



**Ad hoc action:
GenRes Bridge**



European Regional Focal Point
for Animal Genetic Resources



INSTITUT DE
L'ÉLEVAGE **idele**



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Objectives of the *Ad hoc* Action

- To support collaboration, contribute with the expertise to the project, exchange knowledge and assist GenRes Bridge project to reach project objectives.
- Objectives of the project:
 - To strengthen the collaboration, conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources - contribute to the long-term food security.
 - Share perspectives, exchange good practices, harmonise standards and collaborate on training.
 - Accelerate collaborative efforts and develop capacities across the three domains.
 - Develop integrated Pan-European strategy for genetic resources in Europe.

ERFP European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources www.animalgeneticresources.net

Ad hoc action members

Ad hoc action members	
ERFP Secretariat	Coralie Danchin-Burge
ERFP Secretariat	Eleonore Charvolin
Germany	Sebastian Winkel
Italy	Enrico Sturaro
Slovenia	Danijela Bojkovski (Chair)
The Netherlands	Sipke - Joost Hiemstra
SC members	
Serbia	Srdjan Stojanovic
Slovakia	Jan Tomka
Sweden	Eva-Marie Stalhammar
Spain	Montse Castellanos Moncho
	+ elected at this meeting



ERFP European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources www.animalgeneticresources.net

Activities in the past year and output/results

- Mainly connected to the communication and support between the preparation phase of the project and ERFP network.
- Collaboration at the first kick-off meeting in Rome, January 2019. Reminders and clarifications of the main milestones and deliverables / presentations of task leaders; 30 participants.
- Identification of participants for the 2 workshops in Slovenia and Finland.
- Project website: <http://www.genresbridge.eu/>



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Important workshops

1. Consolidate scientific messages for genetic resources (GenRes) practitioners, policy makers and the scientific community based on the shared scientific expertise; 3-5 July 2019, Pokljuka, Slovenia. ERFP network presented AnGR related issues.
1. Sharing strategies and perspectives; workshop will be held in November, Finland

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Report from the Workshop, Slovenia

Project partners:

- Enrico Sturaro (WG Doc Info – presentation climate change and AnGR)
- Danijela Bojkovski (UL)
- Henri Woelders (Wageningen)

Additional experts proposed by WG:

- Jesus Fernandez (WG *In situ*)
- NordGen – Mervi Honkatukia (observer, WG *In situ*)
- Gustavo Gandini (WG *Ex situ*)

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources www.animalgeneticresources.net

Workshop objectives

- Share knowledge and expertise across the 3 domains
- Elaborate common key messages for policy makers + GR practitioners + scientific community
- Exchange and support to start shaping messages to the 3 target groups for later use and WP-dissemination.
- Messages will be shared with a wider group of contributors through email.

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources www.animalgeneticresources.net

Workshop 1 : “How life sciences and human sciences help GenRes managers better account for multiple uncertainties in GenRes strategies within the context of global change?”

- Introductory talks:
 - Approaches to risk assessment and management and uncertainty management in relation to climate change in the agricultural sector: => to be confirmed
 - 3 presentations 30’ each presenting the context, state of knowledge, pending questions for each domain + general talk:
 - General presenyation: Risk uncertainty assessment and managment (François Lefèvre, INRA)
 - Animal: Enrico Sturaro, UNIPD
 - Crops: Theo von Hintum, CGN
 - Forest: Marjana Westergen, GIS
- Topics addressed by each domain-specific talk: how does the context of global change and uncertainty modify:
 - the choice of GR to be conserved (e.g. new criteria, new origins)
 - the conservation technics and tools (e.g. related to Quality issues)
 - the conservation strategies (e.g. more adaptive and dynamic strategies)
 - the GR user perspectives
 - the national and international policy perspectives
- Discussions

ERFP Secretariat

 European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources www.animalgeneticresources.net

AnGR and multiple uncertainties within the context of global change (presented by Enrico Sturaro)

- Introduction of AnGR issues:
 - Monitoring of AnGR status - DAD-is/EFABIS (changes in risk status 1990-2018).
 - Presentation of GPA and Strategic Priorities.
 - Immediate actions for improving AnGR characterization, use, conservation.
 - SDG = AnGR and Ecosystem services in the context of achieving SDG;
- Discussion points:
 - What to conserve?
 - Conservation technics, tools and strategies.
 - How to integrate AnGR conservation strategies into general biodiversity conservation strategies?
 - Integration between different disciplines.

ERFP Secretariat

 European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources www.animalgeneticresources.net

Workshop 2: "Enhance dynamic *in situ* GenRes strategies: how recent scientific evidence can support the development and improvement of dynamic *in situ* GenRes conservation strategies and implementation?"

Introductory talks: context, state of knowledge and pending questions for each domain:

- Animal: Jesus Fernandez, ERFP WG *In situ*
- Crops: Nigel Maxted, UOB
- Forest: François Lefèvre, INRA

Topics to be addressed:

- what is effectively done in terms of *in situ* strategies in Europe (definition, goals, actors, methodologies, European coordination or not, etc.)
- what could be done but is not (possible barriers)
- what are the current questions for research to support *in situ* strategies
- what are the effective or possible connections between *in situ* and *ex situ* strategies
- how does *in situ* strategy connect or not with European and global biodiversity conservation programmes

The discussions:

- What is common between the acceptations of "*in situ*" in the 3 domains (in terms of goals, actors involved, knowledge on the genetic impacts of management practices, etc.)
- How could/should *in situ* and *ex situ* strategies complement one each other
- Integration of GR conservation with global biodiversity conservation programmes/initiatives (e.g. SDG and CBD)

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Enhance dynamic *in situ* GenRes strategies for AnGR (by Jesus Fernandez)

- Introduction of AnGR domain
 - Practitioners, researchers, policy makers = speak diff. languages, have diff. interests, or even facilitate/add constrains.
 - What is dynamic conservation (conservation by utilisation; continuous adaptation)
 - FAO guidelines *In vivo* conservation AnGR
 - Scientific evidence VS. Scientific consensus (use of genomic tools etc.)
- Discussion points:
 - What to conserve?
 - Conservation technics, tools and strategies.
 - How to integrate AnGR conservation strategies into general biodiversity conservation strategies?
 - Integration between different disciplines.

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Workshop Outcomes = Scientific messages (1)

- Complex process to agree about integrated messages, since some are sector specific (but majority = cross-cutting messages).
- Top 10 :
 - Climate change poses an existential threat to genetic diversity.
 - Social + economic studies are required to evaluate contribution of GR to mitigating the impacts of unexpected treats.
 - Improved availability of more standardized scientific information on genetic and phenotypic diversity is required.
 - GR related policies should be formulated upon relevant scientific findings.
 - Awareness regarding the importance of genetic diversity for the survival of the earth in times of climate crisis needs to be raised.

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Workshop Outcomes = Scientific messages (2)

- Next from the top 10 :
 - Cooperation between formal GR conservation programme and community based conservation initiatives should improve
 - Studies are required to detect early signs of potential future needs and threats for GR.
 - The actual impact of climate change on genetic diversity and on associated organisms has to be periodically monitored.
 - Communication between practitioners, policy makers and scientists should improve.
 - The traits related to the adaptation of genetic resources to climate change need to be given more attention in research.

ERFP Secretariat



European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources

www.animalgeneticresources.net

Workshop Outcomes - next step:

- Fine tuning by partners
- Grouping/joining the statements where needed
- Supporting evidence – domain specific have to be developed supported by publications/reports
- First round will be done by participants of the workshop + ERFP Ad hoc action group
- Final revision in September 15th

ERFP Secretariat



ERFP

European Regional Focal Point for
Animal Genetic Resources

c/o ERFP Secretariat
IDELE
149 rue de Bercy
75012 PARIS - FRANCE

Phone1: +33 1 40 04 53 14
Phone2/ +33 7 60 00 46 88
erfp_secretariat@bf.uni-lj.si

www.animalgeneticresources.net

photos: IDELE / ERFP Secretariat