Forest Research

Payments for Ecosystem Services - Forests for water quality benefits (PESFOR-W) – MC5

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1) Welcome all! 2) Quorate?

COST Action CA15206
PESFOR-W
Payments for Ecosystem Services Forests for Water

Austria [AT]
Belgium [BE]
Bosnia and Herzegovina [BA]
Bulgaria [BG]
Croatia [HR]
Czech Republic [CZ]
Denmark [DK]
Estonia [EE]
Finland [FI]
France [FR]
Germany [DE]
Greece [EL]
Hungary [HU]
Ireland [IE]
Italy [IT]
Latvia [LV]
Luxembourg [LU]
fYR Macedonia [MK]
Montenegro [ME]
Netherlands [NL]
Norway [NO]
Poland [PL]
Portugal [PT]
Romania [RO]
Serbia [RS]
Slovakia [SK]
Slovenia [SI]
Spain [ES]
Sweden [SE]
Switzerland [CH]
United Kingdom [UK]
Turkey [TR]

MC Rules of procedure: 1 vote per COST signatory country

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3) Adoption of the Agenda

1. Welcome to participants;
2. Verification of the presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries or, if applicable, a quorum
3. **Adoption of agenda**
4. **Matters arising from last meeting and recent Core Group meetings**
5. **Update from the Action Chair:**
   a) Status of Action: start & end dates of Action, participating COST countries, participating NNC/ IPC institutions and Specific Organisations.
6. **Update from the Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) Coordinator**
7. **Update from the Grant Holder: Action budget status**
8. **Update from the COST Association** (if a representative is present)
9. **Monitoring of the Action** (24-month report)
10. **Implementation of COST policies:**
    a) Promotion of gender balance and Early Career Investigators (ECI) & Inclusiveness (see list of ITCs) and Excellence
11. **Follow-up of MoU objectives: progress report of working groups**
12. **Scientific planning**
    a) Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables) - Spatial repository, online survey & case studies…
    b) Action Budget Planning
    c) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities) – **Bulgaria**…;
    d) Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities) – plans for **woodlands & water PES session** at the Ecosystem Partnership conference 14-19 October 2018 (San Sebastián, Spain); Dissemination & Exploitation plan
13. **Requests to join the Action:**
    a) COST countries
    b) Institutions in Near Neighbouring Countries, International Partner Countries, International Organisations, etc
14. **AOB - linking with related COST Actions (LAND4Flood etc) & providing information on governance for WG1**
15. **Location and date of next meeting**
16. **Summary of MC decisions**
17. **Closing**

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4) Matters arising from past meetings

1) **GP2 financial report: ~€870 in total of the travel claims reimbursed** to participants **initially deleted by the COST Association** due to failure to apply rules

2) **STSM applications approved**
   a) **Nikolina Baksic:** 'Reviewing available pollutant models and decision support tools for informing the design and management of woodland creation measures for reducing agricultural diffuse pollution'
   b) **Khrystyna Vasylyshyn:** 'Existing motivations and barriers to PES participants in the EU'

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4) Matters arising from past meetings

3) ITC conference grants call - Core Group recommendations:

a) to accept applications by:

a) **Cláudia Carvalho-Santos** 'Forests as promoters of water ecosystem services – insights from Portugal' for presentation at ESP 2018 conference (subject to abstract being accepted)

b) **Attila Tóth** 'Direct Supports of the Slovak Agricultural Paying Agency as Potential Economic Mechanisms for Encouraging Ecosystem Service Provision' for presentation at ESP 2018 conference (subject to abstract being accepted)

b) to reject application by:

a) **Ilija Đorđević** on 'Organization of protected area management system in Serbia'

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4) Matters arising from past meetings

4) Forests & water session at the Ecosystem Partnership conference 14-19 October 2018 (San Sebastián, Spain): **decision to reinstate £4k budget as a dissemination meeting** subject to abstracts submitted by MC members/subs being accepted for oral presentations, COST approval & Vademecum rules:

- For each Grant Period, a **maximum of two Action MC members or their substitutes** are eligible to be reimbursed for their attendance at approved Dissemination meetings.

- **All eligible Action Participants must make an oral presentation at the conference** in question and must be listed as a speaker in the official event/conference programme. The main subject of the oral presentation / speech at the approved event or conference must result in promoting the scientific activities being performed by the COST Action.

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4) Matters arising from past meetings

4) Forests & water session at the ESP conference 2018:

- Of 13 abstracts submitted, 4 by MC members/subs:
  - i) **Cláudia Carvalho-Santos** 'Forests as promoters of water ecosystem services – insights from Portugal'
  - ii) **Attila Tóth** 'Direct Supports of the Slovak Agricultural Paying Agency as Potential Economic Mechanisms for Encouraging Ecosystem Service Provision'
  - iii) **Paola Ovando** 'Optimal harvesting decision paths when timber and water have an economic value'
  - iv) **Gregory Valatin** 'Woodlands for water Payments for Ecosystem Services: an overview of initial findings, activities and ambitions of the PESFOR-W COST Action'
- 1 submitted (to be presented by) a PESFOR-W participant who is not a MC member/sub (ineligible for a grant?):

`v) **Cristian Accastello:** Assessing the cost-effectiveness of payments to woodland owners for water services

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5) Update from the Chair

Grant Periods

Start of the Action: **18 October 2016 (1st MC meeting)**

1. **GP 1: 1 Nov 2016 – 30 April 2017**
2. GP 2: 1 May 2017 – 30 April 2018
3. GP 3: 1 May 2018 – 30 April 2019
4. GP 4: 1 May 2019 – 30 April 2020
5. GP 5: 1 May 2020 – **30 September 2020**

Figure 2 – GANTT Diagram

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5) Update from Chair

32 COST countries have signed MoU:

ITCs (17):

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- Croatia
- Estonia
- Hungary
- Latvia
- Luxembourg
- fYR Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- **Turkey**

Other (15):

- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Ireland
- Italy
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom

5 countries yet to join:

- **Albania**
- **Cyprus**
- **Lithuania**
- **Malta**
- **Iceland**

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5) Update: MC Observers

7 countries & 2 international organizations:

NNCs:

- Morocco
- Jordan
- Tunisia
- Ukraine

IPCs:

- China
- New Zealand
- Japan

IOs:

- European Forestry Institute
- UNECE/FAO

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6) STSMs: 5 in GP2

- **Ignacio Pérez Silos** (Sept/Oct 2017)
  - **'Assessing the effectiveness of woodland creation for reducing agricultural diffuse pollution – developing value ranges to create look-up tables'**
- **Khrystyna Vasylyshyn** (Oct 2017)
  - **'Experience of payments for ecosystem services implementation' (Croatia)**
- **Martina Stabova** (Feb 2018)
  - **'Exploring and identification of key factors and approaches of existing PES schemes'**
- **Cristian Accastello** (Feb/March 2018)
  - **'Approaches to quantify the cost-effectiveness of forests for water PES'**
- **Guilia Amato** (March/April 2018)
  - **' Utilities' engagement in watershed investment and PES'**

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6) STSMs: GP3

- **Nikolina Baksic** (Aug/Sept 2018)
  - **'Reviewing available pollutant models and decision support tools for informing the design and management of woodland creation measures for reducing agricultural diffuse pollution'**
- **Khrystyna Vasylyshyn** (Sept/Oct 2018)
  - **'Existing motivations and barriers to PES participants in the EU'**

Priority topics:

- WG1: **motivations and barriers for PES participants**
- WG2: **environmental effectiveness of woodlands measures** [models]
- WG3: **potential buyers' motivations** [e.g. Potential links to carbon markets]
- WG4: **Collecting case study information for spatial repository and fact sheets**

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7) Budget: GP2 (May 2017-April 2018) Out-turn

	Budget	Expenditure	Unspent	predicted (March)
Networking:	*€147 826*	*€132 129*	*€15 697*	*~€10k*

Networking Expenditure	Grant budget (a)	Expenditure			Delta (g=d-a)
		Actuals (b)	Accruals (c)	Total (d=b+c)	
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Total Meetings	128 092.20	117 910.15	0.00	117 910.15	-10 182.05
Total Training Schools	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total STSM	10 000.00	11 650.00	0.00	11 650.00	1 650.00
Total ITC Conference Grants	7 233.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	-7 233.92
Total Action Dissemination	2 400.00	2 400.00	0.00	2 400.00	0.00
Total OERSA	100.00	168.76	0.00	168.76	68.76
Total Networking expenditure	**147 826.12**	**132 128.91**	**0.00**	**132 128.91**	**-15 697.21**

Eligible Networking Expenditure	Grant budget (a)	Expenditure			Delta (g=d-a)
		Actuals (b)	Accruals (c)	Total (d=b+c)	
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Eligible Networking expenditure	**147 826.12**	**132 128.91**	**0.00**	**132 128.91**	**-15 697.21**
FSAC (max 15%)	22 173.92	19 819.34	0.00	19 819.34	-2 354.58
Total eligible expenditure	**170 000.04**	**151 948.25**	**0.00**	**151 948.25**	**-18 051.79**

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7) GP2: ~€870 expenses initially deleted by COST

Please ensure keep to COST rules in submitting travel reimbursement requests:

- **Keep all travel receipts:** without a receipt, reimbursement impossible.
  - But for hotel & meal expenses no receipts are needed;
- **Air travel** – upload details of the airline, full price of the ticket, name of the passenger, travel dates, departure and arrival times, booking class:
  - an invoice for air travel booked is not adequate;
- **Car travel**:
  - **upload a map** from reputable online route planner (e.g Google maps) which shows the exact distance travelled;
  - **Passenger does not claim** for the distance travelled
  - **Driver provides the name of any passenger** in the remarks section of their claim .
- **Taxis:** maximum of 80€ in total for entire journey:
  - retain a clear receipt showing date, time of journey and full price.
  - If after 7am or before 10pm, you must provide a reason for this – i.e. public transport is not available.
    - You need to put a note of the reason in the Justification box.
  - If you share a taxis and each require reimbursement for the split cost, you will need to ask for one receipt each for the amount you pay;
- **Cross-border travel**: please record as long distance;
- **National travel**: please record as local;

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7) Budget: GP3 (May 2018-April 2019)

Work and Budget Plan Summary

A. COST Networking Tools	EUR
(1) Meetings	111,532.51
(2) Training Schools	21,672.00
(3) Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)	12,500.00
(4) ITC Conference Grant	4,000.00
(5) COST Action Dissemination	1,500.00
(6) Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)	100.00
B. Total Science Expenditure (sum of (1) to (6))	151,304.51
C. Financial and Scientific Administration and Coordination (FSAC) (max. of 15% of B)	22,695.68
Total Grant (B+C)	174,000.19

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7) GP3: use of unused funds after Norway meeting

Budget for Norway meeting

€64k

predicted underspend from Norway meeting

(net of €4k dissemination meeting) ***~€9k?***

- **2-day workshop (27th-28th November, Italy) for up to 12 participants to progress paper on cost-effectiveness analysis of Woodlands for Water PES (WG3 proposal)**

- **Additional STSMs** (more than another 3)

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8) Update from the COST Association?

Science Officer

Dr. Mónica Pérez-Cabero

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Tel: +32 (0)2 533 38 22

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9) Monitoring: 24 month report

REPORT AT MONTH 12: feedback not yet received

- COST inclusiveness policy

REPORT AT MONTH 24

- Co-authored publications & H2020 proposals
- Additional outputs & achievements
- Success stories?

MoU objective	Achieved Yes/ Partially/ No	Evidence of (partial) achievement including hyperlink to enable assessment of the achievement. Justification if full achievement is not foreseen
Copy from e-COST or MoU		For each objective insert evidence of (partial) achievement including hyperlink to enable assessment (by the Action Rapporteur) of the achievement and access by end users
Copy from e-COST or MoU		
Copy from e-COST or MoU		
Copy from e-COST or MoU		

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11) MoU Objectives Follow-up: GP1 goals

Period 1 (Nov 2016 – April 2017) goals:

1) Define a **Dissemination & Exploitation Plan**

2) Create Website & **Spatial hub**

3) State of the Art: Commence evidence review on the effectiveness of woodland creation for reducing agricultural diffuse pollution

4) State of the Art: Commence discussions on a common protocol to assess cost-effectiveness of woodlands for water PES schemes

5) State of the Art: Commence characterisation of design & governance aspects of European woodlands-for-water PES

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11) MoU Objectives Follow-up: GP2 goals

Period 2 (May 2017 – April 2018) goals:

1) Explore potential **investors' perceptions** of what would be needed to attract them to purchase credits

2) Populate and publish **preliminary look-up tables** on the effectiveness of woodland measures to reduce agricultural diffuse pollution

3) Write a **thought leadership article on assessing the cost-effectiveness of woodlands for water PES**

4) Launch an **online web survey** to gather information on woodlands for water PES schemes

5) Maintain and add to the website and **spatial hub**

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11) MoU Objectives Follow-up: GP3 goals

Period 3 (May 2018 – April 2019) goals:

- 1) Explore motivations and barriers of potential participants in woodlands for water PES (e.g. farmers, water utilities, landowners and the general public)
- 2) Organise a training school on the effectiveness of woodland measures to reduce agricultural diffuse pollution
- 3) **Evaluate demand-side (buyer) motivations including potential for linking water payments with those for forest carbon**
- 4) Collect key data, including financial & socioeconomic information, on existing W-for-W PES schemes for Case Study fact sheets
- **5) Explore best marketing & communication practices for PES**

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12) Scientific Planning

a) Scientific strategy (MoU objectives, GP Goals, WG tasks and deliverables) - Spatial repository, online survey & case studies…

b) Action Budget Planning

c) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities) – Bulgaria, Ireland? …;

d) Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities) – plans for woodlands & water PES session at the Ecosystem Partnership conference 14-19 October 2018 (San Sebastián, Spain); Dissemination & Exploitation plan

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13) Requests to join the Action

No new applications to report (4 MC Observer applications):

IPCs (2):

- USA
  - **Margaret Shannon**
- Canada
  - University of Alberta
  - University of Waterloo

IOs (1):

- International Water Management Institute, Ghana

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14) WG1 survey & WG2 training school

COST Action CA15206

PESFOR-W

Payments for Ecosystem Services Forests for Water

Training School

Environmental Effectiveness of Woodland Measures for Reducing Agricultural Diffuse Pollution to Water – Evidence, SWAT Modelling and Decision Support Tools

23-26 October 2018, Vairão, Porto, Portugal

Deadline for application: 15th August 2018
More details: https://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/pesforw

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14) AOB: potential for linked events?

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LAND4Flood (CA16209)

CLIMA (CA15226)

Nature-based solutions for circular cities (CA17133)

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15) Location & date of next meeting

Location: **Albena, Bulgaria**

Date: **27th Sept 2018**

Thanks very much to Johan B., Rhys & team for organising the meeting in Norway

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16) Summary

COST Action CA15206

PESFOR-W

Payments for Ecosystem Services Forests for Water

Draft minutes to be circulated within 3 weeks

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