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AGENDA

# ECOBREED 15<sup>th</sup> EB Video Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> of February 2021

## https://zoom.us/j/96444063084?pwd=K2U3U2RtRFI0TkJNK0dVZEtwWkM xUT09

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> of February | 16:00 - 18:00

16:00 – 16:10 | Introduction & general items 16:10 – 17:40 | WP1-9 Operational plans for year 2021 & discussion (max 10' each) 17:40 – 18:00 | AOB

#### MINUTES

Executive Board members present: Vladimir Meglič (Co-ordinator), Paul Bilsborrow (deputy Co-ordinator), Pavol Hauptvogel (WP1 leader), Heinrich Grausgruber (WP2 leader), Peter Dolničar (WP3 leader), Kristina Petrović (WP4 leader), Dagmar Janovská (WP5 leader) Werner Vogt-Kaute (WP6 leader), Mario A. Pagnotta (WP7 leader) and Antoaneta G. Kuhar (project manager and WP8 leader).

The video meeting of the Executive Board was constituted, and the zoom video & audio connection tested. The Co-ordinator welcomed participants and presented the main purpose of the meeting, which is *to check the operational plans for year 2021*. He proposed to go through each WP separately to see if there are any issues we need to address.

We are through a big part of the work programme that took us a lot of energy. Some of Ds are still pending, but PR1 was approved. Funds have arrived and as soon as we get bank account confirmation from all partners, the transfer will be initiated.

**WP1:** Pavol reported that multiplication will be finished in April 2021. Not all partners have sent information about the multiplication. A table will be prepared with the status quo in April 2021. Peter and Paul disagree for potatoes, because all varieties are

multiplied in all 4 countries and this will continue also next year; so, multiplication will not finish this year. Heinrich: it is always the problem with the use of terminology. The task of WP1 was to multiply initially enough seeds to continue with the tasks from various WPs. Seeds which are now produced in WP2-5 every year in the phentoyping trials should not be considered as multiplication related to WP1. Peter confirmed.

WP2: Heinrich reported that WP2 is more or less in time, except the short delay in T2.2 at UNEW. Durum wheat should be screened with cadmium marker. So, I will talk with our technician to screen with the cadmium marker, but we should decide which lines to screen. Mario suggested to screen the ones in the field. Paul: we did 2 runs with commercial innocula, (INOQ Advantage) but there was no colonisation at all. A Third run was carried out with native organic soil (sept to Nov 2020) where successful colonisation has been achieved. For the MAGIC population last crosses are done in Martonvasar, hope they will be successful; no detailed information from RGA on the status quo of interspecific crosses between wheat and Thinopyrum intermedium. Heinrich asked if the material for advanced phenotyping for PSI is now prepared at NPPC. Pavol confirmed, germination started with 35 varieties on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The NPPC / PSI agreement specified 30 varieties, and after last week's PSI offer, 34 varieties will be planted in the experiment and 1 variety is a reserve. There is problem with the temperature, photo material was shown. PSI will start with the trial on 4-5 of March 2021. Online trainings are scheduled for 28-29 of April and 12-13 May. Paul reminded that there will be in addition 5 more in person Advanced Phenotyping training events. Vladimir said that the first event is too soon, it needs to be prepared and advertised. Heinrich reminded that according to PO letter on PR1 every participant should be assessed. Vladimir explained how we should proceed. Heinrich asked to clarify the assessment tomorrow. Mario stressed that the programme should be prepared based on our training material that should be presented and distributed among participants. Heinrich proposed the meeting to 2 x 0.5 days, meaning we have 6 topics to cover and 6 speakers; we also need the responsible person on PSI site. Information could be distributed within European phenotyping network. Vladimir asked Mario to call a meeting with all involved in the phenotyping (BOKU, KIS, UNEW, PSI, NPPC). Paul does not see the advantage to have 2 online events scheduled so close. Heinrich proposed to cancel the April event. Pavol added there is no problem to change the date of the events. Paul asked what the commitment of PSI in the subcontract is with respect to the training element. The contract for the work NPPC / PSI also with the specification of the subject of the contract and training (Practical training workshop "State of art technologies for plant phenotyping" - training theoretical and practical hands-on workshop for project participants in the range of 2x / 2 days.) was sent members of EB 25. 06. 2020 11:09. Pavol explained that PSI will design and deliver the workshop. **Conclusion:** we need the programme by the end of February, but before that to have a meeting with PSI sub-contractor (Pavol sends invitation to Vladimir, Heinrich, Paul, Mario and Antoaneta by the end of the current week).

**WP3**: Peter informed all tasks are going on as planned, besides 3.2 for mycorrhiza at UNEW. Paul reported same issues as for WP2 in that the first arietal screen with the commercial AMF inoculant (INOQ Advantage) resulted in zero colonisation. A repeat run with native organic soil as in Task 2.2 will start in March 2021. The biggest problem is with UP/Szent Istvan University, the responsible person Istvan Cernak informed he would leave the institute; Zsolt Polgar is now back. Peter stressed that no breeding material was currently exchanged between KIS and UP.

**WP4**: Kristina reported all planned activities are following on time. This year is very important, because all trials will be released. We are waiting for seeds from Austria to do health test and protein analyses. Ion will not send seeds due to drought problem and there is very low amount of seeds.

**WP5**: Dagmar reported Task 5.1. is in line. For Task 2 she needs update from UNEW. Paul reported no activities have yet started as all initial allelopathy screening was being carried out at UVIGO and is ongoing. For Task 5.3 we have problems to import soil samples from the USA. The solution will be WSU does P analysis by their own, following our instructions. Task 5.4 is the biggest challenge; still waiting for Chinese to provide exact guidelines as to what is to be written on the label. We now started to prepare DNA samples to stay stable at the ambient temperature and to ship to China. Task 5.5: there was a problem with RGA in the timely delivery of samples and evaluation data, but this was resolved after applying the measures described in CA.

**WP6**: Werner reported that the biggest problem is that the data management is not working (due to a cyber-attack on UNEW computing systems), this is not that crucial now, but it should be operational when we start putting data. In terms of planning FPT we had video conferences, trials from Crete were distributed (soybean: Slovenia and Austria; wheat: Italy and Serbia). Kristina was asked to send soybean varieties list; for buckwheat Dagmar needs to provide 2 addresses are missing.

**WP7**: Mario reminded that the difficulties we face are linked to covid-19 restrictions that impede in persons events and force change of dates. It was surprising to get PO letter with not approved Ds. So now it is not known how we can use the written material. We must decide if we run the events online or again postpone. Werner suggested to anyway start organising and collaborate with partners, but if covid-19 restrictions remain we at least should start video recording and performing online events. This year one event on phenotyping should be online with PSI and the rest we will see if and when will happen. Vladimir stressed we need to have calendar with right announcements. Werner suggested at least we have plan A and B. In Task 7.3 we have 12 partners, and each should run 2 training events; WSU from the USA is one and GEO is the second. Vladimir answered the number should remain, so someone should replace both WSU and GEO. **Conclusion**: call a meeting and set the schedule once again.

**WP8**: Antoaneta presented the submitted Communication strategy and PEDR along with metrics, stressing the importance of collaboration of each partner of the Consortium. All events need to be planned in advanced and also advertised. It is important that WP6, 7 and 8 leaders meet and agree on the way the events are put in place, so they don't overlap, are timely scheduled and partners are handed all 'package' of documents needed to organise and report the outcomes of the events. **Conclusion**: Antoaneta is going to schedule a meeting for next week.

**WP9**: Antoaneta and Vladimir presented the list of deliverables and milestones that are pending and due in the PR2. All WP leaders should follow the protocol agreed in Prague how to submit deliverable and report on the achievement of the milestones. **Conclusion**: Antoaneta to send the presentation to partners. Submission of PR2 is set for June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Technical part can start being developed already now and should be submitted by May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Financial part is due on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Financial part is needed to finalise the PR2. **Conclusion**: Antoaneta is going to send an e-mail to partners asking them to start preparing for the report and announcing deadlines. An administrative amendment should be soon opened (GEO, UP, other),

content one linked to the extension should be prepared after the submission of PR2. Consortium agreement needs to be amended as well. 3<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Consortium is still under question if it will be executed in person (Hungary, MTA) or online.

Meeting finished at 7pm.