



COmmunity-based Management of
EnviromenTal challenges in Latin America



D7.3: “Minutes of the Final Steering Committee Meeting”

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Project information

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Partners:

1. UCO: Universidad de Córdoba (Spain) (Project coordinator)
2. NILU: Norsk Institutt for Luftforskning (Norway)
3. JHI: The James Hutton Institute (Great Britain)
4. SGM: Sagremarisco-Viveiros de Marisco Lda. (Portugal)
5. PUJ: Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, School of Environmental and Rural Studies (Colombia)
6. UNAM: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Mexico)
7. IADO: Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (Argentina)
8. AQM: Fundación Aquamarina-CECIM (Argentina)
9. CCC: Consejo comunitario de la comunidad negra de la cuenca baja del río Calima (Colombia)
10. ERA: Estudios Rurales y Asesoría Campesina Asociación Civil (Mexico)
11. CEIUCN: Comité Español de la UICN - Unión Internacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (Spain)

WP7

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Steering Committee Participants

| Institution | Name |
|--------------------|---|
| UCO | María del Mar Delgado Serrano Pepa Ambrosio Pieter Vanwildemeersch Cristina Rentería |
| NILU | Alice Newton |
| JHI | Kirsty Blackstock Kerry Waylen |
| SGM | John Icely |
| PUJ | María Adelaida Farah Bryann Avedaño |
| UNAM | Alejandra Cruz |
| IADO | Luján Bustos Gerardo Perillo |
| AQM | Valeria Vitale |
| CCC | Sebastian Moreno |
| ERA | Israel Hernández |
| CEUICN | Cristina Sobaler Manuel Sánchez Moreno |

Agenda

- I. Deliverables
- II. Policy Conference
- III. Publications and thesis linked to COMET-LA
- IV. Final scientific and financial reports
- V. Global analysis and results of the project
- VI. Next steps
- VII. Other issues

Minutes

The COMET-LA partners did a preliminary final meeting on 9th of November 2014 on the occasion of the Policy Conference celebrated in Mexico DF the days 10th and 11th of November. They reviewed the outcomes of the project and the pending issues to successfully finish it. Some of the issues presented in these minutes were discussed and agreed there, but the members of the Steering Committee (SC) also agreed to have a final virtual meeting on 14th January to know the final situation and steps of the project.

The Project Coordinator M^a del Mar Delgado (MMD) welcomed the participants and mentioned the partners that are represented by persons different from those in the SC; they all have been authorized. She mentioned that other members of COMET-LA want also to take part in this last meeting. The SC members agreed. They approved the agenda of the meeting.

I. Deliverables

MMD informed that the following deliverables have been uploaded to the Research Participant Portal in due format and time:

- ↪ D1.3 Locally-adapted Scenario Building Evaluation Methods, as a Report
- ↪ D1.4 Management and conflict resolution tools for learning arenas, as a Policy Brief in English and Spanish
- ↪ D1.5 Sustainable management and governance models, as a Report
- ↪ D1.6 Gender issue in the community-based management of natural resources, as a Policy Brief in English and Spanish
- ↪ D2.4 Community-based sustainable management and governance models in water and biodiversity systems, as a Report
- ↪ D3.4 Community-based sustainable management and governance models in forest systems, as a Report
- ↪ D4.4 Community-based sustainable management and governance models in marine and coastal systems, as a Report
- ↪ D5.2 Implications for multi-level resource management in the future, as a Policy Brief in English
- ↪ D6.3 Set of locally-adapted dissemination tools for the management of natural resources, as set of documents, mainly in Spanish
- ↪ D6.5 Minutes of the Final Policy Conference, including the minutes of the conference and a broad Annex relating the different activities and results of the event

This last deliverable, D7.3 Minutes of the Final Steering Committee Meeting, will be uploaded after the end of the meeting with the approval of all the members of the SC.

II. Policy Conference

The members of the SC thanked the effort of Dr. Roberto Escalante and his team for the brilliant organization of the event and congratulated them for the results.

The final Policy Conference of COMET-LA, under the leitmotiv "*Working Together: policies and community management to meet environmental challenges*", was hosted by UNAM from 10th to 11th November 2014 in Mexico DF with around 70 invited participants. The SC highly valued the broad representation of COMET-LA partners, members of the communities where the project was developed and representatives of different international actors from the academic, political, social, business and multilateral sectors. Additionally, Isabel Ruiz-Mallén represented the project COMBIOSERVE contributing to the exchange of experiences between the two projects, both working with Mexican communities. The Rector of the University of Córdoba, Prof. Dr. José Carlos Gómez Villamandos, travelled to Mexico to attend the conference and to show the support of the institution to the project. The European Union was also represented by Mr. Stephan Vavrik, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation in Mexico.

A special mention can be made of some of the conference speakers: Dr. José Sarukhan, President of CONABIO (Mexican Commission for Biodiversity), Dr. Brigitte Baptiste, Director of the Colombian Institute Alexander von Humboldt for the Analysis of Environment and Biodiversity and Dr. Leticia Merino (President of the International Association for the Study of the Commons). Additionally, other policymakers (from local to national levels) and representatives of international institutions attended the meeting. Unfortunately, the representation of the Mexican government and national politicians was below the expectations due to the special political situation at the moment in Mexico (disappearance of students and massive protests). All the presents highly valued the project, its results and the effects and impacts in the communities.

It is also worth to mention that the Latin American communities and other communities interested signed an agreement to extend the cooperation between the communities and the researchers beyond COMET-LA. A special mention was deserved to the impacts of COMET-LA in issues such as knowledge exchange between scientists and local communities, capacity building and empowerment of the communities. All the local representatives from the 3 countries highlighted these impacts.

The conference was webstreamed and many other people in different countries could follow it. The presence in social networks was important, 104 people followed COMET-LA Facebook. UDUAL Facebook with more than 2000 followers also broadcasted the event. The results have been broadly disseminated, in programs such as: [Hola Pehuen](#), La meta del planeta ([1](#) and [2](#)). A video summarising the conference can be found [here](#). Finally, Radio Xeglo, an indigenous community radio made a special program.

For more details, see the minutes of the Conference at D6.5 Minutes of the Final Policy Conference at <http://www.comet-la.eu/index.php/en/publications.html>.

In this final analysis, the members of the SC showed their satisfaction with the development of the event and the outcomes.

III. Publications and thesis linked to COMET-LA

MMD informed the SC that led by UCO but working with some partners, the following papers have been accepted with some changes:

- *Making applicable the Ostrom framework to analyse Socio-ecological systems at the local level.* M^a del Mar Delgado and Pablo Ramos. International Journal of the Commons
- *Is the Community-Based Management of Natural Resources inherently linked to Resilience? An analysis of Santiago de Comaltepec community (Mexico).* M^a del Mar Delgado, Saul Basurto and Roberto Escalante. In a Special Issue on *Community resilience, social capital and territorial governance* of the Journal of Depopulation and Rural Development Studies

She also informed that the different procedures to open the Special Issue coordinated by the 5 projects at Ecology and Society are in process and the submissions will start on 19th January. The 5 coordinators will act as editors and Carl Folke has been appointed as final editor of the issue. All the papers will need to be accepted by two of the editors (never one editor from the same project of the authors) before being passed to two blind reviewers.

UCO (in collaboration with other partners) will submit at least the following papers to the issue:

- *Local perceptions on social-ecological dynamics in Latin America: lessons from community-based management.* M^a del Mar Delgado-Serrano, Elisa Oteros-Rozas, Pieter Vanwildemeersch, Silvia London, César Enrique Ortíz Guerrero, Roberto Escalante Semerena
- *Use of Q Methodology to assess climate change perception in the context of Community-Based management.* Pepa Ambrosio-Albalá and M^a del Mar Delgado-Serrano

Other papers in process of elaboration at UCO are:

- *Social-ecological resilience in community-based management of natural resources: three cases in Latin America.* Written by UCO, PUJ and UNAM in collaboration with researchers of COMBIOSSERVE
- *Adapting prospective structural analysis to community-based natural resource management.* M^a del Mar Delgado-Serrano and Pieter Vanwildemeersch

PUJ will submit the paper: *Community based management and governance system of water and biodiversity: The case of social-ecological systems in the Pacific Colombian Region.* Ortiz- Cesar

Guerrero, María Adelaida Farah, Pablo Andrés Ramos, Diana Lucía Maya, Bryann Avendaño-Uribe, Natalia Ocampo-Díaz, Lina Pinzón.

UNAM will submit the paper: *Community-based governance on forest systems*. Roberto I. Escalante Semerena, Alejandra X Cruz Bayer and Saúl Basurto Hernández

IADO will submit the paper: *Community-based sustainable management in marine and coastal systems: toward the construction of governance models*. Silvia London, Mara Rojas, Mariana Zilio, Federico Ferrelli, Facundo Scordo, Gerardo M.E. Perillo, M. Cintia Piccolo, M. Andrea Huamantico-Cisneros, M. Lujan Bustos, Valeria Vitale.

IADO is also working or have submitted the following papers:

- Characterization of an Argentine coastal social-ecological system using Ostrom's framework. London, S.; Rojas, M.L.; Scordo, F.; Ibañez, M.M.; Huamantico Cisneros, M.A.; Bustos, M.L.; Perillo, G.M.E. and Piccolo M.C., : International Journal of the Commons (submitted).
- *Estimation of meteorological parameters based on data from the Reanalysis (NCEP/NCAR) applied to the Southwest of Buenos Aires Province (Argentina)*. Ferrelli, F.; Bustos, M.L.; Huamantico Cisneros, M.A.; Piccolo M.C. and Perillo, G.M.E. Submitted to *Atmosfera*.
- *Comparación de datos observados in situ y estimados por el Reanálisis (NCEP/NCAR) en distintos ambientes del sudoeste de la provincia de Buenos Aires (Argentina)*. Bustos, M.L.; Ferrelli, F.; Huamantico Cisneros, M.A.; Gil, V.; Piccolo M. C. and Perillo, G.M.E. To be submitted to *Cuadernos de Investigación Geográfica*.
- *Climate variability and community perception: the case of Southwest coast of the Buenos Aires Province (Argentina)*. Bustos, M.L.; Huamantico Cisneros, M.A.; Ferrelli, F.; Scordo, F.; Piccolo M.C. and Perillo, G.M.E.; Rojas, M.; Zilio, M.; London, S. To be submitted to *Ocean & Coastal Management*.
- *Diversificación de la actividad turística de balnearios. El Caso de Pehuén Co, Argentina*. Bustos, M.L.; Ferrelli, F.; Huamantico Cisneros, M.A. and Piccolo, M. C.. To be submitted to *Cuadernos de Desarrollo Rural*.
- *Understanding coastal system from stakeholders' perspective: an Application of the Prospective Structural Analysis to the case of Monte Hermoso -Bahia Blanca Estuary*. Mara Rojas (in elaboration).

JHI (in collaboration with PUJ, UNAM and IADO) will submit to the Special Issue the paper: *Can scenario-planning support community-based natural resource management that is more resilient to change?* They raised as discussion item how to handle authorship on this paper. This paper will be co-authored by the members of PUJ, UNAM and IADO that did the fieldwork. However, there are a variety of positions from 1-2 names in one case study to 9-10 names in another. The Argentinian team provided a possible solution and we would like to discuss this. They suggested "to put as author "COMET-LA - Argentina Team". The Colombian and Argentine authors agreed to be included as COMET-LA –Argentina/Colombia

Team, and to specify which authors are included in a footnote. The Mexican authors needed to think about. They will communicate in the next few days the decision to JHI.

JHI is also working on another paper: *Using community-based scenario planning to evaluate coping and adaptive responses to environmental change: three examples from Latin America*. Martin-Ortega, Brown, Waylen and Blackstock to be submitted either to *Global Environmental Change* or *Regional Environmental Change*.

In addition to the two scientific papers in preparation, JHI is developing a short video clip about using scenario planning for natural resource management, which will be available in Spanish and English on Youtube within six weeks (the script and animations are being finalised this week, and then the videos will be produced and uploaded within a month).

Finally, MMD informed that the coordinators of the 5 projects are considering writing some papers together about the experience.

MMD inform about the situation of the following **thesis** she has supervised:

- *Characterization of the Social-Ecological System of Guadajoz-Campiña Este*. MSc thesis elaborated by Anais Perroy, presented at UCO in September 2014 with Honors.
- *Socio-Environmental Conflict And Institutional Change in Water and Biodiversity Management: Linking Social and Ecological Systems in Afro-Colombian Common Property Lands*. PhD thesis elaborated by Pablo Ramos. Co-supervised by Prof. Florian Hoffman, submitted to the University of Erfurt (Germany) and waiting for the viva date.
- *Perception of climate change in Latin America: Environmental orientation and Cultural settings*. PhD thesis elaborated by Pepa Ambrosio that will be submitted at UCO in April 2015.

Alice Newton (NILU) is supervising the following thesis:

- *Approaches to the Management of Socio-ecological Systems, elaborated by Sirak Robele Gari. Erasmus Mundus. Joint Doctorate MACOMA, due Oct 2015.*
- *Integrated Beach Assessment and Management, elaborated by Vera Semeoshenkova. Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate MACOMA, due Oct 2015.*
- *Adaptive management framework for artisanal fisheries in Monte Hermoso and Pehuen-Co, Argentina, elaborated by Leo Berninsone. Erasmus Mundus Master Course WACOMA, due Jul 2015*

Pablo Ramos and Diana Maya from PUJ have supervised the Bachelor thesis

- *Gobernanza de sistemas socioecológicos: El desafío de los sistemas comunitarios del Pacífico colombiano (Governance of Socio-Ecological Systems: the challenges of community systems in the Colombian Pacific)*, elaborated by Natalia Ocampo and presented at PUJ end of 2013 with Honors.

Alejandra Cruz (UNAM) has also registered at UNAM her Bachelor thesis:

- Diagnóstico del Sistema Socio-ecológico de la comunidad chinanteca de Santiago Comaltepec, Oaxaca, México (*Diagnosis of the Socio-Ecological System of the chinantec community of Santiago Comaltepec, Oaxaca, Mexico*)

MMD asked all the partners to send to UCO all the papers already published and the documents derived of the project to be uploaded at the Research Participant Portal (RPP). In addition, those papers published, submitted or finished by the moment that the final reports are submitted have also to be uploaded. Thus, the partners are requested to send this information to UCO, with details about the situation of the papers: in preparation, draft, submitted (mention the journal and the date), accepted or published, before the 28th of February 2015. All these information will be included in the final scientific report and the documents uploaded in the RPP.

IV. Final scientific and financial reports

MMD acknowledged the reception in due time and form of the draft reports of the scientific activities elaborated by all the WP leaders. The UCO team will process this information and elaborate a draft of the final report. This draft will be delivered to all the members of the SC for comments at the second half of February. Comments and suggestions will be submitted to UCO one week later to have the final report approved and submitted before the deadline (14th March 2015).

Regarding the financial report, MMD reminded that the procedure is the same than in the first reporting period. Each partner needs to contact its institution LEAR, and ask him/her to upload all the financial information to the Research Participant Portal and submit the financial reports to UCO. Reports should be submitted as soon as possible to give time to the Project Coordinator to check them. The latest date for submission will be the 6th of March 2015, but partners are encouraged to do it earlier.

Those partners under the lump sum scheme only need to report on the person-months by person devoted to the project. The other partners need to report the different expenditures on RTD, MGT and OTHERS, specifying the import and the concept.

Once both reports submitted, if they are accepted by the EC, they will deliver to UCO the rest of the budget. UCO will transfer the funds to the partners after reception. If any partner has changed its bank account, need to inform to UCO.

V. Global analysis and results of the project

MMD requested the members of the SC to do a short valuation of the results of the project:

Alice Newton, representative of NILU:

The COMET-LA project has provided an excellent opportunity for NILU to work with communities and partners in Latin America. Academic exchanges and further joint project proposals have resulted from the networking achieved during the COMET-LA project. Another great benefit was exploring different management frameworks for Social-Ecological Systems, such as the Ostrom framework, DPSIR and SAF in very diverse social and environmental settings. Capacity building of early career researchers was very rewarding. Several postgraduate modules and workshops were held and early career researchers worked with NILU to produce scientific papers and tools.

John Icely, representative of SGM:

Sagremarisco Lda (SGM) is a small medium enterprise (SME) in terms of EU categorisation with particular specialities in Aquaculture and Remote Sensing, but has recently been involved with coastal management. It is in this regard that the association with COMET-LA has been exceptional in that SGM has taken some the lesson learnt in Latin America regarding co-participation with stakeholders to discuss problems regarding coastal management and governance of fisheries and aquaculture with stakeholders of the Algarve coast of Portugal. With regard to Latin America, initially there was not much interest in the expertise of SGM regarding aquaculture, but this has recently changed with a collaboration between AquaMarina, the artisanal fishers of Monte Hermoso and SGM to consult on the the potential of bivalve aquaculture the estuary of Bahia Blanca; there has also been some discussions with PUJ concerning sustainable aquaculture in Colombia. SGM has also been closely involved with exploring the use of different frameworks for sustainable governance of natural resources, in both Colombia and Argentina, and continues to be involved with capacity building of early career researchers from these countries but also in collaboration with early researchers from other parts of the world. Several scientific papers are at various stages of production based on SGM's partnership with COMET-LA. The lessons learnt in COMET-LA are currently being transferred to recently EU funded projects AQUA_USERS, AQUASPACE and AQUAMOD (under submission).

Kirsty Blackstock, representative of JHI:

The James Hutton team led the development of the scenario methodology to assess robust strategies for natural resource management and governance in the future. The four-stage approach was developed and applied in the three case studies; and the process was evaluated during the project. The project was extremely useful in developing and exploring approaches that were both participatory and rigorous; and in particular, that enabled community members to start taking concrete steps to ensure adaptive management and improve governance processes and/or representation. The project illustrated that local people understand the exogenous pressures on their systems; and are able to design future strategies, if supported with appropriate processes and data. The results suggest that whilst climate change and other environmental changes are very important, it is the socio-economic aspects of governance, capacity building and social identity/cohesion that seem most relevant in helping communities to adapt to these drivers and mitigate their impacts. The comparative design has helped to draw out common experiences across different socio-ecological systems and illustrate that these findings are not unique or unusual. The methodology was time-consuming and demanding but the results seem to have been

worth the investment, with everyone (researchers, co-investigators and community members) gaining new insights. The 'co-researching' approach was very important to build capacity, improve mutual understanding and ensure processes were suited to the specific conditions; and help embed the legacy of the project such that the actions identified are developed and implemented. We found the process of collaborating with the COMET partners stimulating and productive, and this has allowed us to develop a better understand of local systems and challenges in Latin America.

M^a Adelaida Farah, representative of PUJ:

The project was a very positive and important process for both the communities we work with and for the academic and scientific partners in two ways. First, the learning arena built over three years allowed the communities of Colombia, Mexico and Argentina knew the experiences of managing natural resources in each community, learn from them and also recognize their own strengths and potential. Networks between different communities were generated which will allow to further strengthening of community processes for the management of environmental challenges faced by each community. Second, the learning arena also showed the importance of permanent relations between communities, civil society organizations and research institutions, in order to systematize, generate and socialize diverse knowledge on governance of socio-ecological systems. Through the meetings of scientists, community leaders and policy makers, the project contributed to recognize local models of governance of natural resources and their relevance in the context of pressure for competence and current climate change.

Sebastian Moreno, representative of CCC:

During the three (3) years that lasted the project it was possible to observe a permanent evolution of the participants; perhaps, it is one of the best examples of how to articulate knowledge of scientists and local communities, in order to create scenarios of interaction and recognition. The project in Colombia started with a first approach and a generation of confidence between communities and scientists, which made possible the development of the capacities of the participants, breaking paradigms and putting together the traditional knowledge with scientific one.

Roberto Escalante, representative of UNAM:

The experience of the Mexican team in the project COMET-LA has been extremely inspiring and enjoyable for several reasons. One, very important, has been to adopt a new vision about how to approach complexity and to do it by searching collectively with the main actors involved, the intricate truth of how societies and nature interact in a day-to-day unfolding process. A second reason has to do with the pleasure provided by the happiness of those who have been involved in the research and their consideration of the effort worthwhile and stimulating. A third reason is that we want to continue exploring new ways, to find new questions, and to open the eyes more and more to visualize how to give answer to the legitimate aspirations of those caring for nature, the best value of humanity.

Yolanda Lara, representative of ERA:

COMET-LA is reaching its end. It is difficult to summarize the value of 3 years' work in only some words, so the next points should only be considered as the first conclusions. More time is without a doubt necessary for making a more complete evaluation, but for now, this should do. It was a very interesting project which allowed us to get to know the experiences of the management of the commons in other countries, specifically the

commons with natural resources of high conservational value. The value of these exchanges was especially high due to the contrasting social conditions between the three case studies. The project opened the possibility of direct interaction between the grassroots organizations of very different origins. The possible amplitude of these interactions is to be evaluated in the future, as it depends strongly of the capacity and the willingness of these organizations of keeping the contact alive, inventing new channels of communication and eventually working together. The research was sometimes very tedious for the participants, as they had to participate to the workshops during many hours. But in spite of this, the community appreciated the experience. The used methodology was at moments somewhat cryptic, which was sometimes a barrier for understanding the direction of the project, but it provided new concepts. It's worth analyzing how the area could be incorporated in future research.

Gerardo Perillo, representative of IADO:

The project (for its interdisciplinary character) has generated a significant academic curiosity for the Argentina Team (AT). To meet and learn different issues from other sciences and the possibility to interact with researchers from other regions and disciplines has given us a different look at several issues that help us to improve our future work. The methodologies applied, although at the beginning somewhat confusing and even in some issues not clear enough, somehow turned out consistent with the proposed objectives. Nevertheless, except for the Argentine case, there has not been any comparison between the results of the participative work with the climatic and environmental data. As for the results, in the Argentine study area, we were able to achieve a significant dialogue never before generated between the scientific community and local stakeholders (SH) and decision makers (DM). We observed that both SH and DM are very interested in continuing the activities developed through the project. As a major result, we can observe the formation of an incipient management system by the fisherman community.

Cristina Sobaler, representative of CE-UICN:

Our participation in the COMET-LA project has been a great opportunity to exchange experiences and views with organizations in Europe and in Latin America (both regions of particular interest to the CeUICN). We emphasize the space of dialogue generated between scientists, NGOs, local populations and decision makers, which has allowed, among other things, to agree the basis for establishing a strategy to improve the governance of natural resources and the participation of all stakeholders in that strategy. We have shared internationally these and other learning of COMET-LA project, through the IUCN networks like a global concern. We will continue adding efforts towards achieving to incorporate these issues into the IUCN Global Programme 2016-2020.

M^a del Mar Delgado, representative of UCO:

To coordinate COMET-LA has probably been the biggest academic challenge I have faced. The project had a lot of particularities: working with European and Latin American colleagues from very different countries and contexts; working with CSO and local communities; gathering scientists from a lot of disciplines and also people from local communities; developing research at thousands of kilometres, etc. However, it has been a great scientific and personal opportunity. We have delivered a lot of innovative results, from methodologies adapted to work at the local level, to a learning arena where all of us learnt to share knowledge and to open our minds to other knowledge; from developing research to foster actions in the territory; from exchanging experiences to

building strong networks that will last after the project; from working at the local level to participating with the local communities in international forum. All of them have been outstanding opportunities, but the most relevant outcomes have been the personal experiences of meeting such a big number of incredible people, and to have the chances to learn from them and to grow together. The project ends, but it is now that we have a lot of results; I commit to continue delivering them both in scientific and society forum. To finish I want to thank all the people involved in the project at different levels, but very specially to the UCO team that make it possible: Pepa, Pieter, Cristina, Elisa (and also those that worked at other periods, Sabina, Ceccilia and Sasha) and the academic staff Rafael Navarro, Julio Berbel and Jose Luis Quero.

VI. Next steps

The member of the SC highlighted that COMET-LA has created a strong network that probably will open important opportunities in the future. They committed to search for full or partial collaboration options.

The partners also committed to disseminate the final results of COMET-LA in scientific papers and national and international conferences, but also to the society. MMD has an abstract accepted on *Lights and shades of Community-based Natural Resource Management in three Latin American experiences* at the *2015 International Association for the Study of the Commons Conference* (Edmonton, Canada). She has also been invited to present the results of the project in a program linking nature and society (*El bosque habitado-The inhabited forest*) at a Spanish National Radiostation (Radio 3).

Israel Hernández from Comaltepec reported that UZACHI, the technical forestry unit of the community would extend their field of action to other areas. COMET-LA and its working method have been essential in this new approach of the community.

MMD informed that she would check for how long the project webpage have to be active. After this time, she will explore the options to host it at UCO's main webpage or other options.

UNAM team reported that they have received funding from UNAM to work at least one year more with Comaltepec community and to edit a book about the experience.

Finally, it was mentioned that the network created with the other 4 projects is an important issue and that joint actions and possibilities will be analysed.

VII. Other issues

MMD stated that as a final activity of COMET-LA, UCO organized a workshop to identify the research needs of the commons in Spain and Europe working with organizations of the civil society. More than 30 representatives of CSO working with commons and commoners met at UCO from 9th to 11th January 2015 and delivered the *Spanish research agenda of the Commons*. The experience of working together with CSOs in COMET-LA permitted a fluid dialogue and was highly appreciated by the participants in the workshop. They enormously appreciated the interest of research institutions for these common goods that produce so important goods



and services for the whole society, but are not recognized, or even known by society and are increasingly threatened by policies, new users, development and growth models, etc.

To end the meeting, MMD thanked all the participants in COMET-LA (with a especial mention to the young researchers involved in the project) for the effort done and for the outcomes obtained. She asked the LA partners to transmit her acknowledgement to the communities. She also remarked her thankfulness to all the people in the UCO's team who did a great job.

All the participants showed their satisfaction with the projects and congratulated by the outcomes and the future possibilities.