

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 1: CHARACTERIZATION, INVENTORY AND MONITORING OF TRENDS AND ASSOCIATED RISKS

Actions undertaken during the past year

All populations of farm animals included in the conservation programme are monitored at the annual basis. This is the task of Species Coordinators who provide their reports to the respective Working Groups. A substantial increase in population size in majority of breeds under the conservation programme has been observed in the last year;

Revised performance evaluation programmes have been developed and implemented in case of pig, sheep and poultry breeds. The results of performance evaluation carried out in 2007 have been published and widely distributed in 2008;

Field work - on-farm evaluation and selection of individual animals to be introduced into the restoration programme of the Polish Merino in the old type has been completed in 2008;

A number of research projects has been undertaken at various agricultural universities/institutes aiming to enhance genetic characterisation of native breeds.

Two MSc projects were undertaken to analyse genetic status (inbreeding level and contribution of valuable ancestors) of the Sztumski and Sokolski coldblooded horsebreeds which are included in the conservation programme.

Actions planned for the next year

Ongoing monitoring and performance recording of breeds under the conservation programme;

Various studies to characterise breeds under conservation programme will be either continued or initiated.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 2: SUSTAINABLE USE AND DEVELOPMENT

Actions undertaken during the past year

Continuous discussion on development of specific products from native breeds;

Further development of the scheme to support breeders to control inbreeding level in a small population of Olkuska sheep;

New initiatives, in collaboration with the NGOs to develop and popularize innovative options for utilisation of coldblooded horses.

Actions planned for the next year

Continuation of efforts to develop specific, unique products from native breeds;

Strengthening cooperation with breeders societies to promote implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources, especially in the context of maintaining within breed diversity.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 3: CONSERVATION

Actions undertaken during the past year

Routine evaluation of progress achieved in implementation of the conservation programmes; introduction of relevant amendments, where necessary;

Cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in implementation of the Package 7 within the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, under Agri-environment;

Adjustment of existing procedures for documents' flow to facilitate breeders' participation in the conservation programme financed through the agri-environmental measures, Package 7;

Finalisation of conservation programmes for coldblooded Sokolski and Sztumsk horses, Polish back and white cattle, Podhale cakiel and old type of Polish Merino sheep;

Extensive consultation with Polish Horse Breeders Association and development of proposals to enhance requirements for participation in the conservation programmes especially in case of Malopolski and Wielkopolski horse breeds;

Introduction of new breeds into the conservation programmes: 8 colour varieties of nutria (Greenland, Standard, Black dominant, Amber-gold, White non Albino, Sable, Pastel and Pearl);

Inspection of selected farms participating in the conservation programme.

Actions planned for the next year

Coordination and assessment of implementation of the conservation programmes:

- for cattle, horses and sheep and pigs (measures included in the package P7 of agri-environmental programme, Rural Development Programme framework 2007-2013);
- for remaining species: poultry, fur animals, honey-bees and fish (state measures for animal breeding development within annual budget of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development);

Re-visiting conservation programmes for some breeds;

Strengthening efforts to establish national ex-situ genebank for animal genetic resources.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 4: POLICIES, INSTITUTIONS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Actions undertaken during the past year

Initiation of discussion in the Ministry on preparation of the National Strategy and Action Plan – due to the economic crisis the financing of the work had to be postponed.

National Coordinator represented Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development during the 5th session of ITWG-AnGR (Rome, 28-30.01. 09) and participated in the Global Workshop for

National Coordinators (26-27 01. 09); Presentation: "After Interlaken - Poland" during the side event "Implementation of the GPA -AnGR" on 30.01. 2009

Contribution to the preparations of Polish position for 7th session of WG-ABS and other meetings in the preparation process to negotiations of the International Regime - ABS;

Contribution to work of European Commission on ABS:

- Expert meeting on Sectoral Aspects in the international ABS Regime DG Environment, Brussels, 15 September 2008: „*Farm Animal Genetic Resources*” (E. Martyniuk, A-M. Neeteson, A. Mäki-Tanila)

- Working group meeting of the SANCO, Brussels, 17 October 2008. “*International Regime on Access Benefit Sharing in the context of Animal Genetic Resources*” (E.Martyniuk A. Mäki-Tanila);

Exhibition of native breeds during the National Animal Show in Poznan, on 3-5.10.2008;

Participation in scientific conferences, numerous seminars with breeders and regional livestock exhibitions; providing presentations and lectures;

Participation in the international conference : Central European Congress of Life Sciences EUROBIOTECH, Kraków 17-19 X. 2008. Invited paper: “*Application of biotechnological methods in animal genetic resources conservation programmes*”;

Seminar "From theory to sustainable animal breeding" in honour of Dr Erling Fimland, NordGen, Ås, Norway, 12.01. 2009. Invited paper "The Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources”;

Participation in the 1st GLOBLADIV WORKSHOP: A global view of livestock biodiversity and conservation, Bydgoszcz, 18-19.03.2009;

Participating in the First Congress of Agricultural Sciences - Science for Practice, Puławy 14-15.05.2009. Invited paper: “*Conservation of animal genetic resources*”.

Actions planned for the next year

Initiation of preparation of the National Strategy and Action Plan addressing AnGR in the broader context of conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity;

Re-visiting National Priorities identified in the Country Report in 2002 in the lights of 23 GPA priorities and associated actions;

Conducting workshops for breeders (keeping animals of given species), that are involved in conservation programme;

Continuous cooperation with NGOs, especially breeders' societies;

Exhibition of native breeds at the number of Regional Animal Shows, in autumn 2009;

Consideration of establishment of the Foundation for Animal Genetic Resources Conservation.