



**Draft Agenda  
Core Group Meeting**

**COST Action no. FA1103**

**Action Title: Endophytes in Biotechnology and Agriculture**

Monday, 16.12.2013, 9:00-12:00

Meetingroom Nr. 1

COST Office

Avenue Louise 149/12

1050 - Brussels /Belgium

*Core Group (CG) of FA1103:*

Bruno Biavati (Coordinator STSM Committee)

Andrea Campisano (Vice Leader WG1)

Matthias Döring (Leader WG3)

Carlo Leifert (Action Vice Chair), cannot attend

Anna-Maria Pirttilä (Vice Leader WG4)

Carolin Schneider (Action Chair)

Heinz-Martin Schumacher (Vice Leader WG2)

Angela Sessitsch (Leader WG2), cannot attend

Marc Stadler (Leader WG4)

Jaco Vangronsveld (Vice Leader WG3), cannot attend

Leo van Overbeek (Leader WG1)

## **1. Welcome to participants**

Carolin Schneider welcomes the participants and opens the meeting at 9:00.

## **2. Adoption of agenda**

The CG unanimously approves the meetings' agenda.

## **3. Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting**

The CG unanimously approves the last meetings' minutes

## **4. Update from the Action Chair**

*a. Status of Action, including participating countries*

*b. Action budget status*

- 22 Countries participate
- COST Near Neighbour Countries: 1 (Tunisia Sfax)
- International Partner Countries: 7 (2x USA, 1 India, 1 Argentina, 2 x Australia, 1 SA, 1 NZ)
- 135 COST entities participating
- 40 non-COST entities participating
- 69 MC members(+subs)
- 250 working groups members

WG1: 164

WG2: 157

WG3: 109

WG4: 69

Budget analysis: a budget excess of roughly 10.000 € is expected. C. Schneider welcomes suggestions for this excess in 2013 (possible uses include publication fees, colour pictures for papers, etc).

CG approves that for 2014 activities will concentrate on months 1-10, to make exact spending of planned budget easier.

*c. STSM status and new applications*

Bruno Biavati illustrates STSM details and budget.

M. Stadler suggests to implement rolling applications for STSM. These present some advantages and the problem that careful long-term planning is required. After discussion CG approves to stay with the system with two deadlines per year, but hope that the new deadlines on 15.1. and 15.7. make it easier to plan STSM in time.

Implications of the change of position of Australia for COST Actions are discussed.

A proposal to increase STSM budget is made. It is approved that the budget remains like planned in the draft work & budget plan for 2014 (15.000 €), but that it will be increased if a larger number of quality applications are received.

It is proposed that the deadlines are highlighted in the action website.

## **5. Annual Progress Conference**

COST Annual progress conference was attended by C. Schneider. The same presentation is presented here.

## **6. Follow-up of MoU objectives**

### *a. Progress report of working groups*

WG1 reports on advances. L van Overbeek reports about the *definition paper meeting*: positive outcomes include a paper abstract and an outline. Also, the meeting in Berlin was a success also for its ability to reach out to people who are not active in the framework of FA1103.

WG2 reports on advances. C. Schneider reports on the advances on the *endophyte database* initiated during the meeting in Tulln. The possible needs for a) professional help from companies to support the creation of a questionnaire associated to database strains, and b) maintenance of the database beyond the time reach of the action, are discussed. H.M. Schumacher highlights the need for available “live” lists of WG

A proposed CG meeting is proposed to take place in June 2014. The CG approves.

WG3 reports on advances. Matthias Döring has organized a workshop on *long term cultivation of endophytes* is forthcoming (starts later in the same day)

WG4 reports on advances. M. Stadler reports on the IMC10 conference in Bangkok, FA1103 plans to use as dissemination meeting. Also, a successful training school falls in the works of WG4. Also the workshop on *risk assessment of endophytes* planned for 2014, falls within WG4.

## **7. Scientific planning**

### *a. Scientific strategy*

*b. Action Budget Planning*

C. Schneider presents the full 2014 budget proposal. The CG approves.

The WG 1-4 meeting in Izmir, Turkey (Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2014) (*risk assessment of endophytes*).

The MC meeting will occur in the same occasion. Please note the date.

A Core Group Meeting in Newcastle from 13.-15.5.2014 (noon to noon), please note the date.

A WG3 meeting in July/August 2014 in Bielefeld (GER): Application techniques of endophytes

A meeting *Signalling in Endophyte/Plant system* together with COST Action FA1206 on Strigolactones in Krakow, Poland. Planned date 15.-17.9.2014, please note the date.

Training Schools:

Statistical computing and graphics in endophyte research (Portugal, March 2014)

WG2 isolation and characterisation of fungal root endophytes (Grossberen, Germany, Sept 2014)

Publication and Dissemination, Outreach, Website expenses

Marc Stadler reports on COST Action FP1103 Fraxback, CG sees synergies and will contact Chair.

*c. Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)*

In foresight, L. van Overbeek suggests immediate attention for the Maastricht 2015 *rhizosphere* conference, which is happy to host a session on endophytes.

The CG discussed the possibilities and prerequisites

*d. Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)*

Carolin Schneider will send Action Poster to Marc Stadler for dissemination use at IMC10 and elsewhere.

Carolin Schneider will send an email to all members regarding participation in calls of Horizon 2020. Networking of COST partners in projects is seen as a great chance.

**8. AOB**

no requests

**9. Closing**

Carolin Schneider closes the meeting at 12:05 and thanks participants for input.

/AC, CS 20.12.2013