



Meeting Minutes

Meeting on MacroFuels Conferences 2018, 13th Dec 2017

Date: 13-12-2017

Time: 10:00-11:50

Location: Skype

Participants

Adrian Macleod (SAMS)

Annette Bruhn (AU)

Arlene Ditchfield (SAMS)

Jaap van Hal (ECN)

Randi Neerup (DTI)

Rita Clancy (EURIDA)

Absent: Anne-Belinda Bjerre (DTI)

Bert Groenendaal (SIOEN)

Agenda

Discuss details and planning steps for two MacroFuels conferences in 2018, one taking place at SAMS in May 2018, one at the occasion of the Nordic Seaweed Conference in Grenaa on 10th and 11th October 2018.

Short topics list (provided beforehand):

- Conference objectives and target audiences
- Ideas for sessions and excursions/demonstrations (if possible)
- Suggestions for invitees
- Date for the conference at SAMS
- Next steps (before and after Christmas)
- Responsibilities for the planning and organisation phase



Summary of the meeting discussions

1. Conference objectives and target audiences

➤ Key Objective(s):

SAMS Conference, May 2018:

A first MacroFuels conference with a 'policy and licensing for large-scale seaweed farming' focus would be most interesting and would allow for well targeted sessions with a defined target audience.

Reasons:

- MacroFuels needs to initiate dialogues and knowledge exchange on requirements for licenses for large-scale seaweed farms to secure upscaling of seaweed cultivation in European sites
- This is in line with our exploitation and communication strategy and to secure maximum support and public/political endorsement for large-scale seaweed cultivation and farming and complements activities initiated by partners SAMS (e.g. contribution to Scottish Seaweed Cultivation Guide) and dialogues initiated by MacroFuels with Dutch policy makers and pilot initiatives on integrated wind parks/seaweed cultivation (see press release at <https://www.zuid-holland.nl/@19030/zeewierteelt/>).
- Policies in Scotland are yet limited to small and medium-scale seaweed cultivation, and input is needed for developing policies for upscaling. MacroFuels can provide knowledge and visions for large-scale seaweed farming at pre-legislation level.
- Possibly competing interest and resulting conflicts with other marine business sectors (e.g. fisheries, other aquaculture, transport, offshore wind parks etc.), but also environmental protection and conservation (keyword: marine mammals) could be mitigated via early dialogues and integrated approaches.
- Public support (e.g. local residents) is needed, so policy makers have the public mandate to endorse large-scale seaweed farming

Suggested key motto of the MacroFuels conference at SAMS: "What is needed to make large-scale seaweed farming licensable?"

➤ Target audiences and suggested invitees:

- **Policy Makers national and EU level:**
 - Thomas Schleker, European Commission, DG RTD 'Renewable Energy Sources (RES)' (already confirmed his strong interest in participating in the conference)
 - Representative of 'Marine Scotland' (Governmental body responsible for the integrated management of Scotland's seas and marine licensing <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine>)



- Other policy makers (please add your suggestions here; e.g. would it be a good idea to invite a local policy maker/politician who could support our cause?)
@Jaap: Do you think it would be possible to get someone from the Netherlands over? You mentioned a North Sea Advisor to the EU.
- **Other users of the marine space** (one representative each)
 - Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF)
 - Federations/associations for aquaculture, mussel/shellfish growers, salmon farmers (please add and edit)
 - Windfarms, mining & drilling, sea construction, offshore oil & gas (please add and edit)
 - Maritime transport
 - Tourism and leisure
- **Environmental organisations?**
- **Local residents (MacroFuels target group 'Citizens')**
- **Related projects and initiatives** who could present approaches and best practice examples of integrated approaches
 - EU Platform for Maritime Spatial Planning <http://www.msp-platform.eu/>
 - 'Aquaspace' H2020 project <http://www.aquaspace-h2020.eu/>
 - MERMAID Project/MERMAID 2 ? <http://www.vliz.be/projects/mermaidproject/>
 - Celtic Seas Partnership ? (Life+ project with SAMS as partner) <http://www.celticseaspartnership.eu/> (please add other projects of interest)

2. Ideas for sessions and excursions/demonstrations

- **MacroFuels presentations on:**
 - Initial results and/or scenarios from technology-economic assessment/LCA (WP6), esp. estimates on required ocean space, settings of a large-scale seaweed farm, inputs etc.
 - Environmental impact (data and results available from SAMS, AU, literature, extrapolated data from small- and mid-scale to large-scale)
- **Presentation by Marine Scotland** (exact topic tbd)
@Adrian & Arlene: Please add any ideas you may already have



- Short presentations by related projects on best practice and current approaches (MSP, eco-system approach, results from pilot initiatives on integrated seaweed/other uses)? (max 10 mins each)
- Panel/fishbowl discussion
- Field trip to the seaweed cultivation site (bad weather alternatives: video footage, animations, video of automated harvesting machine if available at the time)

3. Date for conference at SAMS

Suggested date: 23rd to 25th May 2018 (three days event; two days for Project Board Meeting, one day for the conference)

23rd May: WP meetings

24th May: GA Meeting with WP presentations (without WP6 & 7, which will be integrated in the conference)

25th May: MacroFuels Policy Conference

*Note: 21st May is public holiday in the Netherlands; travelling therefore planned for 22nd May
MacroFuels partners who do not want to travel back on Saturday could leave on Friday, 25th (no obligation to participate in the Conference).*

Alternative date: First week of May (however: 1st May is public holiday in Belgium, Iceland, Germany)

Impossible: 2nd week of May because of 10th May (Thu) being a public holiday in most countries

3rd week of May due to EUBCE (14th-18th May 2018)

4. Next steps and responsibilities:

Dec 2017

- Contact Thomas Schleker about his availability – Rita, by Fri, 15th Dec
- Come up with a first draft for a rough conference agenda – Rita, by Fri, 15th Dec
Feedback, additions and changes by the other participants by Wed, 20th Dec
- Send out suggested conference date and get agreement with GA – Rita send out date to GA, Mon, 18th Dec;
Agreement by Wed, 20th Dec (latest)
- Set up a 'Save the Date' and contact first invitees (by Thu, 21st Dec) – Randi & Rita (Save the Date), Jaap (Dutch contacts), Adrian & Arlene (Scottish contacts)
- Compile info on possible travelling schemes and send out to GA – Jaap (by Wed, 20th Dec)
- Pre-book accommodation (about 30 participants) – Adrian & Arlene



Jan 2018 (detailed work plan with timelines will be agreed after Christmas holidays)

- Organise Webex to discuss more conference details, incl. detailed work plan for conference organisation – Rita
- Complete and finalise conference programme - all
- Check additional invitees and send out invitations - all

5. Conference Grenaa:

- Results and topics discussed during the first conference at SAMS will be taken up by Grenaa Conference, either as specific MacroFuels session at the Nordic Seaweed Conference or as additional overall focus of the conference
- Concept planning will start in January 2018
- Conference organization committee meeting in February 2018
- Abstracts will be called before summer 2018

Noted by Rita Clancy