

# 53th EURAF Executive Committee Report

Tuesday, 7th July 2015, 10am-11:30 pm

Report written by Nuria Ferreiro, Rosa Mosquera-Losada

## Present:

**Officers:** Rosa Mosquera-Losada, Jeroen Watté, Adolfo Rosati

**National Delegates:** Robert Borek (Poland)

**Apologies:** Andrea Pisanelli (Italy), Andrea Vityi (Hungary), Bert Reubens (Belgium), Bohdan Lojka (Czech Republic), Christian Dupraz (France), Fabien Balaguer (France), Felix Herzog (Switzerland), Gerardo Moreno (Spain), Gerry Lawson (UK), Jo Smith (UK), Joana Amaral Paulo (Portugal), Johanna Björklund (Sweden), Mike Strachan (UK), Norbert Lamersdorf (Germany)

## 1. EURAF Accounting

An update of the accounting situation was provided by Rosa. EURAF accounting situation is the same as that in the last EC meeting. Rosa is still negotiating the payment of Sylvie for the job that she carried out in AGROFE. AGFORWARD payment is not available yet, but a new financing strategy will be possible when the AGFORWARD payment is received. Adolfo Rosati highlighted that to maintain our activity it is time to get the member fees of 2015.

***ACTION: Rosa and Nuria should prepare a letter to send to the national delegates with the fees that should be paid by members.***

## 2. EURAF Funding

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

- COST ACTION (Leader: USC): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution (resubmission September)
- WATER (two stages): EURAF is waiting for the first stage resolution (call one preproposal (21 April)).
- ISIB (Leader: USC) (1 stage). An interesting project dealing with the implementation of innovations of AF systems in Europe.

We are still preparing the following two calls:

- 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.
- Doctorate Program: Marie Curie Actions. A draft document will be prepared by USC, ISA and BTU.

Rosa said that we are waiting for the resolution of the COST ACTION. The problem is that if the resolution is negative the following deadline to participate in the call is in September which implies a short time to improve the document. Adolfo suggested that if the resolution is negative, we can participate in the first call of 2016. Rosa asked to the participants in the meeting if they had new information about other calls and they said that they are not aware of any other calls. It was decided to keep an eye on new proposals.

***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 the EURAF EC.***

### **3. EURAF Policy Activities**

- Rosa said that the news were bad because the Commission selected as focus group topic the “Mixed systems” instead of “Agroforestry systems”. The Commission took this decision because there is a project dealing with mixed systems which ends in November and needs this focus group and AGFORWARD does not end until 2017.
- Rosa also said that at the end of July there will be a call for experts. It would be very good if farmers with experience in agroforestry systems participated. We could circulate the link to find participants.
- Rosa indicated that an open public consultation is opened and it would be good for us to participate.  
Public consultation is part of the Fitness Check of the EU nature legislation (Birds and Habitats Directives) 30.04.2015 – 24.07.2015.
- In June, Rosa travelled to Milano to participate in a meeting on “Towards a long-term vision for European agricultural research and innovation by 2020 and beyond”. Nuria participated in the Arable CDG on sugar, Gerry and Rosa participated in the Environment and Climate Change CDG and Gerry in the Forestry and Cork CDG. These CDG were very productive.
- In August the Commission is on vacation and therefore there will be no meetings.

***ACTION: Rosa will inform on the development of the focus group call. Reports and documents to be included in the EURAF CDG Dropbox.***

Adolfo asked to Rosa about the policy report of AGFORWARD. Rosa said that she will present a draft in September. This draft will be circulated among the EURAF and AGFORWARD members and in November the final version of the report will be ready. Rosa said that Paul agreed with this.

### **4. EURAF Events**

- Expo Milano: the people in charge of this event are Adolfo Rosati, Andrea Pissanelli and Piero Paris in collaboration with the PEFC and the European Commission. The event will be 12<sup>th</sup>

September. Rosa wrote to the Commission to clarify some details but the Commission has not answered yet. This week Rosa will call to the Commission by phone. The participants in the EURAF meeting considered that it is necessary to get money to organize the event. Therefore, the list of possible sponsors prepared by Anja will be reviewed and a letter prepared by Rosa and Nuria will be sent to possible sponsors. Jeroen asked how many people had confirmed their participation in the event and Rosa said that Adolfo, Andrea, Piero and herself. Jeroen said that it would be great if Paul could also attend. Finally, Adolfo said that it is important to invite people but registered participants are limited to 100.

***ACTION: Rosa will call to the Commission by phone to clarify some details. Rosa and Nuria will prepare a letter to send to the possible sponsors.***

- Marciac Festival: the person in charge of this event is Fabien Balaguer. The event will be 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> 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. The participants in the EURAF meeting considered that it is important to promote the participation in this event and for this reason the event will be announced in the next EURAF newsletter. Adolfo suggested that Expo Milano could be promoted in the Marciac Festival.
- Brussels meeting (AGROFE vs. European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (FNCP)): EURAF will participate in this event.
- 2016 EURAF meeting (Montpellier) (AGFORWARD).

***ACTION: Nuria will include this events in the next EURAF newsletter as soon as news appear.***

## **5. EURAF Organization**

Rosa said that in June the EURAF e-mails were reviewed by Nuria and Teresa. The number of e-mails received was low. Nuria and Teresa are finishing the next EURAF newsletter.

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

## **6. Sponsors**

Nuria and Teresa will send a letter to the possible sponsors because it is important to get funding to organize the Expo Milano.

***ACTIONS: Nuria and Teresa will send the letter to the possible sponsors.***

## **7. Further Comments**

Robert Borek said that the Polish Agroforestry Association (OSA) has been registered by a decision of the Regional Court. OSA is composed of researchers as well as farmers.

Rosa asked the opinion about if the definition of riparian forest should include the word “management” to avoid possible confusions because in EU the riparian forest are not managed but in USA they are usually managed. With this clarification the people will not think that we are managing natural ecosystems. Adolfo suggested that it is better to have the concept broad. It was agreed to maintain it as it is provided in the USDA definition.

All the participants in the meeting think that a higher participation of the EC members in the next meetings is necessary, so please be aware of the next deadline!

**The next EC meeting was scheduled for the 5th of August 2015**