COST Action CA16123
Safety Culture and Risk Management in Agriculture (SACURIMA)
Core Group Web Meeting

Wednesday August 29 2019 14:00-16:30 Central Europe time

Members attending:
Risto Rautiainen - Chair
John McNamara – Vice Chair
Jarkko Leppala - SR
Martina Jacob – WG1
Peter Lundqvist – WG1
Anne Marie Heiberg – WG5
Helle Birk Domino – WG5
Catherine Laurent – Training Schools
Pat Griffin – Communications
Claudio Colosio – STSM

Absent:
Stephan van den Broucke – WG2
Jose Rato Nunes – WG2
Laura Girdziute – WG3
Joze Staric – WG3
Aurelie Berthet – WG4
Eda Merisalu – WG4
Federica Masci – STSM

Zoom Meeting at:
https://unmc.zoom.us/j/989364480

Agenda
1. Meeting program overview, sites, WG meeting needs

Milan meeting programs for CG, WG, MC and Workshop have been prepared by Claudio, Federica and the Milan team. Programs have been sent to all registered participants along with a ‘Survival guide’. There were no needs or issues identified to make changes. 60 members/substitutes are registered to attend, which is the largest group so far in our meetings. Many more may attend the Workshop.

2. Working Group updates and meeting agendas for Milan

WG leaders and others in attendance reviewed plans for each WG meeting in Milan. We will send a request to all participants to identify which working group they will participate in, so that WG leaders can send their agendas and meeting materials to their WG members in advance. Working groups are making progress, and each group will continue their work during the allocated WG meeting time. Some considerations for presenting SACURIMA final results were discussed: We need to discuss and decide in Milan if there will be enough papers to do a special journal edition. We may not be obligated to do that after the critique from our 2-year report where one reviewer strongly preferred
stand-alone articles and reports vs. special journal edition. One goal in our plans was to have a conference. We have co-sponsored two already. Our discussions favored to again join forces with an upcoming existing conference vs. having our own conference; for instance the Sweden Nordic Meeting (Sept 8-10, 2020).

There is a need for us to address ‘risk management’. Our policy recommendations will address this, but we may need to conduct a ‘survey’ among all members and substitutes regarding their views, what risk management methods would be most effective and feasible. In general, we need to involve the whole membership, including substitutes more effectively in our discussions, data gathering and reporting.

3. STSM, ITC, Training School updates and plans incl. next budget period

Two STSMs are in process. There is still funding available for more during this period, and early career investigators are encouraged to apply. ITC funds are also still available for further ITC conference visits. No Training School proposals have been submitted. Members are encouraged to prepare Training School proposals and bring them to Milan, so that they can be put in process for funding in the final budget year. The ideas should be discussed with Cathrine, to meet the special requirements for Training Schools.

4. Policy development updates, Brussels meeting

WG5 has a meeting and workshop scheduled in Brussels 14-15 October. Meetings with EU officials have been scheduled to promote SACURIMA policy recommendations. Draft recommendations, prepared by WG5 in the Novi Sad meeting were discussed and some changes were suggested. Draft list of recommendations is in the Appendix below. These will be brought to further discussion by CG and MC in Milan.

Other policy actions were discussed: CAP is key area where safety and health needs to be included, in all applicable parts of it. There are directives on HS for other sectors but not agriculture; such directive should be created. A ‘Center’ may be a red flag for EU; no new institutions are likely created for our area; so we will need to focus on ‘virtual’ center and/or network. We (WG5) should prepare a communication that all SACURIMA members and substitutes could send to their country MEPs and officials, supporting SACURIMA and subsequent work. All requests to EU must consider the expected response from EU officials: ‘WHY?’ – meaning all recommendations and suggestions must be very strongly justified. Prior to the WG5 meeting in Brussels, we will need to gather as much information as possible about EU institutions, representatives and their interests that we will meet, and preferred and not preferred actions that EU might take to support out work.

5. EUOSHAI2O19INEIDISEIO088 Review on the future of agriculture and OHS

Several SACURIMA members have received an email with tender to submit a proposal to EU OSHA: Review on the future of agriculture and OSH. Alun Jones who has worked with SACURIMA members on a recent EU thematic network grant (submitted but not funded) intends to submit a proposal and has requested to collaborate with Jarkko, Risto and other SACURIMA members in preparting the report. This tender is a good opportunity for SACURIMA to document the future vision, created in SACURIMA working groups into an EU document, which could help in efforts to secure greater resources to continue work started in SACURIMA. There was discussion if SACURIMA members should prepare a separate competing application. Some members have considered it, and we will have meetings next week with Alun, as well as members who are interested in either leading, or contributing to the proposal, and further writing of the document. Decision whether to consolidate our efforts behind one application, or competing applications, was deferred to next week, until we have had time to discuss in more detail how SACURIMA content could be best represented in this
important report. The possibility of someone not familiar with SACURIMA work winning the bid needs to be considered as well; how we can contribute and include our recommendations into the report, regardless who will win the tender.

6. Other items

John reported on Action Chairs’ meeting that he attended. Focus areas discussed in that meeting emphasized effective administration and implementation of Action results through publications, policy initiatives, implementing findings, and succession planning after the Action funding. In some cases it has been possible to continue work with a differently focused consecutive COST Action.

Joanna discussed (after most had signed off) Poland Krakow meeting plans. There will be further discussion and decisions on the plans, dates and programs in Milan.

Appendix

EU Policy Recommendations

- Adopt ‘Safety Culture’, ‘Zero Vision’ and ‘One Health’ principles in all EU policies, directives and guidelines for the agriculture sector.
- Establish an ‘European Innovation Network for Agricultural Safety and Health’ with coordinating team and state affiliate organizations focusing on the safety, health, wellness and sustainability of people involved in agriculture.
- Allocate funding for agricultural safety, health, wellness and one-health research in Horizon 2020 / Horizon Europe
- Develop and implement health, safety and wellness risk assessment and education programs for self-employed farmers, family members, workers and students in agricultural schools.
- Improve Eurostat and national agricultural injury and illness statistics.