

Regular Members General Assembly

04.11.2020¹, 3:00 – 5:25 p.m. CET (online, via MS Teams)

Minutes

Participants

Adrian Akers-Douglas from Laona Foundation CY, Martina Slamová (MS) Tuzvo University SK, Hans Renes (HR) Utrecht University NL, Sebastian Eiter (SE) NIBIO NO, Steliana Rodino Agricultural Academy of Sciences, Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești RO, Bénédicte Gaillard FR, Mateja Smid Hribar (MS) Anton Melik Geographical Institute SI, Zdenek Kucera (ZK) Charles University CZ, Csaba Centeri (CC) St. Stéfan University HU, Johannes Dreer (JD) Hof und Leben DE, Yves Michelin SupAgro Sud FR, Lena Athanasiadou (LA) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki GR, Dina Stober HR, Alexandra Kruse insitu World Heritage consulting DE/FR

Minutes: Alexandra Kruse & Martina Slamová

1. Official opening

President Hans Renes opened the assembly.

2. Short Round Table personal presentation

See list of participants above.

3. Activity report by AK

See pdf attachment.

▪ **Member status in 2020**

- 30 members from 17 different countries; 18 individual, 12 institutional

▪ **Projects**

- **FEAL** was completed successfully.
 - Interactive E-Atlas will continue as soon as we will get another funding
 - EUCALAND continues in FEAL dissemination activities, especially via Twitter (until 5 years after the end of the project), presentations, articles
- Annual cultural landscape types
 - **Terraced Landscapes** finished. Further research by ITLA, where some EUCALAND members are active, is coordinating research.
 - **Enclosed Landscapes** will soon be finished. No more participation possible.
 - **Hay Making Landscapes** first article published in Sustainability, coordinated by Jana Špulrová. Second publication, coordinated by Alexandra Kruse, with the country overview will be published hopefully in 2021. Work on that article will continue as soon as enclosed landscapes are finished.

¹ The meeting presentation is part of the minutes. Due to the fact that we met online in the context of Corona pandemic, we don't have a signature list, but a screen-shot.

- Topic of **Orchards** (2018) still open. Coordinator Hans Renes. A reminder will be circulated as soon as enclosed landscapes are finished.
 - **Landscapes of dispersed settlements** (2019): Csaba Centeri is willing to be a coordinator, further information will be circulated.
 - **Reclamation Landscapes** (2021): Due to Corona restrictions the spring meeting 2020 was cancelled. Majority of participants prefer to organise it as physical meeting as soon as the Corona situation allows it. Will be in Jork, Northern Germany as it was planned for this year, most probably in autumn 2021. News to come. Alexandra Kruse and Hans Renes will coordinate this topic.
 - The online conference of **20th Anniversary of ELC** was very successful: 38 attendees in the EUCALAND Special session “Agriculture and Forest Heritage” with 7 presentations, 2 Video-Posters, 2 proceedings: Sustainability and Springer Book
 - **PECSRL** is postponed to Sept./Oct. 2021 – 3 sessions where EUCALAND members were involved (S2, S9, S15). The sessions will probably be re-opened for new contributions. We are waiting for further information from the conference organisers.
 - **Applications:**
 - EUCALAND has cooperated in several project applications. Unfortunately without success in 2019 and 2020. Most proposals will be submitted again.
 - **Publication** list activities are quite impressive, and members are always welcome to send their publications related to EUCALAND activities.
4. **Financial report for 2018 and 2019 by SE**
- The minus in the budget of 2019 is due to the prefinancing of the salaries and the exceptional costs for subcontracting the e-atlas in the FEAL project in 2018.
 - Positive account balance shall ensure possible ongoing fees related to future projects realizations.
 - Report of the auditors: Positive, they recommend exculpation of the board for both years.
5. **Acceptance of the two reports and accounts**
- **Both reports were accepted unanimously.**
6. **Exculpation of the executive board**
- **The board was exculpated unanimously.**
7. **Presentation of the budgets for 2020 and 2021, incl. setting of member fees**
- SE presented the budgets for the running year 2020 and for 2021.
 - Based on experiences from 2018 and 2019 (necessity of private loans to pre-finance FEAL-related tax expenses), the board proposes to build up a security amount of at least 3000 € by the end of 2021.

8. Discussion and approval of budget

- JD: 3000€ as a **minimum Budget** is not much, is really a low reserve. EUCALAND should keep a higher amount.
- Explanation by HR and AK why, as a non-profit association, it is very risky to finish the year with savings. Each saving has to be justified, normally with planned investments.
- JD asks, if an association cannot make a minus in the bank account.
- AK: To be honest, I cannot answer. We can try to find out.
- HR suggests to ask the tax authorities, which amount as saving would be OK.
- Several members expressed their astonishment about the low member fees and the low number of members.
- Discussion on **member fees**
 - LA: Not all members are active. They use only their membership. It would be nice to make association more visible.
 - HR/AK: Number of Membership used to increase through projects or conferences.
 - **No action regarding member fees was taken.** But there is consensus that
 - the recent member fees are not high,
 - all members should actively try to recruit new members and
 - that every individual member that is at a bigger organisation should try to convince his/her institution to become institutional member instead of individual.
- Discussion if there should be **small working contracts** in the secretariat, e.g. for book keeping but also for member acquisition as well as for the secretary general.
- **No action regarding a permanent paid secretary staff was taken.** Has to be decided in 2021, when finances are consolidated.
- **The two budgets had been approved unanimously.**

9. Confirmation of new members

- No new membership applications were received since the previous GA.

10. Exclusion of members

- Member's exclusion comes into force
 - after three years of not paying member fees (after having sent reminders accordingly) or
 - due to a behaviour non-conform with the statutes.
- The Board hasn't found any reason to suggest exclusion of members.

11. Election of the Executive Board

- According to the statutes, board members are elected for 4 years. Last elections have taken place in 2018, therefore: no elections necessary in 2020.
- Apart from this: Candidatures for 2022 are welcome!

12. Election of two financial controllers or auditors

- CC and AK explain the role of the financial auditors and that it is not very time consuming.

- There were two candidates: Helmut Kruckenberg (DE), Bernd Paulowitz (FR).
- **Helmut Kruckenberg and Bernd Paulowitz have been elected unanimously for two years.**

13. Information on upcoming activities

- Presentation by AK, see attached pdf and see also point 3.

14. Miscellaneous

- Lena as **IFLA** delegate may promote EUCALAND in the field of landscape architecture, help recruiting new members
- Considering the high quality of EUCALAND's presentations (see working meetings, PECSRL, 20th ELC anniversary), Lena brings up the idea of conducting **online seminars**, in order to increase EUCALAND's visibility.
 - AK: We have to discuss this point further in the board in order to see, which "framework" we can find. Would be good, if these online lectures could serve for getting credits within some studies.
- Lena and Mateja are willing to act as link between EUCALAND and **FAO GIAHS**. We are in contact with Mauro Agnoletti and Antonio Santoro, but the University of Florence is not a member of EUCALAND. Lena and Mateja will try to improve and to strengthen the link and will try to convince members to become institutional EUCALAND members.
- Martina Slamová informed about the possibility of **publishing in Remote Sensing journal** in a special issue with topic particularly adjusted according to EUCALAND research:
<https://www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing>: Publication fee is currently 2200 CHF*30% possible discount=1540 CHF= ca. 1435 EUR
 Cooperation with University of Florence University (UF) about photogrammetry with colleagues from UF and also Csaba Centeri. Special issue: "Application of terrestrial remote sensing techniques for human-induced hazards and landforms in forest and extensively used agricultural environments"
- **Board meetings - extended board**
 - Since the last GA the board has met regularly online, ca. every two month via MS Teams.
 - Since last GA, we have had an enlarged board with members who are willing to participate more in the ongoing activities.
 - Mateja and Lena are interested in joining the extended board.
 - Sebastian will continue to send the invitations to board and enlarged board members. Meetings are tried to be held on Friday mornings.
- **Next GA**
 - According to our statutes, the GA takes place every two years. The idea behind was that most of us regularly attend the PECSRL conference anyway. However, the past years have shown that people are probably too busy at the conference, and GA participation was rather low. Therefore, the board suggests to discuss whether we should change towards online GAs.
 - Nearly all participants expressed their preference for online GA.
 - Therefore, the board envisages the next GA for February 2022.

- The board has to check German conditions. (Online, we cannot sign signature lists.) We also have to check if we need to change the statutes.
- **Participatory budget:**
 - The board presents the idea for a participatory budget, e.g. for research (of young members), or publication of ongoing topic (e.g. orchards). We are talking about an amount of appr. 1000 EUR.
 - Decision: In the unlucky case that we won't get another project in 2021 and will therefore finish the year with a left-over higher than what would be considered acceptable, the board will ask in summer 2021, which kind of participatory budget the members would prefer. All members are invited to think about it. The amount will strictly be reserved for a) members and b) EUCALAND related research topics.

The president and the whole board thanked all participants for their active and inspiring contributions!

End of the GA: 5:25 p.m.



We join this screen-shot as we don't have a list with signatures. Missing: Dina Stober, Mateja Smid Hribar, Lena Athansiadou.