

## Teams meeting

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## Present

Andrew Mackenzie  
Aisling Nic Aoidh  
Jon MacLeod  
Dr Alasdair Macleod  
Dr Ronan Sulpice  
Dr Roy Bartle  
Prof Rúnar Unnþórsson  
Dr Agnes Mols Mortensen  
Dr Calle Niemi  
Prof Lisbeth Truelstrup Hansen  
Dr Jonas Steenholdt Sørensen  
Dr Angus Murray

Lews Castle College  
Údarás na Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe  
An Lanntair  
Lews Castle College, Stornoway  
NUI Galway  
Lews Castle College  
University of Iceland  
TARI – Faroe seaweed  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences  
Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland  
Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland  
Lews Castle College

## Apologies

Dr Masami Inaba  
Prof Francesco Gentili

NUI Galway  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

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Minute

	ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
1	Approval of minute of SW-GROW Teams Meeting 11 Aug 2021	The minute was approved.	No matters arising.	Send to Angus for uploading to website	Andrew	Done
2	Matters arising from 11 Aug 2021 meeting	None				

	Item	Information
3	Progress with work package deliverables for Period 4	<p><b>Lews Castle College</b>  <b>Andrew Mackenzie: Work package Management.</b>                      Responding to queries from Partners and the NPA. Liaising with colleagues at Lews Castle College – analysing progress and informing Partners as appropriate.</p> <p><b>Dr Roy Bartle</b>                      Completed the stats on the models and concluded that ERA5 is generally slightly better than MERRA2 but there is little to choose between them. Some authors working on the same datasets in different regions suggest that MERRA2 is less effective at predicting wind in locations with complex topographies (e.g. hills) but still to look at some of these more specific aspects.                      The paper to answer the research question: “how many years’ data is required to obtain a representative average for energy modelling purposes” will be extended and work is progressing with MATLAB on developing wind and solar probability distribution functions (pdfs ) for random</p>

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		<p>permutations of N years. The preliminary answer (from analysis of data from one location) is that even just one year's data is adequate for most purposes as the pdfs do not change much from year to year and other uncertainties in energy systems dominate. However, for larger systems, the small additional computational time required to download and process several years' data may be preferred. This additional work should not affect timeframes for completion.</p> <p><b>Dr Alasdair MacLeod</b></p> <p>we have asked the Scottish government to intervene to find out why the FLC in the Western Isles has been so slow in certifying claims. We hope that this will have an impact on them, and that certification will swiftly followed.</p> <p>As regards the drying test rig that we are developing, we need to ensure that it is reliable but does still need some adjustments.</p> <p>We should also renew our membership of the Scottish seaweed industry Association (done).</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p><b>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences</b></p> <p><b>Work package T2.6.1</b></p> <p>Four species of freeze-dried seaweed received from Norway (Bodö) - Alaria esculenta, Palmaria palmata, Saccharina latissima and Laminaria digitata.</p> <p>Calle will continue with the analysis work on sugars. Currently, there is plenty of material to work on with algae from the Faroes, Norway, Ireland and Greenland. During the autumn Calle will have enough material to write 1-2 papers that will be part of his thesis.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p><b>An Lanntair</b></p> <p><b>Work Package T2.6 Characterisation</b></p> <p><b>T2.2 Development of Brand identity</b></p> <p>Have been out collecting seaweed in a field in Norway to see what species are available. These samples will then be sent and making contact with some of the other seaweed farms and businesses in the north of Norway. Also planning to attend the forthcoming Isle Martin Seaweed Festival in Ullapool on September 6th – 12th 2021, (<a href="https://www.islemartin.org/isle-martin-seaweed-festival-home/">https://www.islemartin.org/isle-martin-seaweed-festival-home/</a> ) .Still working on the branding artwork with the graphic designer and will be having a meeting with him on the 9 September on return from Norway.</p>

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	Update on progress with work packages	<p><b>Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland</b>  <b>WP 1. Quality Improvement</b>  <b>T1.1.1</b>            Have returned from Greenland and the research is now finished, so we are waiting for the 1<sup>st</sup> harvest treatments to determine the quality of the seaweed using various drying methods. Regarding the paper previously submitted comments have been received from reviewers and some editing of the original manuscript will take place. There has been quite a lot of interest in this paper, and it will take some time to respond to all comments made.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p><b>TARI</b>  <b>Work package T1.1:</b>            Working on the latest report that will include the finances. With regard to the cultivation work package. There is a student from Iceland working on factors involving quality and harvesting methods and different aspects that could affect the quality of the seaweed and its sustainability with production method. In particular, the student is looking at the economics of choosing a particular harvesting strategy where the traditional method of harvesting once a year is replaced with multiple harvests throughout the season, using the same rope. Some imaging has taken place to record and monitor biofouling, growth measurement and yield.            Also going to collaborate with others in SW-GROW on compounds that can define quality from different harvesting times. There has been some slippage in achieving the deliverables, but work is ongoing, and these should be completed by December or January next year, but now data is being analysed as part of this work.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p><b>Údarás na Gaeltachta</b>            The programme for the seminar on 1 September 2021 was circulated that included 3 eminent guest speakers: Kasper Hancke, PhD, Senior Research Scientist, Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA); Frank Kane-Marine Institute Ireland and Dr. Stefan Kran - Chief Scientific Officer at The Seaweed Company. All participants were happy with the proposed content. Andrew will spend 5 minutes describing the project before the other participants speak. There will be a question-and-answer session after the presentations which Ronan will chair.</p>

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	Update on progress with work packages	<b>NUI Galway</b> <b>Work package T2.2</b> Some progress has been made with analysing the results made to the present time. An enzymatic based assay, using DNA restriction enzymes, has been designed to establish the geographical location of <i>Alaria esculenta</i> and it has been demonstrated successfully and could be deployed. In parallel, NUIG is also investigating the use of metabarcoding, as it could also be a very suitable methodology for a DNA testing kit. This approach could be more accurate in terms of prediction of geographic provenance of samples as it would allow more SNPs to be used. However, the identification of suitable primers to amplify DNA fragments where the SNPs are located appear to be a major difficulty, and work is still ongoing.
	Update on progress with work packages	<b>University of Iceland</b> Wrapping up and writing reports on the pelletisation project.
4.	<b>Update on progress with Pilots</b>	<b>Hatchery pilot:</b> TARI Faroe is now moving to Fámjin and setting up equipment (including the water turbine) in the new hatchery. <b>Drying pilot (Lews Castle College)</b> See above. <b>Shared infrastructure project</b> Agreed to defer this to 2022.
5.	<b>Progress with Period 3/4 reports</b>	In progress
6.	<b>Progress with webinars to be arranged – on themes.</b>	See above
7.	<b>Progress with engaging Associate Partners</b>	Ongoing

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8.	<b>Options for travel.</b>	Deferred
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**Next meeting: Teams Wednesday 29 September 2021 at 1pm (UK time)**