

## ERFP Country report 2010 – 2011

**COUNTRY:** FINLAND

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### **Strategic Priority Area 1: Characterization, Inventory and Monitoring of Trends and Associated Risks**

2010

- tasks according to the National Action Plan (cattle jointly with FABA breeding organisation, sheep with ProAgria, chicken with MTT database)
- access to the FABA database on Finncattle breeds
- updating EFABIS database through own node at MTT
- research projects, presented under Area 4

2011

- workshop and preparation of inventory of goat farms (in collaboration with EVIRA Food Safety Authority)

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### **Strategic Priority Area 2: Sustainable Use and Development**

2010

- animal breeding organisations are responsible for following the sustainability principles (breeding objectives, maintenance of variation, cryopreservation, utilisation of genomics) in the breeding programmes
- the Advisory Board on animal breeding within the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
- breeding organisations (cattle, sheep, horse) give annual reports to the Ministry
- selection and planning of new AI bulls for local cattle breeds jointly with breeding (FABA) and AI organisation (VikingGenetics)
- utilisation of software for management of genetic variation (EVA, GENCONT, RelaX2, PopRep)
- project on creating new products and brand name for local cattle breeds

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### **Strategic Priority Area 3: Conservation**

(please give details for the most relevant institutions for national genebanks / cryopreservation in the table in Annex 1)

2010

- coordination of the *in situ* programme for Eastern, Northern and Western Finncattle (mating planning jointly with FABA)
- *ex situ* programme: semen banking with VikingGenetics, embryo banking with Embryocentre, semen/embryo banks at VikingGenetics)
- running the *in situ* programme for Landrace chicken
- collaboration with two vocational colleges and a prison farm on maintaining Eastern, Northern and Western Finncattle and Finnsheep and Kainuu Grey Sheep
- collection and storage of semen of Finnsheep, Kainuu Grey Sheep and Åland Sheep in collaboration with ProAgria and VikingGenetics
- embryo collection in Eastern and Western Finncattle in collaboration with Embryocentre

2011

- inventory and determination of core set of cattle semen banks
- assessing the state of sheep semen banks
- embryo collection in Northern Finncattle
- utilisation of CryoWeb

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#### **Strategic Priority Area 4: Policies, Institutions and Capacity-building**

2010

- National Action Plan on animal genetic resources since 2004; MTT is responsible for the conservation programme which is coordinated by Terhi Nikkonen while Juha Kantanen is at NordGen
  - Advisory Board on genetic resources within Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (covers also plant and forest genetic resources)
  - joint working group on plant, forest and animal genetic resources on facilitating the conservation activities and on preparing national measures for access and benefit sharing of genetic resources
  - participation in Nordic sub-region, ERFP region and FAO global programme
  - issue of the magazine on AnGR
  - leaflets for general public on the National Action Plan and local cattle breeds
  - thorough revision and systematic updating of the MTT web pages on AnGr
  - wide publicity in TV, radio and newspapers
  - stand in the Living Rural Area fair (ELMA) in Helsinki
  - university course on conservation and research of AnGR (Helsinki)
  - seminars for Landrace chicken and Eastern Finncattle keepers
  - grant from Finncattle Breeding Foundation for strengthening the selection and conservation programmes in Finncattle
  - study visit by the delegation from the Croatian Ministry of Agriculture
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21<sup>st</sup> April 2011

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- international sessions, seminars and workshops: Livestock Biodiversity (Rome), management of genetic variation and risks in breeding programmes (NordGen, Tallinn), ITWG AnGR (FAO, Rome), ABS AnGR (Wageningen), cryopreservation (Lelystad)
- research projects on molecular archeogenetics of cattle and sheep in Finland and on promotion of native Finncattle breeds
- international research collaboration: EURECA, EFABIS-Net, GLOBALDIV

2011

- workshop for goat keepers
  - new leaflets on chicken and sheep conservation
  - new project on genetics, genomics and evolution of prolific sheep breeds (international collaboration)
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**Annex 1: List of relevant national institutions for national Genebanks / Cryopreservation Experts**

institution, address, e-mail, homepage, phone / fax	contact person / expert incl. e-mail	animal species	type of genetic material	remarks
VikingGenetics, Box 95, FI-158 71 Hollola, Finland, <a href="mailto:Auli.Himanen@vikinggenetics.com">Auli.Himanen@vikinggenetics.com</a> , <a href="http://www.vikinggenetics.com">http://www.vikinggenetics.com</a> , Phone +358 40 311 5000, Fax: +358 40 381 2284	Auli Himanen <a href="mailto:Auli.Himanen@vikinggenetics.com">Auli.Himanen@vikinggenetics.com</a> ,	cattle	semen	
Embryocentre, Box 40, 01301 Vantaa, Finland, <a href="mailto:Hannu.Myllymaki@faba.fi">Hannu.Myllymaki@faba.fi</a> , <a href="http://www.faba.fi/asmo">http://www.faba.fi/asmo</a> , Phone +358 20 747 2038; Fax +358 20 747 2001	Hannu Myllymäki <a href="mailto:Hannu.Myllymaki@faba.fi">Hannu.Myllymaki@faba.fi</a>	cattle	embryo	
ProAgria, PL 97, 33101 Tampere, Finland, <a href="http://www.proagria.fi/pirkanmaa">www.proagria.fi/pirkanmaa</a> , <a href="mailto:Johanna.Rautiainen@proagria.fi">Johanna.Rautiainen@proagria.fi</a> , phone +358 20 747 2800, fax +358 20 747 2801	Johanna Rautiainen <a href="mailto:Johanna.Rautiainen@proagria.fi">Johanna.Rautiainen@proagria.fi</a>	sheep	semen	

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