

**COUNTRY REPORT** **TURKEY**  
**FOR 2007-2008 of**

**Reported by** **A. Oya AKIN National Coordinator**

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

**Actions undertaken during the past year**

There is no sufficient information which indicates population number, distribution and risk status of farm animal breeds in Turkey. For this reason a comprehensive inventory study should be initiated to alleviate the information gap.

Morphological, physiological and molecular level characterization studies continue for conservation herds.

**Actions planned for the next year**

For visual presentation of local breeds some documentary films and booklets will produced.

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

**Actions undertaken during the past year**

To encourage local farmers in community based conservation and improvement program some incentives have paid per animal. This year was the third year of that kind of subsidy and it has been very attractive for the local farmers who are farming in remote areas. There two types of subsidy; one for *in situ* conservation of local cattle, water buffalo, sheep and goat breeds, and the other for small ruminant improvement. Pure breeding and selection have been used in the extent of the improvement projects, which covers 6300 head per small ruminant breeds (11 sheep and 1 goat).

**Actions planned for the next year**

As part of the subsidy program, Kilis goat breed improvement project and Kafkas bee breed conservation project will be initiated in their original breeding areas.

### STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREA 3: CONSERVATION

#### Actions undertaken during the past year

In recent years Turkey has giving strong emphasis on conservation and sustainable utilization of farm animal genetic resources. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs have conducted all conservation activities, either *ex situ* or *in situ*. (Table 1.)

\* *ex situ* conservation activities;

It has been projected to conserve domestic animal breeds by General Directorate of Agricultural Research (GDAR). The project include conservation of 4 sheep, 4 cattle, 1 water buffalo, 1 goat, 1 bee and 2 chicken breeds and 3 silkworm lines in 6 institutes of GDAR.

The cryo conservation project which is named “Conservation and Pre-Molecular Identification of Some of the Native Domestic Animal Genetic Resources of Turkey-I” (TURKHAYGEN-I) started in March 2007. This project aims to establish gene banks to conserve national animal genetic resources, to characterize our local breeds, to build national researcher capacity in animal genetics and animal biotechnology and to combine and disseminate knowledge. TURKHAYGEN-I Project’s live animal material partially completed and for some breeds DNA isolation, sperm and embryo freezing activities has been started.

\* *in situ* conservation activities;

In the frame of community based conservation program some local breeds conserved in their original breeding areas;

Cattle; Native Black, Anatolian Grey, South Anatolian Red (Kilis), East Anatolian Red, Native Southern Yellow, Zavot

Buffalo; Anatolian Water Buffalo

Sheep; K1vırcık, Sakiz, Karagul, Herik, Cine Capari, Hemsin, Norduz, Daglic

Goat; Angora Goat, Kilis, Norduz and Honamli

Table 1. Current state of *in vivo* conservation of animals including *in situ* and *ex situ*

| Species        | Breed                   | In original farming system | In research institutes | No. of animals | No. of males | No. of females |     |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-----|
| <b>Cattle</b>  | Native Black            | √                          |                        | 150            | 14           | 136            |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 25             | 10           | 15             |     |
|                | East Anatolian Red      | √                          |                        | 150            | 16           | 134            |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 123            | 84           | 39             |     |
|                | South Anatolian Red     | √                          |                        | 127            | 34           | 93             |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 83             | 30           | 53             |     |
|                | Anatolian Grey          | √                          |                        | 100            | 16           | 84             |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 116            | 26           | 90             |     |
|                | Zavot                   | √                          |                        | 86             | 14           | 72             |     |
|                | Native Southern Yellow  | √                          |                        | 147            | 28           | 119            |     |
| <b>Buffalo</b> | Anatolian Water Buffalo | √                          |                        | 74             | 20           | 54             |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 71             | 19           | 52             |     |
| <b>Sheep</b>   | Sakiz                   | √                          |                        | 113            | 7            | 106            |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 130            | 35           | 95             |     |
|                | Kivircik                | √                          |                        | 200            | 16           | 184            |     |
|                |                         |                            |                        | √              | 308          | 80             | 228 |
|                | South Karaman           |                            | √                      | 46             | 24           | 22             |     |
|                | Gokceada                | √                          |                        | 200            | 32           | 168            |     |
|                |                         |                            |                        | √              | 82           | 24             | 58  |
|                | Herik                   | √                          |                        | 120            | 16           | 104            |     |
|                | Karagul                 | √                          |                        | 200            | 32           | 168            |     |
|                | Hemsin                  | √                          |                        | 200            | 16           | 184            |     |
|                | Cine Capari             | √                          |                        | 54             | 7            | 47             |     |
|                | Norduz                  | √                          |                        | 200            | 16           | 184            |     |
|                | Daglic                  | √                          |                        | 200            | 16           | 184            |     |
| <b>Goat</b>    | Ankara Goat             | √                          |                        | 200            | 16           | 184            |     |
|                |                         |                            | √                      | 126            | 39           | 87             |     |
|                | Kilis Goat              | √                          |                        | 194            | 32           | 162            |     |
|                | Honamlı Goat            | √                          |                        | 200            | 6            | 194            |     |
| <b>Chicken</b> | Denizli                 |                            | √                      | 400            |              |                |     |
|                | Gerze                   |                            | √                      | 200            |              |                |     |

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

Conservation studies will continue. The opportunities will be search to include some more breeds for the *in situ* conservation program.

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

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

- \* Two regular meetings of the National Committee for AnGR Conservation took place.
- \* Program evaluation meeting of AnGR Conservation Project was held and sub projects were discussed.
- \* Participation to the 13<sup>rd</sup> ERFPP Workshop on Animal Genetic Resources on 25 August 2007 in Dublin.
- \* Participation to the I. International Animal Genetic Resources Technical Conference between 1-7 September 2007 in Interlaken.

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

- \* Two regular meetings of the National Committee for AnGR Conservation.
- \* Program evaluation meeting of AnGR Conservation Project.
- \* Participation to the 14<sup>th</sup> ERFPP Workshop on Animal Genetic Resources on 21 August 2008 in Vilnius.
- \* In order to strenght the research capacity of conservation institutes the project proposal has been sent to the State Planning Organization.