

79th EURAF Executive Committee Report

4th October 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, Jakub Houska, Bert Reubens, Christian Dupraz

Apologies: Anastasia Pantera, Bohdan Lojka, Fabien Balaguer, Norbert Lamersdorf, Joana Amaral Paulo, João HN Palma, Josep Crous Duran, Johanna Björklund, Mark Vonk, Robert Borek

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. 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

The USC has prepared the following table with the next calls in which we can participate and with the names of people who are interested in participating in the calls. Rosa asked the Executive Committee to have a look to the calls just in case they found any other interesting for EURAF or if partners from EURAF are needed.

Rosa said that maybe we could prepare a new thematic network. Next week she will participate in the Agricultural Innovation Summit meeting and she will try to get information.

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", Bodhan
LC-SFS-18-2018-2019 Climate Smart and resilient farming: B. [2019] Efficiency and resilience of mixed and agroforestry farming systems		X		RIA	"agroforestry", Bert, Bodhan
SFS-31-2018/2019/2020 Sustainable Intensification in Africa B. [2019] African Farming Systems, sustainable intensification pathways		X		RIA	"agroforestry", Pieter, Vania, Bodhan
SFS-34-2018/2019/2020: Sustainable soils and land management A. [2018] High-efficient management of soil quality and land resources	X			RIA	Bodhan
RUR-04-2018. Analytical tools and models to support agricultural and natural resource policies A. [2018] Developing new models supporting agricultural policies	X			RIA	USC
RUR-16-2018. Digital solutions and e-tools to modernise the CAP [IA]	X			IA	
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 when primary production needs to improve its linkages to the supply chain." "If duly substantiated proposals may focus on the widening of existing thematic networks, be it content wise and/or related to geographical coverage." Vania,

Actions: Please contact Rosa to update the information and if you wish to participate or lead a call.

1.1.2 PROJECTS

- **AGFORWARD**

Rosa said that Fabien and she have been working very hard to be able to arrange the necessary documents to contract people to fulfil AGFORWARD requirements. Now EURAF have the NIE and we are waiting for the digital signature certificate. The contracts will be ready very soon.

Actions: Rosa and Fabien will accomplish all needed tasks to make the contracts possible.

- **AFINET**

Rosa said that the project is progressing very well. The RAINs meetings were held by 15 September involving over 300 farmers in 9 regions of EU and they were conducted in a very successful way in all countries. In these meetings the RAINs member highlighted the lack of agroforestry knowledge and also policy problems. Please follow AFINET in Facebook and Twitter.

1.2 EURAF POLICY ACTIVITIES

1.2.1 CDG

Provisional calendar:

- Arable crops: 12 October (Antonio, Francesca (Veneto)); *8 December, *13 December (Rosa)

*Rosa will try to present adapted results from the Policy Report of EURAF meeting

- Rural Development: 19 September (Eloi, Javier); 12 December, Eloi, Rosa
- Direct payments and greening: 17 November (Rosa)
- Environment and Climate change: 22 Nov (Rosa)
- Organic: 24 November (Jo Smith,)
- Forestry and cork: 5 December (Rosa, Gerry)

Gerry said that he would like to participate in this meeting

- PAC: 11 December (Rosa)

Rosa asked Andrea Vityi, Anastasia Pantera and Neus Aleta to participate in the follow meetings. Andrea said that she has to check her agenda. Rosa will ask Anastasia again.

Andrea Vityi (asked)

Invitation to the third European seminar on CLLD "Capitalising on CLLD experiences – Building resilient local communities", 8 - 10 November 2017, Győr, Hungary

Anastasia Pantera (asked)

30 November - 1 December 2017, Athens, Greece. Good practice workshop: "National Rural Networks' support to the evaluation of RDPs"

Neus Aleta (asked)

Sumforest Conference "Bridging research, policy and practice for sustainable forest management". Barcelona, Spain, from 17 Oct – 18 Oct 2017.

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

1.2.2 OTHER MEETINGS

Forthcoming

- *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 was an agroforestry session on which Christian and Rosa participated

- *Agricultural Innovation Summit*. European Commission 11-12 October 2017, Lisbon

Rosa and Joana/Joao will be attending the meeting

- Innovation Executive Committee from the ENRD, Brussels, 13 October

- AGFORWARD presentation, Lunch session, 17 October

Rosa and Paul will be in this meeting. Tobias cannot 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](#).
- 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

Rosa will participate in this meeting through videoconference

- ESIF, 21 November

Rosa asked Gerry but he cannot participate in this meeting

- European Parliament meeting AGFORWARD, 29 November

Jeroen is in charge of the organisation of this event. If he needs help Rosa can ask her contact in the Commission but for this Rosa needs the agenda of the event. Jeroen said that he will have a meeting with the AGFORWARD people to prepare the agenda.

- *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* European Parliament meeting Forestry Strategy
- *on Pollarding* Basque Country, France, during 1st – 3rd March 2018. Call for contributions will be open soon. **Sponsors needed!**

Portugal

11-12 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

- 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

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

1.3 PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

No open

1.4 EURAF NEWSLETTER AND DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Rosa said that the draft of the next newsletter will be circulated among the Executive Committee at the beginning of the next week. Bert said that he can prepare a short report on a UK excursion with agroforestry farmers for the newsletter of November. 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 has contacted 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 member 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. Rosa circulated the conference programme prepared by Mark and Louis before the EC meeting. The programme was approved by

the Executive Committee. The conference fees will be the same than in the Montpellier conference. The Executive Committee decided that the deadline for abstract submission will be extended until 15th December. The participants of the conference will send an abstract of 4 pages to ensure that the book of the conference proceedings is referenced by the Web of Science. Nuria will be in charge of the book edition after asking the Netherlands team and she will consult the rules to include it in the Web of Science. Rosa thinks that Mark Vonk should be the president of the organizing Committee. Christian Dupraz suggested including an open session to include the abstracts, which do not fit into the conference sessions.

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. Rosa will keep collaborating with the organizer team.

3. AGROFORESTRY IN SPAIN

Rosa presented us the agroforestry policy in Spain:

- Agroforestry in Spain is highly important, mainly silvopastoralism
- 17th different Rural Development Programmes
- No success of 222, but, better success of 8.2
- AGFE was officially constituted in 2015
 - Belongs to the Rural Network for Rural Development
- Invited to collaborate on:
 - 19 September: Focus group on Silvopastoralism
LEP (except Galicia, Canary Islands, Balear Islands and Catalonia)
Development of measures
 - 21 September: Spanish Forestry Measures Report
Need of simplification
Need of knowing activities linked to specific measures
Need of analysis
Need of clear instructions from Brussels
Development of measures
 - 21 September: Connecting Rural and Urban areas
 - 29 September: Innovation meeting
Focus group on Agroforestry
Focus group on Mixed Farming

Main concerns of adoption

- Lack of recognition of agroforestry as such

- Not adapted measures based on previous penalties (policy makers)
- Lack of knowledge of better combinations
- Lack of link to value chain
- Certification

4. AGROFORESTRY IN UKRAINE

Vasyl Y. Yukhnovskyi was unable to attend the meeting

Actions: *In the November meeting Jo Smith and Bert Reubens will present us the agroforestry policy in UK and Belgium, respectively.*

5. LETTER TO THE “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/1yRkiP0EB54E1b4Eq0c4s8jVL36pzhqp4dMAdJs-5TNo/edit>).

Rosa thanked a lot to Jeroen for taking care of this. The letter was reviewed by Rosa, Patrick and other members of the Executive Committee.

Jeroen said that Patrick has suggested including in the letter a paragraph about the political proposals of the AGFORWARD project. Rosa can write this part of the letter. Jeroen asked about the management of the letter in the different countries. Rosa said that she can translate the letter to Spanish. Gerry can also collaborate.

Actions: *Jeroen will take care of the letter to the “Preserving Agricultural Soils in the EU”.*

6. OTHER ISSUES

- In the last EURAF meeting we decided to create a new domain (@eurafagroforestry.eu) and a new email account (information@eurafagroforestry.eu)
- Organisation of communication: please follow EURAF in Facebook and Twitter
- Rosa suggested the creation of working groups. People could be organized according to their interests. Gerry thinks that this is a good idea. We could organize ourselves following the themes of the CDG or Delegates could propose new themes. Rosa will circulate a list with the CDG to know who is interested in working in each group to have common agreements. Andrea Pisanelli will be involved in the Rural Development CDG.

Action: *Rosa will organise the creation of working groups*

The next EC meeting is scheduled for the 8th of November 2017 at 10:30 CET