

# 62<sup>nd</sup> EURAF Executive Committee Report

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 10:00-12:00 pm

Report written by Rosa Mosquera-Losada and Adolfo Rosatti

## Present:

**Officers:** Rosa Mosquera-Losada, Joana Amaral Paulo

**National Delegates:** Andrea Pisanelli (Italy), Adolfo Rosati (Italy), Anastasia Pantera (Greece), Norbert Lamersdorf (Germany)

**Apologies:** Fabien Balaguer (France), João HN Palma (Portugal), Mark Vonk (The Netherlands), Andrea Vityi (Hungary), Robert Borek (Poland), Gerardo Moreno (Spain), Bert (Belgium), Gerry Lawson (officer), Bohdan Lojka (Czech Republic)

**Invited:** Christian Dupraz (former president), Patrick Worms (ICRAF)

## 1. EURAF Projects

- COST ACTION will be delayed until September, if someone wants to be the leader it please contact with Rosa
- AGFORWARD: The Rural Development Fact sheets was sent to a sample of countries, some problems were found that are already solved. Fact sheets of the RDP prepared by Rosa and Javier Santiago will be sent in the forthcoming days.
- NEW PROJECTS: in the last EC meeting Rosa had selected the following EU calls with a 2017 deadline. Rosa said that EURAF was required to participate in the following, but there are still possibilities. Some EC members agreed to collaborate in proposals once the consortium is created. From the following EURAF will be involved in the SFS-28-2017 and probably SFS29-2017. We have to wait and see if RUR-12-2017 will succeed with the AFINET proposal. Call RUR-13-2017 was asked to Charles Burriel, however, no answer was obtained. Rosa will also ask to Juan Antonio Sánchez Rodríguez from Instituto de Restauración y Medio Ambiente SL. Last month EURAF was required to participate in the projects SUBER within the Erasmus + call Vocational education and training. And also in the project PASTTREE within the ERANET-SUSAN (Innovative management and use of woody plants on pastures for sustainable cattle production systems) call. Rosa prepared all the paperwork and included EURAF as part of the proposal.

### Ecosystem services

SFS-28-2017: Functional biodiversity – productivity gains through functional biodiversity: effective interplay of crop pollinators and pest predators 14 Feb 2017 (First stage) 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage) 10 million,

SFS-29-2017: Socio-eco-economics – socio-economics in ecological approaches 14 Feb 2017 (First stage) 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage) 5 million

RUR-03-2017: Towards 2030 - policies and decision tools for an integrated management of natural resources 14 Feb 2017 (First stage) 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage) 8 million

**Knowledge transfer (AFINET)**

RUR-10-2016-2017: Thematic Networks compiling knowledge ready for practice 17 Feb 2016 10 million

RUR-12-2017: Networking European farms to boost thematic knowledge exchanges and close the innovation gap 14 Feb 2017 7 million

RUR-15-2017: The benefits of working with others – fostering social capital in the farming sector 14 Feb 2017 3 million

RUR-16-2017: Optimising interactive innovation project approaches and the delivery of EU policies to speed up innovation in rural areas 14 Feb 2017 (First stage) 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage) 5 million

**Education**

RUR-13-2017: Building a future science and education system fit to deliver to practice 14 Feb 2017 (First stage) 13 Sep 2017 (Second stage) 7 million

***ACTION:** If someone wishes to have EURAF in a project, please contact Rosa. Rosa will then inform the EURAF EC for avoiding any conflict of interests.*

## **2. EURAF events**

### **2.1. EURAF third Congress in Montpellier**

Christian gave an update of the Meeting preparation: 180 registered people. Forty were already EURAF members and sixty are new EURAF members. The names will be forwarded to Rosa and Nuria. From those 19 were EU citizens, 8 from Belgium, 11 from Italy, 1 from Croatia, 2 from Denmark, 3 from Spain, 1 from Finland, 1 from Greece, 12 UK, 6 non EU citizens, 7 from USA, 3 from Canada, 5 from Chile and 5 from China. Austria is missing. No one from ICRAF, nor from the Commission, nor from Africa. Christian will see if some funds can be allocated to people from no developed countries. Christian team are handling with 200 e-mails per day. Christian did not contacted sponsors. He will do so in the forthcoming days and circulate a letter to the EC to get more sponsors. 110 abstracts will be finally accepted. Field tours programs will be uploaded soon in the website. Plenary session to be organized: good plenary presentation lacking. People discussed few possible names of plenary speakers. Patrick proposed to invite the CGIAR (Consultative Group of International Agriculture Research) people in Montpellier: strategic to let them know that EU is working on AF.

Rosa can send a message to the EIP people.

Patrick and Christian discussed the possibility of having at least the plenary online for people that cannot afford coming. Christian will see the possibility. Everybody agrees that at least the plenary session will be of interest

Jeroen mentioned that a press table will be interesting. It should be done during the first day as the Agriculture Ministry will be in the main table.

Norbert asked if there will be available free rooms for parallel meetings. Christian confirmed yes.

### **2.2 World Agroforestry Congress**

We have not an official response on the proposal to carry out the congress in Montpellier.

### **2.3. General Assembly**

Rosa will made a draft of the main points to be included in the General Assembly talk:

#### *Activity report*

EURAF EC Meetings: 63 meetings! (38 before)

EURAF New members and associates from XX countries (61 people!!)

7 were before at least 19 now in the web page: review the web page!

EURAF Newsletter 15! (3 before), including the ISSN.

EURAF EU meetings: Over 50!

IUAF (stopped)

Summary of main successes of EURAF members (review all reports)

Inventory of main Agroforestry practices and definition establishment

Agroforestry policy analysis

Public consultation participation

Project call participation

4% involvement. GACSA?

Rural National Network participation (Greece, Spain?, Poland)

Events:

Expo-Milano

Parliamentary session

*Financial report*

AGFORWARD

AGROFE

National report (ppt)

Next EURAF work?

An announcement to get new elected EC members will be carried out. It is also needed to have new national delegates and subdelegate members that will be handled by each current EURAF National delegate.

***ACTIONS:*** Christian will take care of all aspects of the EURAF Conference in Montpellier with the EC willing to help. He will circulate a letter in the forthcoming days to get more sponsors. Christian will handle the press table, the streaming of the plenary session. Rosa will invite people from the EIP. Christian will see if some funds can be allocated to people from no developed countries. For the Delegates, Rosa will send an e-mail to the EC members. Each EC members will take care of the National delegate and subdelegate representative call.

### **3. EURAF Policy activities, CDG, others**

#### **3.1 The provisional dates of the meetings will be:**

- 11 April CAP: Rosa Mosquera and Gerry Lawson will go
- 12 April Direct Payments and Greening: Rosa Mosquera and Gerry Lawson will go.
- 15 April: Arable: Oscar will go
- 13 May Arable: Oscar will go
- 20 May Rural Development
- 25 May Environment and Climate Change
- 3 June Arable
- 21 June Forest and Cork

Voluntaries to participate in the CDG are necessary, please inform Rosa

3.2.- Rosa asked for EFA examples, Norbert Lamersdorf will send Rosa a contact about it.

3.3. Comments on resolution LULUCF Rosa included this into the AGFORWARD policy report.

3.4.- Participant selection on Parliament hearings

3.4.1.- The role of conservation agriculture in enhancing agricultural productivity and ecosystem services

3.4.2.- Resource efficient and innovative agriculture - EU and global best practices

Rosa will follow up these two hearings in the Parliament and will suggest Mr. Furlan for the first one and Mr. Alain Canet for the second one.

3.5.- Talks within the Environment and Climate Change and Forestry and Cork meetings

Rosa was able to include a session about agroforestry in the meetings of the Civil Dialogue Groups of Environment and climate change and Forestry and Cork as well as for Arable crops.

Rosa got positive answer of people involved in the National Rural Networks in Poland, Greece and France. Spain has asked to be part of it.

***ACTION:** If anyone wishes to participate in any meeting, please contact Rosa*

**Suggested changes on the Document of the Role of forests in the 2030 climate and energy framework.** The following amendments have been approved (in red) by the EURAF EC:

#### **Role of forests in the 2030 climate and energy framework**

Europe's forests, the forest sector and forest-based products have an important role to play in tackling climate change. The Civil Dialogue Group (CDG) on Forestry and Cork, representing a wide range of stakeholders, from producers, **managers** to industries and to environmental groups, welcomes the recognition of forests in the EU's new climate and energy policy framework 2020-2030 and the inclusion of the land **use and land management (including agroforestry)** and forest sector in the framework.

A climate policy including forests should always take into consideration that European forests are **multiproduct and** multifunctional, among others, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, providing forest products (**wood and no-wood products**), ecosystem services, jobs and conserving **and promoting** biodiversity. In order to take the specificities of the sector into account, the CDG on Forestry and Cork calls for the forest sector (including wood **and no-wood products**) to be

addressed separately in the climate policy framework post-2020, hence recognising the specific character of forests and forestry.

European forests and forest products are presently a net sink [u1] of emissions, removing carbon from the atmosphere. The CDG on Forestry and Cork wishes to highlight that all sectors will need to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation in order to meet the greenhouse gas targets laid out in the October 2014 Council Conclusions and the Paris Agreement. The contribution from forests, the forest sector and forest-based products should not lower the climate ambition of other sectors.

***ACTIONS:** Reports and documents will be included in the EURAF CDG Dropbox as usually. Rosa and Nuria will follow up all these activities to help with the organization and link everybody. It will be good if everybody contact with their own operational groups in or to see if we can connect operational groups about agroforestry among different EU countries*

#### **4. EURAF Newsletter**

We have few papers for the May newsletter, we ask EC send any kind of papers or information that will be welcomed.

***ACTIONS:** Nuria and Teresa to take over the newsletter*

#### **5. EURAF internal activities**

##### **5.1 Sponsorship**

Christian is taking care of Sponsors for the EURAF Conference. Rosa will send again the list of the Sponsors to Christian.

***ACTIONS:** Rosa will send the list to Christian. Christian will take care of the sponsorship for the EURAF conference.*

##### **5.2 Public Consultations**

Rosa showed a slide with the following public consultations:

<a href="#">Public consultation on Horizon 2020 'Science with and for Society' Work Programme 2018-2020</a>	4 July 2016
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***ACTIONS:** Can someone take care of some of the Public Consultation? Please inform Rosa.*

#### **6. EURAF accounting (VAT, Agrofe Project)**

Rosa explained that the social security of the AGROFRE contract of Sylvie was not paid. Rosa asked Christian to get the social security account for EURAF. Christian said it is too complicated and Rosa asked for contracting a consultancy company to do it. Christian will try to find one. Rosa will also speak

with Fabien Balaguer to get one. VAT problem has also to be solved. The same company will be used. We have a problem with the company in charge of the Expo-Milano event because the invoice is different with the VAT or without the VAT in 900 Euros.

***ACTIONS:** Rosa and Christian will try to find a consultancy to take care of the social security of AGROFRE project contract of Sylvie and VAT.*

## **EURAF prize**

Rosa sent a document to Christian with information about the EURAF prize but she has not received an answer yet. The EC decided not to present the PhD and master thesis prize. Instead a “best poster” awards will be done during the conference.

***ACTIONS:** Rosa will ask Christian about the prize be forwarded.*

**The next EC meeting is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2016 at 11:00 CET.**