

**ERFP Webinar:**  
**All you ever wanted to know about ERFP**

*Working Group In situ conservation:*  
**Sustainable use of rare breeds in livestock production systems**


**Danijela Bojkovski, WG Chair**  
9 September 2021



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for Animal Genetic Resources




INSTITUT DE  
L'ÉLEVAGE **idele**

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### Role of the WG *In situ* conservation

- Improvement of the *in situ* conservation (on-farm conservation).
- Valorisation of AnGR for their sustainable use.
- Information and knowledge exchange on initiatives related to on-farm conservation, success stories and projects.
- Review of legal conditions and financial support measures for on-farm conservation strategies.
- Technical cooperation.



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## Role of the WG In situ conservation

- **Support of the on-farm conservation efforts for transboundary breeds.**
- **The promotion of local breeds through the use in landscape management, identification of “added value” (e. g. cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, ecosystem services, local marketing, organic agriculture).**
- **Promotion and support for a better integration of *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation activities in Europe.**
- **Collecting best practices for in situ conservation and publish them online.**



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## How do we operate?

- **Annual meetings.**
- ***Ad hoc* actions collaboration of members and within WG.**
- **Sharing responsibilities and tasks within WG.**
- **Collaboration with other ERFP WGs and SC.**








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**Examples of successful activities**

## Development of the position paper regarding the CAP

*DRAFT*

Position paper of the European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture  
concerning the future Common Agricultural Policy

### Collecting best practices for in situ conservation and publish them online.



**Best practices for in situ conservation and valorisation of AnGR**

Census of previous and on-going projects: a result of the in situ Working Group (task 1) – Feel free to contact the ERFP secretariat to improve our list !

**EU projects:**

- HERITAGESHEEP – 2007 to 2009 – <https://www.heritagesheep.net/>
- EURECA – 2006 to 2009 – <http://www.regionalcattlebreeds.eu/>
- Preparatory action on Genetic Resources – 2016 to 2018 – <http://www.geneticresources.eu>
- TREASURE – 2015 to 2019 – <https://treasure.kis.si/>
- REDIVERSE – 2017 to 2020 – <https://era-susan.eu/content/rediverse>
- INTERREG:
  - Bluesel (2010 to 2015) – <http://www.bluesel.eu>
  - BlueSter (2018-2021) – [https://www.interreg-fvw.eu/sites/default/files/bluester\\_fr.pdf](https://www.interreg-fvw.eu/sites/default/files/bluester_fr.pdf)


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**Examples of successful activities**


## Promote and support rural development measures for AnGR

**Goal:** analyse and review the support measures of RDA plans for the conservation of local breeds in the different countries.

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*Rural development support measures for Animal Genetic Resources*

*Results of a survey among European National Coordinators*


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Examples of successful activities

Support of the European  
AnGR Strategy development

### 2.3.1 *In situ* conservation of AnGR

Principally, conservation by sustainable utilization is the main strategy for all breeds and breeding populations. The key principles of sustainable use are already explained in chapter 2.2, including the implementation of sustainable and effective breeding programs and the marketing of breed related products and services. In this chapter, we take conservation as the entry point that is particularly relevant for breeds that are at risk of extinction.

*In situ* conservation is performed through the breeding and use of animal populations, so that genetic diversity is best utilized in the short term and maintained for the longer term. Successful *in situ* conservation requires a well-designed breeding program. For local breeds at risk there is little opportunity left for genetic improvement and specific conservation support measures are often needed for breed survival.

Breeding programs for breeds at risk should put more emphasis on maintaining within-breed genetic diversity, because when population size is small, genetic variants can get lost as a result of selection or genetic drift.


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Examples of successful activities

### Merino and Merino-derived breeds in Europe

**Goal:** to establish network of stakeholders, joint monitoring, promotion, investigate genetic structure and relationship among Merino and Merino-derived breeds



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## Examples of successful activities

### Transboundary breeds in Europe

**Goal:** to promote common actions and collaboration between countries, develop respective ERFP guidelines, describe a variety of cases which would require a sharing of knowledge between different countries.




**Transboundary breeds in Europe: promote concerted action between Countries**

Davos, EAAP meeting – 30 August 2021

E. Charvolin Lemaire, E. Sturaro, D. Bojkovski, C. Ligda, D. Tsiokos, E. Sosin, G. Polak, S. Stojanovic, F. Tejerina


INRAE 

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### Saving a nearly forgotten transboundary breed, the Murinsulaner

**Mura riverside horse**




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# Pramenka sheep

## Goal:

characterization,  
conservation  
strategies, regional  
distribution,  
population size,  
trends, exterior,  
production and  
genetic feature,  
specific  
characteristics.

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STUDY OF ORIGIN AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY OF THE PRAMENKA SHEEP BREEDS AS REGIONAL TRANSBOUNDARY BREEDS

Final Project Report

Edited by:  
Ante Ivanković & Jelena Ramljak



2014





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# ‘Characterization of the indigenous and improved Podolic cattle breeds and identification of threats for extinction in global challenges’

ERFP project







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Development of models assessing the breeds risk status by  
utilization of population and relevant georeferenced data

Final Project Report





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16th Annual Workshop for European National Co-ordinators  
for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources  
Crete Maris Conference Centre, Heraklion, Crete, Greece  
21 August, 2010







Evaluation of Current Status of Busha Cattle and develop a regional  
breeding program for their conservation and sustainable economic use.


ERFP Project

August 2010-August 2012

Prof.Dr. Kristaq Kume

NC of FAnGR - ALBANIA





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**RFP EUROPE**

**PROJECT**  
**Development of regional network in function  
 of sustainable breeding programs for  
 transboundary breeds**

*A. Ivanković - project coordinator*  
*Annual report*

**EAAP 2010**  
 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association  
 for Animal Production  
 AUGUST 23rd-27th, 2010 - HERAKLION, CRETE ISLAND, GREECE





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**RFP EUROPE**

**OVERVIEW AND ASSESSMENT  
 OF SUPPORT MEASURES  
 FOR ENDANGERED  
 LIVESTOCK BREEDS**

**SUBSIBREED**  
 Final Project Report





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**Socio-economic and environmental  
parameters and their applicability into a tool  
to evaluate risks and trends**


Meeting, Thessaloniki  
25 February 2016

ERFP meeting, Thessaloniki, February 25, 2016



**To be or not to be at risk?**  
Principles and application of a multi-indicator approach

Etienne Verrier<sup>(\*)</sup>, Eléonore Charvolin<sup>(\*)</sup>, and the RAMAGE Consortium



<sup>(\*)</sup> GABI, INRA, AgroParisTech, Université Paris-Saclay, Jouy-en-Josas, France


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## Work plan 2021-2022

**Task “Promote and support rural development measures for AnGR”**  
*Development of a method to calculate the payments and preparation of the flyer with most important facts and findings.*

**Task “Support of the project AnGR Strategy development”**  
*The WG will continue to support development of the AnGR Strategy and forthcoming action plan.*

**Task “Ad hoc action Merino”**  
*The WG will continue to support activities of the group.*

**Task “ERFP Guidelines for transboundary breeds”**  
*The WG will continue to collaborate in this action and develop case studies further.*

***Approved by the ERFP Assembly***

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## Work plan 2021-2022

**New proposals for further discussion:**

- *How in situ conservation is understood, arranged, perceived in different countries;*
- *Identify protected areas and AnGR conservation how they contribute to protected areas.*
- *Explore possibilities to create a framework for the European network of in situ conservation.*
- *How countries are implementing the new CAP in relation to farmers, gene banks and breeders' associations.*
- *Support the Ad hoc action/TF: Evaluation of breeding programs.*
- *Strengthen communication activities, awareness raising messages.*
- *Statement on strengthening the use of local breeds in landscape management and conservation (Holger Goederz).*

***Approved by the ERFP Assembly***

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE!