



**Annual Report of WG:  
In situ conservation**

**ERFP General Assembly**  
26 August – 27 August 2023

**Chair:  
Danijela Bojkovski**



ERFP  
European Regional Focal Point  
for Animal Genetic Resources



INSTITUT DE  
L'ELEVAGE **idele**

1


 European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources [www.animalgeneticresources.net](http://www.animalgeneticresources.net)

## Members of the WG *In situ* conservation

Country	Name	Surname
Albania	Kristaq	KUME
Austria	Beate	BERGER
Croatia	Ante	IVANKOVIĆ
Estonia	Sirje	JALAKAS
Finland	Juha	KANTANEN
France	Coralie	DANCHIN-BURGE
Georgia	Tornike	ZHGENTI
Germany	Holger	GÖDERZ
Greece	Dimitrios	TSIOKOS
Hungary	Papp	DOROTTYA
Iceland	Birna K.	BALDURSDÓTTIR
Italy	Fabio	PILLA
Latvia	Anna	ZELTKOVSKA
Lithuania	Ruta	ŠVEISTIENĖ
Montenegro	Milan	MARKOVIC
Nordgen	Mervi	HONKATUKIA
Norway	Peer	BERG
Poland	Agnieszka	CHEŁMIŃSKA
Portugal	Pedro	VIEIRA
ProSpecieRara	Philippe	AMMANN
Rare Breeds		
International	Juan	VINCENTE
Serbia	Srdjan	STOJANOVIĆ
Slovakia	Jan	TOMKA
Slovenia	Danijela	BOJKOVSKI
Spain	Jesus	FERNANDEZ MARTIN
Sweden	Anna-Karin	GIDLUND
The Netherlands	Jack	WINDIG

- **Nomination of experts into the WG can only be done by NC**
- **NCs are invited to nominate experts before and soon after the GA**
- **If expert is not able to attend, NC can nominate replacement just for the specific meeting**

2



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

### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation

- Preparation of the annual **meeting** of the WG.
- Collaboration with Task Force on development of AnGR Strategy-Action Plan.
- Provide **input for the ERFP MyPOW**.
- Finally **jump start** activities which we planned in 2022.

3




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

### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* according to work plan

- **Task within WG** - How is *in situ* conservation **understood** in different countries???. Do countries have **specific conservation programs**? What are conservation goals, priorities and main actors?
- **Task within WG** - **explore support measures**, initiatives and networking activities for *in situ* conservation (niche markets for products of local breeds, establishment of ark farms, initiatives for the management of landscapes and wildlife habitats, as well as touristic activities).
- **Task within WG** - **Definition of a native breed**/national race in different countries
- **Task within WG** - Strengthen and support of **landscape management with local breeds**
- **Task within WG** - Strengthen cooperation / networking with breeders (workshops, Ad hoc action?, Reference centre?)
- Support and collaboration of *Ad hoc* action on transboundary breed 
- **Task within WG** - **Breed characteristics and features** in particular **adaptation to specific ecosystems** and farming system.....
- **Local breeds and transhumance** in the Alps and in the Mediterranean regions (**Ad hoc action?** -> Task Force?)

4



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


### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation (1)

**Task: How is in situ conservation understood in different countries???**  
**Do countries have specific conservation programs? What are conservation goals, priorities and main actors?**

**Leader:** Srdjan Stojanović (support Danijela Bojkovski)

- **Problem:** what is meaning of the in situ conservation? How countries are dealing with in situ? What does that mean and which animals are included in the in situ?
- Questionnaire prepared in May 2023
- Review of the questionnaire – at the spot
- **Next steps:**
  - 1 week to send comments
  - Collected response in September
  - Analysis and report/GenResBridge Journal?

5



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


### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation (2)

**Task: Explore support measures initiatives and networking activities for in situ conservation (niche markets for products of local breeds, establishment of ark farms, initiatives for the management of landscapes and wildlife habitats, as well as touristic activities).**

**Leader:** Danijela Bojkovski (support: Tina Flisar)

- Problem: at the last Q countries were in the process of new CAP period; transition from previous period to the new. Some information were still sensitive.
- Review Questions
- Discussion and collection of data from each country (online?)
- **Next steps:**
  - Updated Q
  - Step by step collection of reponses and data
  - Report/GenRes Bridge Journal

6



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

### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation (3)


**Task: Breed definition and recognition of new breed**

- Goal: review what is the term used in countries for a native breed and what is definition of native breed; inquires if countries recently recognized any new native breed and what is the procedure
- Questionnaire prepared in May 2022, review 2023
- Results collected and compared = do we need update? Will the task be **done by Reference Centre?**

**Next steps:**

- Call to the countries not responded?
- New separated Task?

7



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

### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation (4)

**Task: Strengthen and support of landscape management with local breeds**

**Leader: Holger Goederz**

**Goal:**

- strengthen the use of domestic livestock breeds in landscape management
- address it to the responsible associations and municipalities
- raise awareness for the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of AnGR
- show possible synergies between nature protection and agriculture

**Next steps:**

- Statement?
- Conservation of Genetic Resources at Landscape Level through **Demonstration Cases**

8



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

### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation (5)

**Task: Breed characteristics and features in particular adaptation to specific ecosystems and farming system**  
**Leader: Jesus Fernandez**


*Statements:*

- original distribution is driven by environmental factors, which is in agreement with the classical claim that local breeds are better adapted to natural conditions; the most influential factor is different for each species.
- domestic animals diversity runs in parallel with wild animal diversity. Thus, local breeds are not in conflict with nature and joint actions can be proposed for the conservation of both terms of biodiversity.
- human activities and changes in the land use are somehow ‘decoupling’ breeds distribution and environment.

**Next steps:**

- ? *excellent opportunity for further development of the EU project*

9



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

### Activities/tasks of WG *In situ* conservation (6)

**Task: Local breed and transhumance in the Alps and in the Mediterranean regions**  
**(task leader: Fabio Pilla, IT)**

- *Ad hoc action – excellent opportunity for further development of the EU project?*
- Goal:
  - Joint monitoring and promotion of
  - Collection of valuable information on the current status, constrains and possible valorization opportunities
- Next steps:
  - WG will support the work of the Ad Hoc action

10

ERFP		
Agenda of the <i>In situ</i> Conservation meeting		
22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2023; Toledo		
Address: Castillo de San Servando, Cta. de San Servando, s/n, 45001 Toledo, Spain		
Chair: Danijela Bojkovski, Slovenia		
22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022 Monday	Meeting of WG <i>In situ</i>	
12:00-12:15	Welcome and Introduction - Objectives of the WG meeting	Chair
12:15-12:30	AnGR Strategy for Europe - Action Plan review	Chair
12:30-13:30	Development of the ERFP MyPOW for <i>in situ</i> conservation (review, preparation of the text)	
13:30-13:50	<i>In situ</i> conservation in different countries; conservation programs; goals, priorities, actors and initiatives	Dimitrios Tsiokos/Srdjan Stojanović
13:50-14:00	Conclusions	
14:00-15:00	Lunch break	
15:00-15:30	Review of the support measures and definition of native breed	Chair + all
15:30-15:50	Reinforce and support landscape management with native breeds	Holger Goederz
15:50-16:10	Strengthen collaboration/networking with breeders	Coralie Danchin
16:10-16:30	Breed characteristics and traits related to adaptation in specific ecosystems and farming system	Jesus Fernandez
16:30-17:00	Coffee break	
17:00-17:20	Local breeds and transhumance in the Alps and in the Mediterranean	Fabio Pilla
17:20-17:40	Election of new Chair	Chair
17:40-18:00	Work plan for 2023 (to be approved at Assembly)	
18:00-18:30	Conclusions; AOB	Chair

11

ERFP		European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources		www.animalgeneticresources.net	
<b>Work plan 2023-2024</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ad hoc action/TF/WG task</b> - How is <i>in situ</i> conservation is understood, arranged and perceived in different countries??? Do countries have specific <i>in situ</i> conservation programs/strategies? What are conservation goals, priorities and main actors?</li> <li>• <b>Ad hoc action/TF/WG task</b> – Review of definitions (native/local/national) breed/race in different countries.</li> <li>• <b>Ad hoc action/TF/WG task</b> – Possibilities - framework for the European network of <i>in situ</i> conservation.</li> <li>• <b>Ad hoc action/TF/WG task</b> - ? Identify protected areas and how AnGR conservation contribute to protected areas (landscape management with local breeds). Strengthen the use of local breeds in landscape management and conservation.</li> <li>• <b>Ad hoc action/TF/WG task</b> - The characterisation of the traits/features responsible for the adaptation of local breeds.</li> <li>• <b>Ad hoc action or TF or task within WG</b>: Local breed and transhumance in the Alps and in the Mediterranean regions</li> <li>• Strengthen communication activities, awareness raising messages.</li> </ul>					
<b>To be approved by the ERFP Assembly</b>					

12