

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

Present

Andrew Mackenzie	Lews Castle College
Aisling Nic Aoidh	Údarás na Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe
Dr Masami Inaba	NUI Galway
Jon MacLeod	An Lanntair
Dr Calle Niemi	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Dr Alasdair Macleod	Lews Castle College, Stornoway
Prof Francesco Gentili	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Dr Ronan Sulpice	NUI Galway
Dr Agnes Mols Mortensen	TARI – Faroe seaweed
Dr Roy Bartle	Lews Castle College
Clíodhna Ní Ghríofa	Údarás na Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe
Prof Lisbeth Truelstrup Hansen	Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland
Dr Jonas Steenholdt Sørensen	Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland
Prof Rúnar Unnþórsson	University of Iceland

Apologies

Dr Angus Murray	Lews Castle College
-----------------	---------------------

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

Minute

	ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
1	Approval of minute of SW-GROW Teams Meeting 28 April 2021	The minute was approved.	No matters arising.	Send to Angus for uploading to website	Andrew	Done
2	Matters arising	It was agreed that it would be helpful to have responsibilities allocated to individual partners in the work package deliverables.	Agreed	Annotate the spreadsheet of deliverables to indicate who is the responsible partner for each deliverable in the work package.	Andrew	Done

	Item	Information
3	Progress with work package deliverables	<p>Lews Castle College</p> <p>Andrew Mackenzie: Work package Management. Responding to queries from Partners and the NPA. Working on reports for periods 2 and 3 and liaising with colleagues at Lews Castle College – analysing progress and informing Partners.</p> <p>Angus Murray Updated website with web statistics for March. Removed spam mail from email store. Updated plugins with the latest versions.</p> <p>Dr Roy Bartle Drying seaweed at Lews Castle College, currently using an external weighing system, but fine tuning the automated system and hoping to get some results soon. Once these results are available it will be possible to estimate how long the rest of the tests will take.</p>

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

	Item	Information
		<p>Dr Alasdair MacLeod</p> <p>In addition, Lewis Castle College will be drying samples to a precision where it may be that publications can be authored showing how the samples dry. But before this can be done a method has to be set up for sending fully dry or partially dried samples to partners, possibly in Denmark and Sweden for nutritional analysis. In this way energy flows can be modelled and the impact on nutritional quality can be assessed using varying amounts of Renewable Energy.</p> <p>We are now entering the 3rd year of the project where we must engage with the SMEs and this has to happen soon. Jon at An Lanntair has identified some contacts on the mainland and once travel restrictions have been eased Lewis Castle College staff will visit these businesses. In terms of energy use, we should be encouraging SMEs to use Renewable Energy and demonstrate to them that they are not going to be disadvantaged by doing so. In addition, by developing the shared infrastructure pilot project we will be able to demonstrate the usefulness of different drying technologies and the importance of cooperation between SMEs. If this is to be successful, we need to start this now.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</p> <p>Work package T2.6.1</p> <p>SLU have received Alaria from Ireland (from a lady that knows Clodhna) then about four different species from northern Norway (including Palmaria and Alaria). Now they are waiting for more algae from Norway and southern Sweden. They have done in depth literature search for macroalgae sugar analysis. Calle and the people at biopolymer platform (at Umeå Plant Science Centre) are setting up an experiment for the characterization of alginates, hence they have recently ordered an, unfortunately, expensive standard that they should receive in a couple of weeks. Calle has done soluble sugar analysis and at the moment is doing total sugar analysis.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>An Lanntair</p> <p>Work Package T2.6 Characterisation</p> <p>T2.2 Development of Brand identity</p> <p>An Lanntair have met with the Climavore project team in Skye and Cooking Sections with whom they have been collaborating. They are pioneering integrated harvesting systems including seaweed farming, https://www.climavore.org/seasons/on-tidal-zones/</p> <p>Cooking Sections were recently also shortlisted for the Turner Prize.</p>

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

	Item	Information
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland</p> <p>WP 1. Quality Improvement</p> <p>T1.1.1</p> <p>Jonas will be travelling to Greenland next week to conduct research on natural and mechanical drying at approximately 40° and determining, after harvesting, how long seaweed drying can be done without encountering food safety concerns regarding the microbiology. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions a 5 day isolation period is required on arrival.</p> <p>WP3 Piloting and evaluation.</p> <p>T3.3.1</p> <p>The research paper entitled: <i>“The microbiota of natural and lactic acid bacteria fermented Alaria esculenta and Saccharina latissima”</i> is in review copies will be circulated to Partners when it has been accepted.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>TARI</p> <p>Work package T1.1:</p> <p>Hatchery pilot:</p> <p>Spending a lot of time setting up the new hatchery and ensuring that the appropriate paperwork is completed.</p> <p>The harvest is due in about 3 weeks time and are looking forward to the work that the intern MSc student will be doing on the partial harvest strategy. The student lives in Iceland, so she will not be able to visit the Faroe Islands for the first part of the work, but some of the harvesting work will be left until August to see if harvesting at this time is economical and practical and of benefit for the quality of the product.</p> <p>Agnes gave a virtual talk recently (https://www.tmf-dialogue.net/293908.html - Food and other products from Seaweed have an abundance of benefits” - Written by Johanna on 22. March 2021 in #BlueEconomy, Allgemein, Visit Faroe Islands Meetings).</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>Údarás na Gaeltachta</p> <p>The partners noted with regret that Clíodhna was leaving the project and moving to another job as a Business Development Manager outwith Údarás na Gaeltachta. Partners wished her every success in her new job.</p>

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

	Item	Information
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>NUI Galway Work package T2.2 Alaria esculenta has been annotated and work is being done on a manuscript with colleagues in Australia. Feedback has been received on a paper, submitted in October 2020 2 to the Journal <i>Molecular Ecology Resources</i>, and has been accepted with minor alterations. One Post doc (Dr. Antoine Fort) will participate in the first seminar that Clíodhna has organised (<i>The importance of Strain selection</i>) on 16 June @ 10-11.30 GMT. Expecting samples from the Western Isles, but samples have been received from France, Ireland, Northern Ireland for analysis and it was possible to isolate good DNA from samples, Greenland and Norway. Masami also requested samples of <i>Palmaria palmata</i> (dulce) to be sent from Greenland from Jonas from this year's harvest.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>University of Iceland A contact has been established with a local entrepreneur start-up in Iceland called ALCO. The business owner is a biochemist with an interest in quality systems and has been experimenting with a range of drying systems-including infrared, radio waves etc. This new contact should be able to source some seaweed samples that can be analysed by the other Partners. The University received an offer for building a drying cabinet prototype. The price was too high for a first prototype and therefore decided to change the design so that they could build cheaper prototype. They are currently working on building it and it should be ready for the first sample drying in the next couple weeks. They are working on the P3 report. Time sheets have been sent to the office for processing. Once that is sorted out the text will be entered into the EMS system.</p>
4.	Update on progress with Pilots	<p>Hatchery pilot: The water turbine project is on track and progress has been good. There have been some discussions with the owners of the building in Fámjin and it is expected that TARI will shortly purchase the current building from the community-this requires permission from the Government. Drying pilot (Lews Castle College) See above</p>

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

	Item	Information
		<p>Shared infrastructure project</p> <p>This project has been made more complex by having to include state aid rules, meaning that more SMEs have had to be included in a tendering process. The pilot was due to run from April to June/July 2021, but we have had to postpone until next year.</p> <p>Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 restrictions in place in Ireland, finding a suitable supplier for the pilot has proved difficult. Although every measure was taken to find a supplier, the project is not feasible in the time frame intended. Many of the businesses stressed that, due to the current restrictions in place and impact on their business, they could not consider participating during this time, but welcomed the opportunity to be considered next year where it might be achievable.</p> <p>The plan is now to start the pilot process in November 2021 to have an approved supplier for January 2022, for the implementation to begin in March/April 2022 with a report due for end of July 2022. This should not have an impact on final reporting as the project has been extended and it is expected that the pilot report will be delivered on time to be included in the final reporting.</p> <p>Michela Gaifami, our NPA Desk officer, has been informed. and has confirmed that if the project will be able to deliver the planned outputs, it is acceptable that the pilots are rescheduled. She confirmed that the project has been extended until 30th September 2022 and that the final report is due by 31 December 2022.</p> <p>The extension means that all project expenditure must be paid before 30th September 2022, so all (pilot) activities would have to be planned so that everything can be paid within the deadline. 30 September is an eligibility cut-off date, so the FLC will not accept any payment made after that date.</p>
5.	Update on questionnaire analysis	<p>The questionnaire has been assessed by Clíodhna , who has produced an excellent 10 page report that covers important information from the 38 responses collected anonymously. The respondents came from wide geographical and industry areas that included the United Kingdom, Ireland, The Faroe Islands, and Iceland and respondents were composed of Seaweed Farmers, Harvesters and Producers. It was evident that the largest area of interest was wild harvesting followed by using seaweed as food/food ingredients. Other areas not mentioned within the forum that respondents detailed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seaweed shelters for cleaner fish in salmon aquaculture, • liquid from seaweed, • Cosmetics, • Education & Knowledge Transfer,

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

	Item	Information
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supplements.
6.	Progress with Period 3 reports	<p>The problems at Lews Castle College relating to financial returns has now been resolved. Period 2 Partner report has been sent to the FLC and once this has been certified the Project report (for Period 2) will be submitted to the NPA. It should be noted that the Secretariat only receive in information from the Project report and do not see Partner reports.</p> <p>Lews Castle College has completed the Partner report for Period 3 (and sent to the FLC) and the Project report-but this cannot be sent to the Secretariat until all Partner reports have been certified by their respective FLCs.</p> <p>Period 1 payments have been received at Lews Castle College and this is currently being distributed to relevant Partners.</p> <p>It has been noticed that spending in all areas is much lower than had been anticipated and this is, in part, due to COVID-19 restrictions. Partners were reminded that it was important to claim the amounts profiled in the budgets agreed wherever possible.</p> <p>Michela Gaifami confirmed that the project has been extended until 30th September 2022 and that the final report is due by 31 December 2022. The extension means that all project expenditure must be paid before 30th September 2022, so all activities would have to be planned so that everything can be paid within the deadline. 30 September is an eligibility cut-off date, so the FLC will not accept any payment made after that date.</p>
7.	Progress with webinars to be arranged – on themes.	<p>The first event of the seaweed series has been arranged by Clíodhna – she has asked that this is shared by all Partners (and that information can be translated into local languages if necessary). It is also live on twitter and FaceBook where they can be shared.</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/SWGROWNPA https://twitter.com/SWGROWNPA.</p> <p>Details of the other seminar presentations were included in the minutes of the meeting of 25 February 2021 on pages 6 and 7.</p>
8.	Information on seeding suppliers in Scotland/UK, Sweden, Greenland,	<p>Clíodhna requested that Partners engage with their SMEs to ascertain their supply of seaweed seed, so that the picture can be obtained of the situation across the NPA. This will be of benefit to the forthcoming seminar. ACTION for everybody.</p>

Teams meeting

M:\SEAWEED\1SW-GROW MEETINGS\SKYPE_TEAMS MONTHLY\PERIOD 4_01 FEB 2021 TO 31 JULY 2021\TEAMS 26 MAY 2021\SW-GROW MINUTE TEAMS 26 MAY 2021.DOCX

	<p>Norway, Finland, Iceland, The Faroe Islands.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Any other business</p>	<p>There was discussion about the August seminar where it is proving difficult to obtain suitable speakers, especially from Asia, where there is very little communication between Western Europe and Asian counterparts. It was suggested that a means of overcoming this would be to make a video of the subject material. Clíodhna and Masami will collaborate on this via e-mail.</p> <p>The chairman, on behalf of all partners, thanked Clíodhna Ní Ghríofa for all her hard work and for her many contributions to the project during the difficult period of COVID-19 and wished her well in her new employment at the Innovation Centre.</p>

Next meeting:

Teams Wednesday 30 June 2021 at 1pm (UK time)