



COST Action FA1103: Endophytes in biotechnology and agriculture **Minutes 3rd Core Group (CG) meeting** **Newcastle May 13-14 2014**

Present: Carlo Leifert (host and chair), Bruno Biavati, Matthias Döring, Heinz-Martin Schumacher, Angela Sessitsch, Leo van Overbeek (minutes).

- 1) Meeting started at 13:30. All participants were welcomed at the Nafferton Farm, Newcastle.
- 2) Agenda is approved
- 3) Minutes are approved
- 4) Update from the Action Chair
 - a) Status of Action, including participating countries
There is a list of number of participants per working group, as suggested by Prof Schumacher. There are no further actions left for this point.
 - b) Action budget status
Budget spent in 2013, 10 kEuro left. In case in 2014 is a budget left over, this budget will be allocated for STSM under c (see below).
 - c) STSM status and new applications
Bruno reported on the status of the current budget. For STSM actions, there is a shortage of budget. The call for July is already overspent (two-three requests for STSM). Carolin requested additional funding for STSM, Science Officer approved. Expected budget should be about 22-24 kEuro for 2014 (approx. 6 -8 kEuro over current budget of 15 kEuro). Additional 10 kEuro can be spent for STSM.
 - d) Budgets for workshops, symposium and MT meetings are approved by the MT members, but no notice of pending meetings were circulated. This may be an action for Carolin. Also, Portugal and the Grossbeeren meetings should be advertised. Not all members were alerted to the trainings schools. Suggested action by the MG is a common procedure for advertising pending workshops, meetings and short-term actions.
- 5) Annual Progress Conference
 - a) We congratulate the coordinator on the positive response from the evaluation committee (referee) and thank for the presentation. Point for consideration is the acknowledgement of the Cost action in scientific publications. Action Carolin for an official announcement to acknowledge the Cost Action is Endophyte publications.
- 6) Follow-up of MoU objectives, Progress report of working groups
For working group 3, from 18-20 December workshop on conservation and long-term cultivation (20 persons).
- 7) Scientific planning
 - a) Scientific strategy
Poland meeting. Persons possibly interested in signalling for the Poland meeting (September, 15-17) are: Kalle Kogel, Philipp Franken, Angharad Gatehouse and Marc Stadler. These persons were suggested as potential candidates for this activity. None of the MT members present at the meeting has the appropriate expertise.

Turkey meeting. Risk assessment of endophytes.

Session titles for Izmir Turkey meeting (Date change to: November, 3-7) are:
Biocontrol and registration (Action Matthias)
Biochemical, physiological and ecological (microbial) impact on plants (Action Martin)
Environmental impacts on endophyte plant interactions with respect to beneficial - harmful effects in endophytic behaviour. (Action Angela)
Human pathogens in plants (Action Leo)

Link between registration and risk assessment. Falko Feldmann (JKI) can provide a regulatory overview.

- b) Action Budget Planning
Allocated budgets are approved.
 - c) Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)
Workshop as satellite of the Rhizosphere 4 conference was proposed and approved. Half-day satellite with an overview of three to four topics covering the program in connection to the conference. Suggested topic is ecological aspect in relation to endophytes (rhizosphere versus endosphere). Action Leo for costs and feed back to Carolin.
 - d) Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)
For working groups 1 and 2 there is follow up in 2014 on writing the review publication as decided during the Florence meeting.
 - e) Rhizosphere Conference Maastricht 2015
see under c.
- 8) AOB
History of endophyte research. Matthias will make a proposal and present that at the next meeting.

Meeting closure

Guided Tour Nafferton Farm

/LvO 20.5.14
/CS 23.5.14