

Ad hoc action Merino

Fabio Pilla (Italy)

Author, Title, Location, Date



ww.animalgeneticresources.net www.rfp-europe.org

Goals – The general goal of the action is to establish an international network of stakeholders from different categories (breeders, breeder associations, researchers, governmental organizations, the private sector, etc.) for the joint monitoring and promotion of the transnational MERINO, MERINO DERIVED SHEEP POPULATION, with special emphasis on the issues concerning

- (i) conservation genetics and (original, pure, crossbreed??)
- (ii) wool use and valorization.

More specific goals of the action are:

- to collect available information on the current status (e.g. genetic structure and relationship, census, ongoing in situ and ex situ conservation and promotion actions,) of European Merino sheep populations
- to discuss key limiting constraints and possible valorization opportunities with partners within the network
- to promote enlargement of the initial network to additional stakeholders for more inclusive design of future development trajectories



ww.animalgeneticresources.net www.rfp-europe.org

Time frame and planned activities of this *Ad hoc* action (Pre Corona)

Task 1. Virtual network establishment (months I-II)

Sub-task 1.1. Virtual meeting with current partners to agree on the working procedure, and sharing the efforts in identifying and contacting additional key actors for active involvement in the network operativity (month I)

Sub-task 1.2. Enlargement of the virtual network to additional key actors identified and contacted in Sub-task 1.1. (month II).

Sub-task 1.3. Follow-up on the enlargement and refinement of the virtual network composition, to assure balanced country and sectoral representation (months III-XII)

VIRTUAL MEETING HAVE BEEN HELD AND PLANNED

Author, Title, Location, Date



www.animalgeneticresources.net www.rfp-europe.org

Task 2. Collection and mobilization of information (months II-XII)

Sub-task 2.1. Launch of a survey among the key identified actors in order to collect information on the current status (e.g. genetic structure and relationship, census, ongoing *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation and promotion actions, main limiting factors) of European Merino sheep populations (months II-V)

Sub-task 2.2. Production of a structured report of the information collected in Sub-task 2.1. (month VI)

Sub-task 2.3. Mobilization of the collected information through visibility on the web (months VI-XII) and presentation during the real 2-days meeting (month VII)

GENETIC ANALYSIS ON GOING



www.animaigeneticresources.net www.rfp-europe.org

Task 3. Organization of the real meeting of network stakeholders (months I-VII) (The planning of this task had to be modified according to the Corona restrictions and the delay in starting)

Sub-task 3.1. Planning of the meeting with key partners (place, date, format, list of invited people, accommodations and other facilities, etc.) (month I)

Sub-task 3.2. Communication of the event (via ERFP website, institutional websites of the key partners, thematic web-sites, social media...) (months II-IV)

Author, Title, Location, Date



ww.animalgeneticresources.net www.rfp-europe.org

Task 1. Estabilishing the network

Virtual meeting July 8° and 3° August

Partecipants from Institutions, Universities and research institutions, breeder associations and cooperative from:

Italy (University of Molise, Perugia, Bari, ASSONAPA)

Spain (University of Cordoba, Asociación Nacional de Criadores de Ganado Merino, OVISO)

Portugal (INEA, ANCORME)

Germany (VDL)

France (IDELE, PACA)

Poland (National Research Institute of Animal Production)

Romania (Universitatea Cluj-Napoca)

Hungary



A more partecipated virtual meeting is planned in the framework of the **International Congress on the Breeding of Sheep and Goats**To be held in Bonn October 15th and 16°

The program of the meeting is in progress. Talks from each country and general discussion are planned.





