

## Present

Andrew Mackenzie	Lews Castle College
Ms Agnes Mols Mortensen	TARI – Faroe seaweed
Prof Lisbeth Truelstrup Hansen	Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland
Prof Francesco Gentili	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Clíodhna Ní Ghríofa	Údarás na Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe
Dr Ronan Sulpice	NUI Galway
Dr Angus Murray	Lews Castle College
Jon MacLeod	An Lanntair
Calle Niemi	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Dr Roy Bartle	Lews Castle College
Dr Alasdair Macleod	Lews Castle College, Stornoway

## Apologies

Prof Rúnar Unnþórsson	University of Iceland
-----------------------	-----------------------

## Minute

	ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
1.	Approval of SW-GROW Skype meeting 26 March 2020	The minute was approved.				

	ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
3.	Update on progress by person/organisation since Faroe meeting	<p><b>Lewis Castle College</b></p> <p>We have to inform the Scottish Government of the FLC details – form filling has begun. Lewis Castle College has been expecting various deliveries - most of which have been delayed which has meant that, coupled with the lockdown, we have not been able to progress with the experimental programme. We expect that some of the group will be delivered shortly and that Roy will be able to do some work from home. This will deal with the isotherms. Roy has been working on a computational model to optimise seaweed harvesting and drying based on solar and wind energy inputs. Also looking at whether you can fairly adequately predict or optimise production with wind and solar forecasts - this could help producers with their work schedules. Also, looking at the economic implications of seaweed drying and the systems that. Jon MacLeod (An Lanntair) has been told by John husband, who is working on a solar dryer, that starting with 2.4 kg of wet seaweed he has ended up with 600g of totally dry product within 2 days.</p> <p>Angus has been constructing an SW-GROW mini-website that is required by the NPA. The link to the mini-website will be <a href="http://sw-grow.interreg-npa.eu/">http://sw-grow.interreg-npa.eu/</a>. The content at the moment contains guidelines on what the NPA require and Clíodhna will supply the text for the Home, About The Project and Outputs and Results.</p>				
		<p><b>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</b></p> <p>Time has been spent on writing the report , but has had some difficulty with editing. Calle has been working on a good method for quantifying protein in macro algae and algae in general -this is a difficult thing to do because there are a lot of interfering substances in the algae and has recently had some success.</p>				
		<p><b>An Lanntair</b></p> <p>The Scottish Government also need details of the FLC– form filling has begun and CEO informed although some of the questions are difficult to answer, e.g. suitability of FLC etc. John has been compiling the Period one report , but there is some discussion about whether his post is going to be furloughed. In addition, he has been continuing work on the species map on the coast around Lewis.</p>				

ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
	<p><b>Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland</b> The University has been shut down , but recently a phased re-opening has been adopted and a few research projects have been allowed to start meaning that work has started an experiment on cultivated Danish Sugar Kelp – this is a replacement for “wing kelp” that grows in Greenland but not in Denmark. There will be a harvest at the beginning of May so the team will visit the seaweed farm, harvest and bring back to the lab for comprehensive chemical, microbiological and quality characterisation as it is being stored at refrigeration temperature The main purpose is to look at its shelf life with a secondary objective to look at the window of opportunity between harvest and spoilage for further processing – drying and freezing. This is especially relevant for Greenland where you might have significant distance between the site of harvest and the site of processing. This will be done by doing a count of the microbiology using different tools to look at different types of microorganism that might partake in the degradation and changes in colour, texture, water content and sensory data. The samples will be freeze dried for later chemical analysis of protein content, dry matter, lipid profiles and anti-oxidants.</p> <p>There are currently travel restrictions between Denmark and Greenland and the original plan, to visit Greenland in August, is in doubt.</p>				
	<p><b>TARI – Faroe seaweed</b> Agnes has been following the seaweed growing on her farm and on the test ropes and sampling for nutrients in the seawater, microbiology in the seawater and in the seaweed tissue. One sample has been sent for analysis for iodine and inorganic arsenic. She will be collecting samples each month to look at growth and different compounds and send samples to NUI Galway and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in late May that will represent the quality that they normally have when harvesting for food use Samples have also been collected from the wild population that will also be sent for analysis by Partners. These will consist of 3 populations and farm samples.</p>				
	<p><b>Údarás na Gaeltachta</b> Clíodhna has been working with the Irish food authority who help seaweed companies with marketing and exporting. She has had agreement that we can put up some information to their website about seaweed (they have about 2000 hits a day). Also working on the project report and finances.</p> <p>She is still waiting information on the profile of Partners’ staff and photographs for uploading to the website.</p>				

ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
	<p><b>NUI Galway</b> The report writing is mainly finished and then can go to the FLC. The University is completely locked so no work can be done except from home. Ronan is putting together an advert for hiring a Post Doc in August. In the future. Ronan will be looking for samples to analyse from Greenland, Sweden and Scotland.</p> <p><b>University of Iceland</b></p>				
4.	Reporting and Finances	<p>Alistair advised that for new Partners it might be of benefit to contact their 1<sup>st</sup> Level Control to understand what information they required regarding paperwork and evidence. Generally speaking, Partners need to write down a statement of costs on the appropriate line putting it against work package and person – but, almost certainly, evidence will have to be provided to show that payment has come out of the appropriate partner's account. There should be no time-sheets – everyone should put down a proportion of their time so your effort should be a certain amount per week so if someone is paid x per month .and you have put down one day a week then they will pay a fifth of the monthly salary. The claim only goes to the FLC and if they are satisfied the claim will be approved.</p> <p>As far as other reporting is concerned, you need to put down your activity and reference this to the tasks.</p>			
5	Mini web-site – decision required	<p>The NPA provides us with our own mini website as part of the programme website. This saves effort on the project's side to make their own website as part of the mandatory publicity measures. In addition, it ensures that the project website complies with publicity requirements and the availability of information after project closure. Thirdly, it gives the programme access to similar information on all its projects, which is easy to share with third parties.</p> <p>We have developed our own websites but the NPA expects such websites to mainly focus on the viable project outputs, or even to serve as the delivery platform for those outputs. Additionally, the programme expects us to use the mini websites for information about the project cooperation, still highlighting the outputs under development.</p> <p>Note: By publishing information and audio-visual materials on the project mini websites, we give the NPA the right to use the materials and duplicate them in different publications, websites, etc.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> <b>Angus will construct the mini website and upload data and Clíodhna will write the contents. This has been done.</b></p>			

	ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
6	Greenland meeting – options	<p>Travel is becoming increasingly difficult. Domestic travel in Greenland but, at the moment, all travel into the country needs permission from the police. Once the skies have opened up it should be reasonably easy to book flights. The residency bookings are still valid in August but there might be a problem if we thought of re-booking then this might make things more difficult. It's 3 ½ months in the future.</p>	Wait and see what happens.			
7	AOCB	<p>There was discussion on the implications of the COVID-19 restrictions. Roy mentioned that his drying apparatus will not be ready until after lock-down by which time it will not be possible to harvest large quantities of seaweed that does not have secondary growth on it. So the full drying tests are now likely to be postponed until the end of 2020 or early 2021.</p> <p>Alasdair advised that the project cannot be extended. At the meeting in August, we have to make plans for completing the project and mitigate any time lost due to COVID-19 restrictions. There is no difficulty in moving money from one budget to another – so long as the change is below €60.000 the LP can take the decision whether it is acceptable and inform the JS in the project report. Lews Castle College, as Lead Partner, will monitor the cumulative value of the minor changes, as once the €60.000 threshold is reached, that calls for a major change.</p>				

Next meeting:

Microsoft teams (as a test) Thursday 28 May 2020