



Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources
Silvoarable Agroforestry For Europe (SAFE)

European Research contract QLK5-CT-2001-00560



SAFE PROJECT FINAL PROGRESS REPORT
(August 2004-January 2005)

Summary
May 2005

Final SAFE Project Progress Summary Month 42

<u>Section 1: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION</u> Information to be provided for project identification		NOT CONFIDENTIAL
Title of the project: SILVOARABLE AGROFORESTRY FOR EUROPE		
Acronym of the project: SAFE		
Type of contract	Shared-cost RTD	Total project cost 4,256,188 €
Contract number QLK5-CT-2001-00560	Duration 42 Months	EU contribution 2,087,450 €
Commencement date 1 August 2001		Period covered by the progress report 1 August 2004 – 31 January 2005
<u>PROJECT COORDINATOR</u>		
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Key words: agroforestry, modelling, policy, diversification, agriculture		
World wide web address: http://www.montpellier.inra.fr/safe/		
List of participants: See Table 1		

Table 1: List of participants

<p><u>Participant 1: Co-ordinator</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INRA (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique) UMR Systèmes de Culture Méditerranéens et Tropicaux 2, PLACE VIALA, 34060 MONTPELLIER, France</p>	<p>DR CHRISTIAN DUPRAZ E-M: dupraz@ensam.inra.fr ☎ 33 (0) 4 99 61 23 39 Fax 33 (0) 4 67 52 21 16</p>
<p><u>Participant 2: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WU (Wageningen University) Department Plant Science, Group Crop and Weed Ecology P.O. Box 430, 6700 AK, Wageningen, Netherlands</p>	<p>DR WOPKE VAN DER WERF E-M: wopke.vanderwerf@wur.nl ☎ (31) 317 484772 Fax (31) 317 484892</p>
<p><u>Participant 3: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NERC (Natural Environment Research Council) Centre for Ecology and Hydrology Maclean Building, OX10 8BB, Wallingford, Oxon, United Kingdom</p>	<p>DR NICK JACKSON E-M: naj@ceh.ac.uk ☎ (44) 1491 838 800 Fax (44) 1491 692 424</p>
<p><u>Participant 4: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNIVLEEDS (University of Leeds) School of Biology Woodhouse Lane, LS2 9JT, Leeds, United Kingdom</p>	<p>DR. DAVID PILBEAM E-M: d.j.pilbeam@leeds.ac.uk ☎ (44) 113 2332895 Fax (44) 113 2332835</p>
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<p><u>Participant 6: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche Istituto per l'agroselvicoltura) Via Marconi, 2, 05010 Porano, Italy</p>	<p>DR. PIERLUIGI PARIS EM: P.Paris@ias.tr.cnr.it ☎ 39-0763 374674 Fax 39-0763 374330</p>
<p><u>Participant 7: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UEX (Universidad de Extramadura) E.U. de Ingenieria Tecnica Forestal Avd. Virgen del Puerto, 10600 Plasencia, Spain</p>	<p>DR. GERARDO MORENO E-M: gmoreno@unex.es ☎ 34 27 427000 Fax 34 27 425209</p>
<p><u>Participant 8: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAL (Eidgenössische Forschungsanstalt für AgrarÖkologie und Landbau) Produkt Ökocontrolling Reckenholzstrasse 191, CH-8046, Zürich, Switzerland</p>	<p>DR. FÉLIX HERZOG E-M: Felix.Herzog@fal.admin.ch ☎ (41) 1 377 71 11 Fax (41) 1 377 72 01</p>
<p><u>Participant 9: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APCA (Assemblée Permanente des Chambres d'Agriculture) Sous-Direction des Politiques Agricoles et rurales 9, Avenue Georges V, 75008 Paris, France</p>	<p>M. PIERRE SAVY E-M: pierre.savy@apca.chambagri.fr ☎ 33 (0) 1 53 57 11 43 Fax 33 (0) 1 53 57 10 05</p>
<p><u>Participant 10: Contractor</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AUTH (University of Thessaloniki) Faculty Of Forestry and Natural Environment, Laboratory of Range Ecology 54006, Thessaloniki, Greece</p>	<p>DR. VASILIOS PAPANASTASIS E-M: vpapan@for.auth.gr ☎ +30 31 998933 Fax +30 31 992721</p>

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Section 2: Project Progress Report

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Objectives:

During the final 6 months of the project, the SAFE consortium planned to:

- Complete the SAFE database of field experiments with the third growing season results
- Examine data from the SAFE silvoarable experimental sites obtained during the third growing season (WP3), and use these data for validating the biophysical models of tree-crop interactions (WP6)
- Study the economics of silvoarable technology by applying the Yield-sAFe and Farm-sAFe models to the 19 Landscape Test Sites in Europe.
- Analyse the data of the survey of farmers' reaction to silvoarable technology in 7 European countries (WP2)
- Deliver the suggestions for a European Agroforestry Regulation based both on profitability forecasts, and on assessments of environmental advantages of silvoarable agroforestry (WP9).
- Produce deliverables according to the SAFE project agenda
- Organise end-user conferences in 6 European countries
- Organise a final Conference for European policy-makers at Brussels

SAFE Project Final Progress Summary 2



Results and Milestones :

- The SAFE project held a final Consortium Management Committee at Zurich (Switzerland) on the 5 November 2004. A final plan for the end of the project was decided. This plan included more person-months inputs than described in the SAFE technical Annex, to meet the delays resulting from our difficulties to finalise the bio-physical models of tree and crop interactions.
- The final scientific workshop of the SAFE project took place at Zurich from 2-6 November 2004. The agenda of the workshop included a synthesis of the modelling activities of the project (biophysical, economic and geographic models), a working session on policy issues, and rehearsals for the final SAFE project Conferences.
- The final end-user conferences of the project were organised in France (Niort 15/15/2004, Orléans 16/12/2004, Besançon 18/02/2005 and Paris 26/01/2005), Spain (Madrid, 15/02/2005), Greece (Thessaloniki, 4/02/2005), Brussels (30/03/2005), Wageningen (20/04/2005), Rostock (25/05/2005). A final SAFE Conference is scheduled in the UK (Gregynog 29/06/05). Full details on these events are available on the SAFE web site, including the slideshows used during the Conferences.
- The web site was intensively used and was increasingly visited (about 2500 visitors in 6 months). The SAFE reports were downloaded by more than 150 visitors.
- The major deliverable of the SAFE project is the guidelines for agroforestry policy in Europe; it was delivered at Brussels on March 30 during the final SAFE Conference, and is available on the website.
- A significant number of scientific papers were submitted to international journals during the period. They are all available on line on the web site, and some of them are included in the volume 4 of this final progress report.
- The report on plot economics of silvoarable systems was delivered. We used the Yield-sAFe model and its bio-economic version Plot-sAFe to produce a study of Silvoarable agroforestry profitability at the European scale. We examined in details the results of the 1197 scenarios simulated with Farm-sAFe on the 19 European LTS.
- The report on the farmers' view on silvoarable systems was delivered, and extensively used during the final Conferences of the SAFE project. It gave unexpected results indicating that a large proportion of European farmers are open to adopting the silvoarable technology.
- All remaining milestones were met during the last 6 months, except two of them that could not be met due to delays in the validation of biophysical models. These two milestones will be met thanks to the future activity presented in the Technological Implementation Plan. They do not prevent the project from delivering all its Deliverables..
- Many extension papers were published by journals on the SAFE project, including a paper in the RTD info journal of the European Commission that is available at the following URL : http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/rtdinfo/43/article_1656_fr.html

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Benefits and Beneficiaries :

- A final conclusion of the SAFE project is that silvoarable agroforestry is a valid avenue of farm diversification in Europe. It could benefit the farmers, the environment, and the European economy at large.
- **Farmers** can diversify their income sources with agroforestry on the long term without cutting in short term incomes. The surveys of farmers in 7 European countries showed that many of them are willing to adopt silvoarable technology in a near future.
- Silvoarable technology has many potential advantages for the **environment** that would benefit the society at large. However, most of these advantages need further investigations for identifying appropriate management schemes to maximise the environmental benefits.
- Producing high quality timbers on European farms without significantly diminishing the crop production could help the **European economy** to face the decrease of imports of high quality tropical timbers in the future.
- More than 40 extension papers were published on the SAFE project, mainly in professional journals for agriculture and forestry. Papers were produced in French, English, German, Spanish, Dutch and Greek. Most papers are electronically available in the public pages of the web-site
- About 1000 ha of modern silvoarable systems were established in Europe during the SAFE project (mainly in France, which is leading the process), and this is indirectly an achievement of the SAFE project. The SAFE project's impact on both farmers and foresters organisations is now evident.
- The "policy guidelines for agroforestry" that were delivered in March 2005 may help the Commission Services to improve current European regulations. The SAFE consortium identified some possible improvements of the draft Rural Development Regulation for 2008-2013 that were detailed in the Deliverable. The suggestions by the SAFE consortium may as well be useful in many other future European or national regulations dealing with rural development or forestry.

Structure of the final progress report

Due to the large size of the contractor contributions, the final progress report is organised in four volumes :

Volume 1: Progress summary; Objectives; Work plan; Management and Coordination; Exploitation and Dissemination

Volume 2: Work Packages Reports

Volume 3: Contractors Reports

Volume 4: Annexes (scientific papers)

