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2022

European Minor Uses Coordination Facility

rev.2

ANNUAL and FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

Foreword from the Coordinator:

The past year has seen good progress in MUCF's work. In 2022 the MUCF team and all its contributing partners (i.e. representatives from competent European authorities, the European Commission, PPP industry & growers' associations, researchers, technicians etc.) continued undertaking work, disseminating information, and engaging on minor uses issues with each other.

Organising and facilitating meetings is one of the core activities of the Facility and this continued in 2022. After more than two years of remotely held meetings for and with European minor uses experts, gradually reactivating in-person interaction was the goal for the MUCF team for the Autumn 2022 expert meetings. The working group meetings were held in Brussels for 2.5 days and set up in a hybrid meeting style for several commodity expert working groups (CEGs) and the horizontal expert group (HEG). This enabled 225 experts from 22 European countries to gather and exchange their views on minor uses topics.

Considering the current global challenges, including food security, food price increases, climate change, and geopolitical conflicts, working together on a pan-European level to find PPP solutions for minor uses needs has never been more prominent.

Continuing the cultivation of minor crops in Europe is essential for several reasons. This contributes directly to increasing food security, agrobiodiversity, dietary diversity, and resilience to climate change, among other things. Some MUCF achievements in 2022 provide a good basis for contributing to improving the minor uses and minor crop production situation in Europe, and they will therefore have an impact.

A document, which provides compiled European information on minor uses procedures according to Reg. (EC) No. 1107/2009, has been in preparation for some time. The document hereafter, the "Explanatory Note on Minor Uses", was presented at the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (SCoPAFF) meeting Phytopharmaceutical-Legislation on 2022-03-31 and endorsed by the EU Committee. The published Explanatory Note on Minor Uses is available for reference for different users (i.e. applicants, professional users, competent authorities etc.). The Explanatory Note on Minor Uses has been developed to encourage European countries to take a consistent approach in evaluating dossiers, using the risk envelope approach and relevant extrapolation tables, e.g., efficacy

or residue extrapolation tables. Furthermore, it intends to stimulate the practical implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 and encourage harmonisation.

In 2022, the MUCF started contacting representatives from the PPP industry to discuss and address minor use needs. The MUCF intends to further strengthen networking and information exchange with the PPP industry in 2023 and beyond.

The MUCF took its first steps into the world of social media and set up its own LinkedIn page to regularly post updates on the Facility activities, MUCF meetings, and minor uses developments.

Continued efforts to have the MUCF team fully staffed again, with a Coordinator, a Scientific Officer, an IT Officer, and an Administrative Assistant, after the previous Scientific Officer left the Secretariat in 2019, were successful. On the 1st of September 2022, Antoine Martin joined the MUCF team as Scientific Officer.

The MUCF remained financially sound in 2022, largely owing to a carry-over from previous years, derived from reductions in travel expenses due to COVID-related travel restrictions and understaffing. Nonetheless, it is crucial to emphasize the importance of consistent and dependable funding by the European countries for sustaining the Facility's work. European countries that derive benefits from the MUCF's services are encouraged and appreciated to provide and maintain financial funding support. Sustainable, long-term funding has not been achieved for the MUCF yet. To support financial security, the MUCF started to explore possibilities to address the funding of the MUCF at an upcoming EU Commission Agrifish meeting, with the support of the MUCF Steering Group.

The MUCF Steering Group continues to provide substantial governance oversights and advice on all MUCF long-range strategic plans (e.g. work programme, long-term funding initiatives etc.). We sincerely thank the former Chair of the Steering Group, Hans van den Heuvel (NL), who ended his term as Chair of the MUCF Steering Group in 2022, for his dedicated leadership over the past years and Jan Waespe (CH), who has taken over as Chair of the Steering Group.

This report is a testimony to the achievements of the MUCF community and the MUCF team, who strive to work together to solve minor uses issues.

On behalf of the MUCF team, I thank everyone involved in the work of the Facility for their support, engagement, and continuous cooperation.

Barbara Edler

Coordinator of the MUCF

August 2023

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Achievements 2022

1. Facilitating and Organising Expert and MUCF Governance Meetings, coordinating expert groups, providing administrative support and MUCF Governance

1.1. MUCF expert group meetings

1.1.1. CEG and HEG Spring 2022 meetings

A total of 245 participants attended the online multi-day CEGs (186 participants) and HEG (59 participants) meetings in late February and early March. Experts from 26 European countries and from 19 organizations (e.g. International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association, Copa*Cogeca, Euroseeds, the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board) were present. The presenters and participants appreciated the convenience of the online meeting format, but many expressed the wish that in-person meetings should soon be possible again.

All CEG meetings focused on exchanging information on the availability of active substances for a minor uses need (crop x pest combination) per country. A status update on active substances that are (i) in the renewal of approval process, (ii) have been renewed, (iii) are approved, or (iv) have been withdrawn was shared within each group. The experts noted that several active substances were withdrawn during the renewal of the approval process, making adequate and appropriate crop production difficult due to the lack of available protection options. Consequently, this affects the CEGs project work.

The CEG Fruits and Vegetables prepared a long-term work plan (2022-2027) for their expert working group, which was shared within their expert group for expert consultation at the end of 2021. This work plan was approved in the Spring 2022 meeting. The CEG Fruits and Vegetables long-term work plan was published (2022-2027) after the Spring meeting and is accessible in an abridged form on the MUCF webpage for the public:

https://minoruses.eu/media/files/expertgroups/Workplan_CEG_Fruits_and_Vegetables_2022-02-23.pdf

The full version of the CEG Fruits and Vegetables work plan is accessible only to MUCF members, as it contains confidential information (e.g. which trials are foreseen with which active substance in the next five years to come)

During the Spring HEG meeting, Ms Anne Chapelle (FR) gave an informative presentation about the availability status of active substances in Europe. In a nutshell, fewer active substances are approved and renewed in Europe to be used for crop protection. This will impact minor uses even more than major crops, as, in general, fewer PPPs are registered on them. Several of the approved actives, which are currently under renewal process, are listed as candidates for substitution or have a cut-off criteria (i.e. actives with certain properties like that they are endocrine disruptors, mutagenic, carcinogenic, toxic for reproduction, bio-accumulative, persistent, or toxic for the environment), or the authorisation holder does not support their renewal. It was identified that 34% of insecticides, 23% of fungicides and 35% of herbicides have a risk of not being renewed.

Deliverable: The French analysis about the availability status of active substances in Europe is published on the MUCF website:

https://minoruses.eu/media/files/resources/Active_Substances_Availability_March_2022.pdf

General information CEG and HEG Spring 2022 meetings:

The MUCF contacted five plant protection companies on behalf of CEG Fruits and Vegetables to request support on several minor uses needs. Several companies were invited to give a presentation on current portfolio developments.

Deliverable: The MUCF proactively contacted the PPP industry to discuss and address minor uses needs.

Several calls for Chair(s) and co-Chair(s) were made before and during the CEG and HEG Spring meetings:

- Ms Magda Rak-Cizej (SI) was elected as Chair, and Mr Simon Euringer (DE) as co-Chair of the CEG Hops on 2022-03-23. The MUCF would like to thank the resigning Chair, Mr Florian Weihrauch (DE), for his work leading the working group until 2022.
- The MUCF would like to thank Mr Jean-Claude Malet (FR) for leading as Chair of CEG Fruits and Vegetables until 2022.

Ms Gabriele Leinhos (DE) was appointed as co-Chair of CEG Vegetables, section Fungicides and Insecticides, together with Ms Sara Ragnarsson (SE) as her alternate. Ms Vittore Shala-Mayrhofer (AT) was appointed as co-Chair of CEG Fruits, section Fungicides and Insecticides, and Mr Peter Hartvig (DK) as co-Chair Fruits & Vegetables, section Weeds.

- The position of Chair of CEG Rice has remained vacant since Mr Cyrille Thomas (FR) stepped down from his position in December 2021. This vacancy still needs to be filled.

Deliverable: The MUCF coordinated the procedure of nominating and electing/appointing the Chair and co-Chairperson(s).

1.1.2.CEG and HEG Autumn 2022 meetings

After two years of remotely held meetings with and for European minor uses experts, gradually reactivating in-person interaction was a priority for the MUCF team for the Autumn 2022 CEG and HEG meetings.

In Brussels, the commodity expert working groups (CEGs) Fruits & Vegetables, Seeds, Herbs & Spices, Ornamentals and the horizontal expert working group (HEG) met for a 2.5-day long hybrid meeting on 2022-10-05/07, attended by a total of 225 participants. Experts from 22 European countries and 11 different organizations (e.g. International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association, Copa*Cogeca, Euroseeds, CropLife Europe) were present in person, or remotely connected to the meetings.

The overall participation number per expert group and meeting day is graphically presented in Figure 1.

MUCF Autumn CEG and HEG Meetings 2022
Overall participation

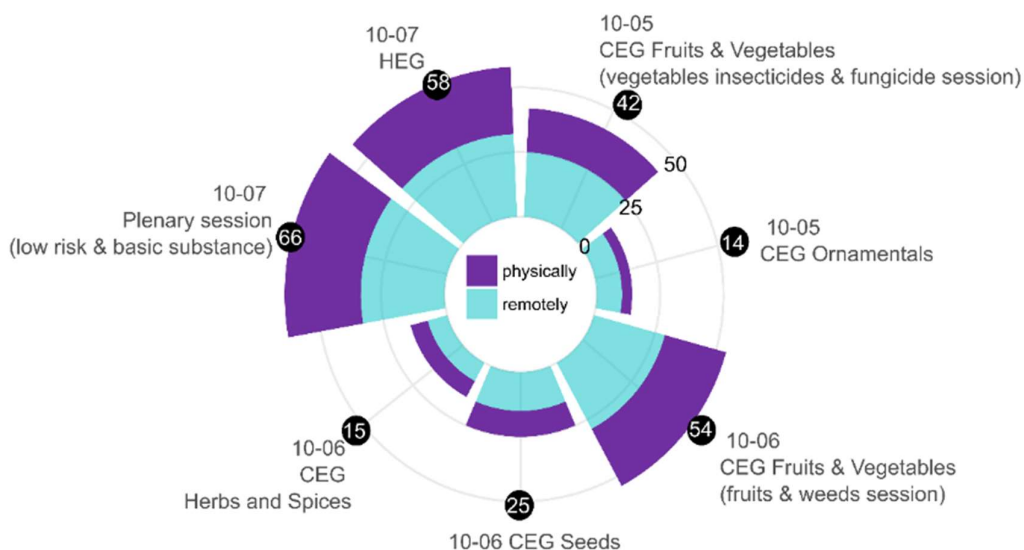


Figure 1: MUCF Autumn CEG and HEG meetings (2022-10-05/07) overall participation numbers per expert group meeting and day.

The presenters and participants appreciated the convenience of the hybrid meeting format, as it made attending the meetings possible for some experts who were not able to travel to Brussels.

All CEG meetings focused on exchanging information on the availability of active substances and crop protection issues.

As requested by MUCF experts during the Spring meetings, a plenary session was organised as a prelude to the HEG meeting. The plenary session was held on the topic of basic and low-risk substances and how those substances could be used to solve minor uses needs. Eline Rademakers (EC), Domenico Deserio (EC), Patrice Marchand (ITAB), Ewa Matyjaszczyk (EPPO), and Sandra Boline Lassen (Danish EPA) gave highly appreciated presentations, which led to a lively Q&A session on this topic.

Deliverable: Patrice Marchand (ITAB) and the MUCF compiled a European basic and low-risk substance list, which is available on the MUCF website: <https://minoruses.eu/resources/>

During the Autumn HEG meeting, it was decided by the participants via the voting procedure to establish a new MUCF working group, which will focus on proposing new residue extrapolation possibilities (Residue Expert Group=ReEG). 22 out of 36 HEG members voted in favour of establishing the ReEG.

To propose new residue extrapolation possibilities, existing residue trial data must be analysed. These proposals may be considered by SCoPAFF and taken over into the TECHNICAL GUIDELINES: On data requirements for setting MRLs, comparability of residue trials and extrapolation for residue data on products from plant and animal origin (SANTE/2019/12752). A HEG expert from Spain explained that based on already existing residue trial data, it was possible to establish new residue extrapolation

rule for kaki (minor crop) from apple (major crop), which is now taken over in the TECHNICAL GUIDELINES document. HEG experts from Spain, Germany, and the United Kingdom prepared together with the MUCF the draft “Terms of Reference” for the MUCF Residue Expert Group (ReEG). The draft ReEG Terms of Reference will be presented for approval to the MUCF Steering Group in 2023.

- CEG Tobacco (2022-10-13) and CEG Mushrooms (2022-10-11) held their Autumn meetings remotely.
- CEG Hops held its Autumn meeting in Poperinge, Belgium, on 2022-11-08/09.
- CEG Rice did not meet in the Autumn meeting cycle as the group is currently not chaired.

Deliverable: All Spring and Autumn meeting presentations and reports are accessible on the MUCF extranet.

Deliverable: The MUCF provided administrative and technical support to the CEGs and HEG in organising and facilitating the Spring and Autumn meetings.

1.2. MUCF Governance meetings, MUCF governance and administration

1.2.1. Spring Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022

The first AGM took place on 2022-03-29 in Spring as an online meeting. Eighteen contact points from MUCF Member Countries participated. At this meeting, the Work Programme and Budget for 2022 were approved, the Annual and Financial Report for 2021 was adopted, new MUCF Steering Group members were appointed, a change in the wording of the MUCF mission was approved, an adaptation of the MUCF governance meeting schedule was approved, and an amendment of the “MUCF Basic Rules” was discussed.

It was agreed to change the yearly meeting of the AGM to Autumn due to the following advantages:

- The Facility’s work year can be started with an adopted and approved Work Programme and Budget.
- The MUCF’s meeting cycle is aligned with EPPO’s meeting cycle.
- Funding contribution requests can be made at the end of the year with an approved Work Programme and Budget for the coming year.

Deliverable: At the AGM in Spring 2022, it was decided to change the yearly MUCF work schedule as recommended by several MUCF Member Countries. Therefore, two AGMs were held in 2022, one in Spring and one in Autumn.

Deliverable, modified MUCF mission: The new mission statement is as follows:

The MUCF supports European stakeholders in closing crop protection gaps in minor uses. It coordinates collaboration and information exchange to improve the availability of sustainable crop protection solutions within an IPM framework. The objective is to enable farmers to produce high-quality crops and contribute to sustainable European agriculture.

Deliverable: Adopted Annual and Financial Report 2021. An abridged version is published on the MUCF website for the public: <https://minoruses.eu/mucf/reports>

Deliverable: Approved Work Programme and Budget 2022. An abridged version is published on the MUCF website for the public: <https://minoruses.eu/mucf/workplan>

1.2.2.MUCF Steering Group Member nomination and appointment

In early 2022, the MUCF prepared the nomination and appointment procedure for new Steering Group Members. The MUCF Steering Group was established in 2019. The Member Countries represented in the MUCF Steering Group were Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, the Slovak Republic, Sweden, and Switzerland. In 2022, the term to participate in the MUCF Steering Group ended for several Steering Group Member Countries, and in 2023 the regular term will end for the Slovak Republic. To preserve the continuity of the work of the MUCF Steering Group and to ensure the good functioning of the governance of the Facility, the MUCF made a call to funding Member Countries to nominate their country to join the MUCF Steering Group. The MUCF received nominations from Austria (central zone), Belgium (central zone), Denmark (northern zone), Ireland (central zone) and Lithuania (northern zone).

General information: At the Spring AGM 2022, Belgium and Denmark were appointed to the MUCF Steering Group in 2022 for the next three years. Austria and Lithuania were appointed to the MUCF Steering Group starting in 2023 for the next three years. Italy and Switzerland extended their participation in the MUCF Steering Group for three more years. The Netherlands and Sweden continued in service for one more year. Germany ended its term in the MUCF Steering Group in 2022. A visual summary of the MUCF Steering Group Member Countries and their terms in service is provided in the table below:

MUCF Member Countries	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Austria								
Belgium								
Denmark								
Germany								
Italy								
Lithuania								
Netherlands								
Slovak Republic								
Sweden								
Switzerland								

Newly appointed MUCF Steering Group Member Countries.

Countries continue in service after the end of their first term for a further full term or one year.

MUCF Steering Group Member Countries in 2021 and 2022

Deliverable: The MUCF coordinated the administrative procedure of nominating and appointing of new MUCF Steering Group Members.

1.2.3.MUCF staffing

As laid down in MUCFs “Basic Rules”, the MUCF staff comprises a Coordinator, a Scientific Officer, an IT Officer, and an Administrative Assistant. After the previous Scientific Officer left the Secretariat

in 2019, the position of MUCF Scientific Officer was vacant. The MUCF Scientific Officer recruitment took place in Spring of 2022. The recruitment team (consisting of the Director General of EPPO, the MUCF Coordinator, the MUCF Administrator and one Scientific Officer of EPPO), invited for the first interview round, four suitable candidates, for an online interview. Followed by a second round of interviews and tests for three candidates, which took place at the EPPO headquarters in Paris. Among these candidates, Mr Martin (previously working at ANSES, France as an efficacy evaluator) was selected.

Deliverable: The MUCF recruited a new Staff member as Scientific Officer to join the team in September 2022. He is working at 80% of full time and bringing a good knowledge of regulatory affairs issues from an efficacy point of view to the MUCF team.

1.2.4.MUCF 1st Steering Group meeting

The first Steering Group meeting of the year took place on 2022-07-18 as an online meeting. At this meeting, a new MUCF Steering Group Chair was appointed, the revision of the MUCF Basic Rules and Terms of Reference for the CEGs and HEG were discussed, an activity update on the work of the MUCF in the first months of 2022 and an overview of funding contributions received from 2018 to 2022 was given, it was decided on when and how the Autumn AGM 2022 would take place. Input on the Work Programme for 2023 and the Budget proposal for 2023 were given.

Mr Hans van den Heuvel (NL) announced his intention to finish his term as Chair of the MUCF Steering Group at the MUCF Steering Group meeting in December 2021. During the July Steering Group Meeting, the MUCF Steering Group members appointed Mr Jan Waespe (CH) as the new Chair.

Deliverable: The MUCF coordinated the administrative procedure of appointing a new MUCF Steering Group Chair.

Deliverable: Revised Terms of Reference (TOR) for CEGs and HEG are accessible under:

<https://minoruses.eu/expertgroups/index>

1.2.5.Autumn AGM

The Autumn Annual General Meeting was held, in hybrid meeting style, at EPPO's headquarters in Paris on 2022-10-28 for all funding contributing MUCF Member Countries, the MUCF Steering Group members, the EU Commission, and for EPPO's Director-General. Seven funding-contributing Member Countries participated along with EPPO's Director General and one EU Commission representative in the second AGM of 2022.

The Work Programme and Budget for 2023 and the revised "MUCF Basic Rules" were approved at this meeting. The MUCF provided a brief work activity update and financial overview for 2022.

Deliverable: Approved Work programme and Budget 2023. An abridged version is published on the MUCF website for the public:

<https://minoruses.eu/mucf/workplan>

Deliverable: Revised MUCF Basic Rules are accessible under:

https://minoruses.eu/media/files/about_mucf/MUCF_Basic_Rules_rev_5_2022.pdf

1.2.6.MUCF 2nd Steering Group meeting

The MUCF Steering Group decided not to meet for a second time in 2022. It was decided via email consultation when and how to hold the next Steering Group meeting and AGM in 2023.

It was decided that the meetings should be held as follows:

- MUCF Summer Steering Group Meeting: 2023-06-30, EPPO, Paris, hybrid meeting
- MUCF AGM 2023: 2023-10-13, EPPO, Paris, hybrid meeting

2. EUMUDA-further development, updates, and maintenance

2.1. EUMUDA table of needs

The EUMUDA table of needs was updated in early 2022 with information received from the “2021 minor uses table of needs survey”. It contains information from 26 Member and Partner Countries (22 EU Member States, plus the United Kingdom, Norway, Switzerland, and the Republic of North Macedonia).

Over a total of 3500 grouped needs, the top three needs highlighted are:

1. *Drosophila suzukii* (DROSSU, spotted-wing drosophila) on raspberry (reported by 19 countries from different regulatory zones)
2. *Peronospora destructor* (PERODE, downy mildew of onion) on onion
3. *Drosophila suzukii* (DROSSU, spotted-wing drosophila) on strawberry

Link to the “grouped table of needs”: https://eumuda.minoruses.eu/database/table_minor_uses

Needs are also displayed with more details provided on another webpage:

https://eumuda.minoruses.eu/database/table_minor_uses_detailed.

Deliverable: EUMUDA Table of Needs updated.

2.2. EUMUDA homepage.

The home page of EUMUDA has been updated with the following information from Member and Partner Countries: definition and criteria for minor crops and minor uses, an updated list of minor crops and minor uses, and minor uses valuable links.

Link to EUMUDA: <https://www.eumuda.eu/>

Deliverable: EUMUDA Homepage updated.

2.3. Simplification of the project pages in EUMUDA.

The MUCF implemented the recommendations by experts and simplified EUMUDA project pages to increase user-friendliness and reduce the amount of data to be entered by the project leader to work on minor uses projects.

Deliverable: EUMUDA project pages are simplified following expert recommendations.

2.4. EUMUDA Projects

In 2022, thirteen new projects concerning minor uses needs (in Ornamentals and Fruits & Vegetables) have been set up. CEG Ornamentals started one new project on ornamental woody plants against *Otiorhynchus sulcatus* and CEG Fruits and Vegetables started working to find PPP solutions against:

- *Peronospora destructor* (PERODE) on onion (ALLCE)
- *Agromyzidae* (1AGROF) on witloof chicory (CICIF)
- *Agromyzidae, Aphididae, Thrips, Aleyrodes proletella* (1AGROF, 1APHIF, 1THRIG, ALEUPR) on Brussels sprouts (BRSOB)
- *Albugo candida, Alternaria brassicae* (ALTEBA, ALBUCA) on cauliflower (BRSOB)
- *Tetranychidae* (1TETRF) on red and white currants (RIBRU)
- *Delia floralis, Epitrix intermedia* (HYLEFL, EPIXIN) on turnips (BRSRR)
- annual dicotyledonous weeds, annual grass weeds (3ANDIT, 3ANGWT) on leek (ALLPO)
- *Hyaloperonospora brassicae* (HPERBR) and on small radish (RAPSR)
- *Aphis* (1APHIG) on kohlrabi (BRSOG)
- *Aphis* (1APHIG) on kale (BRSOA)
- *Aphis* (1APHIG) on French beans (PHSVX)
- *Aphis* (1APHIG) on small radish, black Spanish radish (RAPSR, RAPSIN)

A PPP authorisation was granted for 18 EUMUDA projects in 2022. For the first time, the MUCF team identified correlated minor uses needs (collected in the EUMUDA table of needs) and suggested where the newly authorised PPP could be used as a solution to solve this need.

Progress statuses were updated for 4 out of a total of 147 MUCF projects. However, these EUMUDA projects are not closed yet, as additional trial data is still being generated.

Detailed information on the EUMUDA project progress was shared for the second time in the “EUMUDA Latest News” e-letter in December 2022. This e-letter shares project status updates on CEG projects among selected CEG and HEG members to keep the data confidentiality integrity.

Deliverable: 2nd EUMUDA Latest News e-letter. Emailing to ~200 contacts (all HEG and CEG contacts – except industry contacts).

2.5. Survey 2022 on Minor Uses work in the EU Member States, plus the United Kingdom, Norway, and Switzerland

In cooperation with some MUCF experts, the MUCF prepared the “Survey 2022 on Minor Uses work in the EU Member States, plus the United Kingdom, Norway and Switzerland”. A similar survey was carried out in 2017 but needed to be updated after five years. The Survey 2022 had included additional questions which were addressed to the MUCF during previous HEG meetings. The survey outcome will be analysed, and the survey report published in 2023.

Deliverable: Launch of the Minor Uses Survey 2022.

The link to access the survey:

https://minoruses.eu/media/files/surveys/Minor_Uses_Survey_2022_template.pdf

3. Explanatory Note on Minor Uses

The Explanatory Note on Minor Uses, formerly referred to as “Guidance Document on Minor Uses”, has been worked on by a dedicated MUCF writing group since 2016.

The document was on revision Nr. 8 in 2020. MUCF members decided to make the document available as quickly as possible and therefore reworked the document as an Explanatory Note on Minor Uses.

If the document had been finalised as a “Guidance Document”, it would have had to go through the consultation of the legal service of the European Commission. This procedure would have taken a long time, and the document would have had to be significantly amended. The Explanatory Note on Minor Uses has the same legal status and value as a Guidance Document on Minor Uses.

The Explanatory Note on Minor Uses was endorsed by SCoPAFF, section Phytopharmaceuticals Legislation on 2022-03-30/31 and published on the MUCF website on 2022-04-12. A link was shared with the EC to interlink the availability on the EU website.

Deliverable: The Explanatory Note on Minor Uses is now available as a reference document. To be accessed under:

https://minoruses.eu/resources/explanatory_note

At the Autumn HEG meeting in 2022, it was further discussed and decided how to proceed with the work on the endorsed Explanatory Note on Minor Uses.

The legal service of the European Commission proposed to split the document so that one part would become an EC Guidance Document on Minor Uses and the second would remain a MUCF Explanatory Note. The proposal was submitted to a vote by the members of the HEG. 35 HEG members cast their votes by the end of the Autumn HEG meeting. 8 HEG participants favoured splitting the document into an EC Guidance Document on Minor Uses, with the remaining text parts becoming the amended Explanatory Note on Minor Uses. 17 participants voted to keep the document as an Explanatory Note on Minor Uses, and 10 abstained from this vote. The proposal to split the Explanatory Note on Minor Uses was rejected by the HEG participants, with only 23% in favour. For now, the Explanatory Note will remain a sole document, having the same legal status as an EC Guidance Document on Minor Uses.

However, during the Autumn 2022 HEG meeting, it was decided to revise the Explanatory Note on Minor Uses and add an Addendum. The Addendum will provide a template for a simplified draft registration report (dRR) Part A.

4. Internal MUCF IT Tools

In 2022, the IT Officer started to create an IT tool to conduct surveys and link them to EUMUDA or other MUCF data. As an example, the 2022 Survey on Minor Uses could have been prefilled with information which is already available in the EUMUDA database (i.e. minor crops and minor uses information, or minor crops and minor uses definitions per Member and Partner country) or in the MUCF contact list (i.e. list of national contact points and list of national experts in different CEGs and HEG per country). This newly developed IT tool will simplify the analysis and display of results in Excel files or in EUMUDA.

This IT tool can further be used for sending out the “MUCF contact background questionnaire” and streamlines the procedure, for how the MUCF integrates new expert contacts and technical expertise background information into several MUCF systems (e.g. MUCF Extranet, MUCF contact lists etc.). The “MUCF contact background questionnaire” is sent out whenever a new expert requests permanent membership status in a CEG, HEG or ReEG group as a standard operating procedure.

The aim is to know the candidates’ work position, what would be their role in the MUCF expert group, what is their technical expertise etc. The information provided in the questionnaire is shared with the respective Chair(s) and co-Chair(s) of the relevant MUCF expert working groups for their approval and agreement on welcoming a new permanent member in their respective expert working group. When approved, the new permanent member is integrated into the MUCF contact list, and relevant mailing lists, and access to the MUCF Extranet is granted.

Several workflows are eased by integrating the “MUCF contact background questionnaire” into the MUCF IT tools. The transmission of information to the Chair(s) and co-Chair(s) and integration in the MUCF contact list will be automated. The work to fully implement this IT tool will be continued in 2023.

Deliverable: Simplified MUCF INTRANET and data handling.

5. Communication

5.1. MUCF Newsletter

CEG and HEG meeting highlights and general minor uses information was circulated via the MUCF newsletter in May and December 2022.

Deliverable: 16th & 17th MUCF newsletter. Newsletters can be accessed:
<https://minoruses.eu/mucf/newsletters>

5.2. MUCF Social Media

The MUCF set up its own LinkedIn page in November 2022 to regularly post updates on the Facilities’ activities, MUCF meetings, and overviews on minor uses developments. In addition, the MUCF posts on EPPO’s Facebook page to reach a larger audience. Posts are made under the hashtags #MUCF and #minoruses.

Deliverable: MUCF LinkedIn appearance. To be accessed under:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-minor-uses-coordination-facility/>

5.3. Support position letters

Three support position letters have been shared with SCoPAFF, section Pesticide Residues and Legislation, on behalf of MUCF expert working groups (actions following the Spring and Autumn CEG meetings):

- On behalf of CEG Vegetables concerning radish leaves, a working group progress update regarding: ‘*Appendix I of Regulation (EG) Nr. 396/2005 for Allocation of radish leaves to the kale group from 2022*’. Five countries (Italy, Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Belgium) shared information on radish production and protection, and the MUCF facilitated the data sharing and compiling work and the finalisation of the document.

- On behalf of CEG Herbs and Spices: ‘*Request for support for the entry into force of a new MRL value for Prosulfocarb for the use on herbs and edible flowers.*
- On behalf of CEG Fruits, the MUCF shared a position letter with the SCoPAFF Legislation meeting on 2022-12-08/09, on the active substance Captan regarding the proposed renewal of the active substance for “greenhouse use” only. The statement aimed to advocate for at least one “field safe use”. At the meeting, ~50 per cent of the EU Member States opposed the Commission's proposal to extend the authorisation for greenhouse use only. It is now up to the Commission to develop a proposal with a higher EU Member State support.

Deliverable: Three shared position letters to highlight issues in minor uses.

5.4. MUCF meeting participation:

- The MUCF (Coordinator) gave a presentation at the Annual Bio Control Meeting (2022-10-24/26) in Basel, Switzerland. The presentation focused on highlighting the needs of PPP solutions for minor uses and on raising awareness on European minor uses issues.
- The MUCF (Scientific Officer) participated in the EPPO working group meeting on Efficacy Extrapolation (2022-10-18/19) in Brussels, Belgium.
- The MUCF (Scientific Officer) gave a presentation at the Copa*Cogeca Agriculture Roundtable meeting (2022-11-18). The presentation focused on a MUCF work activity update.

Deliverable: Awareness raising of European minor uses issues.

6. MUCF Finances

6.1. MUCF Long Term Funding

In the beginning of 2022 France was approached by the MUCF via a letter to address the MUCF funding situation as an any other business (AOB) point in an upcoming EU Council AGRIFISH meeting. France held the EU presidency for the first six months in 2022. As the request to France was made at too short notice for it to be taken into consideration, the MUCF Steering Group suggested to approach Sweden when it holds the EU presidency in the first six months of 2023. This approach should be made in good time.

6.2. Revenues and expenditures in 2022

The MUCF relies on voluntarily assessed contributions from Member Countries. All Member Countries were approached with a funding request. The MUCF has contacted some Member Countries to follow up on their contributions from previous years.

Deliverable: The MUCF has received in 2022 from 15 Member Countries the funding for the contribution year 2022.

The following Member Countries contributed for 2022: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Italy contributed in 2022 to the funding of the MUCF for the year 2021. The Netherlands contributed in 2022 to the funding of the MUCF for the years 2020 and 2021. Sweden contributed in 2022 an additional extra contribution of ~8 900 EUR.

All MUCF Member countries which did not contribute to the funding of the MUCF by May 2022 received a note requesting contributions for the respective years.

Deliverable: The MUCF has received in 2022 contributions for 2020 from 1 Member Country (NL) and for 2021 from 2 Member Countries (IT and NL). In addition, the Facility received in 2022 an extra contribution from 1 Member Country (SE) for 2022.

The MUCF generated in 2022 a total income of 453 980 EUR. The total expenditures of the Facility amounted to 260 380 EUR, whereas the work year 2022 had been budgeted for 350 000 EUR. This resulted in a positive balance of 193 600 EUR in 2022.

The expenses were considerably lower in 2022 than an average MUCF work year due to lower travel costs and reduced costs for meetings, still linked to COVID-19 restrictions. Moreover, the Scientific Officer was not a part of the MUCF team for the entire year. He started in September 2022 and his salary costs were therefore for 4 months in 2022.

With a positive carryover of 416 576 EUR from 2021, this led to a positive carryover from 2022 to 2023 of 610 176 EUR.

Details are provided in the statement of revenues and expenditures in the Annex.

Annex: Statement of revenues and expenditures for the period 1st January - 31st December 2022 of the MUCF.

All costs are given in EUR.

Minor Uses Coordination Facility	
Expenditure - from 1st January to 31st December 2022	
01 - Salaries and Staff expenses	215 407
01.01 - Salaries and related costs: MUCF Staff	195 981
01.02 - Salaries and related costs: EPPO Staff	19 426
02 - Administrative meetings, Governance and staff travel	5 999
02.01 - Steering group	0
02.02 - Annual General Meeting	128
02.03 - Stakeholder Advisory Forum	0
02.04 - Staff travel and subsistence (i.e. ABIM, Copa*Cogeca, MUCF autumn meetings etc.)	5 871
03 - IT - Communication - other costs	20 256
03.01 - Infrastructure	12 000
03.02 – Software, hardware, subscriptions, and services (i.e. laptops for three staff members, hybrid meeting kit etc.)	7 360
03.03 – Communication (i.e. mobile phone fee, business card)	586
03.04 – Miscellaneous (i.e. bank fee, MUCF credit card fee)	310
04 - Technical meetings	1 683
04.01 - Spring Meetings (remote meeting)	0
04.01.01 - Room rental and lunch	0
04.01.02 - Reimbursement experts (travel & accommodation)	0
04.02 - Autumn Meetings (hybrid meeting)	1 683
04.02.01 - Room rental and lunch (Voucher from 2020 for 10k redeemed)	741
04.02.02 - Reimbursement experts (travel & accommodation) and retirement farewell presents	602
Overheads (7%)	17 034
TOTAL Expenditure	260 380
Income	
MCs Annual Contributions received for 2022	353 980
MCs Contributions received in 2022 for previous funding years*	100 000
TOTAL Income	453 980
Grand total	
<i>Balance from 2021</i>	<i>416 576</i>
<i>Balance from 2022</i>	<i>193 600</i>
The grand total year 2022	610 176

*The financial contribution received in 2022 from Italy for 2021 and from the Netherlands for 2020 and 2021.