

**Contract no. 266505**

**EUPHRESCO ERA-NET**

European Phytosanitary (Statutory Plant Health) Research  
Coordination II: Deepened and enlarged cooperation between  
phytosanitary research programmes

Coordination and Support Action

**18-Month Project Report**

**Report Period Covered:** 1 January 2011 – 30 June 2012  
**Date of Report Preparation:** 29 June 2012  
**Start Date of Project:** 1 January 2011  
**End Date and Duration:** 31 March 2014 (39 months duration)

**Project Coordinator:** Dr Alan Inman  
The Department for Environment, Food and Rural  
Affairs (Defra)  
Tel: ++44 (0) 1904 45 5346  
Email: alan.inman@dera.gsi.gov.uk

**Project Manager:** Dr Elspeth Steel  
The Department for Environment, Food and Rural  
Affairs (Defra)  
Tel: ++44 (0) 207 238 5681  
Email: elspeth.steel@defra.gsi.gov.uk

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




- WP1: The project started on 1 January 2011; all contracts have been signed, the first payment has been received and all partners have been paid.
- WP1: The Project website was re-launched ([www.euphresco.org](http://www.euphresco.org)) in January 2011.
- WP1: The first project meeting (kick-off meeting) was held on 24-25 March 2011 in Copenhagen. The first Project Management Group (PMG) meeting was held on 24-25 February 2011 and the second PMG Meeting was held on 23 March (the day before the kick-off meeting).
- WP1: The third project management group meeting was held on 28 September 2011 and the fourth on 16 February 2012 (the day after the second annual project meeting).
- WP1: The second annual project meeting was held on 14–15 February 2012 in Rome.
- WP1: The EU Council Working Party of Chief Officers of Plant Health Services (COPHS) met on the 6 and 7 June to discuss EUPHRESCO's future. A poster session detailing EUPHRESCO's achievements and transnational projects past, current and future was held.
- WP1: Initial ideas and plans for the final dissemination conference have been gathered.
- WP2: the network is being implemented. The *modus operandi* for the future long-term sustainable network and the common strategic agenda continue to be developed.
- WP2: Discussions about EPPO and/or DG SANCO providing some support for the long-term EUPHRESCO network have taken place.
- A 'special' workshop to develop the details of possible future governance of EUPHRESCO will was held on 15 May 2012 at JKI in Braunschweig.
- WP3: The timetable and procedure for the second round (2012 round) of research initiation were established with assistance from PMG.
- WP3: EUPHRESCO partners, observers and advisors provided suggestions for research topics of the second round (2012 round) of research initiation through the newly developed online-tool on the EUPHRESCO homepage. Subsequently potential funders indicated a first prioritisation of research topics by joining topic suggestions using the online tool.
- WP4: Most EUPHRESCO partners have enlisted to collaborate in one or more of the task groups that will produce the deliverables; demonstrating commitment and interest.

- WP4: An internal workshop was organised to coincide with the second PMG meeting being held in Paris at the EPPO HQ at the end of September 2011. It primarily discussed issues relating to the use of the website as a platform.
- WP4: As previously reported, the WP4 description of work has been substantially revised and is included in this report. The revisions were agreed and finalised by the PMG as a number of the deliverables were seen to be duplicating work already carried out and some were deemed to be no longer urgent. The amendments focus on the facilitation of transnational cooperation to meet EUPHRESKO's main objective.
- WP5: A special workshop for new partners was held alongside the kick-off meeting. New partners have chosen mentors from the old EUPHRESKO-1 partners.
- WP5: Three further workshops have been held. One in Tallinn 1–2 December 2011, exploring regionalisation of specific plant health problems in the region of the Baltic Sea and Nordic countries. One in Vienna 17–18 January 2012, exploring EUPHRESKO partners mandates to fund forestry research and important forestry plant health threats and one in Sofia 28–29 February 2012, exploring regionalisation of specific plant health problems in the region of Balkan and Eastern Europe.

A summary of progress for milestones scheduled for completion since the start of the project (months 1-18) is given below:

Milestones in Period	Milestone Short Title	Target Date	MS Status
MS 01 WP1	Consortium agreement finalised and signed	Month 3	Completed
MS 02 WP1	Governing board and project advisory group membership developed	Month 3	Completed
MS 03 WP1	EUPHRESCO website updated	Month 3	Completed
MS 04 WP1	Kick-off meeting held	Month 3	Completed
MS 05 WP1	Second annual meeting held	Month 12	Completed
MS 10 WP2	NMG and portfolios set up	Month 1	Completed
MS 11 WP2	First review of network operations, management and functions	Month 14	Completed
MS 15 WP3	Funding consortia for 1st round of topics	Month 7	Completed
MS 16 WP3	Topic descriptions for 1st round of calls	Month 11	Completed
MS 17 WP3	Initiate calls/projects for 1st round of topics	Month 13	Completed
MS 18 WP3	First round (2011 round) of projects commissioned	Month 18	Completed
MS25-36 WP4	Milestones under revision (see WP4 report below)	-	In Progress
MS 37 WP5	kick-off workshop for new partners and observers	Month 3	Completed
MS 38 WP5	Action plan for forestry plant health collaboration	Month 14	Completed
MS 39 WP5	Merging plan for 3rd countries	Month 12	Completed
MS 40 WP5	Contacts established with 3rd countries that are key sources of pests. Requested to move to Month 24 as related to DL5.4 (Month 24)	Month 12-24	In progress

**Key to milestone progress/status:**

 Completed
  In progress (no significant impact from delay expected)
  Not started (and/or impact from delay expected)

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

### WP2: Implementing, testing and refining the long-term self-sustainable network structure

#### Aim:

WP2 aims to implement, test and refine the proposed model network structure and *modus operandi* from the current EUPHRESKO project. The overall aim is to ensure that the EUPHRESKO network can continue in a durable and self-sustainable way after 2013, in order to deliver effective transnational research coordination and collaboration in support of the Community Plant Health Regime. Further, it aims to build confidence and experience in the network's management structures, *modus operandi*, processes and tools that are needed to implement transnational research, thereby demonstrating the added value and benefits of involvement in the network. The work will consolidate and build on the success of previous EUPHRESKO-1's outputs and establish a culture of collaboration and a regular network routine.

#### The main objectives are:

- To implement and establish the proposed (from EUPHRESKO-1) structure and *modus operandi* of the long-term self-sustainable network.
- To evaluate and refine the structure and *modus operandi* of the long-term network of funders to ensure that a strong, long-lasting and self-sustainable network emerges.
- To maintain ongoing core network activities that underpin transnational research coordination and collaboration, e.g. mapping activities and database updating; dissemination of transnational research outputs; advising on plant health research priorities in FP7; maintaining linkages to key stakeholders; maintaining the EUPHRESKO toolbox.

#### Summary of WP2 progress for milestones/deliverables since the project's start:

WP2 Milestones		Target	MS Status
MS10	NMG and portfolios set up	Month 1	Completed
MS 11	First review of network operations,	Month 14	Completed

WP2 Deliverables		Target	DL Status
D2.1	NMG portfolios	Month 3	Completed
D2.5	Annual advice to the Commission on plant health FP research priorities in EU	Month 12	Completed
D2.2	First evaluation and review of Network structure and <i>modus operandi</i> (MO) produced	Month 15	In Progress

#### **Key to milestone progress/status:**

- Completed
  In progress (no significant impact from delay expected)
  Not started (and/or impact from delay expected)

## Sub-WP 2.1. Implement the long-term network leadership & management structure

- The 'first draft' Network Management Group (NMG) has been established. It comprises the previous EUPHRESKO-1 workpackage leaders (AT-AGES; DE-JKI; FR-DGAL; NL-EL&I; UK-Defra) for continuity, though membership may change, i.e. testing a model that involves rotation of membership. NMG Portfolios of responsibilities were outlined in the proposal and individual members of the NMG assigned to lead them as shown below:
  - NMG 1: Coordinator and secretariat – with responsibility to lead the NMG (led by UK-Defra) = identical with WP 1
  - NMG 2: Processes and tools (led by DE-JKI, supported by NL-EL&I and NL-PPS)
  - NMG 3: Network linkages (led by DE-JKI, supported by FR-DGAL)
  - NMG 4: Implementation of joint activities (led by AT-AGES, supported by NL-EL&I, NL-NPPS, FR-DGAL) = identical with WP 3
- The portfolios have been partitioned into more concrete tasks for which partners' contributions were asked and input. An internal timetable for these tasks has been developed and circulated to all partners. NB. the contribution of partners to the portfolios is voluntarily.
- EUPHRESKO's longer-term network sustainability and financial support, has been considered further and is still ongoing. The two avenues being explored are:
  1. Involvement of DG SANCO
    - As previously reported, part of the Review of the EU Plant Health Regime, DG SANCO asked EUPHRESKO to outline (with costings) ways in which DG SANCO might support EUPHRESKO activities in the long-term, if resources were available as part of the new plant health regime.
    - In a COPHS Meeting in June 2012 participants from WP1 and WP2 formulated the request to consider support from DG SANCO.
    - A letter on this matter from the COPHS presidency to DG SANCO was sent.
  2. Involvement of EPPO
    - One EPPO member (Austria) proposed that the EPPO Executive Council discuss, in its meeting in September 2011, whether the coordination of European research might fit within EPPO's portfolio and whether the EPPO Secretariat could provide the structures for the secretariat functions of a long-term sustainable EUPHRESKO network. Both EPPO and all EUPHRESKO partners noted the potential benefits of such a relationship.
    - A specific workshop was held on 15 May at JKI involving members of the PMG and other interested parties to discuss the details of such a relationship. The tasks expected from EPPO when taking over the secretariat function were defined and the results were summarised in a paper and sent to EPPO, DG SANCO and COPHS.

### Sub-WP 2.2. Maintain on-going network activities

Routine on-going activities fall to individual NMG portfolios. Activities since the start of the project include:

- Advising on FP7 Plant Health research priorities: this is done under a mandate from the COPHS (EU Council Working Party of Chief Officers of Plant Health Services). Two topics were put forward and one of these, with the support also of DG SANCO, has been included in the 2012 Workprogramme call. Contact with the new officer in DG Research (Juli Mylona, replacing Jean-Francois Maljean for Plant Health FP7 issues) has been made and is ongoing. From the topics supported by EUPHRESCO for 2013, two will be included in the Workprogramme.
- Implementation of transnational projects: this is ongoing – see WP3.
- Mapping activities: the PMG agreed that the timetable for mapping national programmes in WP2 should be aligned with that in WP5. The questionnaire originally developed in EUPHRESCO-1 was adapted for use in EUPHRESCO-2. All partners new and old will be asked to complete the survey by the end of August 2012.
- Linkages (European): EUPHRESCO has joined the PLATFORM ERA-NET, a new Coordination Action linking together KBBE ERA-NETs, including EUPHRESCO. The main focus of activities are mutual learning and understanding between KBBE ERA-NETs such as self-sustainability, assessing impacts of ERA-NETs and their projects, drawing together common tools, processes and best practice and exploring opportunities for collaborations (ERA-NETs, JPIs, ETPs). EUPHRESCO attended and presented at the 'Continuing ERA-NETs' workshop organised by the Commission in November 2010 and the PLATFORM ERA-NET kick off meeting at the beginning of February 2012.  
[http://netwatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/nw/index.cfm/static/event\\_5.html](http://netwatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/nw/index.cfm/static/event_5.html)
- Linkages (International): Since the beginning of the project, EUPHRESCO has made contact with some potential non-European collaborators in Canada, who are part of a the larger QUAD that includes USA, NZ.
- Updating of the Common Strategic Research Agenda: A review of the agenda is ongoing and it will be updated if necessary in October 2012 and then reviewed by all partners at the following annual meeting in March 2013.

### Sub-WP 2.3. Evaluate and refine network model and its modus operandi

- The first Milestone (MS 11) was due Month 14 (31<sup>st</sup> March 2012) and is the "First evaluation of *modus operandi*". The *modus operandi* for the future self-sustainable network was presented at both the KO meeting in March 2011 and the first annual meeting in February 2012. A questionnaire for EUPHRESCO partners has been prepared and a review is in progress.
- Work on the *modus operandi* is ongoing, the questionnaires are currently evaluated and the *modus operandi* will be amended in September this year.

### WP 3: Deepening through transnational research projects

#### Aim:

This workpackage aims to deepen the European plant health research network cooperation by delivering new transnational research activities, especially coordinated or jointly-funded research projects. These will further support the development and implementation of plant health policy and improve the phytosanitary science base in Europe. Such joint research activities will build additional confidence and experience in joint transnational research commissioning and demonstrate the added value and benefits that result.

#### The main WP objectives are:




- To identify, prioritise and select transnational research topics suitable for cooperation and collaboration, especially jointly-funded projects, including consultation with current key stakeholders and advisors.
- To initiate transnational research collaborations to support EU plant health policy, operations and science capability.

#### Summary of WP3 progress for milestones/deliverables since the project's start:

WP3 Milestones		Target	MS Status
MS15	Funding consortia for first round of topics	Month 7	Completed
MS16	Topic description for 1 <sup>st</sup> round of topics	Month 11	Completed
MS17	Initiate calls/projects for 1 <sup>st</sup> round of topics as all topics will run via the non-competitive	Month 13	Completed
MS18	1 <sup>st</sup> round of projects commissioned	Month 18	In progress

WP3 Deliverables		Target	DL Status
D3.1	First round of topics and calls	Month 13	Completed

#### **Key to milestone progress/status:**

 Completed     In progress (no significant impact from delay expected)     Not started (and/or impact from delay expected)

#### Sub-WP 3.1. Identify, prioritise and select topics and mechanisms for transnational research activities – 2<sup>nd</sup> round (2012 round) of research initiation

- The timetable and procedure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round (2012 round) of research initiation were developed and established with assistance from PMG. The timetable and the newly developed online topic suggestion and processing tools were placed on the EUPHRESKO website with access to more detailed information for EUPHRESKO users with a member's login.
- EUPHRESKO partners, observers and advisors proposed about 60 research topics in the initial topic identification phase were provided with supporting documents about topic suggestion criteria, a survey of previous and current



EUPHRESCO projects and topic suggestions from previous WP5 and WP3 workshops at the beginning of 2012.

- In the subsequent phase “Joining of listed topic suggestions” partners added their potential interest, potential funds, preferred funding mechanisms and potential project duration to the listed topic suggestions, thus providing input for a first topic selection.
- To avoid major overlaps of topics in the topic suggestion list, topics were merged through an automatic online procedure after request and agreement by the concerned partners.
- WP3 provided detailed “Reviewer-comments” on all suggested topics including information about potential overlaps with completed or ongoing EU-FPs, EUPHRESCO or other European research projects, the pest status as harmful organism of actual phytosanitary concern (listing in the 2000/29 EC Annexes or EPPO lists) and links to websites with further relevant information.
- Subsequently a long list of topics was arranged and the second topic selection step (TC-assignment) was prepared.

#### Sub-WP 3.2 Implement joint research activities

- Most of the 10 research projects from the 1st round of research initiation were commissioned by their Funding Consortia and have started, or commissioning is in progress and will start imminently.
- Potential funders were requested to provide information on their funding possibilities in the second round of research initiation. About half of the partners completed and returned the respective questionnaire, indicating the availability of more than 1.6M€ of project funds. While only for two funders the real common pot was explicitly possible as funding mechanism most of the funders indicated the virtual common pot mechanism and the non-competitive funding mechanism as possible funding options.

#### **WP4: Deepening through improved processes and tools for transnational cooperation**

As previously indicated in our 12-month report; during 2011, the first year of the EUPHRESCO2, Workpackage 4 was confronted with the prolonged absence of the French partner DGAL due to changes in both Ministry responsibilities and job roles. As a consequence a number of the proposed deliverables could not be worked on at all. Also, since the project proposal for EUPHRESCO 2 was elaborated, certain components of the Description of Work have become obsolete. Various activities have been undertaken by third parties, i.e. EPPO, EFSA and others and various activities have lost their urgency owing to changes in both scientific and ministerial priorities.

For these reasons, the EUPHRESCO Project Management Group, on 28 September 2011 in Paris, decided to review the content of Workpackage 4 to ensure its outcomes would better fit EUPHRESCO’s remit. The Plenary meeting in Rome, on February 15 2012, endorsed these proposed changes. The changes fall into three categories: (1) proposal for delay of some deliverables, (2) proposal for deletion of

some deliverables and (3) proposal for a merger of some deliverables that are overlapping in purpose and content.

This revision consists of the merger of activities with which overlap already existed, and the withdrawal of activities that have lost their meaning. In the remaining activities strong emphasis is laid on the development of the 'market place', directly assisting the process of identifying topics of common interest, pooling of financial resources and the organisation of common research commissioning, i.e. the whole process supporting the 'common calls'.

In the following text, a revised DoW for Workpackage 4 is presented, taking into account EUPHRESKO PMG deliberations in Berlin, on May 15 2012, and in Paris on October 9 2012.

## **Objectives**

The overall aim of this work package is to develop and enhance approaches for a 'market place' for funders that better facilitates and strengthens trans-national cooperation in phytosanitary research. On this platform information is exchanged between funders and/or scientists. It should facilitate faster identification of common priorities, faster coordination of joint expertise and better exploitation of both reference material and specialised facilities. Outputs of this work package will feed directly back into WP3 and support and facilitate on-going trans-national activities. Specific objectives are as follows:

- To develop improved technical possibilities (platforms and processes) for operating and enhancing the virtual phytosanitary 'market place' where common research needs of funders are identified and prioritised and where easier access to specialised expertise, reference material and specialised facilities is realised. Funders with similar needs join forces and trans-national research projects can then be initiated to better address these needs. This will include improving, adapting and developing the existing use of the EUPHRESKO website as a key tool for the market place.
- To facilitate easy exchange and rapid access to information and knowledge between National Plant Protection Organisations, the research establishment, EU bodies, e.g. SANCO, EFSA, and other relevant international institutions, e.g. EPPO.
- To create more opportunities and to explore new and creative ways of delivering trans-nationally funded research that addresses plant health policy, operations and science questions. One particular motivation to develop such enhanced possibilities is the need to react quickly to problems (creation of an emergency track for initiating plant health research, both with regard to the procedure and the funds available).
- To enhance the potential for trans-national research commissioning by identifying specific national barriers to funding collaborations and by exploring strategies to overcome these barriers.

- To explore and enhance linkages to other key stakeholders (both at national and trans-national levels) for improved agenda setting and research collaboration, and enhance linkages to plant health activities and coordination mechanisms.

A leading philosophy for the activities developed in WP4 is that all approaches must signify simplification and financial efficiency, i.e. be fit-for-purpose within the context of the future self-sustainable, long-term network. This holds for the 'market place' too.

### **Description of work and role of partners**

*Where certain areas of attention for EUPHRESKO have changed to the point to impact EUPHRESKO's output plans, i.e. deliverables, a brief background is described, in italics.*

#### **4.1. Strengthening platforms and processes for the phytosanitary market place and for information exchange**

- Developing a main part of the website as a platform. Given the current possibilities for using the internet as a meeting place for demand and supply, or as a 'match-making' tool, we will explore how this potential can be exploited for transnational research commissioning. This task will be initiated by the WP leaders, with assistance from WP1 for the design, construction and maintenance of the website. In the course of the project, the commitment of all EUPHRESKO-II partners to the 'market place' is expressed through the appointment of a liaison officer.
- Quick and effective topic identification and prioritisation (for current phytosanitary problems as well as for better anticipation of problems) is essential for the smooth cooperation between funders / NPPOs. In EUPHRESKO-I, some tools were applied, but others may be more efficient. Possibilities will be, but are not limited to: online documents with multiple authors; on-line forums; website market place with two access levels, one for EUPHRESKO-II funders and one more open access to capture ideas from any stakeholder. All partners cooperate on this task.
- ~~Promoting exchanges between NPPO affiliated laboratories to improve dissemination of key relevant pieces of research and information, promising techniques and technologies and set up bases for a system for phytosanitary intelligence.~~  
*This objective in effect is being reached through the ongoing efforts within EUPHRESKO to have the NPPO laboratories engage in transnational projects. In addition, the fellowship scheme aims at have the receivers of the fellowship circulate amongst participating institutions and laboratories.*

#### **4.2. Creating more opportunities for transnational funding collaboration**

- Identification and systematic mapping of the individual EUPHRESKO-II's partners' national barriers to trans-national research will be done. This in turn will produce a report with specific recommendations to individual EUPHRESKO-II partners on how to increase their own capacity to improve transnational cooperation, including funding. In EUPHRESKO-I this problem was touched

upon, but not in sufficient detail. However, these barriers proved to be a serious hindrance to certain funding initiatives. Any outcome of this activity in EUPHRESKO-II could possibly be tabled at the appropriate national and European levels (e.g. SCAR, COPHS, etc.). All partners contribute actively.

- ~~Although individual countries in general have emergency track procedures to deal with unexpected phytosanitary problems, there is a pressing need to increase cooperation capacity at the European trans-national level. This activity aims to describe a strategy for enabling increased reactivity, both in terms of processes and funding. Process steps include rapid information exchange, topic identification, identification of research needs, expedient mobilisation of research funds, etc. All partners contribute actively. This real and pressing issue is being given sufficient attention from COPHS, NPPO labs, EPPO and EFSA. Additional EUPHRESKO initiatives would overlap or duplicate those actions.~~
- Joint research activities are not the only way to increase efficiency in funding. Where appropriate, new ways and means of cooperating and collaborating could be applied, e.g. mixed funding mechanisms, fellowship schemes, clustering as a means of linking national projects, exchange of staff, study visits between national research programmes, opportunities to link to other funding sources (e.g. Marie Curie). This area of collaboration between national authorities is underdeveloped and its potential will be explored in the context of plant health science and policy needs. *EUPHRESKO will give particular attention to the development of a fellowship scheme to contribute to an eroding science infrastructure and to deliver policy underpinning research products.*

#### ~~4.3. Improve the use of research infrastructure (including specialist knowledge), within Plant Health and with adjacent research areas~~

- ~~EUPHRESKO II will undertake to explore the full potential of its cumulative research capacity and links to other coordination mechanisms in the plant health area: better use of each country's plant health research and science infrastructure; improved links to coordination mechanisms aimed at increasing cooperation between diagnostic laboratories; increased collaboration with EFSA/EPPO on socio-economic aspects, e.g. Pest Risk Analysis; support and development of the EU's plant health regime through specific research activities that underpin the Community's policy development. Again, EUPHRESKO acknowledges the interest this issue has, yet in any possible initiative would duplicate efforts already undertaken by EPPO and EFSA.~~
- ~~Plant Health research can be nourished not only by the plant health research infrastructure, but also by the infrastructure that exist for research in the areas of animal and human health, and of ecology. In many countries these areas are organised quite separately. It may be possible to better draw upon this research potential. EUPHRESKO II will target other potentially interesting networks, organisations, etc. whose work touches upon the phytosanitary disciplines, and analyse possible benefits~~  
*New developments in the regulatory field, a.i General Food Law, and others, are already helping in closing the gap between the various science areas. EUPHRESKO's additional output in this field provides insufficient additional value.*

#### 4.4. Improve engagement and sense of urgency and responsibility with all stakeholders

- ~~• The Community's Plant Health Regime will increasingly become a shared responsibility between public authorities and private industry stakeholders. Consequently this holds for phytosanitary research too. EUPHRESCO will explore how this can be expressed in the identification of priorities and the funding of trans-national research, including socio-economic research. Although relevant for some national authorities and assisted by developments in Horizon 2020 (production chain approach, more PPS in research and innovation), in the area of cooperation between national funders this issue has received very little priority.~~
- ~~• Development of relationships with existing professional science networks/associations (e.g. European Mycological Network, European Association of Phytobacteriologists, and others) and promoting the creation of such associations in fields of science where they do not yet exist. Organisations come into existence on their own merit and as the result of internal driving forces. EUPHRESCO contributes to increased contacts between research funders and research providers, and, by doing so, stimulates the further organisation of specific science groups already.~~
- Engagement of (semi)public stakeholders, i.e. The Commission's DG SANCO and its Standing Committee on Plant Health (SCPH), EPPO, EFSA, can be strengthened for better agenda setting and identifying and prioritising research suitable for trans-national funding. This includes improvement of the information and communication routes relating to emergency situations.

The deliverables of WP4 will be produced by Task Groups. At the 'kick-off Meeting' of EUPHRESCO II, all partners will have an opportunity to commit themselves to participation in one of the WP4 task groups. This may involve a time investment that probably cannot be costed against the Project. All Task Groups have a coordinator, a Task Leader and a number of participants. Provisionally they are: Deliverable Task Leader (Task Group).

~~4.1.1. Inventory for website and development of the website into a Platform~~

~~4.1.2. Prioritise organisms~~

~~4.1.3. Phytosanitary intelligence~~

~~4.2.1. Report on barriers~~

~~4.2.2. Report emergency problems~~

~~4.2.3. Report cooperation~~

~~4.2.4. Scientific workshops~~

~~4.3.1. Science infrastructure~~

~~4.3.2. Report similar research~~

~~4.4.2. Engagement with third parties~~

~~4.4.1. National round table~~

~~4.4.3. Engagement of (semi) public stakeholders is merged with 4.2.2.~~

~~4.4.4. Professional associations~~

## Person-Months per Participant

*In italics are the revised time investments*

Participant number	Participant short name	Person-months per participant
1	DEFRA	3.50
2	BMLFUW	0.25
3	AGES	1.00
4	FPS	0.25
5	CRA-W	0.25
6	EV-ILVO	3.00
7	NSPP	0.25
8	MZe	0.25
9	DFIA	0.25
10	MARDD	0.25
11	MMM-FI	0.25
12	MAAP-DGAL	0.50
13	INRA	0.25
14	BLE	0.25
15	JKI	0.25
16	BPI	0.25
17	DAFF	0.25
18	MiPAAF	0.25
19	CRA	0.25
20	MoA	0.25
21	ELI	1.00
22	PPS	1.00
23	INRB	0.25
24	MAFF	0.25
25	INIA	0.25
26	FOAG	0.25
27	MARA-GDAR	0.25
28	FR	0.25
29	SASA	0.25
30	IPP-UAAS	0.25
31	FGU-VNIIKR	0.25

## Status of Deliverables

D4.1 Tackling Phytosanitary Emergencies: is merged with D4.12  
D4.2 Engagement with professional organisations: is withdrawn  
D4.3 Website as a platform: is reinforced and intensified  
D4.4 Addressing barriers to collaboration: proceeds as planned  
D4.5 Criteria for prioritization: is withdrawn  
D4.6 Access to science infrastructure: is withdrawn  
D4.7 PPP Round Table: is withdrawn

D4.8 Novel cooperation: will focus on the development of a fellowship scheme

~~D4.9 Private sector involvement: is withdrawn~~

~~D4.10 Phytosanitary intelligence: is withdrawn~~

~~D4.11 Scientific workshops: is withdrawn~~

~~D4.12 Roles and responsibilities: is merged with D4.1~~

~~D4.13 Benefits from adjacent research: is withdrawn~~

## NEW DELIVERABLES

D4.1: (D4.1 merged with D4.12) is now coordinated by France

D4.2: is a joint effort between WP1, WP3 and WP4, assisted by FERA and EPPO IT

D4.3: (D4.4) is taken up by FPS in collaboration with ILVO

D4.4: (D4.8) is taken up by the NL and the UK

## Description of Deliverables

D4.1: Tackling Phytosanitary Emergencies: Report with analysis, strategy and recommendations to NPPOs on how to collectively better deal with emergency phytosanitary problems, focussing on joining national resources for better, quicker and more efficient science. In this report the roles and responsibilities of the various (semi)public stakeholders in agenda setting and prioritising research will be described and highlighted.

D4.2: Website as a platform: Detailed inventory of functions or modules to apply to the EUPHRESCO website that could improve platforms and processes for operating the phytosanitary market place; including an operational schedule with necessary resources. Most components of this inventory will be implemented during the course of the EUPHRESCO 2 project, with particular emphasis on those automated processes that aid the realisation of common calls for research projects with common funding.

D4.3: Addressing barriers to collaboration: Report on barriers to transnational research commissioning in the phytosanitary field, with specific recommendations to GB and COPHS on how to overcome them. The report is tabled in one of the COPHS meetings.




D4.4: Novel cooperation: Development and practicable Implementation of a fellowship scheme as a novel way of cooperation between national research funders.

Summary of WP4 progress for milestones/deliverables since the project's start:

WP4 Milestones		Target	MS Status
MS25	List of criteria for prioritising organisms	8	Deleted
MS26	Report on how to deal with emergency problems. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	38	In progress
MS27	Report and recommendations on accessibility to, and improving of, plant health research/science infrastructure.	8	Deleted
MS28	Final validation of functions or modules of the web-based platform	12	In progress
MS29	Report on identifying and addressing barriers to transnational cooperation. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	38	In progress
MS30	Presentation to Professional science networks / associations	12	Deleted
MS32	Report on novel ways for transnational research collaboration. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	30	In progress
MS34	Engagement of (semi) public stakeholders. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	38	In progress
MS33, 35 and 36	These milestones have been deleted as they have been deemed to no longer fit EUPHRESKO's remit	-	Deleted

NEW WP4 Deliverables		Target	DL Status
D4.1	Tackling Phytosanitary Emergencies. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	38	In progress
D4.2	Website as a platform. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	38	In progress
D4.3	Addressing barriers to collaboration. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	38	In progress
D4.4	Novel cooperation mechanisms. <b>New delivery date proposed</b>	30	In progress

**Key to milestone progress/status:**

 Completed
  In progress (no significant impact from delay expected)
  Deleted, see WP4 notes

Sub-WP 4.1. Strengthening platforms and processes for the phytosanitary market place and for information exchange

A workshop, uniting IT-experts and EUPHRESKO representatives took place in 27 September 2011 at the EPPO HQ in Paris. The outcome was an extensive and prioritised list of function that the website should provide, and are feasible and affordable. In the proposed design for the website, absolute priority is given to those functions assisting the activities of Work Package 3 who organises the joint calls for research projects.



A great deal of progress has been achieved to develop online tools to assist the initiation of collaborative research. These tools are currently being tested and will be used for subsequent rounds of research calls. A further workshop will be held later in the year to progress the website. The workshop is planned to take place at EPPO in Paris in September 2012.

#### Sub-WP 4.2. Creating more opportunities for transnational funding collaboration

Amongst other things, the application of the 'Real Common Pot' mechanism, also in EUPHRESKO 2, has progressed with expression of serious interest from various partners, notably the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. A topic description for a plant health fellowship scheme will be drawn up after the 2013 annual meeting, following discussions with interested parties.

### **WP5: Enlarging the Network Cooperation**

#### Aim:

WP5 will aim to increase and encourage the involvement of additional organisations with an interest in transnational research collaborations (e.g. new partners, observers and others). It will broaden the potential cooperation of the network, especially regionally within Europe, more internationally (third countries) and in some previously under-represented sectors (e.g. forestry plant health). Expanding EUPHRESKO's links more internationally will provide research opportunities that will help support the Community Plant Health Regime. In particular, wider international cooperation would enable research on quarantine pests to be done in their countries of origin. International cooperation may be both at the programme level (between national funders) or at the project level (inclusion of more research providers from non-European countries within transnational projects).

#### The main WP objectives are:




- To attract and integrate more EU member states, associated countries and third countries, e.g. selected International Cooperation Partners Countries (ICPC's) into the EUPHRESKO network.
- To explore opportunities and, if relevant, implement regionally-based transnational plant health research (i.e. on specific regionally-based crops or pest issues) and sector-based (plant production sectors, e.g. forestry plant health) under-represented in EUPHRESKO-1.
- To explore possibilities and implement, as appropriate, collaborations with third countries, including some ICPC's and developed countries, with similar plant health problems as EU to EUPHRESKO-2.
- To explore possibilities and, if possible, implement collaborations with certain third countries (e.g. ICPC's) which are currently sources of plant quarantine pests of concern to the EU.

#### Summary of WP5 progress for milestones/deliverables since the project's start:

WP5 Milestones		Target	MS Status
MS37	Kick-off meeting for new partners/observers	Month 3	Complete
MS38	Action plan for forestry plant health	Month 14	Completed
MS39	Merging plan for 3rd countries	Month 12	Completed
MS40	Establish contact with 3 <sup>rd</sup> country key pest source	Month 24	In progress

WP5 Deliverables		Target	DL Status
D5.1	Kick-off meeting for new partners/observers	Month 3	Complete
D5.2	'Forestry plant health' and 'regional' workshop: workshops for increased forestry plant health and exploring benefit of increased regional collaboration held and action plan produced.	Month 14	Completed
D5.3	Merging plan for 3rd countries: a 'merging' plan for linking or incorporating associated third countries in the EUPHRESKO network worked out.	Month 12	Completed

#### Key to milestone progress/status:

 Completed	 In progress (no significant impact from delay expected)	 Not started (and/or impact from delay expected)
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#### Sub-WP 5.1. Integrating new European Partners, engaging with European Observers and outreach to other European and Mediterranean countries

- A specific workshop to welcome and integrate the new partners and observers to the EUPHRESKO 2 project was held alongside the first Kick Off meeting in Copenhagen on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The meeting provided a great opportunity for new partners and observers to learn about EUPHRESKO; they heard the success of EUPHRESKO-1, the benefits of being part of EUPHRESKO and the aims and aspirations of EUPHRESKO-2. The workshop had time allocated for each new partner to introduce themselves, to speak about their institutes and the national plant health programmes as well as to share their expectations of the benefits of being part of EUPHRESKO consortium.
- New partners have chosen mentors from the 'old' EUPHRESKO 1 partners. New partners were again specifically welcomed at the first annual meeting in Rome and February and were encouraged to take full advantage of their mentors past experiences of being in the network both in terms of research project participation and project administration in relation to finance requirements.
- The PMG agreed that the timetable for mapping national programmes in WP2 should be aligned with that in WP5.

### Sub-WP 5.2 Exploring regionalisation of specific plant health problems and increased inclusion of plant-producing sectors under-represented in EUPHRESCO-1

- A workshop exploring regionalisation of specific plant health problems in the region of the Baltic Sea and Nordic countries was held in Tallinn 1–2 December 2011. The main conclusion from this workshop was that concerning possible underrepresentation of plant sectors or crops that only strawberry and Vaccinum species but else no other crops have been underrepresented in the EUPHRESCO initiated projects until now. Concerning specific plant health problems the conclusion was that the unique Nordic-Baltic regional problems have been covered in a more satisfactory way under EUPHRESCO-2 than under EUPHRESCO-1. The recommendation is to include much more general plant health topics as for example the influence of climatic changes and import of plant products for energy production on plant health in the future call rounds.

A workshops exploring EUPHRESCO partners mandates to fund forestry research and important forestry plant health threats was held in Vienna 17–18 January 2012. The main conclusions from the forestry workshop were:

There has been an increase in forestry plant health threats both in number and impact over the last decade, which hopefully will result in more EUPHRESCO initiated projects in forestry in the future.

EUPHRESCO was recommended to:

- NOT to settle a permanent forestry working group under EUPHRESCO
- to invite national forestry research funders, who at present are non-EUPHRESCO-partner, to join or be associated to EUPHRESCO.
- to consider to include more general topics in future topic call rounds.
- to consider to arrange a European stakeholder/funder workshop on forestry plant health in cooperation with ISEFOR.

These conclusions were confirmed by the EUPHRESCO General Assembly at the First Annual Project Meeting 14–15 February 2012 in Rome

A reminder was sent by WP5 to all EUPHRESCO partners and observers at the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> topic identification round in 2012 to remember to contact national forestry research funders, who at present are non-EUPHRESCO-partner, and inform them of the 2<sup>nd</sup> topic initiation round and invite them to suggest and fund forestry topics.

A workshop exploring regionalisation of specific plant health problems in the region of Balkan and Eastern Europe was held in Sofia 28–29 February 2012. The main conclusion from the Balkan-Eastern European workshop was that there are no specific regional plant health problems in the Balkan-Eastern European region making a regional approach relevant for EUPHRESCO. On this background no further recommendations were worked out.

### Sub-WP 5.3. Association of third countries with similar plant health problems as the EU

- International Cooperation Department in Warszawa, Poland represented by Mrs Ołesia Witowska has in October 2011 delivered an official request to join

EUPHRESCO-2; the Polish candidate partners were invited to attend the first annual meeting in February 2012.

- WP-leader Steen Lykke Nielsen has invited Dr Yuval Eshdat, The Chief Scientist, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Israel to join EUPHRESCO-2, but until now without success.
- WP- leader Steen Lykke Nielsen has ultimo June 2012 contacted an Israeli scientist V. Soroker, who has expressed high interest in collaboration with EUPHRESCO to contact an Israeli funder for further progress. No response has yet been obtained. Furthermore B. Stephenson in the Science Policy team in the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry of New Zealand has been invited to explore EUPHRESCO and the possibility to be associated partner. No response has yet been obtained.
- A merging plan for associating 3rd countries has been developed and adopted by the EUPHRESCO's General Assembly at the First Annual Project Meeting 14–15 February 2012 in Rome and by the PMG at the following PMG-meeting 16 February 2012 in Rome. The merging plan is as below:
  - > 3rd countries will be offered status as observers
  - > 3rd country observers will have to fill in a Letter of intend
  - > 3rd country observers will have full access to topic proposal lists but only access to results from the projects they participate in
  - > 3rd country observers are expected to raise funding for participation in at least one round of research topic market place
  - > 3rd country observers are expected to respond and deliver material to requests and questionnaires from the different WPs

#### Sub-WP 5.4: Association of third countries who are the source of quarantine pests of concern to the EU

- Steen Lykke Nielsen and several other EUPHRESCO-2 partners active in WP5 participated in the EFSA Scientific Colloquium XIV on Emerging Risks in Plant Health 9–10 June 2011 in Parma, Italy. The theme of the Colloquium is very relevant for the WP5 topics: regionalisation and import of plant health problems from third world countries.
- Steen Lykke Nielsen met with Head of Business Development Europe Janny Vos and Business Development Director Philip Abrahams from CABI (who are an Observer in EUPHRESCO-2) at Aarhus University, Research Centre Flakkebjerg the 29 June 2011 to discuss activities in EUPHRESCO-2's WP5 with focus on activities in third world countries to prevent import of plant health problems.
- A revision of MS40 to be postponed from month 12 to month 24 is requested, because MS40 is clearly connected to DL5.4 dating to month 24. The dating of MS40 to month 12 is clearly due to a writing mistake in the application. Approval for this amendment would be appreciated.
- The main problem to develop a concept associating 3<sup>rd</sup> countries "*which are the source of quarantine pests of concern to the EU*", is that EUPHRESCO does not hold a specific grant for that purpose. Therefore the concept must build on the principle to involve 3<sup>rd</sup> countries in the research topic initiation rounds, so the participation of 3<sup>rd</sup> country partners can be financed by the EUPHRESCO initiated

transnational projects. In fact, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> topic suggestion round, which is running during 2012, a project on plant health risks of wood chip import from 3<sup>rd</sup> countries has been proposed, which demands participation of an exporting firm or a plant inspection service authority from a 3<sup>rd</sup> country. The fate of the proposed topic will be clarified later in 2012. If the concept is widened also to include EUPHRESKO partners housing a quarantine pest under eradication and not yet spread to other EU members, another topic has been proposed involving activities with the pine wood nematode in Portugal by other EUPHRESKO partners. The same is the matter with a running EUPHRESKO project on Asian long horned beetle, where some of the activities are carried out in an infested district Lombardy in Italy. The project has also included a study travel to an infested district in USA with contact to the authorities and a research institute, even though those are not officially associated to the project.

At the First Annual Project Meeting 14–15 February 2012 in Rome the General Assembly decided to ask WP5 to arrange a representative from a North African NPPO to be invited to speak at the next Annual Project Meeting to discuss plant health problems related to import of plant products from that region and possibilities of association to future EUPHRESKO initiated projects.

## SECTION 3: CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT (WP1)




### WP1: Project coordination and administration

Summary of WP1 progress for milestones/deliverables since the project's start:

WP1 Milestones		Target	MS Status
MS 01	Consortium agreement finalised and signed	Month 3	Completed
MS 02	Governing board and project advisory board	Month 3	Completed
MS 03	EUPHRESCO website updated	Month 3	Completed
MS 04	Kick-off meeting and PMG meeting held	Month 3	Completed
MS 05	1 <sup>st</sup> annual meeting and PMG meeting held	Month 12	Completed

WP1 Deliverables		Target	DL Status
D1.1	Governance bodies	Month 3	Completed
D1.2	6-month report	Month 6	Completed
D1.3	1 <sup>st</sup> e-Newsletter	Month 7	Completed
D1.3	2 <sup>nd</sup> e-Newsletter. New delivery date proposed	Month 28	In Progress
D1.4	1 <sup>st</sup> annual meeting minutes and ppts available	Month 13	Completed
D1.5	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> PMG meetings (minutes/ppts available)	Month 13	Completed
D1.6	Publicity leaflets	Month 8	Completed

#### Key to milestone progress/status:

 Completed	 In progress (no significant impact from delay expected)	 Not started (and/or impact from delay expected)
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#### Sub-WP 1.1. Meetings:

- The Project Management Group (PMG) met for the first time on 25 February 2011 to discuss the project's workplan and to make arrangements for the kick-off meeting.
- The kick-off meeting was held on 24-25 March 2011 in Copenhagen with partners (new and old) and observers. Additionally, a representative from Poland (NCBRI) attended the meeting; they are a prospective partner and we are continuing to explore the possibility of them joining EUPHRESCO. The PMG met on 23 March and EPPO attended.
- A specific WP5 "new partner and new observer" workshop was held on 27 after the project meeting; with the main aim of welcoming and integrating them into the project. Funds were made available for the observers.
- The third PMG meeting was held on 28 September 2011.

- The second annual meeting was held in Rome on 14-15 February 2012 with partners and prospective new partner. The PMG met on 16 February 2012.
- EUPHRESKO held a special workshop on 15 May 2012 at JKI in Braunschweig involving 4 volunteer members of the PMG to discuss EUPHRESKO's long term sustainable network beyond EU funding.
- The third annual meeting will be held in February 13-15 March 2013 in Lisbon.
- The fifth PMG meeting will be held at the EPPO headquarters in Paris on 9 October 2012.
- Initial ideas for the final dissemination conference to be held in March 2014 have been gathered. In response to partners demand and owing to the success of EUPHRESKO 1's ending conference in June 2010 a greater focus and consequentially a larger budget than indicated in the DoW will be proposed. The aim of the conference will be to raise awareness of the benefits of EUPHRESKO and as far as possible aid the projects transition from an ERA-NET into a long term self sustainable network. In order to maximise this aim we propose inviting up to 100 key stakeholders to a 2 day conference in March 2014; the venue is likely to be Paris (EPPO connection). Upon further discussions with the PMG and all partners the project office will submit a final conference budget for the Commission's approval by May 2013. Availabilities for the final conference will be gathered after the third annual meeting at some point in April 2013.

#### Sub-WP 1.2. Reports

- The 6-month and 12-month report for the Commission were produced. This 18 month report will be submitted along with the finance report for RP1.
- A report to the COPHS was produced for their meeting 7-8 June 2011 meeting.
- DG Research and the EUPHRESKO Coordinator agreed that that there was no need for formal project reviews as this was an ERA-NET.

#### Sub-WP 1.3. Communication

- The project website has been re-launched after the website. Project details have been updated from EUPHRESKO-1 to EUPHRESKO-2.
- The first electronic newsletter was produced and a link emailed to over 500 stakeholders. The website front page invites on-line registration for newsletters. We aim to publicise the newsletter, the launch of EUPHRESKO-2 and the outputs from EUPHRESKO-1 via The European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO) website in summer 2012. The second newsletter is currently being drafted but will not be disseminated until after the EPPO Council meets in April 2013; allowing their decision on the future of the EUPHRESKO secretariat to be included. Upon completion it will be uploaded to the website and the link will be emailed out to the stakeholder group at the beginning of May 2013.

- EUPHRESKO posters displaying the aims of EUPHRESKO-2, the successes of EUPHRESKO-1 and some key research project outcomes are available from Fera. They can be loaned for meetings and conferences. The posters were used at the Dutch Phytopathological Society annual meeting in Amsterdam and at the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), held at the FAO in Rome in March 2012.
- A brain storming workshop between FACCE and ERA-NETs held in Paris in October 2011 was attended by Sylvia Bluemel (a EUPHRESKO PMG member).
- The Coordinator attended the PLATFORM KO meeting in Brussels on 1-2 February 2012.
- Two members of the EUPHRESKO PMG will be attending the first PLATFORM ERA-NET meeting in June 2012 in Copenhagen.
- EUPHRESKO via the PMG contributed to the FACCE (Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change) consultation on "*key priorities and areas for research to contribute to the goals of food security and sustainable agriculture in the face of climate change*". EUPHRESKO's contribution was submitted on 28 March 2012.
- EUPHRESKO representatives attended a meeting of the EU-funded ISEFOR project (links to WP5 and building research opportunities in the area of forestry plant health).
- The Coordinator attended a workshop on 'Diagnostic Reference Laboratories' organised by DG SANCO and ANSES (France) in Paris on 26-27 March 2012 as an invited speaker presenting EUPHRESKO's contribution to research and support for diagnostics. Travel and accommodation costs were reimbursed by DG SANCO and ANSES.

#### Sub-WP 1.4. Project Administration

- The contracts have been signed by all partners and by the Commission.
- The first advance payment was received from the Commission and was distributed to all project partners in accordance with the conditions of the EU Contract.
- The virtual Governing Board (GB) membership list has been confirmed.
- The Project Advisory Board (PAB) membership list has been confirmed. The PAB is composed of representatives from EUPHRESKO-1's previous Expert Advisory Group (EPPO, EFSA and DG SANCO) as well as 4 members of the virtual GB, chosen upon nomination.
- The Project Management Group (PMG) has now met on 4 occasions, on 25 February 2011, 23 March 2011, 28 September 2011 and 16 February 2012 to progress the first few project tasks and to discuss the kick-off meeting and the first WP5 workshop to make these two events as interesting and as useful as



possible for everybody involved. Technical, management, communication and governance issues were also discussed.

- A consortium agreement (CA), based on the previous CA for EUPHRESCO-1, has been completed and has now been signed by all partners.
- A forward job plan (FJP) has been produced for each workpackage as a management tool for WP leaders. Updates are notified and will be made accessible via the 'member's pages' of the project website. As a minimum, the FJP is updated before and after the 6-monthly PMG meetings.
- The Coordinator has been internally logging various partner changes (e.g. organisational names) and has approached the Commission about such changes. These will all be formalised along with the first official reporting period.
- The Coordinator and partners made entries into NetWatch and a further update will be done now that the first round of topics is completed.