

Pioneering European Turf Grass Research to Enhance Responsible Golf Course Management



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Session: 1045-1145

1045: Introduction, Martin Nilsson, FEGGA

1050: Stefan Nilsson, Scandinavian Turfgrass Environment Research Foundation

1105: Koert Donkers, Dutch Golf Federation and TuRF Research Foundation

1120: Stefano Boni, Italian Golf Federation

1135: Discussion

Background

There exist eminent threats to the European golf course maintenance industry

Presently, the industry doesn't have the proper solutions to manage turf in the future if we want the same high standards as we have today

And We can't expect a radical change in golfer's attitude to how a golf course should present itself and perform.

We need new solutions to many different areas of turf management

Why Research?

STERF is an example of that you can build, in just ten years, a successful Turfgrass Research institution that delivers high quality results in a few, but focused areas

The results are directly helping Scandinavian greenkeepers solving turf related problems, creating better and more sustainable surfaces for the continuous benefit for the Scandinavian golfer

STERF's results have improved the golf industry's reputation in the broader society and amongst public decision makers

STERF's results have also indirectly elevated the greenkeepers recognition in the industry and amongst golfers.

Our Goal

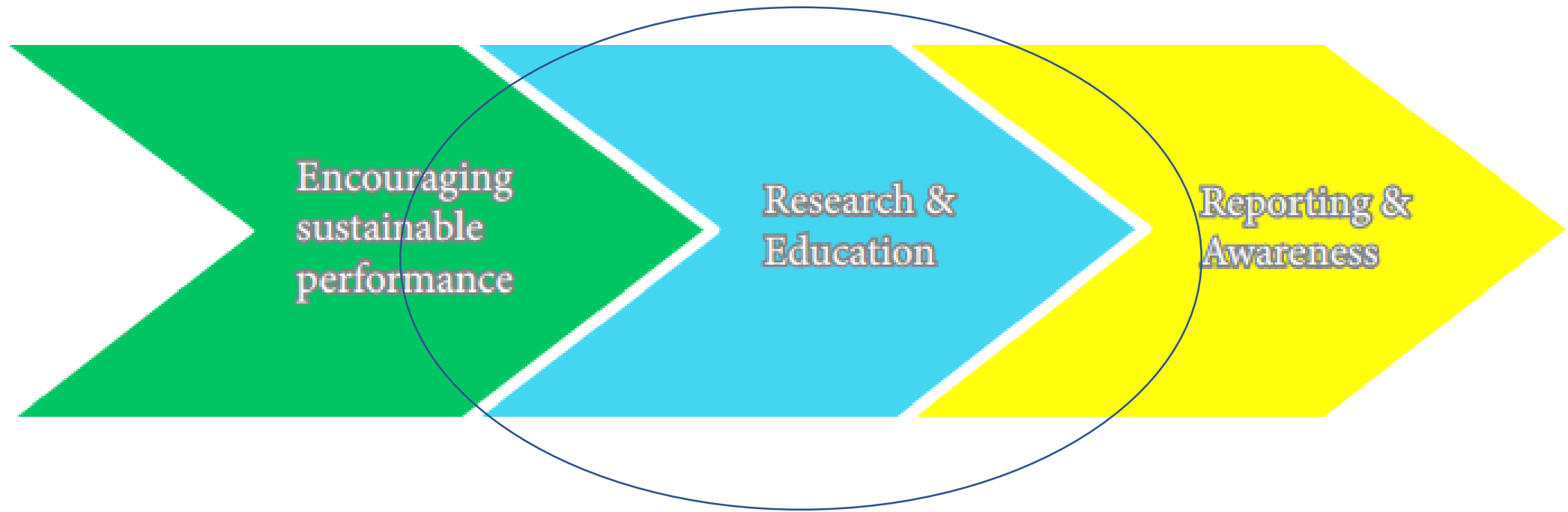
To copy STERF's success to the rest of Europe and FEGGA's member associations

Our goal is to have two independent Turfgrass research institutions founded and operating with their first "Call for Proposals" within a limited number of years

Considering geography and climate the initial thought is, that there should be established a Central European Institution for Continental "problems" and one for Mediterranean "problems"

Responsible Golf Course Management

Our FEGGA statement on behalf of the European Golf Greenkeeping Industry



Role of FEGGA

- To establish and create sustained support for the project amongst member associations
- To utilize the resources of knowledge and relationships amongst member associations to gain support from other golf organizations.
- Use our annual FEGGA conference as a key meeting point for the development of the project
- To establish and create sustained support for the project amongst FEGGA's patrons and sponsors as potential industrial partners