



Management Committee Meeting

Cost Action 869 "Mitigation options for Nutrient Reduction in Surface Water and Groundwaters"

Keszthely, Hungary
12 October 2011

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT

Jaroslav Antal	Slovakia
Marianne Bechmann	Norway
Luisella Celi	Italy
Wim Chardon	Netherlands
Péter Csathó	Hungary
Antonio Delgado	Spain
Petri Ekholm	Finland
Emmanuel Frossard	Switzerland
Chantal Gascuel-Oudoux	France
Fernando Gil-Sotrès	Spain
Kerem Gungor	Turkey
Phil Haygarth	UK
Josef Hejzlar	Czech Republic
George Hofman	Belgium
Nick Holden	Ireland
Brian Kronvang	Denmark
Michael Litaor	Israel
Antonio Lo Porto	Italy
Ralph Meißner	Germany
Romulus Mocanu	Romania
Ross Monaghan	New Zealand
Tamas Németh	Hungary
Yiannis Panagopoulos	Greece
Gitte Rubæk	Denmark
Oscar Schoumans	Netherlands
István Sisák	Hungary
Moshe Shenker	Israel
Piotr Skowron	Poland
Dimitranka Stoicheva	Bulgaria
Peter Strauss	Austria
Barbro Ulén	Sweden
Zoltan Gyori	<i>COST rapporteur</i>
Anja Van der Snickt	<i>COST Office</i>



0 WELCOME

MC members from a number of countries (Italy and Poland) could not attend the meeting, and were replaced by others. They received a special word of welcome.

1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

After adding an item on a new COST initiative the agenda was adopted.

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes of the last meeting on 29 September 2010, Seville, Spain had been sent to MC members before the meeting. The minutes were approved without changes.

3 MATTERS ARISING

On 4 November 2010, Turkey has signed the MoU, so has joined our Action. As MC member, Kerem Gungor represented Turkey during this meeting.

4 REPORT AND NEWS FROM THE COST Office

Because of maternity leave, the scientific officer of our Action Ioanna Stavridou could not be present. Thus, our Administrative Officer Anja Van der Snickt present latest developments within the COST program.

Recently, three new Actions were approved (FA1103 | Endophytes in Biotechnology and Agriculture; FA1102 | Determination of body composition and meat quality in farm animals; FA1101 | Omics Technologies for Crop Improvement). Countries can show their interest. There has been an open call for proposals for new Actions in September; a total of 555 proposals were received, of which 63 under Food & Agriculture. Due to the large number of proposals the chance of approval remains less than 10%. Next call for proposals will be on 30 March 2012.

Several points of interest for the finishing of our Action were addressed, e.g., annual report within 1 month of Action end (on 6 November), final report within 4 months, and the Final Evaluation report to be written by the Rapporteur with an External Evaluator.

5 BRIEF REPORT OF PAST ACTIVITIES

- A third meeting of the Editorial Committee of WG3 was organized on 21 October 2010 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Decisions were taken on how the work on the report should be finished. The [report](#) (144 pp., 18 MB) was published in February 2010.



- On 13 April 2011 a small meeting was organized in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The organizer of the final meeting, the WG chairs and the MC chair discussed the setup of the final meeting.
- On 25-28 April 2010 a Workshop of WG4 was organized in Ballater, Scotland, by Marc Stutter. Since then 13 publications in the Journal of Environmental Quality were reviewed and finally accepted, an introduction paper is in progress. The papers will be open access, financed by extra budget from COST.
- On 14-16 June 2010 a workshop of WG2 and WG3 was organized in Jokioinen, Finland, by Eila Turtola. Work is in progress on a number of presentations to be published in the journal Agricultural and Food Science.
- On 29 September - 1 October 2010 a workshop of WG1 was organized with IPW6 in Seville, Spain. As an outcome, work on > 20 papers for the journal Soil Use and Management is in progress; the special issue will be co-financed by COST 869, and will also be open access.

6 BUDGETS and PLANNING

6.1 Action budget

A budget (“grant”) was received for the period 1 April 2011 – end of action of 106.5 K€ This consists of a regular budget of 100 K€, and 6.5 K€ additional budget for open access of the 13 papers in the J. Environ. Quality. The remaining budget will be sufficient for paying this meeting, and part of publication costs of the meetings in Ballater and Seville. The MC agreed that budget that still remains could be used for an extra publication, the website, or for an extra meeting. Oscar Schoumans proposed to organize a small meeting of WG3 to work on the database with mitigation options.

6.2 Action planning

Work will be continued on an introduction paper for the publications of the meeting in Ballater, the submitted manuscripts for the meeting in Seville, and on the final report of COST 869

7 SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION - STSM

Since the previous MC meeting 4 STSMs were finished:

- Karin Johannesson and Pia Kynkäänniemi (Sweden) visited Clare Deasy (UK). The topic was: “establish links between the UK and Swedish groups actively working on constructed wetland research for diffuse pollution mitigation”.
- Risto Uusitalo (Finland) visited Elisabetta Barberis and Luisella Celi in Turin, Italy. The topics were: (i) surface charge measurements, and (ii) P fertilization issues in Finland and in the Piedmonte region.
- Luke Beesly (UK) visited Marta Marmioli, in Parma, Italy. The topic was: N, P, K fertiliser leaching in soils, and the influence of biochar.

During the whole COST Action 10 STSMs have taken place.



8 PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS AND WEB NEWS.

The report on Mitigation options, and reports, presentations, and abstracts were added to the Action website for meetings in Spain and The Netherlands (see www.cost869.alterra.nl, Past meetings). Work on publications derived from the meeting in Scotland and Spain is in progress, and will be made available via the website later.

9 REQUEST FOR NEW MEMBERS

No new requests were received. Turkey officially joined the Action in November 2010.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

A letter was composed that will be sent to the DG Research & Innovation, with a cc to DG Environment and DG Agriculture and Rural Development. The letter, supported by MC members from 26 out of the 30 countries participating in COST 869, expresses the following concern :
“that there is no indication that the targets of the WFD will be reached in 2027. In fact they [MC members] fear that most likely the targets will not be reached. There is an urgent need for better understanding of the cost-effectiveness of measures under the different landscapes and climates in Europe, for information on the main sources and pathways that determine the nutrient losses from field to catchment scales, and for information on the critical factors effecting the amelioration of water.

Therefore it was stated:

“As Management Committee we highly recommend: (1) to start a Research Program on the impact of agricultural production on the water quality and on the options to improve the water quality and (2) to collect the missing information. At least the FP8 funding framework should make this possible.”

The [letter](#), with signatories in an [Appendix](#), was sent to the DGs on 27 October 2011.

11. NEW COST INITIATIVE

Chantal Gascuel presented [information](#) on a pre-proposal for a new COST Action, submitted in September 2011. The initiative for the proposal was taken by Sylvain Pellerin and Thomas Nesme (both INRA/ENITA, Bordeaux, France) , and interest was already shown from 9 other countries. The title is *“Phosphorus accounting and resolving the threat to food security in Europe”*.

12. CLOSING