

**Reported by**

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

**Actions undertaken during the past year**

All important data of Swiss breeds of the main species - cattle, horses, sheep, goats and pigs - are available on the EFABIS.ch database. The yearly monitoring of rare and endangered breeds is done by the respective breeding organisations (BO). BO's can submit to the FOAG maintaining and encouraging programs for endangered breeds wherein the monitoring of population data and inbreeding must be done retrospectively over the last few years. Trends show, that population sizes increase. Unfortunately coefficients of inbreeding tend to increase slowly in a few goat breeds.

Participation in many international surveys and completion of several questionnaire forms.

**Actions planned for the next year**

EFABIS.ch will be completed with pictures of as many breeds as possible. The evaluation of projects to benefit from subsidies for goats will focus on programs reducing the coefficient of inbreeding and including marketing strategies for breed specific products. The "Grauvieh" population will be characterised genetically and genetic distances between Rhaetic Grauvieh, Tiroler Grauvieh, milk- resp. meat-orientated other Grauvieh populations and Original Braunvieh will be calculated.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 2: SUSTAINABLE USE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Actions undertaken during the past year**

Breeding programs of BO's for cattle and goats have focussed more and more on sustainable use of animals including the marketing of products of high value. Original Braunvieh projects include production of high quality meat beef. BO of goats elaborate programs for breed specific products made of milk or meat as well as for the production of bags.

Once a year, the FOAG meets with experts to discuss breeding programs for endangered breeds and evaluates new programs.

**Actions planned for the next year**

Expert meetings will continue and new programs focussing on sustainability will be supported by FOAG.

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 3: CONSERVATION**

#### **Actions undertaken during the past year**

Several meetings took place with BO's to promote conservation activities for endangered breeds. Particular interest was given to programs with proven ancestry, low inbreeding coefficient, a large genetic base and marketing strategies. The Cryo web has been installed and some data of cattle semen of endangered breeds have been entered.

#### **Actions planned for the next year**

Swiss genetic is a private gene bank, which has built its own genetic pool for cattle semen of rare breeds. It also stores semen of rare goat breeds. The National Horse Stud in Avenches collects and stores semen of Franches-Montagnes stallions. Agreements will have to be concluded with gene bank holders in order to be able to enter and monitor date of semen of rare breeds into Cryo web. A National gene conservation program will be discussed with private organisations.

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 4: POLICIES, INSTITUTIONS AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

#### **Actions undertaken during the past year**

Support of animal genetic diversity has been part of the coherent agricultural policy, focussing on sustainability for many years. Conservation programs have been supported since 2001. The first round table was organised end of may 2009 with 18 stakeholders, all active in animal breeding and conservation activities. Main objectives were, in accordance with the global plan of action, the determination of priorities for 2010, international year of biodiversity, and the elaboration of the frame for the national plan of action.

#### **Actions planned for the next year**

Coaching of BO's in the elaboration of conservation projects  
Elaboration of the rough concept for the future national plan of action  
Active participation in international workshops