



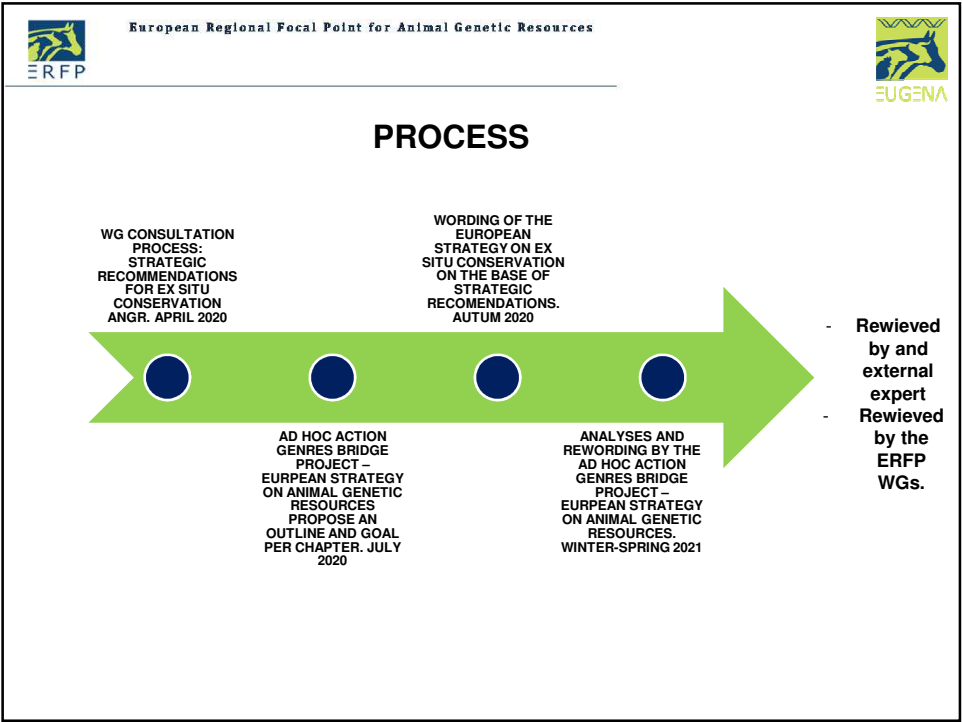
European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources




European Strategy for the Conservation and Use of animal genetic resources –*Ex situ* conservation and key commitments


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Fernando Tejerina Ampudia, PhD. Chair Ex Situ Conservation WG.






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SPECIFIC STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AnGR EX SITU CONSERVATION.

1. Improve the knowledge about *ex situ* conservation activities of AnGR in Europe. Establish or strengthen information systems on *ex situ in vitro* gene banks and *in vivo ex situ* facilities, in order to facilitate access to material and information about specific collections, to enable breeders' associations, industry and countries to make appropriate choices in their breeding/conservation programmes. EUGENA must play a key role in the development of this recommendation.
2. Establish, implement, or strengthen *ex situ in vitro* conservation programmes with the aim to initiate or expand collections, especially from local breeds at risk. Complementary gene bank collections should be established for all breeds. Critically endangered locally adapted breeds should have priority for collecting genetic material, but gene banks should also maximize genetic diversity across breeds in their collections.
3. Set a specific recognition at national level for institutions developing *ex situ* conservation by the administrations.




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4. Promote the use of the material stored in gene banks and the *ex situ in vivo* facilities in the conservation/breeding programmes and in scientific research. Breeder's societies and breeding industry must have a better involvement in *ex situ* activities, and the integration between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation should be increased.
5. Undertake research to develop, standardize and implement reproductive technologies and cryopreservation procedures and to decrease their costs, especially, for under-represented species such as rabbits and avian species. Exchange of information between services (breeders associations, research institutions, WGs, etc.) is essential.
6. Establish specific veterinary regulations or derogations at national level for gene banks (*ex situ in vitro* conservation).




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SPECIFIC STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AnGR EX SITU CONSERVATION.

7. Improved information exchange among gene banks, but also other stakeholders (breeders societies, breeding industry, research, national coordinators) is required to optimize the collection and the use of the material. This recommendation is highly relevant for transboundary breeds, and EUGENA must play a key role in its development.
8. Establish backups/duplicate collections of samples and databases of the gene banks at national level or between countries
9. Improve the communication and raising awareness of the value of the *ex situ* collections




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RECOMMENDATIONS BY AHA

- **Prioritization and collaboration at transboundary and pan-European level.**
- **Economic optimization of storage sites and collections within and across countries.**
- **Implementing quality management systems and a peer review systems for EUGENA members.**
- **Facilitate transformation and further development of gene banks to “bio-digital resources centres”.**
- **Legal aspects – implementing access policy and rules, MTA, MAA at national level**



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FURTHER STEPS IN RELATION WITH THE CHAPTER 2.3.2:


- REVIEW THE TEXT AND SEND YOUR COMMENTS BEFORE 15th June
- ANALYSE AND DISCUSS THE DRAFT KEY COMMITMENTS TO REPORT IN TOMORROWS JOIN MEETING

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- ARE SOME KEY COMMITMENTS MISSING IN THE PROPOSAL?
- ARE YOU AGREE WITH THE LEVEL OF SPECIFICATION? (LESS/MORE GENERAL)
 - ARE THE KEY COMMITMENTS PROPERLY WORDING?



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DRAFT KEY COMMITMENTS:

- Maintain an official EU inventory of all facilities development *ex situ* conservation (in vivo/in vitro).
- Stimulate European genebanks to ensure the long-term conservation of AnGR, and provide access to use the material in *in vivo* conservation programs and breeding activities.
- Promote that all European countries have specific animal health derogations for material intended to be stored in gene banks, and for the use and distribution of material.
- Reinforce and expand EUGENA promoting the enrolment of new countries and genebanks, and develop and implement quality management systems for EUGENA gene banks.
- Initiate projects and studies on development and standardization and implementation of new technologies in cryoconservation, mainly focused on minor species.
- Provide facilitated access to animal genetic resources under the control of European countries and in the public domain, as well as – subject to applicable law – associated non-confidential data, for research, breeding and training.
- Promote and support initiatives and collaboration for *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of transboundary breeds, and facilitate exchanges of material between genebanks, mainly in transboundary breeds

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ERFP

ERFP - 2.3.2 Key Commitments

Group 1

- Should we restrict natural animal breeding opportunities to the species that have been kept? (leave with habitat)
- Could we consider who is the 100% culture? (100% of the key commitment)
- How can we establish the ecosystem services of AGRs? Connect it to the concept of biodiversity conservation?
- Should we acknowledge the importance of the role of the wild population?
- For economic optimization, is there a value in breeding at European level or cryo-conservation priority?
- If there are no value for the animal, is it possible to use the material? (e.g. for the development of the gene bank?) (e.g. for the development of the gene bank?)
- why focusing on minor species?
- Aggregate the point relevant with research policies
- maybe replicate (in group) to have feedback comments?
- maybe separate the last bullet point
- 1 - own commitment
- 2 - national key threat

Is it possible to promote embryo collection for gene banking?

Group 2

- Promote (good practice) existing in gene banks organization (e.g. cryopreservation, collection, storage, etc.)
- keep EU or European in all the bullet?
- What about the synchronization of results (e.g. homologues)
- Last but not least why only transboundary
- 1st point development or design
- Promote Research on cryopreservation
- We have solved the problem with the Animal Health Law. Next Problem is Animal Breeding Law (use of old material). Should that be mentioned?
- Is it possible to link national genebanks with EUGENIA, not a member

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