

ERIAFF Coordination Committee Meeting
March 11th 2026, 14:30 - 16:30pm
The event was held exclusively online
Participant: approximately 25

Agenda:

1. **AC26 Programme:** updates on the [new website](#) and fully published programme of the Conference.
2. **AC26 Registration:** [registrations](#) are open; presentation of the registration page.
3. **AC28 Candidature:** presentation and evaluation of the candidatures of the Region of Extremadura and the Region of Turku, and update on the candidature from the Maastricht Convention Bureau.
4. **Working Group:** updates and discussion.
5. **Any other business (AOB).**

Discussion

1. **AC26 Programme: updates on the [new website](#) and fully published programme of the Conference.**

Lisan, from the AC26 organising team, briefly presented the updated programme, which is available on the AC26 website. The WG leaders were asked to inform Marit Tazelaar (m.tazelaar@pzh.nl) about what they are planning to do during the working group sessions.

Cocha Civantos (Extremadura) asked whether there will be an opportunity during the plenary session to speak about the “Agroecology Partnership”. This will be discussed separately with the organising team.

Alvaro Picardo and Pau Brunet informed the organisers that there is a mistake in the title of the side event “The Experience of Forest Cooperatives in Europe”. They will follow up with Lisan by email.

The Secretariat also mentioned the press release related to the conference, saying that it will be shared with the report of the meeting. Regions can adapt it and publish it. Representatives of the Regions are asked to communicate, to both the Secretariat and the WG Communication, when they proceed with the publishing.

Finally, the Secretariat recalled the survey that was introduced at the previous Annual Conference. This year, instead of sending the survey in the days following the conference, it will be distributed on the last day of the event in order to collect as much feedback as possible.

2. **AC26 Registration: [registrations](#) are open; presentation of the registration page.**

Lisan from the organising team introduced the page of the registration, explained the process to register for attending in person, and underlined the fact that there is also the possibility to register to attend online if it is impossible to attend. During the registration process you’ll also be asked to choose which breakout session you’ll follow. Also if they wish to showcase a poster presenting a regional initiative, they can indicate this during the registration process, and the organising team will identify a suitable place to display it at the venue.

* At this point the Secretariat proposed to the CC a switch in the agenda and to touch upon the 4th point before the 3rd, and since no one is against the proposal we proceed in that way.

3. Working Group: updates and discussion.

- Pau Brunet provided an update on the side event, noting that three different initiatives have already been received. However, he encouraged members to further disseminate the call for initiatives through other networks they are part of. The Secretariat will also resend the email containing the call in order to follow up on the initial communication.

- The Mission Working Group has shared a draft programme that they intend to develop during the Annual Conference. They invited CC members who are involved in projects funded under Horizon to collaborate with them and potentially present these projects in Amsterdam. Concha and Cristina are available to receive proposals and invited interested members to contact them by email (concha.civantos@fundecyt-pctex.es and cristina.gallardo@fundecyt-pctex.es).

- The Food Systems and Agroecology Working Groups will organise a joint session during AC26. They have already prepared a full programme for this session.

4. AC28 Candidature: presentation and evaluation of the candidatures of the Region of Extremadura and the Region of Turku, and update on the candidature from the Maastricht Convention Bureau.

The Secretariat introduced the point, especially the part on the update on the candidature from the Maastricht Convention Bureau. Explains to the CC that after a bilateral meeting we had with them they decided to not pursue the candidature as they have not found any regional institution to fund the conference.

The introduction was followed by the presentation from Extremadura, and next month, since it was not feasible for them to do it during this CC meeting, the presentation of the Turku Region. The secretariat leaves the floor to the representative of Extremadura to present their candidature. The proposal was well received by the CC members, especially the element of the collaboration with Portugal.

The selection procedure is still ongoing, and discussion will take place after the Turku Region presents its candidature. The Secretariat noted that, since both proposals are valid, the network will seek an arrangement that would allow both to be considered also in the future.

5. Any Other Business

No items were raised under Any Other Business. Therefore the meeting proceeded to close.

Wrap up

- The secretariat will share asap the report of the meeting as soon as possible, together with the press release that the Regions can adapt it and publish it. Representatives of the Regions are asked to communicate, to both the Secretariat and the WG Communication, when they proceed with the publishing.

- The Secretariat will call a bilateral meeting between the organising team of Vic (Catalunya) and the organising team of Amsterdam in order to understand how to use the survey and how to distribute that.
- Announced that the next CC meeting will be in hybrid mode as the Pays Basque have offered to host the meeting in their Brussels office.

Conclusion

At 16:30, having addressed all items on the agenda, the Secretariat closed the meeting. Participants were reminded to register for the 12th Annual Conference in Amsterdam. CC members were also informed that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 8 April, from 14:30 to 16:30, in hybrid format, online and in person at the Representation of the Pays Basque in Brussels.

(Report edited by Carlotta La Mastra)