

52th EURAF Executive Committee Report

Wednesday, 3th June 2015, 10am-11:30 pm

Report written by Nuria Ferreiro, Rosa Mosquera Losada

Present:

Officers: Rosa Mosquera Losada, Jeroen Watté

National Delegates: Anastasia Pantera (Greece), Andrea Vityi (Hungary), Bohdan Lojka (Czech Republic), Rober Borek (Poland)

Apologies: Gerry Lawson, Christian Dupraz, Robert Lamersdorf, Bert Reubens, Joana Amaral

1. EURAF Accounting and funding

An update of the accounting situation was provided by Rosa. EURAF accounting is getting much better. All companies paying our staff as well as the amount of money due to our staff is paid with the exception of the month of April of Anja, Anja payment will be carried out during the month of June after receiving the payment of AGROFE. Rosa is still negotiating the payment of Sylvie for the job she carried out in AGROFE. No news from AGFORWAARD payment is available; this fact was confirmed by Andrea Vityi and Jeroen.

ACTION: Rosa together with Sylvene and Joana should prepare a strategy for the becoming EURAF project reports in order not to co-finance actions.

2. EURAF funding

EURAF is pending in the following calls without adopting co-financing, and no news come from them.

- FACCE SURPLUS (two stages): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution
- COST ACTION (Leader: USC): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution (resubmission September)
- WASTE (two stages): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution (call two preproposals (20 April)).
- WATER (two stages): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution (call one preproposal (21 April)).

We are still preparing the following two calls

- ISIB (Leader: USC): call (11 June), 1 stage end of this year. An interesting project dealing with the implementation of innovations of AF systems in Europe. From EURAF Robert Borek, Andrea Vityi, Joana Amaral, Bert Reubens, Jo Smith, Adolfo Rosati and Rosa Mosquera are involved.
- Pilot project: PEFC (May 2015 call end of this year). Rosa spoke with the PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) staff members who show high interest in participating in this call.

Andrea Vityi said that EURAF could participate in a Life project on climatic change as NGO but due to the co-financing (30%) and the lack of leader, the participants in the EURAF meeting decided to participate the next year. Jeroen made a carefully study of this call, highlighting the need we have of Sponsors for this the next year. Moreover, Rosa Mosquera said that to avoid problems with the tasks that have to be carried out projects, we can think in an option meaning that once the project succeed around 10-15% of budget could be directly used by EURAF and the rest can be managed directly by the person in EURAF in charge of the task (i.e. contracting people and presenting the results on behalf of EURAF). This will allow EURAF to have money to pay some of the EU meetings that we are not able to go (not paid by the commission) or pay in advance for going to those meetings of the EU to which EURAF is invited. This will also allow us to contract administrative staff for EURAF to carry out the day-to day EURAF activity.

ACTION: If someone wishes to have EURAF in a project, please contact Rosa. Rosa and the rest of participants of EURAF in the projects will inform to the EURAF EC.

3. EURAF Policy Activities

- Rosa was invited by the Commission to help with the development of the Agroforestry focus group call.

It is important to be aware that the Commission decided to include Agroforestry in the mixed systems. The title proposed by the Commission is “Mixed systems in Europe”. Rosa treated to change the title but she is not sure of the success.

ACTION: Rosa will inform on the development of the focus group and will circulate the documents to make suggestions for the call (this is confidential and should not be circulated).

- Nathan De Baets participated in an arable CDG on tobacco
Rosa said that Nathan De Baets and Nuria Ferreiro could participate in the next CDG meetings on arable crops. It would very interesting, if before to participate in the meetings, they prepare a small review on the role of Agroforestry in the different crops addressed in the meetings. Probably, this would facilitate the discussion and the spread agroforestry into arable crops.
- A seminar on seizing the opportunities for improving RDP implementation in 2014-2020 will be held soon. The commission asked for a person representing EURAF that has been involved in the development of Rural Development programs. Time for answer in was short. EURAF will be represented by a person with more than 25 years of expertise in Rural Development Programs in Galicia: Eloi Villada Legaspi from the Xunta de Galicia and the President of Grasslands and Forage production Galician Association will represent EURAF in this seminar. It is important to have a database of people with expertise in Rural Development implementation from other parts of EUROPE for the following calls.

ACTION: Please send the information to Rosa and Nuria. Nuria will be updating the database.

- In June, the following EURAF meetings will be held
 - (a) Steering Committee of the [European Network for Rural Development](#) (12 June). This seat is shared with the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism. This time they will represent us
 - (b) [Towards a long-term vision for European agricultural research and innovation](#) by 2020 and beyond (Milano, 19 June)
 - (c) Subgroup Innovation (22 June). Decision on Agroforestry WG will be held
 - (d) Civil dialogue group
 - Environment and Climate Change CDG (12 June)
 - Arable crops (17 June, 7 July)
 - Forestry and Cork (24 June)

Rosa explained that Christian Dupraz cannot organize the two hours event within the Arable Crop group in June. Therefore, the AF event will be delayed until the end of this year. Rosa will be present in the (b), (c) and in the (d) Environment and Climate Change CDG groups. Most of the EURAF representatives will be in the AGFORWARD General Assembly in Crete, so Rosa will be in charge of finding more representatives for the Forestry and Cork CDG. Arable crops will be represented by Nathan and Nuria, as mentioned.

ACTION: Reports and documents to be included in the EURAF CDG Dropbox.

4. EURAF Events

- Expo Milano (EURAF succeed with the EU call for an event): the persons in charge of this event are Adolfo Rosati and Andrea Pissanelli in collaboration with the PEFC and the European Commission. Rosa Mosquera sent to them all the necessary documents. This will allow EURAF to justify the activities of AGFORWARD.
- Marciac Festival (30 July): the EURAF logo will appear in this event thanks to the help of AFAF and will allow EURAF to justify the activities of AGFORWARD.
- Brussels meeting (AGROFE vs European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (FNCP)): Bohdan Lojka said that this event will be held at the end of November.
- 2016 EURAF meeting (Montpellier) (AGFORWARD): Rosa explained the information exchanged with Christian Dupraz about the event and the possible role of EURAF in the next EURAF Congress to be held in Montpellier in 2017. EURAF will be in charge of organizing the scientific part, but all the organization aspects related with the Congress will be organized by Montpellier. Anastasia, mentioned that we can offer our time for free to help in the organization itself (lists and so), but no debts can be charged to EURAF. All people agreed to offer their time to Christian to organize the event. EURAF will take over the scientific part of this meeting. In order to avoid the debts too any of the organizers the price of the event could be increased

ACTIONS: Adolfo Rosati and Andrea Pissanelli to organize the event (Expo Milano), Rosa to ask about the EURAF contribution to AFAP Marciac Festival, Rosa to be in touch with AGROFE to organize the EU Parliament event.

5. EURAF organization

Anja was not able to finish and send the May Newsletter. Nuria and Teresa thanks to the help of Joao to work with the Newsletter and web page system and the quick contributions of the policy article were able to send it on time. The newsletter was finished successfully, which was very important due to the advertisement included in the newsletter that was already paid. However, some people considered that this issue and the previous issues were too long. Therefore, it may be necessary to change the newsletter format. It was suggested that it will be better to use a format similar to the one of the AGFORWARD Newsletter. Moreover, the participants in the EURAF meeting also noted that the frequency of the newsletter could be lower. Maybe four or six issues per year would be enough. Nuria suggested that we can do 4 Newsletters per year plus 2 special Newsletters.

Rosa Mosquera said that in May the EURAF e-mails were reviewed by Nuria Ferreiro and Teresa Piñeiro. The number of e-mails received was low.

Up to now, no time was allocated to the lists; however, the Newsletter list is self-updated thanks to a mechanism established by Joao.

ACTIONS: Nuria and Teresa to take over the Newsletter, e-mails answering and lists.

6. SPONSORS

Gerry Lawson is working in the tubex brochure.

Nuria Ferreiro and Teresa Piñeiro will send a letter with the possibilities of funding using the newsletter and the web page, with the exception of the sponsorship of the Montpellier EURAF meeting (agreed with Christian) to the sponsors list already gathered by Anja.

ACTIONS: Gerry will end and send the brochure and Nuria and Teresa will send the letter to the possible sponsors.

The next EC meeting was scheduled for the 7th of July 2015