

47th EURAF Executive Committee Report

18 February 2015

Report written by Anja Chalmin, Gerry Lawson

Present:

2 officers: Gerry Lawson, Adolfo Rosati

5 countries represented by national delegates: Andrea Pisanelli (Italy), Kostas Mantzanas (Greece), Xavier Devaux (France)

Further: Anja Chalmin (staff)

Apologies: Mike Strachan

The quorum was **not** achieved.

ISSUE 1: EURAF Fundraising strategy (minutes [HERE](#))

- Emphasis on short-term option (income generated within 3 months)
- EURAF website: Anja will establish a donation option on EURAF's website (Paypal + bank account), further options might be considered later-on (e.g. visa)
- Membership fees: Anja to develop a suggestion for modulated membership fees (= different member categories) as a basis for discussion for the next EC call
- Co-operation with Bhukan Parboo/TUBEX: Development of an agroforestry brochure with 8 pages: 1 dedicated to TUBEX products, 7 to highlight the advantages of agroforestry. Deadline (final version): May 15th. Suggested fees: €1.000 for feedback by EURAF EC members; €3.000 for writing the brochure in co-operation with TUBEX, €7.000 for use of EURAF logo (writing included)
- Companies as potential sponsors: Anja sends email (approved by EC member) to members to ask them for contacts (potential sponsors + contact persons).
- Gerry points out that we need different material for different types of companies, e.g. the possibility to offer [carbon trading options](#) (emission trading with agroforestry).
- Yves Rocher Foundation: is looking for partners in Germany and EURAF might be a potential partner. Xavier will look into this before the next EC call. AFAC is co-operating with the foundation in France since 2 years.

ISSUE 2: Production of flyers

- One [general brochure](#) is been produced with Krisztián's Szovetes help, as a general introduction to EURAF.
- Gerry suggests producing specific brochures in addition, e.g. targeted on specific donor-groups and campaigns a) agroforestry and rural development, b) agroforestry and climate change, c) agroforestry and water resources, d) agroforestry and biodiversity, e) agroforestry and landscapes). These could be well designed 2-page leaflets (A4) to be emailed to potential sponsors (and used on the website).
- Gerry will develop & circulate brochure (b), others are invited to follow his example afterwards

ISSUE 3: EURAF Policy activities

- Article on Pillar I in upcoming newsletter
- Summary of 2007-2013 RDP's compiled by Jabier. Info from Italy, Germany and Austria is missing. Andrea Pisanelli will take care of the Italian RDP.

ISSUE 4: EURAF Mission Statement

Suggestion Gerry: Adopt the French target “50% of farmers using Agroforestry by 2015” as mission statement. GoogleGroups discussion to explore agreement / alternatives.

ISSUE 5: EURAF logo/patronage - Xth SISEF Congress (Italy)

- Piero Paris requested use of EURAF logo / to held the Xth SISEF Italian national congress of forestry under the patronage of EURAF
- Adolfo: SISEF actively supports agroforestry & EURAF in Italy, e.g. an agroforestry (EURAF) session is planned during the congress.
- Logo will be sent to Piero Paris after the meeting (Anja).

ISSUE 6: Participation in the EURAF EC

A) New national delegates (e.g. Ireland)

- EURAF constitution demands a minimum of 5 members OR one member organization
- Countries with fewer members can have observer status (e.g. Ireland, Poland)

B) Circulation of emails

- Important issues should be shared with the entire EC (not only elected members); all EC members should have the chance to comment.

ISSUE 7: FACCE surplus call (paper [HERE](#))

- ERA-Net call under Horizon 2020 of the EU; “Call for proposals on Research in Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture” ([Link](#) to the call). Nathan asking whether he is allowed to participate in the writing of the preproposal (due March 4). Content based on Agforward WP1, but will go further and look into climate change aspects (using Wageningen’s spatial model).
- General agreement to participate in the preproposal.
- Adolfo, Anja: 2 options for the co-operation with Wageningen: a) subcontract (no 20% rule, 100% financing in Holland) b) partnering with Wageningen (French rules would apply).
- Gerry will offer taking on WP5 (Value Chain Analysis)

ISSUE 8: EURAF accounting and staff contracts

Rosa had sent the following "EURAF will run out of money in March. We must therefore end the contract with Jabier at the end of February. He will receive a six week compensation payment following the employment rules of Belgium. The contract with Anja will be ended in May with a letter sent in February 2015. Anja's termination will follow the German rules. The amount of money needed to fulfil the commitments of EURAF will be loaned by Christian, Jeroen and Rosa and will be returned to these people between May and June".

The EC meeting approved these proposals with sorrow and with recognition of the hard work from both staff members, and also with a commitment on behalf of EC members to do everything possible to raise funds to ensure the future success of EURAF. The loan committed by the 3 EURAF Executive Committee members was gratefully acknowledged, and it was noted that these should be carefully recorded in the books as 'short-term loans', rather than donations, to ensure that possible problems with the auditors are avoided.