



CASA

Common Agricultural
and wider bioeconomy
reSearch Agenda

D3.10 Document on different scenarios on sustainability of CASA work



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Task 3.8



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The overall objective of CASA, a Coordination and Support Action (CSA), is a **consolidated common agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda** within the European Research Area.

CASA will achieve this by bringing the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR), which has already contributed significantly to this objective in the past, to the next level of performance as a research policy think tank. CASA will efficiently strengthen the strengths and compensate for the insufficiencies of SCAR and thus help it evolve further into “SCAR plus”.

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Abbreviations

AC	Associate country
CSA	Coordination and Support Action
CASA	Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy reSearch Agenda
CWG	Collaborative Working Group
DG	Directorate-Generals
EC	European Commission
MS	Member State
SCAR	Standing Committee on Agricultural Research
SG	Steering Group
SWG	Strategic Working Group
WP	Work Package

Summary

The aim of this report is to give an in-depth overview of possible scenarios of the sustainability of the work of SCAR. The CSA CASA has supported SCAR from September 2016 to August 2019 on several levels and several activities. To ensure an efficient continuation of the work of SCAR and maximise use of inputs generated by CASA, this deliverable gives an overview of:

- the support provided by CASA to provide a picture of the work done
- different scenarios on sustainability of the work of SCAR, to ensure a long-term functioning of SCAR
- the results of a survey conducted by CASA and sent to SCAR SG, CWGs and SWGs to identify the focus of the groups themselves

This deliverable will support the further work of SCAR and the groups under SCAR to align their work and cooperate in the future. The results of the survey show an interest and focus areas of the SCAR members, showing the importance of continued discussions and support of further actions.

Introduction

The CSA was established to support SCAR and its groups (SWG, CWG and Foresight Group) in their advisory functions to EC and MS as well as to support and facilitate the development of a consolidated Common Agricultural and wider Bioeconomy research Agenda within the European Research Area. During the last three years, CASA has actively supported SCAR with different activities (workshops, alignment, case studies) and support actions. This contributes significantly to a higher SCAR advisory quality on different levels and increases its level of performance as a research policy think tank.

The four specific objectives of the CASA project were:

- Increased and broadened participation, interaction and collaboration of MS and AC with each other and also with the Directorate-Generals (DG) of the European Commission in the different SCAR bodies
- Improved quality of outputs and outcomes of SCAR and its SWGs and CWGs creating added value for greater impact
- Strengthening the production of more strategic policy advice for the coming years improved by SCAR within the evolving landscape of the broader bioeconomy based on an increased and broadened participation facilitated by CASA
- Improved overall organisation, communication and dissemination of SCAR activities, outputs and outcomes for greater impact

During the lifetime of CASA (September 2016 – August 2019), support was provided on different levels. Some outputs can be used directly such as reports / guidelines and recommendations. The publicly available documents can be found on the website of SCAR: www.scar-europe.org and include, for example, an analysis of the key factors of involvement and representativeness within SCAR (D1.1), a monitoring report of the implementation of recommendations in the current SCAR Foresight (D2.10) or a review of the Bioeconomy research and innovation policy landscape in Europe (D3.3). Other support, such the increased visibility of SCAR (e.g. through two annual newsletters and a relaunch of the SCAR website) or the connection of WGs through enhanced

communication (e.g. through support of combined workshops), are difficult to measure or prove, but were nevertheless important elements of CASA.

Table 1 gives an overview of the support from CASA to SCAR listed by WP, including the respective deliverable. The public deliverables are accordingly displayed on the SCAR website. The actions of WP 5 ensured the operation of CASA; therefore, the outcomes of WP 5 are not explicitly of interest to SCAR and not included in the overview. Different colours in the table indicate the ease of future usage of outputs. **Green** indicates that the result can be used instantly, as it is, for example, a report or a guideline. **Blue** indicates the result can be used with a small amount of energy or time requested, without additional money needed. **Orange** indicates the result needs additional financial support in the future, or a lot of time and energy. The SCAR website does not have a colour coding, as it will be maintained externally. In addition, CASA supported the organization of two SCAR conferences in Tallinn (December 2017) and Brussels (June 2019).

Table 1 Support by CASA to SCAR – listed per WP

WP 1 - Representativeness	
Action	Outcome
Analysis of key factors of involvement and representativeness	Report (D1.1, D1.5)
Mentoring Programme	Action: Face to face meetings, knowledge exchange, support of travel (12 mentors, 21 mentees) (D1.3)
National meetings	Action: Seven national meetings to increase knowledge about SCAR and its visibility (D1.4)
WP 2 – Added Value and Improved Quality of Greater Impact	
Analysis of experience and need of support to the working groups	Three annual workshops, outcome: Three Annual work plans for support (D2.1-D2.4)
Facilitate individual working groups	Action: facilitation support (8 events) (D2.5-D2.7)
Organising external expert studies	Action: support to 18 external studies (D2.8)
Support to coordination and linkages between SWGs and CWGs with DGs	Report (D2.9)
Support to the implementation of the 4 th Foresight and its recommendations	Report (D2.10, D2.11)
WP 3 – Strengthening Strategic Advice	
A detailed overview on the state of play and a gap analysis within the SCAR	Report (D3.2)
Bioeconomy Research and Innovation Policy Landscape in Europe:Aa review	Report (D3.3)
Support SCAR on better alignment of research and innovation policies	Study, list of proposal (D3.5)
Support SCAR in developing general procedures and tools for initiating new	Study, guideline (D3.6)

activities	
Creating a structure for future SCAR Foresight process	Study, guideline (D3.7)
Develop an Impact Assessment Framework	Study, guideline (D3.8, D3.9)
Develop scenarios on sustainability and follow up activities	Study, guideline (D3.10)
WP 4 – Communication and Dissemination	
Support development and implementation of a SCAR communication strategy	Report, recommendations (D4.1, D4.2)
SCAR Newsletter	Two newsletters per year (six in total)
SCAR Website	Website: www.scar-europe.org
SCAR Style guide	Development of logos, templates etc.

Scenarios on sustainability

In the following section, different possible scenarios of a sustainable continuation of SCAR are presented. The general overview was presented at the 86th SCAR SG meeting on 15th May 2019 in Brussels (the presentation is attached in Annex 1), however, in this report more details are provided.

Table 2: Membership fee per SCAR CWG/SWG

Membership fee per SCAR CWG/SWG	
Description	Members of a working group could agree and decide on a membership fee for their working group. The amount of the fee could be decided by the groups.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility: Actions can be adapted over time based on needs of the working groups • Independency: The working groups can make their own agreements depending on their needs, for example the amount of fee or what it is used for (travel support, meeting rooms, catering, secretariat, facilitation...) • Importance: By agreeing to pay a membership fee, the MS acknowledge the importance of SCAR and the working groups
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The administrative work is high as bilateral agreements must be developed for each country • Depending on the MS, they might not be allowed or able to pay a membership fee but might contribute in kind. Here, clear rules about the dealing with such a situation are needed • Risk: Some countries may withdraw from the working group, as they are unable to pay a membership fee

Table 3: Fees per SCAR CWG/SWG for an external study

Fees per SCAR CWG/SWG for an external study	
Description	Members of a working group could agree and decide on external studies to be conducted. A fee would be collected by the group itself and an external expert is contracted.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commitment is only required when members decide on an external study • Full control over length, amount and topic of the external study
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members might not find a consensus on topic of the study or the amount to pay/are unable to contribute • Short-term withdrawal of the commitment and of payment of fee is always possible (risk) • No administrative format is available to collect the money and contract an expert

Table 4: Establishment of a new legal entity per SCAR CWG/SWG

Establishment of a new legal entity per SCAR CWG/SWG	
Description	It is possible to establish a new legal entity such as an international organization or an association under national law
Advantages	<p>International organization (created by several states for pursuing a common activity and coordinate related actions within the territory of the respective states):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International legal capacity controlled directly by governments of the states <p>Association under national law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible but clear government structure • Limitation of liability of its members • Very flexible regulation allowing founders to determine most of its functioning mechanisms • Legal personality • Easy accession and exit of members
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It might be difficult to find sufficient numbers of partners who are willing to support the legal entity, especially when it comes to financial support • The legal and political process and commitment is tremendous, especially in the beginning • For the association under national law: Mandatory registration is required, subject to national law; thus members have to accept the foreign legislation of the leading member state

Table 5: Rotation of secretariat of SCAR CWG/SWG

Rotation of secretariat of SCAR CWG/SWG	
Description	The secretariat of a working group rotates between the Member States. Each member state runs the secretariat for a defined period. This can be connected to the chair of the group, but is no pre-requisite.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs and work load are shared in the long run • Very low administrative workload • Each participating country feels connected and needed for the group
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A volunteering member state needs to be found • The contribution is “in-kind”, which might not be possible for some partners • If the timeslot for running a secretariat is too short, it might lead to a confusion regarding the contact person

Table 6: Hosting a head office

Hosting a head office	
Description	A member state volunteers to host a head office for a certain amount of time.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear responsibility of a MS for the task • Positive perception of other Member States toward the one hosting the head office • Possibility of working on a long-term perspective with enough resources on a specific topic, so a real impact is possible
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All financial burden and administrative work is carried by one member state • Possible that no member state takes over the task

Table 7: Favouring back-to-back meetings

Favouring back-to-back meetings	
Description	Travelling is an important part of most people’s jobs nowadays. Face-to-face meetings are often helpful and can lead to new networks, build up trust and exchange knowledge. However, they are also time consuming, costly, use resources and have environmental impacts, especially when using planes. Therefore, it is advisable to favour back-to-back meetings as much as possible.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of time, money and resources spent is reduced. • Meetings can be better justified, if there is more than one reason to travel
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The time spent at one place is extended and might overlap

	<p>with other duties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good communication in advance among partners or mentors/mentees is needed to coordinate the travel plans.
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The CSA CASA will be finalized by the end of August 2019. Currently, it is not foreseen to continue the SCAR support with a new CSA. The advice of the Plenary is to use the CASA supported input within SCAR and the groups under SCAR (SWG, CWG and Foresight group), and to consider the above listed options for further support/activities. The EC announced that there is a further support of SCAR foreseen within the next working programme. For further information, please consult the Horizon Europe programme (www.ec.europa.eu).

As a summary, different future scenarios are possible:

1. SCAR Work without a CSA

Back to the situation before CASA: The website is hosted by the EC, there is support for the Foresight studies from the EC, all groups under SCAR are supported only by MS with the capacities available. The produced reports, guidelines and documents can be used to support the work of working groups.

2. SCAR Work with “other / Tender support”

Further support of Case Studies and Foresight studies is possible, the website is hosted by the EC. No support of SCAR network and alignment (however, the indirect support is missing).

3. SCAR Work with a new CSA

Direct and indirect support plus networking support is possible. The CSA is Member State driven. Lessons learned from this CSA CASA are included.

Survey on future focus areas

During the 86th SCAR Steering Group Meeting on 15th May 2019 in Brussels, the supportive actions of CASA were presented. The attendees were asked to rate which of the supportive actions they would like to keep in the future, maintained without the help of CASA. The idea behind this exercise was to get a first spontaneous picture of the needs of the SCAR SG. Each of the 32 attendees got three adhesive dots he or she could stick to the supportive activities as a form of prioritising. The result of this exercise is shown in Table 8. The facilitation of individual working groups received a total number of 29 points (out of 96), which equals almost a third of all votes (30.2%). This shows the need the SCAR SG perceives regarding future facilitation support. The second highest vote was given to the organisation of expert external studies, with 16 votes (16.6%). The future use of public reports on the SCAR website and the SCAR website itself received 13 votes, respectively (13.5%). The future need for national meetings received six votes (6.3%), and the need for a future mentoring programme five votes (5.2%). The three least important support actions to keep in the future were the support for development and implementation of a SCAR communication strategy (4 votes, 4.2%), the analysis of experience and need of support to the working groups (3 votes, 3.1%) and the SCAR newsletter (1 vote, 1%).

Table 8: Result of consulting the SCAR SG

Supportive Activities	Number of Adhesive Dots
Facilitate individual working groups	29
Organising expert external studies	16
Reports (publicly available on SCAR website)	13
SCAR Website	13
National meetings	6
Mentoring Programme	5
Support development and implementation of a SCAR communication strategy	4
Analysis of experience and need of support to the working groups	3
SCAR Newsletter	1
SCAR Style guide	0

Additional to this short exercise, a survey was conducted to receive insight information of the needs not only of the SCAR SG, but also the SCAR CWGs, SWGs and the SCAR Foresight group.

The survey was sent on 6th June 2019, with a deadline for feedback on 29th June 2019. A reminder was sent on 19th June 2019. In total, 29 answers were collected (16% respondent rate). The survey template is attached as Annex 2.

Outcome of the survey:

1. A mentoring programme was set up to support new members of SCAR. The idea behind it was that experienced SCAR members explain procedures to new members of SCAR. How important do you rate a continuation of this programme?

Number of participants :29

	Very important (1)		Important (2)		Neutral (3)		Little important (4)		Not important (5)		No opinion (0)		Arithmetic average (\bar{x})		Standard deviation (\pm)				
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	\bar{x}	\pm	1	2	3	4	5
Continuation of mentoring programme	13x	44,83	10x	34,48	3x	10,34	2x	6,90	1x	3,45	-	-	1,90	1,08					

2. Can you imagine to become a future mentor for new SCAR members (also possible if you have been a mentor or mentee already)?

Number of participants :29

7 (24.1%): **Yes**

7 (24.1%): **No**

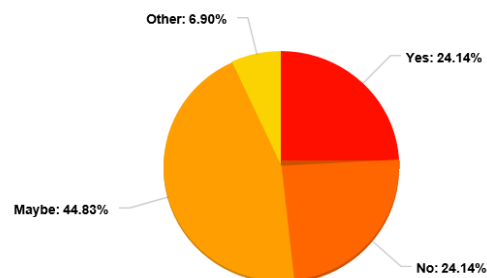
13 (44.8%): **Maybe**

2 (6.9%): **Other**

Answer(s) from the additional field:

-In principle yes, but some more practical experience for a mentor would be useful

-I have no experience for that



3. Several national meetings in various countries were set up to increase knowledge about SCAR and increase its visibility. Did a meeting take place in your country?

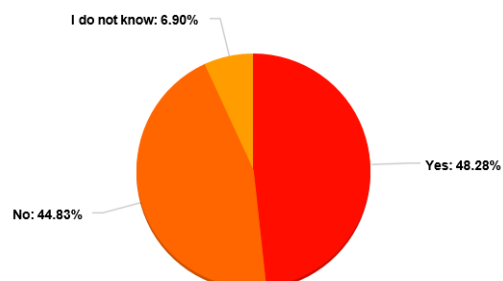
Number of participants :29

14 (48.3%): **Yes**

13 (44.8%): **No**

0 (0.0%): **Yes, but I did not participate**

2 (6.9%): **I do not know**



4. Did you attend a national meeting in another country? If yes, please specify

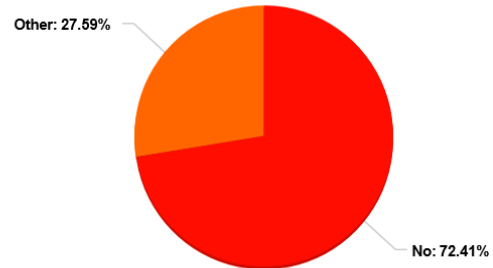
Number of participants :29

21 (72.4 %): No

8 (27.6%): Other

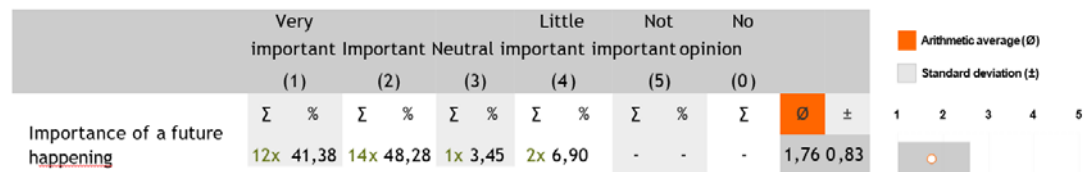
Answer(s) from the additional field:

- Estonia
- Greece and Poland
- Latvia
- France
- Portugal, Latvia
- Poland
- Latvia
- Brussels



5. How important do you consider it to organise such national meetings in the future?

Number of participants :29



6. Can you imagine to host a national meeting in your country? If yes, please specify where.

Number of participants:29

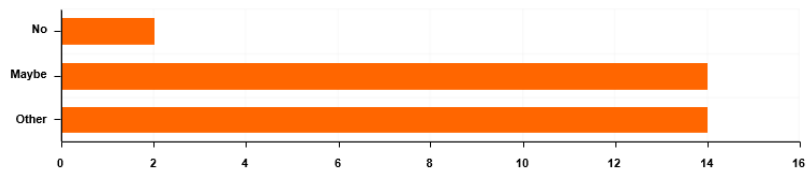
2 (6.9%): No

14 (48.3%): Maybe

14 (48.3%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- Finland
- Finland
- Germany
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Romania
- Poland
- France
- France
- Spain
- Spain
- Turkey
- Slovakia



7. Within CASA, it was possible to apply for funding to facilitate individual working groups (CWGs, SWGs, Foresight group). Did you use this opportunity?

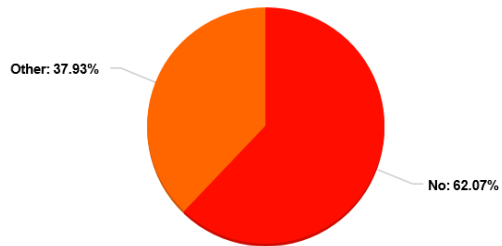
Number of participants :29

18 (62.1%): No

11 (37.9%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- Foresight
- ARCH
- AHW
- Bioeconomy SWG
- Food systems WG
- AKIS
- Bioeconomy
- Foresight Task Force
- Foresight Group Workshop
- CWG-SAP
- FORESTRY



8. How important do you consider a future possibility to receive such a facilitation support for individual working groups ?

Number of participants:29

	Very important (1)		Important (2)		Neutral (3)		Little important (4)		Not important (5)		No opinion (0)		Legend						
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	Ø	±	1	2	3	4	5	
Importance for future support	17x	58,62	9x	31,03	2x	6,90	1x	3,45	-	-	-	1,55	0,78						

9. Furthermore, it was possible for working groups to apply for funding for external studies. Did you use this opportunity?

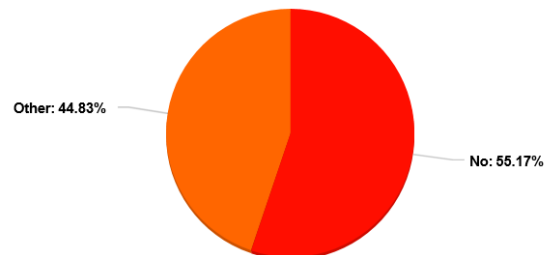
Number of participants:29

16 (55.2%): No

13 (44.8%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- Bioeconomy
- CWG AHW
- ARCH
- AHW
- Bioeconomy SWG
- Food Systems WG
- AKIS
- Bioeconomy
- ARCH
- Foresight
- WG for Forestry where Slovakia is active
- CWG-SAP
- FORESTRY



10. How important do you consider a future possibility to receive funding for external studies?

Number of participants: 29

	Very important (1)		Important (2)		Neutral (3)		Little important (4)		Not important (5)		No opinion (0)		Arithmetic average (Ø)		Standard deviation (±)					
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Ø	±	1	2	3	4	5	
Importance for future support	13x	44,83	14x	48,28	2x	6,90	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,62	0,62						

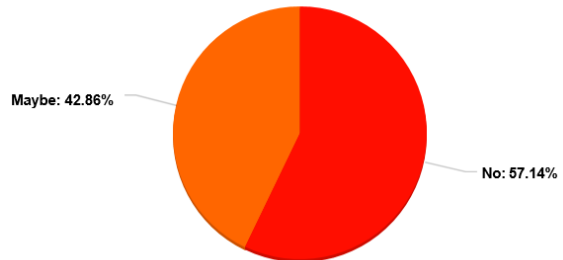
11. Can you imagine to make an external study possible, by paying a fee within your group?

Number of participants: 28

16 (57.1%): No

12 (42.9%): Maybe

0 (0.0%): Other



12. There were two news letters per year produced to increase the visibility of SCAR. How important do you rank the continuation of the newsletters?

Number of participants: 29

	Very important (1)		Important (2)		Neutral (3)		Little important (4)		Not important (5)		No opinion (0)		Arithmetic average (Ø)		Standard deviation (±)					
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Ø	±	1	2	3	4	5	
Importance of continuation of newsletters	4x	13,79	15x	51,72	6x	20,69	3x	10,34	-	-	1x	-	2,29	0,85						

13. Can you imagine to volunteer to collect newsletter articles and create a newsletter using a rotation system, so e.g. once in two years? A newsletter template is available. If yes, please specify how often you could volunteer.

Number of participants: 29

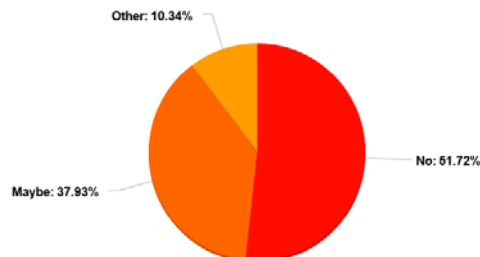
15 (51.7%): No

11 (37.9%): Maybe

3 (10.3%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- 6
- once in three years
- 6



14. The SCAR website (www.scar-europe.org) was renewed by CASA and updated regularly. The questions below give you the possibility to provide feedback on the website.

Number of participants:29

	Very (1)		Okay (2)		Neutral (3)		Little (4)		No opinion (0)		Arithmetic average (\bar{x})	Standard deviation (\pm)	1	2	3	4	
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%							
How useful do you find the SCAR website?	9x	31,03	12x	41,38	4x	13,79	3x	10,34	1x	-	2,0	0,96					

15. How often did you use the SCAR website?

Number of participants:29

	1-2 per week (1)		1-2 per month (2)		Every other month (3)		To a lesser extend (4)		Never (5)		I do not know (0)		Arithmetic average (\bar{x})	Standard deviation (\pm)	1	2	3	4	5	
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%								
Amount of site-visits	-	-	14x	48,28	6x	20,69	9x	31,03	-	-	-	-	2,83	0,89						

16. Do you have suggestions for improving the website?

Number of participants:8

- not clear, missing lot of documents and information
- Countries profiles, members of SWGs and CWGs
- contact details, links, search by keywords and thematic for studies
- more regular updating and possibility of including an online meeting tool
- Maybe to include tools to interact within SCAR. Also it might be useful to create newsletters with lower waiting time?
- It is not possible to open this website for a long time and I don't know the problem, since I've tried different ways.
- ASAP insert current events, activities, data

17. CASA supported the organization of two SCAR conferences: Dec 2017 in Tallinn, and June 2019 in Brussels. How valuable do you think is a regular SCAR conference?

Number of participants :29

	Very valuable (1)		Valuable (2)		Neutral (3)		Little value (4)		No value (5)		No opinion (6)		Arithmetic average (\bar{x})	Standard deviation (\pm)	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%	Σ	%									
Value of a regular SCAR conference	8x	27,59	17x	58,62	1x	3,45	2x	6,90	1x	3,45	-	-	2,00	0,96							

18. Some SCAR CWGs and SWGs are rotating their chair and secretariat. Please note that we do NOT mean the SCAR secretariat itself, but the secretariats of respective working groups.

Can you imagine to facilitate the chair or secretariat for your working group? If yes, please specify for how long.

(Multiple choice is possible)

Number of participants:29

7 (24.1%): Yes, chair

5 (17.2%): No, chair

7 (24.1%): I was the chair already

1 (3.4%): Yes, secretariat

5 (17.2%): No, secretariat

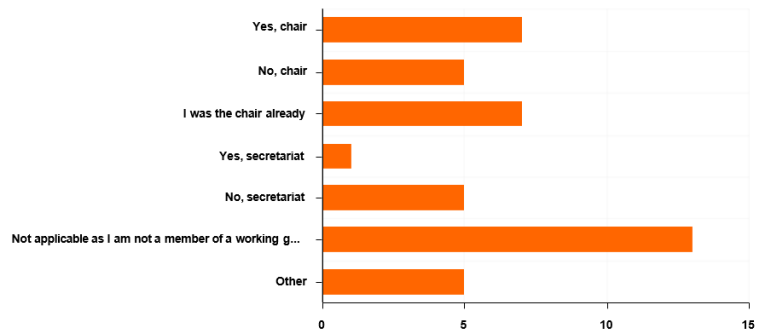
0 (0.0%): I was the secretariat already

13 (44.8%): Not applicable as I am not a member of a working group

5 (17.2%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- about 1 year. My availability is in principle. In practice, at the moment I wouldn't have time.
- it depends on the internal rules of the group
- 24 months
- We co-chaired the group during the complete 2nd mandate of the BSW.
- 3 years



19. Sometimes, it is feasible to merge the secretariat of several working groups to one (again, the SCAR secretariat is not meant here). Can you imagine to merge your secretariat with the one of another working group? If yes, please specify which one.

Number of participants:28

7 (25.0%): No

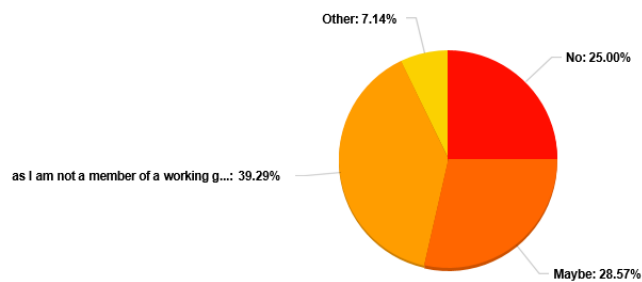
8 (28.6%): Maybe

11 (39.3%): Not applicable as I am not a member of a working group

2 (7.1%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- several possible (AKIS, Food Systems...)
- CWG Animal Health and Welfare with CWG Sustainable Animal Production



20. Some member states have volunteered to host a head office for a working group. Could your member state imagine to do that for one of the working groups?

Number of participants: 27

18 (66.7%): No

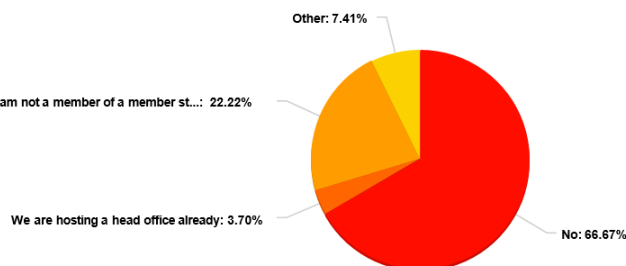
1 (3.7%): We are hosting a head office already

6 (22.2%): Not applicable as I am not a member of a member state

2 (7.4%): Other

Answer(s) from the additional field:

- Poland/ SWG Bioeconomy
- SLOVAKIA/FORESTRY



21. One possibility to ensure the sustainability of SCAR working groups would be a membership fee for member states. Could you imagine to pay such a fee on an annual basis and pay for example the chair/s ecretariat, external studies or support facilitation with the collected money? If yes, please specify the amount of fee and what you would like to finance from the fee.

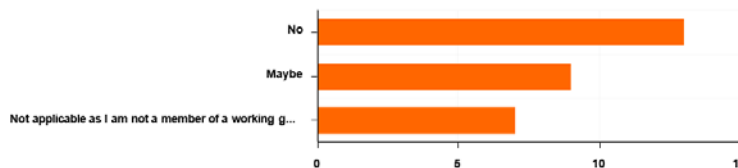
Number of participants : 29

13 (44.8%): No

9 (31.0%): Maybe

7 (24.1%): Not applicable as I am not a member of a working group

0 (0.0%): Other



Recommendations from the survey

The outcome of the survey clearly shows that the Member States want to continue the work of SCAR and see the different instruments either as “very important” or “important”, but very often time or money are the limiting factors. For example, 45% of participants perceive the continuation of the mentoring program as “very important” – additionally, 34% perceive it as “important” – but only 24% can imagine to become a mentor in the future. However, here, 45% indicated their potential willingness with a “maybe” (Question 1 and 2). **As the mentoring programme is established already, and experiences are available, it is recommended to consult CASA deliverable 1.3 “Report about the result of the Mentoring Programme” to reduce the threshold of becoming a mentor.**

Question 3-6 dealt with the national meetings organized by CASA. Only 28% of consulted persons attended a national meeting, but 41% perceive the meetings as “very important” or “important (48%). Regarding the organization of a national event, 48% can imagine organizing one, and 48% indicated a “yes”. Only two respondents could not imagine hosting a meeting. **Here, it is recommended to combine forces as e.g. three respondents from Finland indicated willingness to organize such a meeting, or three from France.** CASA developed a template for meetings at national level, which can help the organization of such a meeting as well; for reference check D1.4.

Fifty-nine% of the respondents indicated that the facilitation support provided by CASA is “very important”, and 31% stated it is “important”. 7% perceived it as neutral, and only 3% gave it little value. 38% of the respondents made use of the provision of facilitation support (Question 7 and 8). 45% of respondents made use of the option to apply for external studies. Here, 45% perceive it as “very important” to continue with this support, and 48% agreed that it is “important”. Only 7% stated a “neutral” opinion (Question 9 and 10). The facilitation support and the external studies are very similar regarding future options, as both need external money. **Here, it is either possible to pay a fee per working group, or be in contact with the EC to find a solution regarding funding.** When asked if a respondent could imagine making a study possible by paying a fee (Question 11), 57% stated “no”, and 43% “maybe”. This is a clear indication that financial resources are a crucial obstacle when it comes to realizing the needs and wishes of the SCAR members.

Question 12-16 dealt with the newsletter and website of SCAR, thus the communication aspect. The continuation of the newsletters were perceived by 14% as “very important”, and by 52% as “important”. However, 21% had a “neutral” opinion, and 10% stated “little important”. 52% could not imagine to volunteer for the layouting of a newsletter but 38% stated “maybe”, and 10% indicated they could actively contribute. **A “Report of template and common format for common SCAR meetings in the MS and flyer” is available under D4.14 and can be of help when developing a newsletter in the future.** The SCAR website was used “1-2 per month” by 48% of the respondents, 21% visited it “every other months”, 31% “to a lesser extend”. 31% found the website “very” useful, 41% “okay”, 14% “neutral” and 10% “little” useful. This indicates potential for improvement, which was also possible to indicate in question 16. Here, replies such as missing documents or information, a wish for an online meeting tool or problems to accessing the website were stated. **It is recommended to the future website operators to take those comments into consideration and try to meet the open needs.**

Regarding a regular SCAR conference, 28% indicated that a regular SCAR conference is “very valuable”, and 59% stated “valuable” (Question 17). **Thus, it is recommended to explore the options of organizing a regular SCAR conference, either by the EC or SCAR Member States.** External resources are needed to cover the organizational costs of such a conference.

When asking the working groups if their members could imagine to facilitate the chair or secretariat for a certain period of time, 5 respondents out of 16 declined the possibility (Question 18. Here, 13 out of 29 participants are not a member of working group, thus the question was not applicable for them). However, seven could imagine to be the chair and one the secretariat, or they have been the chair of a group already. This indicates the high interest of the working group members to continue the work in a well-managed way. Question 19 dealt with the merging of the secretariat: two respondents could imagine immediately to merge, 8 maybe, 7 not at all. For 11 respondents this question was not applicable. **For a possible merging of the secretariat, it is recommended to actively search contact to other groups and see if the usage of synergies is feasible.** Also in the context of sustainability of the groups themselves, the question was raised if a respondent could imagine hosting a head office for a working group (Question 20). 67% negated the question, one respondent replied he/she is hosting a head office already, for six it was not applicable and two could potentially offer a head office. **It is recommended that the working groups for which a head office is potentially possible (SWG Bioeconomy and**

SWG Forestry) the national delegate from the respective country (Poland and Slovakia) are contacted.

The last question asked about the willingness of respondents to pay an annual fee for member states to participate in working groups. Forty-five% replied with “no”, 31% with a “maybe”, for 24% the question was not applicable. Thus, this option seems to be not realistic to be conducted in the future, but of course, each working group could decide to implement a fee if the members agree.

Conclusion

In complying with the data protection legislation, it is not possible to reveal the persons behind the respective answers. This also means CASA is unable to match interested persons to e.g. establish a system for a newsletter rotation, combine the secretariat of SCAR working groups or form a mentoring team. If you wish to organise one of these things, it is advised to actively approach the colleagues in the SCAR SG, the SCAR Plenary and the groups under SCAR.

SCAR strongly depends on an active participation of Member States. However, most work for SCAR takes place with in-kind resources and on top of normal workload. Also, budget constraints are making the work of SCAR difficult. Nevertheless, a well-functioning SCAR is crucial to ensure its function as a source of advice on European agricultural and wider bioeconomy research. To support SCAR, the CSA CASA was set up for a period of three years. No extension of the CSA is foreseen, so the Member States working for SCAR have to work independently again from September 2019 onwards. To make the most of the support, help and work provided by CASA and ensure a long-term use of the outputs, this deliverable has summarized the work done by CASA. This overview helps future discussion on the needs and possibilities for SCAR. However, it is up to the SCAR now to use actively the help developed by CASA, to “digest” all the food for thought CASA has provided and to analyse its current situation. To gather an insight of views of needs, focus points and wishes by SCAR members and all SCAR groups, a survey was created to assess their primary priorities.

To ensure the sustainability of the main CASA activities, further support is needed by the EC and MS. In particular, this includes:

- Chairing groups under SCAR – offers by MS needed / rotating the Chair position
- Covering the work of the website – Financial support by the EC / hosted by the EC itself
- Opportunity for Studies – financed by the EC
- Resources for facilitation of working groups
- Strengthening the Network of SCAR – new CSA or another instrument
- Offering reimbursement for SCAR Members – financed by the EC

Due to the lack of capacity, the EC should consider to support SCAR in the future (after August 2019). For the next years, support through tendering seems to be realistic, while SCAR and its groups can make use of the outcome of CASA. In the future, a new CSA with a revised concept seems to be suitable to ensure the functions of SCAR.

Annex

Annex 1: Presentation “Support to SCAR and sustainability following the CSA ‘CASA’ Project’s end”
at the 86th SCAR SG, 15th May 2019, Brussels

Support to SCAR and sustainability following the CSA 'CASA' Project's end (08/2019)

15/05/2019
Vera Steinberg (BLE)

CASA Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda
EUROPEAN UNION Project co-funded by H2020 Programme under Grant Agreement n° 727496

Develop scenarios on sustainability and follow up activities

- Framework:
 - CASA started 9/2016
 - CASA ends 8/2019
 - Budget: 2 M €
 - Currently, no „CASA II“ or other funding opportunities
- How can the future look like?

CASA Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda
CASA, Support to SCAR

Outline

1. Situation before CASA: What was possible?
Ongoing best practise examples
2. Overview: How CASA supported SCAR
→ Presentation of assessment
→ Survey: Where is your focus? (Deadline 3rd June)
3. Possible follow up scenarios on sustainability and follow up activities
4. Next steps

CASA Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda
CASA, Support to SCAR

1. Situation before CASA: What was possible?

- Member State (MS) driven activities
- In kind contribution by MS (e.g. providing the chairs)
- Development of logos etc.
- CWG/SWGs: rotation of chairs and secretary
 - Shared costs in the long run, but in kind

CASA Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda
CASA, Support to SCAR

1. Situation before CASA: What was possible?

- MS Examples:
 - SWG AKIS: chair financed by the Netherlands (min. 2 years)
 - CWG SAP head office: located in Germany (since 2014)
- EC financed Foresight Studies (expert contracts, dissemination, conferences...) (ongoing)
- EC hosted SCAR-website (now hosted by CASA)
- EC provided SCAR secretariat (ongoing)

CASA Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda
CASA, Support to SCAR

2. Overview: How CASA supported SCAR

Reports (I):

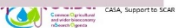
Action	Outcome
Analysis of key factors of involvement and representativeness	Report (D1.1, D1.2)
Support to coordination and linkages between SWGs and CWGs with DGs	Report (D2.9)
Support to the Implementation of the 4 th Foresight and its recommendations	Report (D2.10, D2.11)
A detailed overview on the state of play and a gap analysis within the SCAR	Report (D3.2)
Bioeconomy Research and Innovation Policy Landscape in Europe: a review	Report (D3.3)

CASA Common Agricultural and wider bioeconomy research agenda
CASA, Support to SCAR

2. Overview: How CASA supported SCAR

Reports (II):

Action	Outcome
Support SCAR on better alignment of research and innovation policies	Report (D3.5)
Support SCAR in developing general procedures and tools for initiating new activities	Report (D3.6)
Creating a structure for future SCAR Foresight process	Report (D3.7)
Develop an Impact Assessment Framework	Report (D3.8, D3.9)
Develop scenarios on sustainability and follow up activities	Report (D3.10)




CASA, Support to SCAR

2. Overview: How CASA supported SCAR

Direct support:

Action	Outcome
Mentoring Programme	Face to face meetings, knowledge exchange, support of travel (12 mentors, 21 mentees) (D1.3)
National meetings	National meetings to increase knowledge about SCAR and its visibility (7 meetings in total) (D1.4)
Analysis of experience and need of support to the working groups	3 annual workshops, outcome: 3 Annual work plans for support (D2.1-D2.4)
Facilitate individual working groups	Facilitation support (8 events) (D2.5-D2.7)
Organising expert external studies	External studies (18 studies) (D2.8)




CASA, Support to SCAR

2. Overview: How CASA supported SCAR

Communication:

Action	Outcome
SCAR Newsletter	Two newsletters per year
Support development and implementation of a SCAR communication strategy	Report (D4.1, D4.2)
SCAR Website	Website
SCAR Style guide	Development of logos, templates etc.



CASA, Support to SCAR

2. Overview: How CASA supported SCAR


- Support in organizing 2 SCAR conferences (Tallinn 2017, Brussels 2019)
- Support of Foresight study
- Communication, awareness rising...




CASA, Support to SCAR

Time for brainstorming


- Reflect:
 - What was useful?
 - What would you like to keep?
 - What are possible next steps?
- Time for suggestions and discussion now
- After the presentation: possibility to rank list via adhesive points on flipchart



CASA, Support to SCAR

3. Possible follow up scenarios


- CWG/SWGs: rotation of chairs and secretary
 - Shared costs in the long run, but in kind contribution
- Membership fees
 - Shared costs per year, work of e.g. secretariat or studies can be payed
- Sharing of secretariat (for SCAR groups, with a fees)



CASA, Support to SCAR

3. Possible follow up scenarios

- Hosting of head-office
 - In kind contribution from a MS
- Emphasizing back-to-back meetings to reduce travel cost
- Mentees become mentors for new members
 - Knowledge exchange, current mentees know best the knowledge gaps, infrastructure already known
- Fees per case study when needed



CASA, Support to SCAR

3. Possible follow up scenarios

- Website used for knowledge exchange
 - future hosting is under discussion, where does funding come from (EC)?
- Active usage of reports and guidelines (all publicly available)
- New CSA under Horizon Europe
- EC pays for case studies
- EC pays for annual conference
- Reimbursement of travel costs



CASA, Support to SCAR

4. Next steps in the procedure

- Survey to SCAR SG
- Survey also to CWGs and SWGs
→ overview of focus from SCAR SG and CWG/SWG
- Clustering of actions:
 - What can be used immediately (e.g. report)
 - What can easily be continued (e.g. informal mentor/mentee)
 - What needs financial or in kind support (e.g. studies, chairs, secretariat)

Discussion/outlook

- Make your vote on flipchart: 3 adhesive points per person
- Deliverable will summarize the outcome (due 8/2019)



THANK YOU
For your attention

Vera Steinberg
WP 3 Leader:
Strengthening Strategic Advice
Vera.steinberg@ble.de

EUROPEAN UNION
Project co-funded by
H2020 Programme under
Grant Agreement n°727488

Annex 2: Survey (blank)

Survey to support SCAR: sustainability of activities beyond the CASA project

Dear participant,

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes. Your valuable answers will feed into the report "Documentation on different scenarios on sustainability of CASA work".

Please note that this survey is NOT anonymous. The reason behind this is that it is necessary to know who could for example envisage to host a newsletter or a head office. However, for the final deliverable, the answers will be hidden and only percentages will be shown. So no names will show up in the final public deliverable. Thank you for your understanding.

The final public deliverable will be submitted in August 2019 to the EC. The anonymous results of the survey will feed directly into the deliverable.

If you have any questions, please contact Vera Steinberg: [vera.steinberg \[at\] ble.de](mailto:vera.steinberg@ble.de)

Thank you once more for contributing to the survey!

SCAR strongly depends on the active participation of member states. In the first section of the survey, different activities hosted or conducted by CASA are listed. Please indicate how important you perceive a FUTURE continuation of the activity, and if you could imagine to host or conduct an action. Please note that your answers are not binding, but give an indication on your interest only.

1. A mentoring programme was set up to support new members of SCAR. The idea behind it was that experienced SCAR members explain procedures to new members of SCAR. How important do you rate a continuation of this programme?

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Little important	Not important	No opinion
Continuation of mentoring programme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

2. Can you imagine to become a future mentor for new SCAR members (also possible if you have been a mentor or mentee already)?

- Yes
 No
 Maybe

Comment

3. Several national meetings in various countries were set up to increase knowledge about SCAR and increase its visibility. Did a meeting take place in your country?

- Yes
 No
 Yes, but I did not participate
 I do not know

4. Did you attend a national meeting in another country? If yes, please specify

- No
 Yes, country:

5. How important do you consider it to organise such national meetings in the future?

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Little important	Not important	No opinion
Importance of a future happening	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Can you imagine to host a national meeting in your country? If yes, please specify where.

No

Maybe

Yes, country:

7. Within CASA, it was possible to apply for funding to facilitate individual working groups (CWGs, SWGs, Foresight group). Did you use this opportunity?

No

Yes, Working Group:

8. How important do you consider a future possibility to receive such a facilitation support for individual working groups?

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Little important	Not important	No opinion
Importance for future support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

9. Furthermore, it was possible for working groups to apply for funding for external studies. Did you use this opportunity?

No

Yes, Working Group:

10. How important do you consider a future possibility to receive funding for external studies?

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Little important	Not important	No opinion
Importance for future support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

11. Can you imagine to make an external study possible, by paying a fee within your group?

- No
 Maybe
 Yes, possible annual fee [€]

12. There were two newsletters per year produced to increase the visibility of SCAR. How important do you rank the continuation of the newsletters?

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Little important	Not important	No opinion
Importance of continuation of newsletters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

13. Can you imagine to volunteer to collect newsletter articles and create a newsletter using a rotation system, so e.g. once in two years? A newsletter template is available. If yes, please specify how often you could volunteer.

- No
 Maybe
 If yes, how often could you volunteer? Every XX month

14. The SCAR website (www.scar-europe.org) was renewed by CASA and updated regularly. The questions below give you the possibility to provide feedback on the website.

	Very	Okay	Neutral	Little	No opinion
How useful do you find the SCAR website?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

15. How often did you use the SCAR website?

	1-2 per week	1-2 per month	Every other month	To a lesser extend	Never	I do not know
Amount of site-visits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

16. Do you have suggestions for improving the website?

17. CASA supported the organization of two SCAR conferences: Dec 2017 in Tallinn, and June 2019 in Brussels. How valuable do you think is a regular SCAR conference?

	Very valuable	Valuable	Neutral	Little value	No value	No opinion
Value of a regular SCAR conference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The second part of the survey focusses on possibilities to develop sustainability scenarios for SCAR.

18. Some SCAR CWGs and SWGs are rotating their chair and secretariat. Please note that we do NOT mean the SCAR secretariat itself, but the secretariats of respective working groups.

Can you imagine to facilitate the chair or secretariat for your working group? If yes, please specify for how long. (Multiple choice is possible)

- Yes, chair No, chair
 I was the chair already Yes, secretariat
 No, secretariat
 I was the secretariat already
 Not applicable as I am not a member of a working group
 Duration of position in months/group

19. Sometimes, it is feasible to merge the secretariat of several working groups to one (again, the SCAR secretariat is not meant here). Can you imagine to merge your secretariat with the one of another working group? If yes, please specify which one.

- No
 Maybe
 Not applicable as I am not a member of a working group
 Yes, with group:

20. Some member states have volunteered to host a head office for a working group. Could your member state imagine to do that for one of the working groups?

- No
- We are hosting a head office already
- Not applicable as I am not a member of a member state
- Yes: Country/head office for XX group possible

21. One possibility to ensure the sustainability of SCAR working groups would be a membership fee for member states. Could you imagine to pay such a fee on an annual basis and pay for example the chair/secretariat, external studies or support facilitation with the collected money? If yes, please specify the amount of fee and what you would like to finance from the fee.

- No
- Maybe
- Not applicable as I am not a member of a working group
- If yes, amount [€] and comment

Your contact details are needed to be able to give profound advice for the sustainability of SCAR. Please note that your answers will NOT be published and will be treated anonymously. The disclosure of the answering person, if at all, will only be given internally. *

Name

Organization

Country

Function (member state delegate,
working group etc.)

Dear respondent,

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer to this survey. Your answers are very valuable for our work on the sustainability of SCAR and will feed anonymously in the report due in August 2019. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Vera Steinberg: [vera.steinberg \[at\] ble.de](mailto:vera.steinberg@ble.de)

Additionally, we would like to raise your attention to a number of reports, guidelines and brochures which have been produced during the life-time of CASA to support the work of SCAR. The public reports are available on the SCAR website: www.scar-europe.org and might support your work within SCAR. We encourage you to make use of the reports and disseminate them if applicable.

Best regards,

Vera on behalf of the CASA team

