

Circle:	MC Members
Date:	26-10-2018
Time:	18:00 (local time)
Location:	Funchal, Portugal
Participants:	Listed in Appendix A

Topic 1 - Opening of the 5th MC Meeting

- Welcome words by Action Chair Miguel Azenha
 - Agenda of today's meeting
 - Facts and Figures of the Action
 - Presentation slides in Appendix B (for reference)
- **Establishment of the quorum**
 - The rule of 2/3 minimum was NOT met (20 represented of 31 currently involved countries). However, MC meeting was properly conducted since it was the last meeting before closing of the Action with informative character only. No actual voting took place.

Topic 2 - Balance of activities since Sept. 2017

- 1 Workshop: Prague (17 reimbursed participants, related to WG2)
 - Dissemination meeting in USA (ACI Spring convention in Salt Lake City)
 - Final conference: SynerCrete in Funchal including one TU1404 plenary session
 - Website: www.synercrete.com
 - 68 reimbursed participants
 - 6 STSM's (in total now 24); all approved and finished
 - 5 ITC conference grants were successfully processed
 - WG1 Extended Round Robin RRT⁺ finished, results were presented at the TU1404 plenary session of SynerCrete
 - WG2 Numerical benchmarking finished, results were presented at the TU1404 plenary session of SynerCrete
 - WG3 Recommendations is finished, results were presented at the TU1404 plenary session of SynerCrete
 - no further training school due to the change in grant periods towards May-April
- > Milestones according to MoU can be considered as generally achieved**
- Budget of last grand period (May 2017 - Apr 2018) was well balanced (see Appendix B)
 - Budget of current grant period (May 2018 - Oct 2018) cannot be evaluated at the moment but all was done in order to provide a proper balance after the reimbursements of the last meeting in Funchal

Topic 3 - Discussion on the sustainability of the Action

- COST Action TU1404 will be finished by this meeting (formally 17th November 2018); several measures were discussed in order to enable adequate sustainability of the established network

- COST Academy on Sustainability was presented (to take place in 29th November 2018); Miguel Azenha will participate and inform the maintained core group for further discussion
- Maintenance of TU1404 channels:
 - Stop updating or potentially close Facebook page (due to relatively low engagement observed within the target audience – Facebook does not seem to be very much used among the scientific community in question)
 - keep mailing list and webpage
 - Miguel volunteers for paying the fee of the webpage and keep it operational; besides, he may collect information from members and distribute in a newsletter, as proposed by Farid Benboudjema (this will depend on voluntary contribution of potentially interesting facts/news of the network members)
- keep core group but without necessarily appointing seats such as: chair, secretary, WG leader... Just a matter of keeping the discussions and coordinating initiatives within a group of people that have been working together regularly. Open to other interested members
- there was a strong agreement to establish a doctoral school in sequence of COST TU1404, most likely in the framework of the RILEM TC 254-CMS, or TUDELFT's doctoral schools on multi-scale modelling (CMC)
- Founding an association was considered redundant in regard to current associations/institutions such as RILEM or FIB. No need to duplicate efforts
- Distribution of an event to meet again, maybe with a prior meeting a day before the event. Some proposals were laid out:
 - IMST 2019 in Riga, Latvia should be announced (Innovative Materials, Structures and Technologies)
 - SMSS 2019 in Rovinj, Croatia should be announced (Rilem Spring convention and Int. conference; very suitable due to connection with Rilem TCs)
- establishment of conference series
 - general agreement that the series launched by TU1404 should continue
 - Agnieszka volunteered in general through the last core group meeting
 - Dirk volunteered for organizing SynerCrete in 4 years (2022)
- Think Tank on European projects
 - Difficulty in assuring a funding scheme that embraces as many partners as COST. Agreed not to artificially try to create a new 'continuation' COST Action. New challenges can justify a new COST Action application (e.g. extreme events and climatic change; durability)
 - Agreed that COST is a nice networking funding scheme, but further research-oriented funding is needed for the group as a whole (in fact, some initiatives of members of COST TU1404 have been successful)
 - RISE project suitable to continue the action? Probably the widest funding scheme to gather many of the members of the current COST Action, and with some funding from research
 - Mailing list as an aggregation factor and call-for-action in the production of new applications (e.g. H2020) that can maintain the network to some extent

Topic 4 - **Final report of the Action**

- Final report of the Action is currently under way: Miguel Azenha and Dirk Schlicke in charge of producing draft for approval/evaluation
- relevant information from all WG leaders was collected and compiled
- tables with publication and project application (even if rejected) will distributed among all members with a request to give further information (mailing requesting for collaborative filling of the necessary tables to be representative of all Action members)

Topic 5 - **Closing of the Action**

- the Action was closed with personal wishes and thanks by the chair (Miguel Azenha) and the vice-chair (Stéphanie Staquet) of the Action
- key persons of the Action prepared a small picture book with personal wishes to Miguel and Stéphanie for all their efforts, which was presented during the closing

The Meeting was closed at 20:00

Appendix A - Attendance list

Appendix B – Presentation held at the MC meeting