



Contract no. 036212

EUPHRESCO ERA-NET

Co-ordination of European Phytosanitary (Statutory Plant Health) Research

Coordination Action

Support for the coordination of national, regional and European activities in the field of research and innovation

6-Month Project Report

Report Period Covered: 1st May – 31st October 2006
Date of Report Preparation: 29th November 2006
Start Date of Project: 1st May 2006
End Date and Duration : 31st July 2010 (51 months duration)

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SECTION 1: SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRESS AND MILESTONE COMPLETION DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

- The project started on 1st May 2006 and Contracts have been signed and completed.
- The first Project Meeting (Kick-Off Meeting) was held on 26-28th June 2006 at CSL in York, UK. The 2nd Project meeting was held on 6-8 November 2006.
- The Project website has been launched (www.euphresco.org).
- The WP2 Questionnaire is at a final draft stage and is due to be made available by the end of December for completion online by Project Partners. The task is on schedule.
- Work has begun identifying funders (and potential funds) for the pilot research projects due to be commissioned in June 2008.
- A summary of progress for milestones scheduled for completion within the period (Months 1–6) is given below:

Milestones in Period	Milestone Short Title	Target Date	MS Status
1.1	Consortium agreement and risk register produced	Month 3	Completed
1.2	Terms of reference for GB, NMG etc. produced	Month 2	Completed
1.3	Kick-off Meeting (1st Meeting) held	Month 2	Completed
1.4	Project Website produced	Month 2	Completed
1.5	Communication strategy produced	Month 2	Drafted
1.6	Six-monthly meetings (2 nd meeting) held	Month 6	Completed
2.1	Prototype Questionnaire produced	Month 2	Completed
2.2	Non-partner country's programme managers identified	Month 6	In Progress

Key to Milestone progress/status:

 Completed
  In progress
  Not started

SECTION 2: TECHNICAL PROGRESS DURING THE PERIOD (WPS 2, 3, 4, 5)

WP 2: Mapping and Analysis of existing research and of current needs

2.1. Define information to be gathered:

- The WP leader (Partner 12: France DGAL, via INRA) has recruited Myriam Buzy to deliver the mapping and analysis phase during the first 18-months of the project.
- At the Kick-Off meeting, presentations were made on the National Programmes by the Partners (research programme funders and managers).
- Discussions were held on the scope of the Project. In particular, definitions of 'Phytosanitary' and 'research' were discussed and drafted. These have informed the scope of the Questionnaire.
- The structure of the Questionnaire has been finalised and drafts of the sections have been produced (**MS 2.1 & MS 2.3**). The content was discussed in detail at the 2nd Project Meeting on 6-8 November; a smaller *ad hoc* and informal working group (WP2 leaders; WP2 deputy leader; WP3 leader representative; Coordinator) met on the 15 November in Ghent to finalise the detail. The final draft has now been sent out for final comment by all Partners by the end of November and the final version sent to Partner 1 on 4th December in order to build the database. On-line completion of the Questionnaire by project Partners (and other

funders in Partner's countries) will be done in early 2007 (**MS 2.4** target is 31 January 2007).

2.2. Prepare for data collection:

- Data from the questionnaire will be automatically collated in an online searchable database. The outline database structure was presented and discussed at the Project Meeting on 6-7 November. The structure of the database has now been finalised; construction is underway but awaiting the finalisation of the questionnaire in November 2006. The database will then be tested in December 2006.
- Identification of National programme managers outside of the consortium (**MS 2.2**) has been discussed. The intention is to invite several of these to also complete the Questionnaire after Partners have done so. The countries to be approached are to be agreed shortly. EPPO (The European & Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation) has agreed to assist in publicising the Questionnaire to its members to encourage Questionnaire completion by non-EUPHRESKO Partner countries in the EPPO region.

WP 3, 4 and 5 – These are not due to start until months 9, 18 and 18 respectively. However, the following preparatory activities have been done:

- **WP3 (Development of instruments and preparation for pilot project calls):** Information needed by WP3 to develop instruments has been finalised within the WP2 Questionnaire. The mechanisms being considered have been agreed and definitions drawn up. These are: real common pot; virtual pot; non-competitive consortiums.
- **WP4 (Testing instruments through pilot projects):** This Workpackage will test the mechanisms and instruments through pilot research projects in June 2008. A separate questionnaire (pilot project funding questionnaire) has been sent out to all Partners to identify which mechanisms each Partner is able to (in principle) participate in; potential funds are also being identified. Initial responses were presented at the Project Meeting in November. Final responses or confirmations will be made by 31 December 2006 to meet the milestone (**MS 3.1**: identify potential funders for pilot projects). Within the main WP2 Questionnaire, Partners will also be asked to suggest topics suitable for pilot research projects and which they would be willing to contribute funds.
- **WP5 (Developing trans-national agendas and a long-term network):** the needs of WP5 have informed the relevant WP2 Questionnaire sections.

SECTION 3: CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT (WP1)

WP 1: Project coordination, management, communication & dissemination

1.1. Meetings:

- The Kick-Off meeting was held on 26-27 June at CSL, UK (**MS 1.3**). Representatives from all but one of the partner countries were present. The Network Management Group (NMG) met on 28 June.
- The second project meeting was held on 6-7 November 2006 in Paris. The Coordinator of the SAFEFOOD ERA-NET was invited and gave a presentation of their ERA-NET's experiences with the mapping phase and with joint calls. Representatives from two of the Expert Advisory Group (EAG) Partners attended, i.e. from EPPO and EFSA (though the EFSA representative was ill and had to return home). The NMG met on 8 November.
- Dates for the 3rd meeting (The Hague, Netherlands) are being finalised (May 2007) and dates for the 4th Meeting in Ghent are being proposed in advance to ensure maximum availability.

- The first Governing Board (GB) meeting is scheduled for May 2007. A GB meeting has not been possible any sooner than this due to delays in identifying representatives, and then availabilities for a meeting linked to the November Project Meeting.

1.2. Reports:

- The 3-month and 6-month reports for the Commission were produced.

1.3. Knowledge management and communication:

- The Project website has been launched (**MS1.4 and DL1.1**). A domain name (eupresco.org) has been purchased to ensure future longevity beyond the end of the ERA-Net. The Commission has been informed of the web-address, so that this can be added to the CORDIS webpage of ERA-Net links.
- A communications strategy (**MS 1.5**) has been drafted and is awaiting comments for the Network Management Group (NMG). A publicity leaflet (**DL1.2**) has been produced and sent to Partners for comment (attached). We will be checking whether the Commission is content with it prior to actual printing (e.g. any legal statements the Commission requires). The leaflet will be produced in other languages, as required, and made available via the website; a multi-language leaflet may also be produced. A model 'news release' has been prepared by the Coordinator for Partners to publicise the Project, especially the launch of the website so that interested parties can register for e-newsletters, be made aware of the Project's aims (especially plans for joint calls) and follow the Project's progress.
- The first 6-monthly electronic newsletter (**DL 1.4**) is due in Month 7 and has been drafted. The website front page invites on-line registration for newsletters (part of **DL 1.2**)
- Discussions have been held with EPPO about how they might help publicise the EUPHRESCO Project more widely within Europe beyond just the Project Partners. EPPO have agreed to publicise the EUPHRESCO website and will consider adding a link on their website. They have also indicated they are willing to contact EPPO members (i.e. those outside the EUPHRESCO consortium) to encourage completion of the 'mapping' Questionnaire by those non-consortium EPPO countries who have research programmes. Discussions have also included the need to prevent duplication of work between EUPHRESCO and EPPO, though overlap is minimal.
- The Coordinator has also corresponded with the FAO IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention) Secretariat, outlining EUPHRESCO's aims. The IPPC is collating information of other similar activities being initiated between research funders (e.g. the 'QUAD' involving USA, Canada, NZ and Australia). This is part of EUPHRESCO's strategic longer-term aim to establish wider international linkages.
- EUPHRESCO is considering how it can also function as a body able to advise DG Research on future Research Priorities in FP7 and coordinate its future trans-national activities/programme with EU-funded programmes.
- Norway has approached the Coordinator and we have invited them to be a formal observer if they can identify the appropriate body/organisation to serve in this capacity.

1.4. Project Administration:

- The Contracts have been signed after final cost-model and partner-status issues were resolved. The Coordinator is in discussion with the Commission about the change of status of DIAS who are representing Partner 10 (Denmark).
- The first advance payment was received from the Commission and has been distributed to all Project Partners in accordance with the conditions of the EU Contract.
- Partners will be asked to produce an interim financial report covering the first 9-months of the Project. This will ensure Partners have adequate systems in place for maintaining accurate records (to minimise delays at 18 month audit) and allow the Coordinator to monitor the project finances in advance of the first official reporting period (Month 18).

- The Governing Board membership (1 representative from each Country's Ministry) has been determined and its remit defined within the Consortium Agreement (**MS1.2**). The GB will meet before the next Project Meeting, which is scheduled for May 2007.
- The Network Management Group met on 28 July and 8 November 2006, after the respective Project meetings. Technical, management, communication and governance issues were discussed.
- The NMG has agreed that EUPHRESCO will participate in the Crop Protection Network of the ENDURE Network of Excellence which deals with sustainable pesticide usage.
- A Consortium Agreement has been drafted and sent to Partners (**MS1.1**). It includes the specific roles and responsibilities of Partners, the Coordinator, WP leaders/deputies, the Network Management Group and the Governing Board. The Consortium Agreement has been revised and a final draft sent to all Partners for final comment and confirmation that they are content to sign.
- The format of the Project's Risk Register was agreed by the NMG (**MS1.1**) and details have been entered; it will be kept under review and updated during the project.
- A forward job plan has been produced for each Workpackage as a management tool for WP leaders. Updates are notified and made accessible via the 'members pages' of the project website.

Dr. Alan Inman
EUPHRESCO Coordinator



Contract no. 036212

EUPHRESCO ERA-NET

Co-ordination of European Phytosanitary (Statutory Plant Health) Research

Coordination Action

Support for the coordination of national, regional and European activities in the field of research and innovation

12-Month Project Report

Report Period Covered: 1st May 2006 – 31st April 2007
Date of Report Preparation: 30th May 2007
Start Date of Project: 1st May 2006
End Date and Duration : 31st July 2010 (51 months duration)

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1. WORKPACKAGE 1 SUMMARY DETAILS

Workpackage 1 Title:	Project coordination, management, communication & dissemination
Workpackage Leader:	UK-CSL
Workpackage Deputy :	-
Start date:	Month 0
Workpackage 1 Objectives	
To manage and coordinate the Phytosanitary EUPHRESKO ERA-Net; to communicate the aims and progress of the EUPHRESKO ERA-Net and to share/disseminate project outputs for the wider benefit of non-participating Phytosanitary research funders and other stakeholders	

1.1. SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRESS & MILESTONE COMPLETION IN YEAR 1 (WP1) (1ST MAY 2006 – 31ST APRIL 2007)

- The project started on 1st May 2006 and contracts were signed and completed; payments have been made to Partners as per the Contract.
- The first Project Meeting (Kick-Off Meeting) and Network Management Group (NMG) Meeting was held on 26-28th June 2006 at York UK; The 6-month (2nd) Project Meeting and NMG meeting was held in Paris, France on 6-8th November 2007; the 1st Governing Board meeting has been organised.
- The Project website was produced and launched (www.euphresco.org).
- The first electronic EUPHRESKO newsletter was produced and sent to those who had registered via the Project website (www.euphresco.org); a EUPHRESKO leaflet was produced; the Coordinator also reviewed the text and provided images for the EC Fact Sheet produced by the Commission.
- The Consortium agreement has been finalised and signed by 14 partners; final signatures are being sought.
- A summary of progress for milestones/deliverables for year 1 is given below for WP1:

Milestones (year 1)	Milestone Short Title	Target Date	MS Status
MS 1.1	Consortium agreement and risk register produced	Month 3	Completed
MS 1.2	Terms of reference for GB, NMG etc. produced	Month 2	Completed
MS 1.3	Kick-off Meeting (1st Meeting) held	Month 2	Completed
MS 1.4	Project Website produced	Month 2	Completed
MS 1.5	Communication strategy produced	Month 2	Completed
MS 1.6	Six-monthly meetings (2 nd meeting) held	Month 6	Completed

Deliverables (year 1)	Deliverable Short Title	Target Date	MS Status
DL 1.1	Operational Project website (internal/external pages)	Month 3	Completed
DL 1.2	External Communication/Dissemination Strategy; database of interested parties; publicity 'flyer'/leaflet	Month 6	Completed
DL 1.3	E-newsletters produced and disseminated	Month 7	Completed
DL 1.4	6-monthly summary report for the Commission	Month 7	Completed

Key to Milestone/Delivery progress/status:

 Completed
  In progress
  Not started
  Month 1
  31 May 2006

1.2. DETAILED PROGRESS DURING YEAR 1 (WP1)

Sub-workpackage 1.1. Meetings:

- The first Project Meeting (Kick-Off meeting) was held on 26-27 June at CSL, UK. Representatives from all but one of the partner countries were present. The Network Management Group (NMG) met on 28 June.
- The second Project Meeting was held on 6-7 November 2006 in Paris. The Coordinator of the SAFEFOOD ERA-NET was invited and gave a presentation of their ERA-NET's experiences with the mapping phase and with joint calls. Representatives from two of the Expert Advisory Group (EAG) Partners attended, i.e. from EPPO and EFSA (though the EFSA representative was ill and had to return home). The NMG met on 8 November.
- The third Project Meeting and NMG meeting (The Hague, Netherlands) has been planned (22-25 May 2007); dates for the 4th project and NMG meeting in Ghent have been finalised (21-23 November) in advance to ensure maximum availability.
- The first annual Governing Board (GB) meeting has been organised (22 May 2007).
- The Coordinator attended two Commission ERA-Net workshops on 14 & 15 June 2006: (a) ERA-Net joint calls; (b) KBBE ERA-Nets and SCAR. Christina Steveni, the Project's finance administrator attended a Commission ERA-Net workshop on 5 December 2006.

Sub-workpackage 1.2. Reports:

- The 3-, 6-, 9- and 12-month reports for the Commission were produced and submitted.
- Commission survey on joint activities being done by ERA-Nets completed.

Sub-workpackage 1.3. Knowledge management and communication:

- The Project website has been launched and maintained. A domain name (euphresco.org) has been purchased to ensure future longevity beyond the end of the ERA-Net. The Commission has been informed of the web-address, so that this can be added to the CORDIS webpage of ERA-Net links.
- A communications strategy has been drafted and is awaiting approval by the Network Management Group (NMG) and, if necessary, approval by the Governing Board.
- A publicity leaflet has been produced and is available to download from the Project website. The content was checked with the Commission prior to actual printing (e.g. with respect to any legal statements the Commission required). The leaflet can be produced in other languages, as required, and made available electronically via the website.
- The Coordinator has reviewed the EC Fact sheet text and provided images.
- The first 6-monthly electronic newsletter was produced and sent electronically to those who have registered via the website to receive it, including Observer Partners and Expert Advisory Group members.
- Discussions have been held with EPPO about how they might help publicise the EUPHRESCO Project more widely within Europe beyond just the Project Partners. EPPO have now publicised the launch of the EUPHRESCO website prominently on its 'What's New page' (<http://www.eppo.org/News&Events/euphresco.htm>). It has also added a EUPHRESCO web-link on their websites links pages (under 'International, Governmental and Research bodies' links). They have also indicated they are willing to contact EPPO members (i.e. those outside the EUPHRESCO consortium) to encourage completion of the 'mapping' Questionnaire by those non-consortium EPPO countries who have research programmes. Discussions have included the need to prevent duplication of work between EUPHRESCO and EPPO, though overlap is minimal. EPPO have suggested adding a standing EUPHRESCO agenda item for all their panel meetings to help facilitate EPPO inputs into the project as part of its Expert Advisory Group function. We have discussed topics for pilot projects directly with EPPO (especially issues on diagnostic protocols and ring testing).
- The Coordinator has corresponded with the FAO IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention) Secretariat, outlining EUPHRESCO's aims. The IPPC is collating information of

other similar activities being initiated between research funders (e.g. the 'QUAD' involving USA, Canada, NZ and Australia). This is part of EUPHRESKO's strategic longer-term aim to establish wider international linkages.

- Norway has approached the Coordinator and we have invited them to be a formal observer if they can identify the appropriate body/organisation to serve in this capacity.
- EUPHRESKO has had informal contact with a variety of groups, giving communication/dissemination opportunities, including: Cost Action 873 (bacterial diseases of stone fruits and nuts); the European Mycological Network (presentation made to May 2007 EMN Meeting).
- A model 'news release' has been prepared by the Coordinator for Partners to publicise the Project, especially the launch of the website so that interested parties can register for e-newsletters, be made aware of the Project's aims (especially plans for joint calls) and follow the EUPHRESKO's progress. Partners have also done a range of other dissemination activities in their respective countries.
- The Coordinator presented two platform presentations on EUPHRESKO (not paid for from the project): (a) 'The importance of research coordination in plant health', Annual Balkan Week for Plant Health (Sofia, Bulgaria, May 2006); (b) 'EU initiatives in the framework of the Madeira declaration', EPPO Colloquium, (Prague, Czech Republic, September 2006).
- EUPHRESKO updates have been produced for the EU Council Working Party of Chief Officers of Plant Health Services (COPHS) 6-monthly meetings; COPHS have asked to note progress and continue to encourage programme managers in member countries to support EUPHRESKO, especially funds for pilot projects and for future trans-national activities.

Sub-workpackage 1.4. Project Administration:

- The Contracts have been signed after final cost-model and partner-status issues were resolved. The Coordinator is in discussion with the Commission about the change of status of DIAS who are representing Partner 10 (Denmark).
- The first advance payment was received from the Commission on the 25th August 2006 and has been distributed to all Project Partners in accordance with the conditions of the EU Contract. Twenty Partners were paid on the 4th September 2006; one Partner requested CSL hold their income and two Partners were paid in November after delays in supplying their bank details.
- Partners have been asked to produce an interim financial report covering the first 9-months of the Project. This will ensure Partners have adequate systems in place for maintaining accurate records (to minimise delays at 18 month audit) and allow the Coordinator to monitor the project finances in advance of the first official reporting period (Month 18).
- The Governing Board membership (1 representative from each Country's Ministry) has been determined and its remit defined within the Consortium Agreement.
- The Network Management Group met on 28 July and 8 November 2006, after the respective Project meetings, to discuss technical, management, communication and governance issues.
- The NMG has agreed that EUPHRESKO will participate in the Crop Protection Network of the ENDURE Network of Excellence which deals with sustainable pesticide usage.
- A Consortium Agreement has been finalised and sent to Partners for signature after all Partner's indicated their willingness to sign the final draft. It includes the specific roles and responsibilities of Partners, the Coordinator, WP leaders/deputies, the Network Management Group and the Governing Board, and finance/payment issues.
- The format of the Project's Risk Register was agreed by the NMG and details have been entered; it will be kept under review and updated during the project.
- A forward job plan has been produced for each Workpackage as a management tool for WP leaders. Updates are notified and made accessible via the websites 'members pages'.

2. WORKPACKAGE 2 SUMMARY DETAILS

Workpackage 2 Title:	Mapping and analysis of existing research and of current needs
Workpackage Leader:	France-DGAL
Workpackage Deputy :	Belgium-ILVO
Start date:	Month 0
Objectives	
To systematically gather information on existing phytosanitary (quarantine/statutory plant health) research programmes, including: projects and budgets; existing funding systems and research management processes/practices; research providers; expertise, facilities and other relevant infrastructures and resources; perceived existing needs and priorities at a regional (sub-national), national or zonal level. Also: mapping any pre-existing regional/national/international linkages between research programmes; and identification of national and EU industry bodies, plus key non-EU bodies, for interaction.	
To evaluate and analyse the gathered information to identify: overlaps, gaps, duplication, strengths/weaknesses, opportunities and common research priorities; and common instruments and 'principles' for best practice.	

2.1. SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRESS & MILESTONE COMPLETION IN YEAR 1 (WP2) (1ST MAY 2006 – 31ST APRIL 2007)

- One person was recruited for 18 months (Myriam Buzy; Month 1) to deliver the core work.
- Definitions (e.g. for 'research' and 'plant health' were produced to ensure that the scope of the questionnaire was well defined and understood, and therefore completed consistently.
- A draft questionnaire was produced and a structure agreed. The structure was composed of 5 Sections: Funder/Manager Details; Programme Information; Management Procedures; Research Landscape; Future Issues.
- This draft was prepared and discussed/developed at the 6-month meeting (Paris, Nov. 2006).
- The draft was finalised at a second meeting in Ghent between WP1, WP2 and WP3 leaders/deputy leaders (15th November 2006), especially WP3 requirements.
- The final draft questionnaire was disseminated through the Workpackage leaders and deputies for final agreement (December 2006).
- From the final version, an on-line version was constructed, tested, refined, linked to the website and launched on 2nd March 2007 to all EUPHRESCO partners.
- During March/April 2007, Partners (and other phytosanitary R&D funders in their countries, as appropriate) completed the questionnaire: the 2-month delay will not affect the Project.
- 23 questionnaires have been submitted/completed. For the specific partner questionnaires, one is incomplete (CZ-NAAR) and one has not been started (IT-CRA).
- A summary of WP2 progress for milestones/deliverables for Year 1 is given below:

Milestones (year 1)	Milestone Short Title	Target Date	MS Status
MS 2.1	Prototype questionnaire constructed for partners to test	Month 3	Completed
MS 2.2	National programme managers outside consortium identified	Month 6	In progress
MS 2.3	Plan matrices for collating and analysing information .	Month 8	Completed
MS 2.4	Data entered on database for Partner countries	Month 9	In progress
MS 2.5	Data entered on database for non-partner countries	Month 11	Not started
MS 2.6	Collation and analysis of management procedures	Month 12	In progress
MS 2.7	Information obtained for identifying potential pilot funders	Month 12	Completed

Deliverables (Year 1)	Deliverable Short Title	Target Date	MS Status
DL 2.1	Final database established/operational, linked to website	Month 6	Completed

Completed
 In progress
 Not started
 Month 1
 31 May 2006

2.1. DETAILED PROGRESS DURING YEAR 1 (WP2)

Sub-workpackage 2.1. Definition of specific information to be gathered/mapped

- Definitions were produced to ensure correct and consistent completion of the mapping exercise through the questionnaire, especially for: research; phytosanitary (plant health); programmes/projects.
- A structure for the questionnaire was developed and refined: at/after the kick-off meeting; at the six-month meeting; and at a separate meeting of key WP leaders/deputies in Ghent.
- The final questionnaire had the following main sections:
 - (I) Funder/manager details.
 - (II) Programme information (e.g. rationale; budgetary information & issues; funding mechanisms/issues; projects; links to other programmes, etc).
 - (III) Management procedures (initiation; application; evaluation; contracts; management); 'tools' were also collected (e.g. application/evaluation/report forms; handbooks).
 - (IV) Research landscape (research providers; key 'non-governmental' stakeholders).
 - (V) Future (potential barriers for each trans-national funding mechanism; pilot project topics; future research agenda priorities/topics; reasons for engaging in trans-national activities).

Sub-workpackage 2.2. Preparation for data collection and collect data/information

- The data collection is based on the final version of the questionnaire, which was adopted on the 4 December 2006.
- The questionnaire was designed around the key information needed for EUPHRESCO, the outputs/analyses required, and the need to facilitate trans-national activities.
- From the agreed questionnaire, an on-line version was constructed by Partner 1 in close connection with WP2 (Jan-Feb 2007). WP2 and other WP leaders/deputies tested and fine-tuned the prototype on-line questionnaire during the two last weeks of February 2007.
- The on-line questionnaire was made available for use by partners (and other phytosanitary funders in partner countries) from the 2nd March 2007, though the excel spread sheet of questions had been made available earlier to enable data to be gathered in advance of the on-line version being launched.
- The deadline for completion was the end of March (Month 11), extended to 13 April 2007.
- To date, 23 questionnaires have been submitted/completed. For the specific partner questionnaires, one is incomplete (CZ-NAAR) and one has not been started (IT-CRA).

Sub-workpackage 2.3. Analysis of information

- As the questionnaire has only just been done and has not been completed by all partners, only initial analysis has begun. These will be presented at the Project Meeting (23 May 2007).
- Outputs will particularly inform the WP3 development of instruments, and the WP4 pilot project topics. Most of the initial analysis has been on parts of the questionnaire (Section III, IV and V) needed by WP3 and WP4.

Sub-workpackage 2.4. Produce reports and publish information on national phytosanitary research programmes

- A final report will be produced by Month 17 (31 Sept 2007) & made publicly available on-line.
- In parallel, some outputs will be made available on-line through the website as part of a searchable database. The current intention is for project information and research provider information to be made available in this fashion as a minimum. The intention is that these specific aspects will be updated annually with minimum effort on-line.
- External publication of the report and the on-line database is scheduled for Month 18 (31 Oct 2007).

3. WORKPACKAGE 3 SUMMARY DETAILS

Workpackage 3 Title:	Developing instruments and preparing for pilot projects
Workpackage Leader:	LNV – The Netherlands
Workpackage Deputy :	NAAR – Czech Republic
Start date:	Month 9
Objectives	
To develop instruments, mechanisms and processes to enable joint trans-national activities and funding of a future trans-national research programme.	
To prepare for pilot projects to test these.	

3.1. SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRESS & MILESTONE COMPLETION IN YEAR 1 (WP3) (1ST MAY 2006 – 31ST APRIL 2007)

- Workpackage 3 formally commenced on 1 February 2007.
- At the two project meetings so far, definitions were presented of the three funding mechanisms to be tested: *Real common pot*, *Virtual Common Pot*, *Non-Competitive Mechanism*.
- Pilot project criteria were also produced (see Section 3.2 below; sub-workpackage 3.3).
- For Milestone 3.1). Provisional interest to participate in a pilot call under each funding mechanism was collected from the partners by means of a ‘funding questionnaire’, which also included provisional funds that might be available.
- For the real common pot, only 2(–4) countries have indicated that they have a firm commitment to the real pot (NL-LNV; UK-Defra; and potentially BE-FPS and ES-INIA based on their WP2 questionnaire response); 4 other countries have, at some stage, expressed potential interest in the real pot, but have not confirmed this in the WP2 questionnaire.
- For the virtual common pot, 8 partners have expressed an interest in the virtual pot; a further 6 partners have indicated they might be able to participate; 5 partners have said that they cannot for the pilot projects (based on the ‘funding questionnaire’); more partners might participate in the virtual pot, based on non-specific responses in the more recent WP2 questionnaire.
- For the Non-competitive mechanism (from the funding questionnaire), 4 countries indicated they could participate; a further 8 could potentially; 8 could not. In the more recent WP2 questionnaire, 8 partners indicated that they would consider a non-competitive mechanism.
- The WP2 questionnaire has provided initial thoughts on potential pilot topics.
- A generic flow chart was developed demonstrating the basic process from ‘research issue identification’ to research commissioning and evaluation of results.
- As the results from the inventory undertaken by WP2 becomes available, they are classified within the four consecutive steps of the flow chart, and, where applicable, these are assigned to subcategories of these steps.
- For MS 3.2, the planned pilot project calls have been publicised in the e-newsletter and via the website; research provider contacts have also been collected via the WP2 questionnaire.

A summary of WP3 progress for milestones/deliverables for Year 1 is given below (NB. There were no Deliverables in Year 1):

Milestones	Milestone Short Title	Target	Status
MS 3.1	National programmes identified that <u>could</u> contribute funds for pilot projects in WP4	Month 9	Completed
MS 3.2	Research providers informed of pilots via e-newsletter etc.	Month 12	Completed

Key to Milestone/Delivery progress/status:

 Completed
  In progress
  Not started
  Month 1
 31 May 2006

3.2. DETAILED PROGRESS DURING YEAR 1 (WP3)

Sub-workpackage 3.1. Develop instruments, mechanisms and processes needed to enable trans-national activities

- Collected information about usage of tools by the partners from the questionnaire
- Collected tools, provided by the partners through the questionnaire
- Collected tools that were identified in some other ERA-nets
- Design a flowchart for the process of procurement of a research project
- Defined and refined the three potential funding mechanisms.

Sub-workpackage 3.2 Define the pilot studies that will be done to test instruments and mechanisms

- The three mechanisms which should be piloted have been defined. It is anticipated that all three will be piloted, but this may depend on availability of funds and consensus on topics.
- Partners have indicated the mechanisms that they are able to participate in, via a specific 'funding questionnaire' and through the WP2 questionnaire. Some potential funding allocations or commitments have been made.
- For the real common pot, only 2(-4) countries have indicated that they have a firm commitment to the real pot (NL-LNV; UK-Defra; and potentially AT and CH). Other partners have indicated that they could not participate in the real pot .
- For the virtual common pot, 8 partners have expressed an interest in the virtual common pot; a further 6 partners have indicated they might be able to participate in a virtual common pot; 5 partners have said they cannot (for the pilots) based on the 'funding questionnaire'. More partners may be able to participate in the virtual pot, based on non-specific responses in the more recent WP2 questionnaire, i.e. responses indicating 'any mechanism' could be used.
- For the Non-competitive mechanism (from the funding questionnaire), 4 countries indicated they could participate; a further 8 could potentially; 8 could not. In the more recent WP2 questionnaire, 8 partners indicated that they would consider a non-competitive mechanism.

Sub-workpackage 3.3. Preparation for calls

- WP3 has developed criteria to help select pilot project topics. Since the pilots are to test the mechanisms and build confidence, the criteria reflect the likelihood of success and timescales required, as well as other factors, e.g. added value that results from meeting EU/EPPO science policy objectives.
- The pilot project selection criteria proposed are as follows (in approximate priority order):
 - Suitable for trans-national collaboration
 - Fits the remit of the funder's research programme(s)
 - Meets a recognisable science/policy need (e.g. fits COPHS/EPPO priorities)
 - Suitable and achievable with the money available for a 12- to 18-month project.
- For the 'real common pot', WP3 has collected a list of pilot topics through the WP2 questionnaire that can be considered for this mechanism.
- For the 'virtual common pot', WP3 has again collected a list of pilot topics through the WP2 questionnaire. Discussions will need to take place during and after the Project Meeting (23-24 May 2007); more than 1 pilot project might be done, reflecting EU and/or zonal priorities.
- For the 'Non-competitive mechanism', WP3 has again collected a list of pilot topics through the WP2 questionnaire; it may be that more than 1 pilot project might be done, reflecting EU-wide and/or zonal priorities.
- Selection of pilot topics should also bear in mind research being done, or planned, in the EU Framework Programme 7 (FP7) in 2007-2009.
- A list of research providers (100 so far), potentially interested/eligible for bidding in one of the pilot studies has been established, via the WP2 questionnaire. Research providers have also be informed of the pilot project timetable via the e-newsletter and the EUPHRESKO website.

4. WORKPACKAGE 4 SUMMARY DETAILS

Workpackage 4 Title:	Test, evaluate and refine instruments (Pilots)
Workpackage Leader:	Austria-AGES
Workpackage Deputy :	Spain-INIA
Start date:	Month 18
Workpackage 4 Objectives	
To trial (pilot), evaluate and refine the instruments needed for trans-national collaboration and trans-national funding of research; to establish common, proven instruments and mechanisms for use beyond the end of the ERA-Net.	

4.1. SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRESS & MILESTONE COMPLETION IN YEAR 1 (WP4) (1ST MAY 2006 – 31ST APRIL 2007)

- WP4 has not officially started (start date is Month 18: October 2007). There are therefore no WP4 milestones or deliverables in this Project Year.
- However, WP3 and WP4 are working closely on the choice of pilot projects and determining what funds are available from EUPHRESKO funders for each specific mechanisms (real pot; virtual pot; non-competitive).
- WP4 has, to date, taken the lead on timetabling the decisions needed for the calls in spring 2008, and in drafting the discrete 'funding questionnaire' that asked partners to indicate the mechanisms they could participate in, and to indicate provisional funds.
- Ideas for pilot project topics have been entered on the WP2 questionnaire and the choice of projects for selected mechanisms will be discussed at the 12-month Project meeting.

5. WORKPACKAGE SUMMARY DETAILS

Workpackage 5 Title:	Develop trans-national agendas, programmes and a long-term, sustainable Coordination Network and external linkages to other disciplines
Workpackage Leader:	Germany-BBA
Workpackage Deputy :	Netherlands-LNV
Start date:	Month 18
Workpackage 5 Objectives	
To develop a common strategic research agenda based on shared priorities resulting in a proposed programme for trans-national funding at the end of the ERA-Net; to establish the infrastructure to sustain a long-term network of research funders to coordinate & develop trans-national phytosanitary research beyond the end of the ERA-Net; to develop further links with industry and with other national and international organisations; to explore linkages with other priority disciplines relevant to plant health needs that could be integrated into future trans-national programmes.	

5.1. SUMMARY OF MAJOR PROGRESS & MILESTONE COMPLETION IN YEAR 1 (WP5) (1ST MAY 2006 – 31ST APRIL 2007)

- WP5 has not officially started (start date is Month 18: October 2007).
- There are therefore no WP5 milestones or deliverables in this Project Year.

- However, WP5 has had input into the WP2 questionnaire to ensure that WP5 needs are met. Within the WP2 questionnaire, Partners have entered initial current views on future research priorities for the future programme of activities to be launched at the end of the ERA-Net. However, this exercise will need to be done again more comprehensively later in the Project.
- Agendas may be EU-wide and zonal. Agendas will be submitted to the Governing Board to endorse/consider (Month 47: 31 March 2010).
- EUPHRESCO is considering how it can also function as a body able to advise DG Research and DG SANCO on future Research Priorities in FP7 and coordinate its future trans-national activities/programme with EU-funded programmes.

Alan Inman
EUPHRESCO Coordinator

30th May 2007