

2.5 Working Group on “Elaborating a New Conference Model (SWOT Analysis)”

Chair: Italy

Working group members: Belgium, Spain and the European Commission

Following some of the discussions that took place over the past years on the length, format and content of EUFASA Conferences, the Working Group analysed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of EUFASA conferences (establishing a so-called “SWOT analysis”).

Identified strengths

- networking,
- exchanging ideas, experiences,
- best practices,
- a springboard for new members to set up an association.

Weaknesses

- little involvement between the conferences,
- lack of discipline in communication,
- poor participation in working group by some member association,
- not benefiting from EU initiatives

Opportunities

- intercultural exchange,
- join forces on common objectives,
- allows for a stronger negotiating power within MFAs

Threats

- difficulty to find volunteers,
- inadequate promotion of conference results and potential, the awareness of the EUFASA existence is small
- lacking a real input from the EU and its contribution

Recommendations:

- Recommendations on a new format and content of the EUFASA Conference were discussed and voted upon in a special workshop (see point 4.2. of the conference report).