FACCE-MACSUR

Final Products

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Abstract

The major final products will be a congress aimed at political stakeholders in May 2015 in Brussels with a provisional date of 6./7. May 2015, a scientific conference at the end of January 2015, and a book/special issue summarizing the research results. Most research results should be available by the end of November for the first draft of the book/special issue.

Table of Contents

Introduction ........................................................................................................................................2
Overview of proposed products at Hub level ..................................................................................2
Products at Theme level ....................................................................................................................3
Final products....................................................................................................................................3
Practical consequences.......................................................................................................................3
Introduction

The overall goal of MACSUR is to contribute to the Scientific Research Agenda of FACCE JPI. To reach this goal the MACSUR consortium proposed three areas of work.

1. Capacity building by creating a European community of researchers in the field of FACCE, developing a new generation of integrative modellers, and interacting with other international networks.

2. Integrated analysis of the impacts of climate change on European agriculture in a range of pilot studies, together with an analysis of the uncertainties surrounding such prediction.

3. Identification of the range of issues which must be addressed in developing an integrated modelling tool and progress towards the creation of such a tool with the development of selected case studies.

Overview of proposed products at Hub level

Policy makers and actors in the agri-food chain represent one audience of the work of MACSUR. Other audiences are scientists, young researchers, and international scientific networks and organizations (see Report D-H3.3.4). The aim of stakeholder involvement is to increase the awareness of uncertainties of climate change in the integrated assessment across all three Themes. This exchange with stakeholders will take place at all stages of MACSUR, preferably in the form of workshops. This work is addressed in Hub tasks 2.3-2.6\(^1\), where MACSUR will develop strategies and examples for engagement of stakeholders for potential inclusion in the Scientific Research Agenda after the end of the MACSUR project.

The consortium proposed to disseminate the results of the work of MACSUR in a targeted way to different audiences (Task 2.6). The main product summarizing the results will be a book (M 2.5) suggesting a research strategy (D 3.6) which will outline the need for further research in the area of integrated climate change risk assessment for European agriculture and food security. This strategy will contribute to transfer the lessons learned from the integrated analysis at hot spot level to the European level and also to close the gap in research needs identified in the three Themes of the Knowledge Hub. In addition, the research will be presented in a congress at the end of the project (M 3.7).

\(^{1}\) Task summaries

- **Task 2.3**: Develop strategies for engagement on adaptation and mitigation with national and EU policy makers.
  
  D 2.2: A strategic map for the engagement with national/EU policy maker on adaptation and mitigation: M 36

- **Task 2.4**: Develop strategies for engagement on adaptation and mitigation with the agri-food chain sector.
  
  D 2.3: A strategic map for the engagement with the agri-food chain: Month 36.

- **Task 2.5**: Scientific educational, training and stakeholder workshops.

- **Task 2.6**: Dissemination, in coordination with all themes, the results of the integrated pilot studies
  
  M 2.5: Publication of a book summarising the obtained research results: M 36
Products at Theme level

Products at Theme level also address the overall goals of MACSUR. These include workshops and training for MACSUR researchers (pre- and postdoctoral), networking with other organizations, engagement with Theme-specific stakeholders and publication of results in scholarly journals. The participants of the ‘final products’ session at the MACSUR kickoff meeting recommended planning the workshops in a way that the outcome could also be published in a scholarly journal.

Final products

MACSUR’s work targets two audiences with different interests: political stakeholders and researchers. The participants of the session on final products at the MACSUR kickoff meeting reported their experience with presenting results to different audiences. From their experience it seemed best to present the results to the two audiences separately. It was suggested to present the book or a report with the book’s content to the FACCE Scientific Advisory Board at a congress directed at political stakeholders\(^2\) at the end of the project (May 2015\(^3\)). A special issue in a scientific journal could be an alternative to a book. The group agreed that the best place for such a congress would be Brussels because it is the seat of the Commission and countries have representations in Brussels. The exact date should be set so that it does not collide with other important Commission and DG events in order to attain maximum attention. The FACCE JPI secretariat will be asked to assist in finding a date. The work necessary for producing the final book requires about six months of time for editing. Therefore, research results should be finalized by November 2014 and could be presented to a scientific audience in January 2015.

Practical consequences

Assuming a stakeholder congress in May 2015, the venue should be set in May 2014 and the congress announced in September 2014. The science meeting in January 2015 should be announced in September 2014.

Since the first draft of the final report should be circulated in November 2014, there are only two years left after the kickoff meeting for producing the main results. The session leaders suggested producing the report in a cumulative way (structured as shown below) along with the project. One way to achieve a cumulative report would be to assign author teams for each chapter. The chapters would be first circulated as separate reports when the results are ready. These suggestions were not discussed during the session due to lack of time but will be discussed by the Project Steering Committee.

\(^2\) Other suggested organizations to invite were JRC-MARS and JRC-IPTS

\(^3\) The dates of Day of Labour (1. May/4. May [UK, IRL]), Ascension of Christ (14. May, week 20) and Pentecost/Shavuot (24. May, week 21) leaves 6.-7. May in week 19 as the most likely dates. Good Friday with Easter/Passover are 3.-6. April 2015 and 12./13 April [RO] which would also allow a meeting at the end of April.
Proposed structure of final report

• Introduction
• Definitions; climatic, ecologic, socio-economic, and political scenarios; uncertainties in scenarios, aims
• Interests of the stakeholders
• Review of existing models in each Theme (description, appropriateness, consequences for research strategy)
• Results of standard scenario runs
• Strategy of coupling and scaling
• Results of methodological case studies (technical, scientific, consequences for research strategy)
• Selection criteria for pilot studies
• Results of pilot studies, ensemble runs, identifying effective and efficient adaptation and mitigation measures and potential consequence scenarios, e.g. impact on food yield, quality, nutritive value, disease load etc., and their uncertainty
• Consequences of pilot studies for simulations within Themes (top-down feedback)
• Scaling down of results to European regions?
• Consequences for research agenda

[in each chapter, as appropriate, international collaboration and sharing of data, scenarios, and protocols]