

48th EURAF Executive Committee Report

Friday 6 March 2015, 10am - 12pm

Report written by Rosa Mosquera Losada, Gerry Lawson

Present:

Officers: Gerry Lawson, Adolfo Rosati, Rosa Mosquera Losada, Jeroen Watté

National Delegates: Andrea Vityi (Hungary), Anastasia Pantera (Greece), Joao Palma (Portugal)

Others: Christian Dupraz

Apologies: Gerardo Moreno (Spain), Bert Reubens (Belgium), Robert (Poland), Anja Chalmin (staff)

1. EURAF Policy activities

EURAF participates in 7 of the 13 [Civil Dialogue Groups](#) (CDGs): CAP, [Forestry and Cork](#), Organic Farming, Rural Development, [Climate Change & Environment](#), Direct Payments & Greening, Arable Crops. All meet twice yearly, with the exception of Arable Crops, which is almost monthly and deals with different subjects: hops, Olive, cereals, non-food crops, energy, etc... It is sometimes difficult to get representatives to fill our 2 places for the latter, but we should redouble efforts, if necessary using wider EURAF contacts. EURAF is the 12th most represented of the 68 organizations with sits on these CDGs. EURAF has submitted discussion priorities for most CDGs.

Due to the presence of EURAF in the CDGs and Rural Development, EURAF obtained a seat in the Assembly of the European Network of Rural Development (ENRD), and was chosen to sit on its Steering Committee (sharing a seat with the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism). The ENRD is composed of NGOs, National Research Institutions and [National Rural Networks](#) (NRNs) also exist to link national administrations and organizations involved in rural development. Their main role is to support the implementation and evaluation of rural development policy. This Assembly has three subgroups leading with Innovation, LEADER/CLLD and the Rural Development Evaluation subgroup. The Innovation Group is dealing with the establishment of the Focus groups where Rosa and Bert were selected as experts for the permanent grasslands and the Ecological Focus area focus group. The EIP also deals with the operational working groups. It seems that some ministries are trying to push a transnational operational group on Agroforestry (Spain, Italy, Greece and Portugal seem to be interested). So, it is very important to have National EURAF delegates in the National Rural Development Networks. ***ACTION: National Delegates encouraged to contact their local NRN and advocate uptake of agroforestry, see the e-mail Rosa already sent with the contacts.***

EURAF is lobbying well within the commission policy framework, because EURAF is already part of the system. However, we are not so active in the Parliament. We were quite active and successful in the EU Forestry Strategy recent update, as agroforestry was included now in the text and it was not previously. However, there are other strategies that were discussed, but EURAF was not aware of such as water or Natura. We need more help from

Melanie. **Actions: Please inform Rosa in case you have news about any strategy to be discussed at the Parliament as Melanie will follow it.**

One last effort to have it included in a compromise resolution will be made. Without this, agroforestry will not have any significant role in the Multi-Year Action Programme for the Forestry Strategy.

ACTION: a) Rosa to suggest a short 'compromise motion' to Elizabeth Kostinger MEP (COMAGRI Rapporteur for Forestry) by 9/3/15. b) Note: the order of the agenda was changed as Christian Dupraz had to leave.

2. EURAF Accounting

2.1. Staff Contracts

Confidential

2.2. EURAF Alienor contract

A service level agreement is under discussion, largely financed by a sponsor found by Rosa. The concepts suggested by Melanie were 1.- Following the discussion on CAP implementation: i.e. simplification, 2 Giving you strategic advice on CAP implementation. 3. Attending and reporting back on discussions held in the European Parliament on CAP implementation. As explained before the actions in the Parliament, like the Forestry strategy are more needed, so Rosa asked and this has been included. But, Melanie has promised to be quite flexible, and she can change the EURAF activities upon request

2.3. AGROFORWARD and AGROFE

Activities for AGFORWARD may be taken up by one of the existing partners (to allow better accounting for co-financing) from June. This is likely to be USC, but other partners are welcome to volunteer. An extra problem appeared after last meeting. Due to a change from paper to electronic form submission of the annual reports of the EU projects, a LEAR is needed and for this reason it is not clear that EURAF will receive money from AGFORWARD this year. **ACTION: a) Rosa to make a proposal for transfer of finances and responsibilities to avoid the cofinancing of EURAF, b) EURAF to obtain a 'LEAR' registration asap (Rosa).**

2.4. Other Agroforestry Projects

- Word had been received on the success of pilot project call on Agroforestry led by Melanie (Alienor). The call will appear next April, will be closed next August and the contract will be signed at the end of December. It has to be clear the role that EURAF can play in order to avoid co-financing and not to lose the role of lobbying that EURAF has. Rosa will ask to her university about the roles, but, we have to wait for the call.
- A pre-proposal submission, led by the University of Gembloux, was made to the FACCE ERA-Net call with modest EURAF involvement included.
- A pre-proposal submission, led by the ICRAF, was made to the H2020 call with EURAF being involved.
- Rosa is working on the COST proposal based on the concepts of Agroforestry and Smart Climate and in the excellent job Anastasia did last year.
- Proposals in the Waste and the ISIB calls from H2020 are currently being prepared.

3 EURAF Events

- MARCIAC event. Melanie informed Rosa that the Marciac Agroforestry Festival will be carried out next 30 June. Delegates and Members are very welcome. The meeting will invite European Parliament Members and from the European Commission and will include simultaneous translation. A proposal will be circulated among the EC members.
- BRUSSELS event. Melanie informed Rosa that a delay will occur and the event will be carried out in October or November. More news will come soon.

Extra points proposed by Anja:

4. EURAF Mission Statement.

The meeting agreed wording of "*Towards 50% of farmers using agroforestry by 2025*". This is the same target as announced by the French Ministry of Agriculture in Dec 2014, and will be used as a footer on Webpages and in the Newsletter. A discussion about using "land" or "farmers" was carried out, but finally participants decided to support the French Agroforestry Association

Quantification of farmer numbers implementing agroforestry (*sensu lato*) will be difficult, but contacts are being developed with the EU-JRC MARS Unit at Ispra, which has responsibility for monitoring implementation of the CAP, and is already collecting statistics on farmers with areas of 'farm forest' and areas of 'trees outside the forest'. Gerry is attending a workshop on this on 24/25 March at Ispra, Italy.

ACTION: EURAF webpage will include this mission. EURAF EC country delegates to send Gerry photos of 4-5 examples of agroforestry from their country, with map references and an indication of tree density, for use as 'field cases' by the JRC MARS Unit.

5. Sponsorship

5.1. TUBEX Agreement.

To have a brochure is important to put in different events to spread agroforestry and to get more sponsors (i.e. Librement Agriculture and Forestry Fair, Milano EXPO) The compromise suggested by Rosa was fleshed-out and confirmed. It builds on the close relationship with TUBEX, and is therefore a 'one off' partnership, not to establish a precedent for sponsorship from other companies:

- An 8 page glossy brochure to be financed and produced by a TUBEX ex-consultant (Bodran ...) with EURAF providing some photos, assistance and review the text.
- Tubex to use 1 page for company adverts, but EURAF to arrange advertising blocks equivalent to an additional page in areas where competition with Tubex is not involved (e.g. pruners, saws, sprayers). EURAF will keep any advertising revenue, but the adverts and artwork must be submitted by mid-May.
- EURAF will receive 1000 copies to be used in an advertising (jointly with Tubex) and sponsorship campaign.

- Other language versions will be produced by TUBEX in collaboration with EURAF - but details and costs remain to be discussed.
- The English brochure (probably French also?) will be launched jointly at the Librement (q.v.) in July.

Action: Gerry/Anja to suggest the above to Tubex as soon as possible, and confirm plans for the French brochure.

5.2. Newsletter and Website

Proposals for gold, silver and bronze sponsorship levels needs to be further explained (i.e. contribution in miscellaneous section should be explained, and 2/3rd page (for 1 Newsletter) seems too large for a logo. For the EURAF newsletter it was agreed that a small, medium size logo will be given to provide a bronze and silver offer. For the gold option a Text could be added by the sponsor. Contracts will be done on an annual basis, with the compromise of doing at least 4 Newsletters. There are three options for the Newsletter nowadays (pdf, and two web options). The same logo options can be given for the bronze and silver option. For the gold option several ideas appeared from the EC, i.e. put Logo and link to the web page of the sponsor (one or both options) Other suggestions were to include an advertisement for sponsors in the Newsletter to put a logo in the newsletter. **ACTION: Nathan/Anja to clarify the questions and to circulate suggested suggested prices to these options.**

6. EURAF Meetings

- An agroforestry event is being organised at the Marciac Jazz festival in August by AFAF. EURAF will co-brand this, but is unlikely to be a financial beneficiary. **ACTION: AFAF to clarify what type of participation is expected from EURAF.**
- The public relations office of DG-AGRI will be making a room for free at EXPO Milan 2015 available to organizations which are members of CDG. This is cost free. **ACTION: Rosa to get further information from DGAGRI liaises with Alfredo who will contact with these contacts in Italy to make a EURAF-PEFC event in the Expo. The brochure already mentioned can be used to get more sponsors in these events.**
- Anastasia offered to investigate holding the EURAF 2016 Bi-Annual meeting in Greece. The 2018 meeting is likely to be in Montpellier combined with the world agroforestry congress. **ACTION: Anastasia to discuss with Paul and report on options at the April EC Meeting (1/4/15).**
- Agroforestry Brochure Launch at Librement Agriculture and Forestry Fair on 24th July, with EURAF and Belgian agroforestry colleagues attending. **ACTION: Gerry to liaise with Tubex and report in April.**
- EURAF and AGFORWARD will be represented by Jaconette Mirk at the AFTA meeting at Ames, Iowa in June. **ACTION: EURAF EC members will help and review the presentation that will be elaborated by Jaconnet Mirk**

7. Membership Issues

7.1. Ireland's Participation in the EURAF EC

It was confirmed one of the Irish delegates would be invited to EURAF EC meetings with observer status. Irish members should choose a delegate ***ACTION: Gerry to ask Irish members for a delegate.***