

Cost Action ES1305 (ENRAM) MC meeting
26.02.2014 – Sempach, Lucerne, Switzerland

Welcome to participants, Adoption of agenda & Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting

The MC meeting started at 14:05 with Dr. Jason Chapman (Action Chair & Grant Holder Manager; JC) welcoming all participants. The agenda was adopted as well as the minutes of the previous meeting (all voted in favour). Dr. Judy Shamoun-Baranes accepted the minutes supported by Dr. Felix Liechti.

Update from the Action Chair

JC provided a status update of the action indicating that the number of signatory countries has increased to 20, with 6 new countries having signed the MoU since the kick-off meeting on 21 October 2013: Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Hungary and Slovenia. France has signed the MoU but currently has no MC member, a situation that JC will inquire about to the COST Office. Given the aims of the Action it was agreed that more countries should be asked to join, particularly from SE and E Europe, an area poorly covered by the current members. Contacts with Romania have been set in motion and Dr. Liechti and Dr. Alves will contact collaborators in Turkey. All other members with contacts in countries of that region were invited to pass them to JC. Dr. Shamoun-Baranes suggested contacting more countries via OPERA which has a meeting scheduled in March and where several MC members also have a position.

JC pointed out that given the involvement of more countries since the first year budget was initially estimated, the Action will presumably be awarded more funds which can be applied into an increased number of activities, namely STSMs. On that note, applications for STSMs for the first year of the action should be submitted to the STSM coordinator (Dr. Silke Bauer) by 1st April 2014.

Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)

Regarding ESR's the Action currently has the involvement of several PhD and post-doctoral members. However, regarding gender balance, the group should strive to improve the participation of female members and it was suggested that for the suggestion of new MC substitutes, special attention should be given in promoting the inclusion of female members.

Update from the Grant Holder

The update from the grant holder (JC) revealed that the e-COST system has been set up at the grant holder institution (Rothamsted Research). JC explained how to use the e-COST system to fill out TRR forms and what to do regarding receipts. It was made clear to all MC members that the original invitation email needs to be kept so that the TRR can be accessed after the meeting has taken place, as the link provided to do so is only present in that email message.

Update from the COST Office & from the DC Rapporteur

Neither the COST officer nor the DC Rapporteur were present in this meeting so there was no update from them.

Annual Progress Conference (APC)

The Monitoring Progress Report (MPR) has to be submitted by the 1st of April and JC will ensure a draft of this is circulated to the Core Group in time for comments before the submission deadline. JC will attend the APC on 12th & 13th May in Dubrovnik, Croatia, where a presentation and poster will be presented. JC pointed out that he will get an insight into Actions that are in their 2nd and 3rd years and report back to the MC so that members can anticipate events occurring in those years of the action. Before presenting the talk and poster at the APC, both documents will be circulated to the core group members and anyone that wishes to be involved.

Follow-up of MoU objectives (Progress report of working groups)

Summaries of the WG meetings which had been held on the previous 1.5 days were presented by the WG leaders; the main decisions and Action points are briefly summarised here, but the bulk of this material can be found in the associated minutes of the combined WG1 – WG4 meetings held on 25th & 26th (am) February, immediately preceding this MC meeting.

- **WG1**

Action points:

- 1) Hidde/Gunther: Hidde asks Willem Bouten / Jurriaan Spaaks for possibilities of an implementation STSM by Jurriaan. If Jurriaan is interested, Hidde puts Jurriaan and Gunther into contact and they fix a schedule/timeline, otherwise a different approach within WG1 needs to be discussed (Feb/March 2014)
- 2) Jarmo/Matti: confirm dates with potential participants (end of Feb).
- 3) Hidde/Gunther: find out when the next decision round of the Eumetnet assembly takes place – this determines when the ENRAM letter needs to be sent out (see 3 below)
- 4) Adriaan: draft a letter to directors of NMSs (Eumetnet assembly) (for review within WG1/core group), to be sent out before next opera meeting (19 march)
- 5) Hidde: file an official request for data access via Baltrad to the eumetnet assembly (opera meeting 19-21 March)
- 6) Hidde: draft an email to the opera representatives (after Opera meeting, last week of March) and approach national ENRAM representatives for sending this email.
- 7) Hidde: deliver website content to Judy

[WG1 Minutes prepared by Adriaan Dokter – see full minutes for details]

- **WG2**

Action points:

- 1) Decide who organises which radar site for field calibration experiment?

- 2) Find out what kind of data can be expected from which site?
=> migration parameters and observation period
- 3) Which weather radar data are available for the period of 1. Aug – 30. Nov. 2014?
- 4) Application for an STSM exchange between Sempach (CH) and Rothamstad (UK).
- 5) Preparation of the WG1 and WG2 meeting in Helsinki (8th & 9th July 2014); decision of campaigns with existing radars (sensors), pre-existing data;

[WG2 minutes prepared by Jan Blew & Felix Liechti – see full minutes for details]

- **WG3**

Via 3 linked STSMs from Belgium to Holland, a data showcase will be developed that the WG will use as a data challenge for visualization tool experts and developers. It was decided to use a migration wave event that was recorded between the 05.04.2013 and end of that month (on both radar and tracking studies). The dataset for the data showcase needs to be prepared as follows:

- 1) Raw data from 5 weather radars (3 in the Netherlands and 2 in Belgium) to use as reference provided as “ppi” files by Hidde Leijnse (possibly already smoother data);
- 2) Processed data (ie, with bird algorithm applied) from the same 5 weather radars plus of 2 military radars (1 from Belgium and one from the Netherlands) provided by Judy Shamoun-Baranes and Hans van Gasteren who will also check for adaptations to algorithm assumptions about species group;
- 3) Weather data as wind vectors at different pressure levels provided by Judy Shamoun-Baranes;
- 4) Modelled data on the movement vectors of birds provided by Hans van Gasteren who will run the model to get tracking data.

[WG3 minutes prepared by Hans van Gasteren – see full minutes for details]

- **WG4**

Discussion in WG 4 was limited to drawing up a long list of questions/topics for our proposed review paper, dealing with the role that radar studies can play in answering some of the “Grand Challenges of Movement Ecology”. A long-list of about 35 topics was produced at the meeting.

Action points:

- 1) the long list of topics will be typed up by Jason Chapman and circulated to a small group (comprising WG 4 members and a few other ENRAM colleagues) within a week or so, for correcting and adding any omissions.
- 2) Once a finalised long list is produced, this will be circulated to a much broader community of people interested in movement research (the entire ENRAM community plus selected international experts), who will be asked to select their top 10 topics.
- 3) This “horizon scan” of the movement ecology community will be used to select between 10 – 12 topics that will be discussed in the review paper.

- 4) A first draft of the review paper (in the form of an internal report) will be circulated to the ENRAM community ahead of the next MC meeting, to be held in Spain in October 2014.

[WG4 minutes prepared by Jason Chapman – see full minutes for details]

Scientific planning

It was agreed that joint WG meetings should have about 10 members per WG. Regarding dissemination and given the previously planned dissemination activities (i.e. participation of Dr. Shamoun-Baranes at the International Ornithological Congress in Tokyo in August 2014, scientific paper already submitted to journal Movement Ecology and the website domain already acquired, www.ernam.eu), the original dissemination budget has already been spent. However, given the inclusion of other countries since the original budget was established further dissemination activities can be planned.

Dr. Yossi Leshem suggested the production of a brochure to raise awareness regarding ENRAM which the group agreed was useful. Dr. Natalino Fenech volunteered to collate the information (text and photos) in order to produce it and JC indicated that his institution would be able to produce the layout and design. It was agreed that every institution in which MC members are affiliated will have their logo in this brochure.

Dr. Gonzalo Arroyo stated that any press or media output regarding ENRAM (local or international) should be logged, and Dr. Natalino Fenech offered to collate this information.

It was suggested that the website included a page with member's name, position in ENRAM and a subtitle of main activity (e.g. Radar Meteorologist) together with an hyperlink to the member's professional website.

It was agreed that minutes of MC and WG meeting will also be freely available on the website.

Requests for new members

As indicated above, contacts will be established in several countries currently not included in the action, namely: Turkey, Greece, Serbia, Iceland and Austria.

Non-COST applications to the Actions

It was proposed by JC that the following international experts should be invited to ENRAM meetings in 2014: Prof Phil Chilson (University of Oklahoma, USA) and Dr Alistair Drake (University of New South Wales, Australia) to the Helsinki workshop in July 2014; and Dr Jeff Kelly (University of Oklahoma, USA) to the Spanish MC / WG meetings in October 2014. This was voted on, and unanimous agreement was reached – invitations will be issued. It was agreed that suggestions of international experts from non-COST countries who could be invited to 2015 meetings should be sent to the core group.

AOB

Dr. Lars Pettersson suggested creating email lists in coordination with the web domain (www.enram.eu). This will require setting an email address for the MC and the four WGs which will be forward to every member. He will investigate this in coordination with Dr. Shamoun-Baranes and WG3.

Location and date of next meetings

The schedule for the forthcoming MC meetings is as follows:

8th – 10th of October 2014. The next joint WG / MC meeting will held in Tarifa, Andalucia, Spain (hosted by Prof Gonzalo Arroyo, Dr Maria Mateos and Dr Antonio Roman Munoz Gallego).

23-25 February 2015. Dr Yossi Leshem will host the following joint WG / MC meeting in Israel.

September / October 2015. Dr Natalino Fenech will host the following WG / MC meeting in Malta.

The joint WG1 / WG2 workshop on developing biological algorithms will be held at the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), Helsinki, Finland on 8th & 9th July 2014 (hosted by Jarmo Koistinen and Matti Leskinen).

The proposed WG2 / WG4 joint meeting to discuss preliminary analyses of the field calibration experiment, initially scheduled for December 2014 at Rothamsted (hosted by JC), has been brought forward, and merged with the joint WG meeting in Spain in October 2014, which has now been lengthened to a 3-day meeting rather than 2-day as originally planned.

The Core group will discuss an idea put forward by Judy Shamoun-Baranes to arrange an international symposium on radar biology during 2015.

Summary of MC decisions & Closing

JC made a summary of decisions and closed the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Jose Alves, and revised by Jason Chapman



17th March 2014