

Teams meeting

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Present

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

Apologies

Dr Calle Niemi	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Fionnán Ó hÓgáin	Údarás na Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe
Dr Angus Murray	Lews Castle College
Prof Rúnar Unnþórsson	University of Iceland
Dr Roy Bartle	Lews Castle College

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Minute

	ITEM	Comment	Decision	Task	Who?	By date
1	Approval of minute of SW-GROW Teams Meeting 5 January 2022	The minute was approved.	No matters arising.	Send to Angus for uploading to website	Andrew	Done
2	Matters arising from 5 January 2022 meeting	None				

	Item	Information
3	Progress with work package deliverables for Period 5	<p>Lewis Castle College Andrew Mackenzie: Work package Management. Writing reports, preparing for meetings, drafting minutes, and circulating. Engaging with Partners.</p> <p>Dr Angus Murray Completed electronic and software modifications for dryer rig Assisting Roy with calibration and weight measurements.</p> <p>Dr Roy Bartle Drying rig scoping runs using lettuce and cabbage have been successful and the rig is performing reliably and repeatably in preparation for seaweed drying when the harvesting season arrives. We are discussing with NUI Galway and DTU about characterising the effects of drying technique on nutritional properties. We are still awaiting delivery of a commercial blown air oven and a heat-pump tumble dryer to undertake a practical comparison of commercially available drying systems.</p>

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	Update on progress with work packages	<p>Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences Work packages T2.6.1 and T2.6.2</p> <p>The spectroscopic analysis for determination of protein content in seaweed and has been checked and the results are very good but more work has to be done on carbohydrate and alginate analysis and lipids characterisation. Before Christmas, carbon and nitrogen analyses were received from a large number of samples from the UK.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>An Lanntair Work Package T2.6 Characterisation T2.2 Development of Brand identity</p> <p>Have been looking again and community seaweed farm possibilities with the Iona and Mull installation and also the Isle of Eigg to ascertain what will be most useful for their business. Looking more at the branding side, and the market leaders, e.g. Barra seaweed and at ishga in Lewis it is clear that whilst there is a strong brand presence developed by these organisations there is not a lot of science behind the brand. They are doing very well on publicity and marketing.</p> <p>Also been talking with Climavore (https://www.climavore.org) in Portree, Skye.</p> <p>It was emphasised that, in the final 6 months of the project, it would be essential to have the brand finalised so that it could be tested and validated by SMEs to ensure that what was proposed is suitable for marketing, branding and publicity needs of these small businesses. It was confirmed that a logo would be finalised by the end of February 2022.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>Arktisk Teknologi Center, Greenland WP 1. Quality Improvement T1.1.1</p> <p>Just finalising the publication on Saccharina latissima (sugar kelp) that dealt with the time needed before stabilisation is required by freezing or drying and also looked at blanching and how this affects the refrigerated shelf life of the product. In continuation of the drying work that was done in Greenland last summer. There is a student in Trondheim in Norway, who is analysing the functional properties of Alaria esculenta and Saccharina latissima (sugar kelp) harvested from Maniitsoq in Greenland.</p> <p>Also conducting experiments on frozen Alaria esculenta from Maniitsoq to determine whether kiln drying can eradicate seaborne pathogenic material.</p>

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	Update on progress with work packages	<p>TARI Work package T1.1: Have moved into new premises in Fámjin which has meant that the business can now expand using more cultivation tanks. New stock will be deployed shortly on ropes on the farm, and some will be used for lump fish shelter for fish farming cages. The student on placement has now returned to write up her thesis which deals with various harvesting regime options. The water turbine has been ordered and installation will start shortly (February or March). TARI Faroe would be happy to start using the branding and logo once finalised and give feedback to the Partners.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>Údarás na Gaeltachta Have discussed the shared infrastructure pilot project with Andrew and have had meetings with SMEs. There are two groups that could share infrastructure and shortly will be publishing an expression of interest document following Public procurement requirements. It might be possible to include these businesses on Facebook Twitter with their profile showing any innovative working. Work on the next newsletter has started and Partners are asked to send any interesting articles and/or photos of their work that could be included in the next issue. Work continues on arranging a face-to face meeting of Partners in Galway during the week beginning 4 April and, in due course, more details will be provided. It was agreed that the topics covered in the next seminar will be processing, extraction on a small scale and fermentation. Lisbeth indicated that she has a paper on fermentation (open access) and offered to write a small presentation on this subject. It appears that fermentation has become quite a large area of interest and is seen as, perhaps, a better way of preserving seaweed rather than drying.</p>
	Update on progress with work packages	<p>NUI Galway Work package T2.2 One of the two papers in preparation was rejected by the Journal publisher but has been rewritten and is ready for re-submission to another Journal. Another paper on geographical markers has been modified following correction from one of the co-authors and is now also ready for submission. The new project to provide a platform for the identification of commercial seaweed species by metabarcoding is progressing well and some primal pairs have been designed, which should be applicable for brown, red and green algae and these are the be tested on the seaweeds currently available. In addition, commercial seaweed samples</p>

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		are going to be collected locally, but if Partners have any species that they would wish to have verified by PCR testing then they should send them to Masami - large samples are not required.
	Update on progress with work packages	University of Iceland The team at the University of Iceland prepared and then carried out a gasification test. However, the gasification unit did not perform as expected. The engine ran at the minimum speed (barely idling) - however, it should have run at 3000rpm. The reason for this is not really know but the team is working on solving this. The team is also working on the preparation of more dried seaweed samples for gasification.
4.	Progress with Period 3/4 reports	Reminder that Partner reports should be completed as soon as possible so that the FLC can certify expenditure as soon as possible so that the Project Report can be written.
5.	Update on progress with Pilots	Hatchery pilot: See above Drying pilot (Lews Castle College) route See above. Shared infrastructure project Agreed to defer this to 2022 - see above.
6.	Progress with agreed final year workplan	Contact has been made with Richard Searle the SSIA and Fionnán has sent some helpful information. Work on the questionnaire will continue. Still need to make contact with Roy to discuss.
7.	Progress with engaging Associate Partners / SMEs	Ronan has met with Declan who is working for ERINN (https://erinn.eu/). This company has been contracted by BIM (https://bim.ie/) to identify novel technologies which could be helpful to boost the Irish aquaculture sector, including seaweed cultivation. Ronan had submitted several innovations to a European platform in the frame of one of his previous EU grant. He talked to them about these innovations, but also used the opportunity to present SW-grow initiative around the creation of a label. Declan looked very interested in the idea. Lisbeth is working with Royal Greenland A/S (an independent limited liability company, with 100 % of the shares owned by the Greenlandic Government) in their experimental seaweed cultivation in Nuussuaq.

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8.	Shared infrastructure pilot project start- Up.	See above.
9.	Options for travel	The date of (week beginning) 4 April - Easter weekend has been selected. However, some partners may not be able to attend because of teaching commitments. Work continues on these arrangements with suggested visits to some seaweed sites.
10.	Any other business.	None.

Next meeting: Teams Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 1pm (UK time)