST Action, OC-2016-2-21377 "Agroforestry for sustainable intensification and ecosystem services" one stage
2. REFARM, SFS 29, socio-economy studies, REFARM - REsilient FARMing practices for Europe, pending second stage
3. Interreg: Applications encouraged under Priority axis 4 Environment & Resource Efficiency
4. EAP-Agri proposal - AGFORSUN - Agroforestry for Sustainable Nutrition, ISA
5. FATBRIC: Functional biodiversity against pest and diseases, , pending second stage

Proposals (next calls)

6. Christian, PRIMA: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/environment/index.cfm?pg=prima>

Christian said that he has not news about this proposal, but he will take care of this and will inform to the Executive Committee.

7. Next call H2020

* SFS-18-2018-2019 Climate Smart and resilient farming: efficiency and resilience of mixed and agroforestry farming systems" (deadline February 2019)

Bert Reubens sent an email to inform us about his interest in this proposal

The USC has prepared the following table with the next calls in which we can participate. Rosa ask the EC to have a look to the call just in case they found any other interesting for EURAF or if partners from EURAF are needed

TOPIC	2018	2019	2020	Tipo	Obs.
SFS-01-2018/2019/2020 Agro biodiversity in action B. [2019] Capitalising on native farmland biodiversity		X		RIA	"agroforestry"
LC-SFS-18-2018-2019 Climate Smart and resilient farming: B. [2019] Efficiency and resilience of mixed and agroforestry farming systems		X		RIA	
SFS-31-2018/2019/2020 Sustainable Intensification in Africa B. [2019] African Farming Systems, sustainable intensification pathways		X		RIA	"agroforestry"
SFS-34-2018/2019/2020: Sustainable soils and land management A. [2018] High-efficient management of soil quality and land resources	X			RIA	
RUR-04-2018. Analytical tools and models to support agricultural and natural resource policies A. [2018] Developing new models supporting agricultural policies	X			RIA	
RUR-16-2018. Digital solutions and e-tools to modernise the CAP [IA]	X			IA	Comentar con TRAGSA
RUR-17-2018/2019/2020 Thematic Networks compiling knowledge ready to practice	X	X	X	CSA	"EIP Operational groups and interactive innovation groups operating in the context of EIP-AGRI should be involved as much as possible." "They must focus on the most urgent needs of specific agricultural or forestry production sectors, or on important or promising cross-sectoral issues, including wher primary production needs to improve its linkages to the supply chain." "If duly substantiated proposlas may focus on the widening of existing thematic networks, be it content wise and/or related to geographical coverage."

Actions: Please contact Rosa to update the information.

1.1.2 PROJECTS

• AGFORWARD

Rosa said that to contract people in Spain it is necessary to "apostille" the EURAF documents. This means that an official office in France has to declare with a document that EURAF is a French association legally constituted in France. Fabien has been able to do the job in all documents with the exception of the statutes. Rosa asked Christian about the original statutes. He will try to find them and give them to Fabien

Actions: Rosa, Fabien and Joao will accomplish all needed tasks to make the contracts possible. Christian will send the original statutes

• AFINET

Rosa said that the project is progressing very well. The RAINs meetings were held in Spain and Portugal yesterday in a very successful way. A list of required innovations will be circulated among EURAF members just in case they wish to collaborate, for example by sending papers or documents they know exist to help to develop documents about the selected innovations.

1.2 EURAF POLICY ACTIVITIES

1.2.1 CDG

Provisional calendar:

- Arable crops: 15 September, 12 October, 8 December, 13 December
- Rural Development: 19 September (Eloi, Javier), 12 December
- Direct payments and greening: 17 November
- Environment and Climate change: 22 November
- Organic: 24 November
- Forestry and cork: 5 December
- PAC: 11 December

Actions: please inform Rosa if you wish to go to any of the meetings.

1.2.2 OTHER MEETINGS

Forthcoming

- 15th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology, Rhodes 28 August-September. More info [here](#)

Rosa and Anastasia coordinated a very successful agroforestry session of this conference on which Sonja and Silvester also participated.

- Soil Organic Matter International Symposium, Rothamsted

Rosa was in this symposium which was very interesting with many people interested in agroforestry. A lot of presentations and keynote speakers highlighted the role of agroforestry as a way to improve soil organic carbon.

- Global Research Alliance, College Lane Campus at University of Hertfordshire. <https://globalresearchalliance.org/>

Global Research Alliance (GRA) is an international organization with 48 involved countries, on which the ministries name representatives. Rosa represents Spain and Christian represents France. GRA is one of the official observers of the IPCC. Rosa was in this meeting which was a success she was named co-chair together with a USA and a Brazilian person. There is a subgroup on agroforestry on which Christian Dupraz takes also part. Different researchers can participate on it, so, if you are interested in take part of this, please ask Rosa (to participate as researcher) or your ministry (to participate as official member). All EU countries are part of the GRA with the exception of Portugal.

- IUFRO Anniversary Congress 2017 Freiburg, Germany, from 19th-22nd September 2017. The Congress will include an agroforestry session "Agroforestry - the future of land use management?". More info [here](#).

There is an agroforestry session on which Christian and Rosa will participate

- *XI Congress of the Italian Society of Forestry and Forest Ecology*. Roma, Italy from 10th to 13th October 2017. A session focused on agroforestry will be organized. More info [here](#).
- *Conference on Non-Timber Forest Products and Bioeconomy* Conference will be held during 28th - 30th November 2017 in Rovaniemi, Finland. More info [here](#).
- *2nd European Symposium on Pollarding* Basque Country, France, during 1st – 3rd March 2018. Call for contributions will be open soon.
- Agricultural Innovation Summit. European Commission 11-12 October 2017, Lisbon
Rosa, Joao and Joana will take care of this.
- Knowledge Action Group for sessions at GACSA's Annual Forum 2017 19-20 October, Rome
- First Agroecology Europe Forum 2017 – Lyon. A session of agroforestry will be carried out 25-27 October 2017 in Lyon, France.
An agroforestry session is organized by Rosa, Anastasia and Nuria
- Mexico Agroforestry Congress, 30 Oct/ 1 Nov, Mexico
- Yousri Hannachi included also the following events
 - National meeting of the agroforestry network - 07 sept (presentation of work lead on Agforward WP4 in France - a YouTube video)
 - International agricultural show In Valence named Tech&Bio - 21 and 22 sept (promotion of agroforestry toward farmers and presentation of some results of Agforward project)

Several rural development meetings in Spain during September

- 19 September: Focus group on Silvopastoralism
- 21 September: Spanish Forestry Measures Report
- 21 September: Connecting Rural and Urban areas
- 29 September: AFINET presentation

Portugal

- 11-22 October: Forest Congress

We received the news that Forest-Europe, An-European voluntary high-level political process for dialogue and cooperation on forest policies in Europe will probably include Agroforestry in their agenda (highly confidential).

Actions: *Please inform Rosa if you want to disseminate or make public aware of any other agroforestry related meeting. They will be included in the EURAF Newsletter.*

1.2.3 OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Patrick Worms
Further collaboration for IUAF. Ongoing
Hedgerow paper ongoing

UN meeting Caux, to see further steps with Patrick

- GACSA (practice abstracts) see example that has been accepted. From now we will receive some drafts also from
 - a) Silvoarable: Fabien Balaguer, France
 - b) Homegardens: Johanna, Sweden
 - c) [Riparian Buffer Strips, Vania](#)
 - d) Forest farming: Antonio Rigueiro
 - e) [Silvopasture](#), Rosa

- Letter for increasing the role of agroforestry in the conclusions of the study recent study that the Committee AGRI (European Parliament) requested on soils, called “Preserving agricultural soils in the EU”. Jeroen prepared a letter to send to the Members of the European Parliament (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yRkjP0EB54E1b4Eq0c4s8jVL36pzhqp4dMAdJs-5TNo/edit>). Rosa thanked a lot to Jeroen for taking care of this. The letter was reviewed by Rosa and Christian will also review it. Jeroen asked who was going to sign the letter, the letter should be signed by the EURAF representative but Jeroen will be the person in touch informing the EC.

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

1.3 PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Public consultation on the database directive: application and impact. The main objectives of the consultation are to collect up-to-date information on: i) The evolution of the market related to databases, ii) The use and the impact of the copyright and the sui generis protection regimes on the database makers and users and iii) The application of the Database Directive and possible needs of adjustment. Deadline: 30/08/2017. More info [here](#).

Gerry volunteered in the July meeting to send a draft of this to be circulated among the EC member, but he could not prepare this public consultation

1.4 EURAF NEWSLETTER AND DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Nuria said that she will work on the newsletter of September next week because she is waiting for some news. Please send news to Nuria to publish in the newsletter of November (deadline 20th October).

Javier and Joana are taking care of the EURAF Facebook and Twitter. Please send to Javier and Joana information about the agroforestry meetings in which you participate. This information will be published on Facebook and Twitter.

Actions: Nuria and Mercedes Rois will take care of the newsletter and Javier and Joana will take care of the Facebook and Twitter. Please send to Javier and Joana information about the agroforestry meetings in which you participate.

1.5 EURAF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Czech Republic, Germany, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Greece, Switzerland, France, Poland, Hungary and Italy have paid the 2017 fees. Nuria will contact with the delegates of these countries to update the lists of the EURAF members. Rosa said that EURAF will have two new national agroforestry associations very soon (Austria and Romania)

Actions: the EURAF delegates will take care of the EURAF members fees and Nuria will update the lists of the EURAF members

2. NEXT EURAF CONFERENCE

Joao and Nuria have been working on the conference website. Mark and Louis will send us the final programme and the information about the registration process at the end of this month. The deadline for abstract submission is 15th October. Please circulate the conference information to the EURAF members in each country.

Actions: Joao and Nuria will take care of the conference website. Mark and Louis will send us the final programme and the information about the registration process and the EURAF delegates will send the conference information to the EURAF members in each country. Nuria will send an e-mail to Louis and Mark to open the registration as soon as possible.

4. AGROFORESTRY IN GREECE

Kostas presented us the agroforestry policy in Greece:

Hellenic Agroforestry Network (HAN – www.agroforestry.gr) organized several day conferences for farmers and professionals (foresters and agronomists): Thessaloniki (2014), Larissa (2014), Lamia (2015), Athens (2015), Kavala (2016) and Serres (2016).

Chairman and other members of HAN Executive Committee participated in several meetings in Ministries of Agriculture and Environment and Managing Authority of Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

In December of 2015 the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 approved by EC and include the Agroforestry measure in Forestry measures.

In July of 2017 Forestry measures (M08 and M12) will be organized and managed by Directorate-General for the Development and Protection of Forests and Agri-Environment (Τεύχος Β' 2380/12.07.2017)

5. AGROFORESTRY IN ITALY

Andrea Pisanelli presented us the agroforestry policy in Italy:

Region	Supported operations	Status
Basilicata	establishment of silvopastoral systems: cultivation of forestry and agricultural woody species, with medium-long cultivation cycle, aimed to produce timber or biomass and other non-wood forest products, on the same area with livestock activity. Tree density: 60-200/ha. Allowed on agricultural lands or abandoned lands classified as forests; not allowed on permanent grassland or pastures.	Not open yet
	establishment of linear systems: cultivation of one or more forestry and agricultural woody species, with medium-long cultivation cycle on field border of arable lands to realize hedges, windbreaks or buffer strips. Tree density: 60-200/ha, tree distance < 6 m.	
Marche	establishment of the following agroforestry systems: - creation of small wooded areas; - establishment of linear systems (hedges and rows); - planting isolated trees scattered in the field. Tree density 50-100 trees/ha; shrub density < 200 shrubs/ha.	Not open
Puglia	establishment of the following agroforestry systems: - establishment of linear systems (hedges, rows, windbreak, etc.); - planting one or more forestry or agricultural woody species and/or shrubs, with medium-long cultivation cycle. Tree density 50-250 plants/ha	Allocated resources 5 million €; call open
Umbria	establishment of silvopastoral systems: planting of forestry trees species on agricultural land, with medium-long cultivation cycle, combined with livestock activity, aimed to produce timber, biomass or other non-forest products. Tree density 20-50 trees/ha with tree distance more than 10m.	Target: 200 ha, allocated 1 million €
	establishment of silvoarable systems: planting of one or more forest trees or shrubs species in linear system or scattered in the field, with medium-long cultivation cycle, aimed to produce timber or biomass and other non-forest products. In case of linear system: tree density 40-100 trees/ha, distance between tree rows 20-30 m; distance between trees 5-10 m. trees can be planted in field border as hedges, windbreak or buffer strips; In case of scattered trees: tree density: 20-50 trees/ha, tree distance > 10 m.	
Veneto	establishment of silvopastoral systems: selective thinning of trees species already present on agricultural lands to implement agricultural or livestock activity; it includes the recovery of abandoned agricultural lands occupied by natural vegetation.	Call open; 80% establishment cost (up to 3100 €/ha) + 250 €/ha (5 years)
	establishment of silvoarable systems: planting of one or more forestry trees or shrubs species, scattered or in regular design, with medium-long cultivation cycle, aimed to produce timber and/or biomass and/or non-forest products. 50-100 trees/ha	

Rosa asked both Kostas Mantzanas and

4. OTHER ISSUES

- Rosa wrote to Ramon Lawson after asking for permission to Gerry Lawson as was suggested in the August EC meeting. No answer was obtained from Ramon Lawson. EURAF has not e-mail working due to the domain problem. In the last EURAF meeting we decided to create a new domain ([@eurafagroforestry.eu](mailto:information@eurafagroforestry.eu)) if no positive answer was obtained from Ramon Lawson. Joao asked to discuss the domain name, mentioning euraf.org. This was explained by Rosa in the August meeting following the comment of Joao in July, but EC members prefer to have the “agroforestry” word in the domain and also because “euraf” is also the acronym of an association of architects. A new email account (information@eurafagroforestry.eu) will be also created.

- Rosa asked to EC and Joao about the possibility to send an official EURAF letter or a statement to National Ministries trying to explain that forest fires prevention should rely on Agroforestry practices, among other aspects. Joao was not sure about to do a letter, something or anything about this aspect that is already known by the government. Andrea Pisanelli found the idea interesting and commented that a large number of fires happened in Italy this summer and Jeroen indicated that we should probably try.

Action: *to create a discussion group led by Joao and Andrea to think of the best form to approach this issue. Yousri Hannachi wants to participate representing France. Anastasia and Kostas will represent Greece. If any of you wish to*

- Rosa said that the webinars could be a good tool to increase the agroforestry knowledge, they are very successful in USA.
- Rosa thinks that it is necessary to update the country sections in the EURAF website. Jo Smith thinks that the colours could be also changed (too dark) and some new pictures could be added.

Action: *Joao said that he will try to do something with the web page*

The next EC meeting is scheduled for the 4th of October 2017 at 10:30 CET