

51th EURAF Executive Committee Report

Wednesday, 13th May 2015, 10am-12pm

Report written by Nuria Ferreiro, Rosa Mosquera Losada

Present:

Officers: Rosa Mosquera Losada, Gerry Lawson, Jeroen Watté

National Delegates: Andrea Pisanelli (Italy), Andrea Vityi (Hungary), Gerardo Moreno (Spain), Joao Palma (Portugal), Norbert Lamersdorf (Germany), Rober Borek (Poland)

Advisers: Christian Dupraz

Apologies: Adolfo Rosati (Italy), Bert Reubens (Belgium), Alain Canet (France), Gerardo Moreno (Spain), Joana Amaral Paulo (Portugal), Melanie Lamaison (France), Mike Strahan (UK), Sylvene Laborie-Roussel (treaseur), Xavier Devaux (France)

1. EURAF staff contracts / accounting

An update of the accounting situation was provided by Rosa. EURAF has money to pay all social security and companies that pay our staff by end of May 2015, with the exception of Anja salary of April. EURAF is waiting for the payment of AGROFE and the final amount of money should be used to adequately develop AGROFE. With the current amount of money, EURAF decided to pay the social security of Jabier and Vhg Company (company in charge of Jabier payments). As soon as AGROFE pays and the amount of money to be used to end the work of AGROFE decided, Anja will be paid and later on the loans.

ACTION: *Sylvene, Joana and Rosa to follow up the process and communicate to EURAF EC.*

2. EURAF Funding

EURAF is participating in the following calls without adopting co-financing:

- VALORA (leader: ICRAF): The proposal failed in the first stage
- FACCE SURPLUS (two stages): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution
- COST ACTION: EURAF is waiting for the resolution
- WASTE: EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution
- WATER: EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution
- ISIB call (7 June): 1 stage to be presented
- Pilot project: Melanie reported that the call will be launched very soon. Rosa had several meetings with Xavier Noyón from PEFC. PEFC is interested in collaborate with EURAF in this project. The main interest of PEFC is to test the opportunity of certify wood products managed under agroforestry practices.

ACTION: *Melanie and Rosa will report as soon as the pilot project is launched.*

3. EURAF Policy Activities

April-May:

- Rosa was invited by the Commission to help in developing the Agroforestry focus group call, which will be launched next November 2015. All EURAF members are invited to present their candidatures and disseminate the call once the EIP publishes it. It has to be highlighted the success of EURAF: the proposal presented by EURAF was selected among 192 candidatures. This will mean that the Commission will work on this subject and will pay experts travelling and maintenance to talk about Agroforestry, Agroforestry / mixed systems / farms diversification. The Commission will be in charge of expert selection. A Report to be used for innovation, operational group creation, H2020 strategic agenda and future research and policy needs will be finally published by the Commission.
- Different EURAF members are participating in these focus groups, and find them quite interesting as mentioned Bert and Felix.

ACTION: *Rosa will inform on the development of the focus group.*

- EURAF also participated in the following CDG meetings:
 - Organic Farming CDG (Jeroen)
 - Arable CDG (rice, biomass) (Nuria)
 - LEADER sub-group of the ENRD (Rosa)
 - Rural Development CDG (Rosa and Gerry)
 - Direct payments and greening (Rosa and Gerry)

Rosa highlighted the high interest of being part of these groups for the job that EURAF has to do for AGFORWARD. Gerry also said that the meetings were quite useful. Jeroen also said that may be it is interesting to have a responsible per group.

Right now all groups included Agroforestry in the Strategic Agenda, with the exception of Rural Development due to the general writing it has. A new letter will be sent by Rosa in order to include it in the agenda. Agroforestry was not also included in the Organic Farming Strategic Agenda but Jeroen Watté will try to include it as this possibility was considered by the group.

- An Arable Crops meeting will be held next May. Rosa explained that in June-July two ours will be allocated to Agroforestry in the Arable Crop group.
- Rosa is trying to get the Livestock CDG information from other groups, as EURAF is not part of the Livestock CDG
- Gerry participated in the ESIF meeting, which is mostly about funds and rural development (tourism, youth...). He thinks it is important for EURAF to be there.
- Rosa also presented Agroforestry within the EU Geosciences Conference held in Viena in April. There are four Public Consultations on which EURAF could participate. Please contribute to them, the links and the person in charge can be seen in Annex 1.

ACTION: Reports to be included in the EURAF CDG dropbox. Rosa and Christian will try to organize the two hours event within the Arable Crop group.

- Rosa informed that following Public consultations have been launched:

Call		Deadline	Person in charge
Public consultation on the integration of Agriculture, Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) into the 2030 EU climate and energy policy framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The European Commission (DG CLIMA) has just launched a public consultation on the integration of Agriculture, Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) into the 2030 EU climate and energy policy framework. http://ec.europa.eu/clima/consultations/articles/0026_en.htm The consultation is published on Europa website at: https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CLIMA_CONSULTATION_AGRILULUCF_2030 	18/06/2015	Gerry
EU Timber Regulation Review	<p>Here you can access the questionnaire: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/nature_fitness_check_en.htm</p> <p>Here you can read more about the 'fitness check' for EU nature legislation: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness_check/index_en.htm</p>	15.04.2015 – 08.07.2015	Rosa
Public consultation as part of the Fitness Check of the EU nature legislation (Birds and Habitats Directives)	<p>Here you can access the questionnaire: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/nature_fitness_check_en.htm</p> <p>Here you can read more about the 'fitness check' for EU nature legislation: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness_check/index_en.htm</p>	30.04.2015 – 24.07.2015.	Jeroen, Bert?
Consultation on the preparation of a legislative proposal on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the European Union's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitment in a 2030 perspective	<p>Consultation on the preparation of a legislative proposal on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the European Union's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitment in a 2030 perspective http://ec.europa.eu/clima/consultations/articles/0025_en.htm</p>	26.03.2015 – 18.06.2015.	Rosa

ACTION: Each responsible should make a draft to be circulated among EURAF members. If someone is willing to take the lead of the “EU timber regulation” please inform Rosa.

4. EURAF Events

- Expo Milano: we are waiting for the resolution of the call, that Rosa together with Adolfo presented. The meeting will be organized by Adolfo Rosatti and Andrea Pissanelli in collaboration with the PEFC and the European Commission. This could be one of the “events” organized for AGFORWARD project
- Brussels meeting (AGROFE) will be next November. Melanie will send further information. EURAF was contacted for an event organized by the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (FNCP).
- The 2016 EURAF meeting will probably be held in September in Montpellier, together with the General Assembly of AGFORWARD.

ACTIONS: Rosa to send the EU resolution and roles to Adolfo and Andrea to organize the event. Rosa will keep in touch with Melanie and Charles Burriel for the Brussels meeting. Rosa will keep the contact of the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (FNCP)) for the Parliamentary event in Brussels. Rosa will speak with Christian to ask his preferences to organize the 2016 EURAF Conference in Montpellier.

5. EURAF organization

Rosa explained that due to the lack of staff, we will maintain EURAF activity between all EURAF members and with the help of Rosa team volunteers Nuria Ferreiro Domínguez and Teresa Piñeiro López. They will try to maintain the Newsletter, answering the e-mails and keep the lists of EURAF.

Anja left all her files in the CDG dropbox, and Rosa explained that she downloaded all of them and deleted them from the CDG dropbox as it was collapsed due to the very heavy documents Anja had. If someone needs them, just ask Rosa.

Anja explained to Teresa Piñeiro and Nuria Ferreiro (USC) how to handle the newsletter. Anja said that she would prepare the May newsletter. But, it was not prepared so Nuria is now working in the newsletter with the help of Joao Palma. One of the main problems is the lack of papers that has to be included in the May newsletter. May newsletter should be finished because compo-verde (www.compoverde.com) paid us for an advertisement,

Andrea Pisanelli said that he can write something about the European RD and Gerry Lawson indicated that it would be interesting to see something about measure 222. Rosa and Andrea will write a paper for the Newsletter.

Rosa also said that if the Executive Committee was agreeing the newsletter could be published all months but, we have to guarantee at least four issues per year.

Nuria Ferreiro will be also working with Joao Palma in Lisbon during May and they both could maintain the EURAF website. Joao asked for the final colour layout agreement of the website. Joao will send an e-mail to reach the final colour agreement, before asking a colleague to set up definitively the web page.

Joao informed that the Newsletter was sent to 850 people but just around 25 downloaded it. Joao Palma also explained that statistics per country should be provided. Rosa proposed to test what happens if the Newsletter is translated into languages like Spanish. Rosa asked how to see the updated list of EURAF Newsletter which is automatically updated. Joao will explain it to Nuria.

ACTIONS: Nuria and Teresa to keep the Newsletter, e-mails answering and lists. Nuria and Teresa to end the Newsletter after Rosa sending the paper. Joao will be in charge of the newsletter with the help of Nuria and Teresa.

6. SPONSORS

Rosa indicated that the letter written by Anja has not been sent yet, but Anja already prepared the list with possible sponsors. None of the participants in the meeting knew if the letter was ended. Gerry explained that he ended together with Anja and people from Tubex the draft brochure. He was thinking on having sponsors. He asked Robert and Andrea to have a proper web page, they agreed to see if a site could be established.

Rosa made some initial comments on the brochure including the explanation about reducing the C emissions due to the reduction of forest fire risk and to avoid the new words related to “agroforestry”. Anyone can make comments on it by 15 May.

ACTIONS: Gerry will end the brochure. National web page name to be sent by Rosa, Andrea and Robert

The next EC meeting was scheduled for the 3rd of June 2015