



ecobreed
IMPROVING CROPS



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DOCUMENT ID	31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023 Vienna_minutes

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

AGENDA

ECOBREED 31st EB hybrid meeting

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences / Universität für
Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU)
18 – 19 October 2023

Wednesday, 18 October 2023 | 14:00 - 18:00

Location Day 1: VIBT-Besprechungsraum (MUG3-02/81), Muthgasse 11, 1190 Vienna

Zoom link: <https://bokuvienna.zoom.us/j/63057111635>

- 14:00 – 14:30 | Welcome and introduction**
Vladimir Meglič, project coordinator
- 14:30 – 16:00 | Progress of work and TO DO list till the end of the project (deliverables, deadlines, partners performance):**
WP1 (Pavol Hauptvogel)
WP2 (Heinrich Grausgruber)
WP3 (Peter Dolničar)
WP4 (Vuk Đorđević)
- 16:00 – 16:30 | Coffee break**
- 16:30 – 18:00 | Progress of work and TO DO list till the end of the project (deliverables, deadlines, partners performance):**
WP5 (Dagmar Janovská)
WP6 (Werner Vogt-Kaute)
WP7 (Mario A. Pagnotta)
WP8 & WP9 (Antoaneta G. Kuhar)
- 19:00 | Joint dinner**

Thursday, 19 October 2023 | 9:00 - 12:00

Location Day 2: Faculty Club (SCHW-DG/105), Peter Jordan-Str. 82, 1190 Vienna

Zoom link: <https://bokuvienna.zoom.us/j/69590220630>

- 9:00 – 10:30 | ECOBREED Final Conference organisation**
All EB members
- 10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee break**
- 11:00 – 12:00 | ECOBREED Final Conference organisation**
All EB members

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

ECOBREED 31st EB Meeting

Meeting started on Wednesday, 18 October 2023 at 14:05

Executive Board members present in person: Vladimir Meglič (coordinator), Paul Bilsborrow (deputy coordinator), Pavol Hauptvogel (WP1 leader), Heinrich Grausgruber (WP2 leader), Peter Dolničar (WP3 leader), Antoaneta G. Kuhar (project manager and WP8 leader)

Executive Board members present on-line: Werner Vogt-Kaute (WP6 leader), Mario A. Pagnotta (WP7 leader)

Executive Board members absent: Vuk Đorđević (WP4 leader), Dagmar Janovská (WP5 leader),

Other project members present on-line: Andreja Žibrat Gašparič (KIS)

Welcome and introduction

Vladimir Meglič, project coordinator, welcomed everyone to the 31st EB meeting in Vienna and presented the agenda with special focus on the preparation of the final report and the final conference in Ljubljana.

He informed the EB members of an email from the project officer, Tatiana Tallarico, in which she asked to set the date for the final review as soon as possible. The meeting will be held on-line and preferably in the first two weeks of February 2024. The final report is due 60 days after the end of the project. The review meeting is therefore a form of pre-hearing before the final report.

After a short discussion between the EB members, it was decided to hold the final review meeting in the week of 12 to 16 February at BOKU in Vienna in-person (for the EB members) and on-line for the PO and reviewers. Antoaneta G. Kuhar will send an email to the EB members that are not present at the meeting to confirm their availability. One day will be for the EB meeting and one full day for the final review meeting.

The project coordinator said that it is vital to finish all the deliverables ahead of the actual deadlines set in the GA.

Antoaneta G. Kuhar added that 25 April 2024 is set as the due date for submitting the final ECOBREED report to the EC Funding and Tender portal (the technical and the financial report). After a short discussion it was decided that the reports of WP leaders need to be finished by mid-March 2024 latest.

UNEW and KIS will also have financial audits after the end of the project.

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

Progress of work and TO DO list till the end of the project

WP1

Pavol Hauptvogel (WP1 leader, NPPC) reported that only one deliverable is still due (D1.5 – Final publishable report on WP1) which will be a public report.

And one milestone needs to be reached by end of the project: MS48 - Information portal for genetic and phenotypic characterisation data. This milestone is due at the end of December 2023.

For Task 1.3, the wheat collection is almost finished, durum wheat accessions will be entered by HG, but the soybean, potato and buckwheat collection lists need to be filled out still. For new varieties, NPPC will add the link and data from EURISCO to the database.

The WP1 leader and project coordinator suggested to have this milestone and database finished by the end of November.

WP2

Heinrich Grausgruber (WP2 leader, BOKU) said that there are some deliverables still to be prepared, D2.5 will be finished by next week. There are also many publications being prepared within WP2 from BOKU, UNITUS, UVIGO.

He reported that partners NPPC, SELGEN and SECOBRA all delivered MAGIC populations to them. But there seem to be no interest in the common bunt breeding lines. At the meeting VM asked to send MAGIC population material as well to KIS, to be included in the ad hoc trial. HG will send it by mail asap.

There is still missing information from RGA, especially on perennial wheat (no information about the varieties used for crosses). The project coordinator therefore suggested that the WP2 leader contact the partner asap as the final report will need to be prepared soon.

The WP2 leader also reported that some partners plan to do trials on populations for the next 10 years after the end of the project (i.e. BOKU, ATK, NPPC, SELGEN, SECOBRA). The project coordinator volunteered KIS to join as well.

The project coordinator asked to prepare a list of variety names that can be marketed under the ECOBREED trademark.

For the phenotyping data, the WP2 leader is in contact with Uroš Žibrat (KIS) for the results and the interpretation of the results from the Advanced Phenotyping.

WP3

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

Peter Dolničar (WP3 leader, KIS) said that a lot of work is already finished, but some deliverables are still ahead of the group. All the partners are currently finishing their harvest.

There was a 2-3 week delay at KIS due to the floods in Slovenia in August 2023.

Partner UNEW needs to prepare two deliverables on phenotyping (ie phenotypic description including Advanced Phenotyping and statistical analysis of the across site data).

Publications need to be prepared within WP3 as not many have been published until now.

The project coordinator also asked the WP3 leader to prepare the list of organic varieties released as part of ECOBREED. We have breeding lines suitable for organic breeding and will need a list of these for all the four crops to inform our stakeholders.

WP4

Vuk Đorđević (WP4 leader, IFVC) was not present at meeting and sent a report.

Task 4.1: IFVC Data analysis is still ongoing. All trials are finished. Preparation of deliverables D4.2 took place (all partners were included). NARDI data sheet filing for 2022 and collection of phenotyping data (2023).

Task 4.2: IFVC trials ongoing. D4.3 preparation took place. NATUR finalisation of trials and input for deliverable was shared. NARDI observation of plant reaction to drought. Collection of phenotyping data – canapeo. Peer review paper was published.

Task 4.3 & Task 4.4: Completed.

Task 4.5: GS – no active trial. Preparation of deliverable is ongoing. Joint publication with IFVC on inoculation. IFVC – finalisation of soybean trial (vetch), preparation of deliverable. SZG – preparation of data for deliverable.

Task 4.6: IFVC & SZG further breeding activities.

There are no delays in preparing deliverables. D4.2 and D4.3 already sent for proof reading.

High-throughput phenotyping for non-destructive estimation of soybean fresh biomass using a machine learning model and temporal UAV data paper was published.

WP5

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

Dagmar Janovská (WP5 leader, CRI) was not present at the meeting but sent a short report.

T5.1 – all planned work done, the article on the results from AT and CZ is in progress, CZ data published in 2021, SI data published in August 2023

T5.2 – all planned work done, article under revision

T5.3 – all planned work done; the first draft of the article will be prepared by the end of the project based on the results of the field trials

T5.4 – all planned work completed, 7 articles published so far, one under revision

T5.5 – not yet completed, accessions are being harvested, both partners will be reminded to update the status of their work.

Milestones completed.

Deliverables:

- D5.3 – submitted
- D5.4 – submitted
- D5.5 – to be sent by the end of this week (22 October 2023)
- D5.6 – due M68
- D5.7 – due M70

In line with the proposed and agreed process, the WP5 partners would like to start preparing PR4 as soon as possible.

The project coordinator added that he and the project manager will have separate online meetings with the WP4 and WP5 leader as soon as possible to discuss any open questions and new deadlines.

WP6

Werner Vogt-Kaute (WP6 leader, NATUR) said that he expects the 3-month report of partners by middle of October 2023 and this will be the last report. Most partners have already responded, for the rest he will send a reminder today. Partners have to tell which data from the 2023 trials are missing and when they will deliver the missing data. Ideally, they deliver until end of December so the output can be then the FPT bulletin for 2023. The deadline for preparing the information for the bulletin would be end of January. All the three FPT bulletins are the basis for the deliverables of Task 6.2 and Task 6.3.

The WP6 leader will have a separate on-line meeting with the project coordinator and project manager next week to discuss all the deliverables within this work package.

WP7

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

Mario A. Pagnotta (WP7 leader, UNITS)

Task 7.1 - NPPC – plans to organise 1 workshop in December 2023 – so all KPIs reached in the training events in Task 7.1.

Task 7.2 - the training days KPIs reached.

Task 7.3 - the training for farmers still planned by BOKU (14. 11. 2023 – workshop for farmers on common bunt); UNEW also will hold their remaining training event in late November.

Bursaries are still available for the training events.

Project coordinator said that NPPC will take 10 bursaries and KIS will help organise this. Needs to be announced that bursaries are open only for attendees from outside the consortium.

WP8

Antoaneta G. Kuhar (WP8 leader, KIS) presented all the work done within WP8. In dissemination, exploitation and communication, most of the KPIs have already been reached. In dissemination, there are articles in specialised magazines/industry magazines still missing. KIS will remind partners who have not yet published such articles to do so as soon as possible. In exploitation, the key exploitable results have been reached but need to be explained properly, especially in the final report. For this, the input from crop leaders will be essential. In communication, only the number of fairs and business events have not been reached yet, but this could also be a problem of reporting (maybe some events have not been reported correctly).

There are two deliverables left: D8.3 is being prepared by NATUR and KIS and will be delivered on time. D8.5 is also in preparation, but Helena Valas will still need information from crop leaders regarding the business cases soon to finish the deliverable.

WP9

Antoaneta G. Kuhar (project manager, KIS) said that the dates for the final review meeting will be set soon together with the EC. Also, the final conference organisation details and logistics will be defined soon.

She reminded the EB members that all partners will need to send their interim financial reports by the end of next week (27 October 2023). This was already announced at the GA in June 2023 and mentioned in the minutes of the annual meeting. The reporting period is from end of PR3: 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

31_Executive Board meeting_September 2023

Vienna_minutes

In the beginning of August, Slovenia experienced extreme floods and some trials at KIS were partly destroyed because of this. KIS asked the EC for the permission to use fund for coping with the destruction.

She also stated that seems to be some problems with partners who already announced that they will not come to the final GA and final conference.

The project coordinator also added that plans for the future need to be made to showcase and use all the results after the end of the project as there was a lot of work done and a lot of results produced in the past five years.

The EB members analysed the just opened calls within Cluster 6 in the current work programme for 2024 to start preparing for applying a new project proposal.

ECOBREED Final Conference organisation

The EB members looked at the current draft of the conference programme. They defined the sessions, the sub-sessions, who will be the invited speakers and who will be invited to participate at the round table.

The next on-line organising committee meeting will be held on Thursday, 9 November 2023 at 9 am CET.

Antoaneta G. Kuhar (KIS) said that all the logistics will be defined by then. For now, it is clear that the location of the conference will be Ljubljana city centre.

ECOBREED final report

At the end of the meeting, the project manager and project coordinator have received an email from the project officer Tatiana Tallarico that the final review meeting will be held on 14 February 2024 online and that the final report needs to be uploaded to the EC Funding and Tender Portal by 31 January 2024 latest.

The meeting was finished on Thursday, 19 October at 11:50.