

UK Strategy on FAnGR

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Outline

- **Background on FAnGR in UK**
- **What UK Government is doing**
- **Some key outputs**

UK's Farm Animal Genetic Resources - scope

- Focus is on cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry and equines
- Our FAnGR have economic, environmental, social and cultural importance



Some facts and figures

- FAnGR part of a £109 billion agri-food industry
- UK has rich FAnGR: ~700 breeds, 235 native breeds, ~200 at risk
- UK contains more than 9% of 7,600 + total global livestock breeds
- Strong tradition of conservation of FAnGR by Non-Governmental organisations/breeders/breed societies/Rare Breeds Survival trust/other trusts



Commit ments/ drivers

- International – eg Convention on Biological Diversity, Global Plan of Action
- EU eg EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020
- National – Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services.



**UK's
Key
policies
to
support
FAnGR**

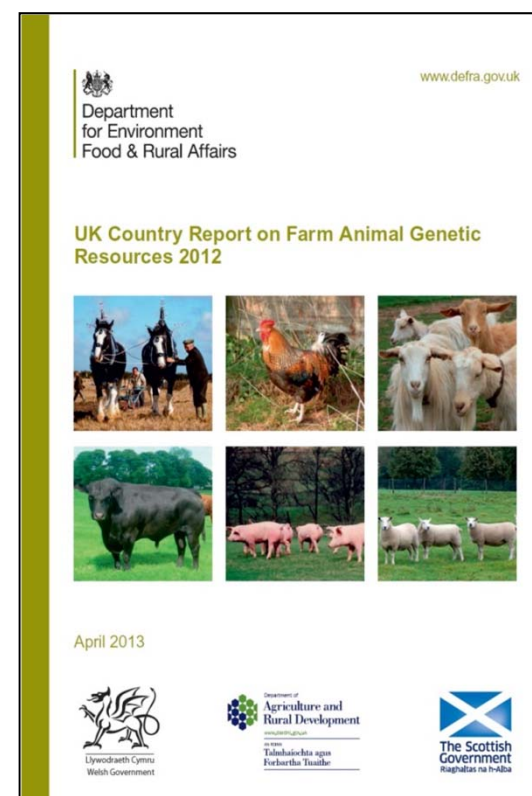
- Using an expert committee to provide advice and guidance
- Publishing inventories and improving monitoring –to understand situation of and keep eye on breeds that may be at risk
- Providing potential support to native breeds at risk under agri-environment schemes and allowing breeds at risk possibility to be spared from culling in exotic disease outbreak

A key output- UK Country report

- Published in 2013
- Set out state of play on conservation and sustainable use in UK
- Included inventory of breeds in UK
- Longer term trends
- A forward look



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FAnGR expert committee

- Provides advice to Defra and Devolved Administrations (in Scotland, Wales and N. Ireland) on conservation and sustainable use of FAnGR
- 10 Committee members: academics, industry leaders, livestock farmers, representatives from conservation organisations.



Work of FAnGR Committee

- Now has focused work plan, reviewed annually to reflect priorities
- Includes issues useful for mainstream breeds e.g. to help improve profitability.
- Work areas include:
 - ✓ Monitoring and Conservation
 - ✓ Current and new technologies
 - ✓ Beef genetics
 - ✓ Sparing animals from culling
 - ✓ Ex situ conservation
 - ✓ Multipliers and indicators

FAnGR Committee - some key outputs

- Report on how Beef genetics can help improve beef farmers profitability-published 2015
- Review of current and future technologies - 2016
- Updated paper on cloning- 2016



FAnGR Monitoring

- Annual monitoring of populations of certain breeds/species- timeseries back to 2002.
- A full inventory from a much larger number of breeds – updating that in the 2012 UK Country report- published August 2016
- New biodiversity indicator for FAnGR published in 2015 using our latest data
- Report on trends in populations issued 2015

Other FAnGR activities

- **Reviewing Breeds at Risk and Native Breeds at risk—against agreed thresholds**
- **Ensuring FAnGR activities and issues fed into wider policies e.g. in Animal Health law**
- **Providing advice relating to new zootechnical legislation**
- **Communications with breed societies/close working with RBST and industry levy bodies.**



Future work / challenges?

- Continuing to ensuring that conservation and use of FAnGR is reflected in new policies/schemes/strategies
- Developing communications with breed societies and other organisations
- Importance of data collection and sharing
- Keeping updated on new technologies
- Working with RBST and industry levy bodies.

**Any
questions?**





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**Further
information?**



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Thank you!