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AD HOC ACTION ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATION AND GENE BANK.

26th August 2023.

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

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3. AHA ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATION – GENE BANKS.

The main goal of the Ad Hoc Action is: develop recommendations for competent authorities in countries on:

- The incorporation to the national animal health legal framework exceptions for the collection, transformation and storage of germinal products intended to be kept in a genebank.
- The suitable implementation of the derogation provided in Regulation (EU) 2020/686 on the movement of germinal products between genebanks located in different EU countries.

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AHA SCHEDULE.

March – April 2023	✓	Make a team: EX Situ WG members and experts in animal health (priority from countries with specific animal health regulation for genebanks). Experts from the European Commission and ERC will be invited to participate in the AHA. The expected number of experts is around 10-12.
May 2023	✓	Organization of a Kick-off meeting (16 TH MAY) by distance and translate to English of the specific animal health regulations for genebanks in force in different countries.
October 2023	✗	Workshop (hybrid format) to collect the experiences in the countries on the animal health regulation for genebanks and discuss about current situation and future options.
October 2023 – April 2024	✗	Development of a guidelines with recommendations for the suitable application of the derogation provide in Regulation 2020/686 and the incorporation to the national animal health legal framework exceptions for the collection, transformation and storage of germinal products intended to be kept in a genebank. These work will be developed by distance.

BUDGET: 8.338 €

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MEMBERS OF THE AHA TEAM.

EXPERT	COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION
Mato Čačić	Croatia
Nikica Prvanovic	Croatia
Krešimir Severin	Croatia
Ewa Camara	EC
Ana Granados	EFFAB
Jaana Peippo	Finland
Isabelle Guerry	France
Laurence Guilbert	France
Delphine Duclos	France
Claudia Klein	Germany
Ewa Sosin	Poland
Danijela Bojkovski	Slovenia
Rosa María Diez	Spain
Fernando Tejerina	Spain
Sipke Hiemstra	The Netherlands
Annemieke Rattink	The Netherlands
Wim van der Poel	The Netherlands
Marcus Bates	UK

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AHA KICK-OFF MEETING SUMMARY



➤ **Situation of the animal health requirements on germinal products on their countries:**

- France, Poland and Germany:
 - ❑ Not specific derogations for germinal products intended to be stored in genebanks, they have to fulfil the same requirements than those in the European Animal Health Regulation for the movement of germinal products within member states.
 - ❑ Poland have a derogation for the store of old material.
 - ❑ Germany is proposed a procedure to deal with old material.
 - ❑ France has a general derogation for equine.
- United Kingdom and The Netherlands:
 - ❑ Specific derogations for germinal products intended to be stored in genebanks for cattle, but not for other species.
 - ❑ The derogations allow the collection on farm similar testing requirements than those set down in the European Animal Health Regulation.
 - ❑ “Embargo period” for the material collected until all the test results are received.

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AHA KICK-OFF MEETING SUMMARY

- Spain:
 - ❑ Specific derogations for germinal products intended to be stored in genebanks for the big five livestock species and national requirement for poultry and rabbit.
 - ❑ Similar requirements than derogations from The Netherlands and UK.
 - ❑ Genebanks must be recognized and the main requirement for the recognition is that the genebanks are working for an authorised breeding programme.
- Slovenia:
 - ❑ Cattle semen must be collected in approved semen collection centres under the European Animal Health Regulation.
 - ❑ A derogation is set down to allow the collection of germinal products of the others species in the Veterinarian Faculty of Ljubljana for their storage in a genebank, the further use of the material must be authorised for and specific committee.
- Serbia:
 - ❑ The collection of germinal products must be developed in specialized establishment but there are not any specific test or quarantine demanded.

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AHA KICK-OFF MEETING SUMMARY

- **Members of the AHA show interest in include the next topics in the recommendations to developed as a final output of the AHA:**
 - Derogations for the collection, processing, storage and use of germinal products intended to be kept in genebanks.
 - Derogations for the use of old material kept in genebanks.
 - Animal health requirements to allow the collection of germinal products others than the big fives (poultry, rabbits).
 - Animal health requirements for other material kept in genebanks (blood, DNA,...)
 - A more homogeneous implementation of the regulation in all countries.

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FURTHER STEPS OF THE AHA

- **Further steps:**
 - Collect all derogations in countries involves in the AHA (or others), translate and disseminate.
 - An hybrid meeting is proposed to 9 October in The Netherlands together the meeting of AI Vets. The topics proposed for the meeting are:
 - Relevance of genebanks for breeding programmes.
 - Animal Health Regulation in Europe and genebanks.
 - Derogation for genebanks in European countries: The Netherlands, UK, Spain and Slovenia.
 - Derogations for old material
 - Tests on ejaculates or semen doses (old material).
 - The view of National Animal Health competent authorities.
 - Examples of Animal Health Requirements on germinal products from other regions in the world.
 - Development of the outline for the guidelines.

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AHA STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL GENE BANKS STRATEGY.

26th August 2023.

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



GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA



MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN



AGENDA 2030

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Activities in the past year and output/results:

- Guidelines on practical recommendations for the development of Genebanks of Animal Genetic Resources guidelines were enriched with specific examples implemented in some countries (France, Hungary, Norway, Portugal and Spain) or organizations (ERFP and NORDGENE) to illustrate the recommendations.
- The guidelines were presented (some of the examples) and approved by the WG.
- The document have been sent to ERFP Secretariat for its dissemination.
- **The AHA is finished.**

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Participants AHA:

<p>Lumturi Papa (Albania) Beate Berger (Austria) Michele Teixeira Boichard (France) Dimitrios Tsiokos (Greece) Sharon Walshe (Ireland) Gustavo Gandini (Italy) Anna Caroline Holene (Norway) Katerina Saratsi (Greece)</p>	<p>Ewa Sosin (Poland) Rosa Lino (Portugal) Srdjan Stojanovic (Serbia) Tina Flisar (Slovenia) Christina Ligda (Greece) – Lead Fernando Tejerina (Spain) - Lead</p>
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Background :

Despite the awareness raised by the GPA, the ERFP WG *ex situ*, EUGENA, the IMAGE project, several initiatives at national level and the recognition of the urgent need to proceed with a national plan for *ex situ* conservation of AnGR complementary to the ongoing in situ conservation programs, there are still **significant drawbacks that impede this development.**


Objective:

- To strengthen the national capacities for the management of AnGR and specifically on the *ex situ* conservation actions (development of a national GeneBank).
- Assess current situation, needs and barriers and define solutions and priorities to support national efforts towards the development of a national cryo-conservation strategy.

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Guidelines on practical recommendations for the development of Genebanks of Animal Genetic Resources


The set of guidelines of good practices on *ex situ* conservation strategies that is developed on the basis of the information collected and analysed through this AHA aims to support the activities in the European countries by providing practical examples of solutions on similar gaps.

These guidelines should be considered as a set of actions already implemented and could be used in similar cases as proposed, or by building on these, new initiatives.

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Steps:

1. Collect information concerning the genebanking strategies in Europe, analyse the data collected and assess the situation of the participating countries.
2. Identify the drawbacks on the *ex situ* conservation, following a “Metaplan” procedure. From a list of drawbacks identified in the countries, a list of 27 final drawbacks were ranked by the members of the AHA. The drawbacks were grouped in 4 categories (Funding, Organization, Technical, Policies).
3. on-line Workshop to analyse and group the solutions.

The guidelines of practical recommendations were developed on the basis of these solutions

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How to use the guidelines:


The guidelines are complementary to the other general documents, as the recent Innovations in Cryoconservation of Animal Genetic Resources-Technical Guidelines by FAO (<https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc3078en>)

The recommendations are classified in four sections:


- **Policies:** regulations on the conservation of AnGR and capacity building.
- **Funding:** sources for financial support and its organization for the development of the *ex-situ in vitro* conservation.
- **Organization of the livestock sector:** improve the structure and operation of the breeders societies and support for the individual breeders to drive the *ex situ in vitro* conservation.
- **Technical:** all kind of resources for the operation of genebanks, human capacities and procedures to improve the *ex situ in vitro* conservation of AnGR.




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Thank you!

Lumturi Papa (Albania)
Beate Berger (Austria)
Michele Teixeira Boichard (France)
Christina Ligda (Greece)
Dimitrios Tsiokos (Greece)
Sharon Walshe (Ireland)
Gustavo Gandini (Italy)
Katerina Saratsi (Greece)


Anna Caroline Holene (Norway)
Ewa Sosin (Poland)
Rosa Lino (Portugal)
Srdjan Stojanovic (Serbia)
Tina Flisar (Slovenia)
Fernando Tejerina (Spain)



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PROPOSAL OF AD HOC ACTION EUGENA STEERING BOARD MEETING.

26th August 2023.


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



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MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN




AGENDA 2030

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TF Plans and priorities for the next year.

Objective:
The main goal of the Ad Hoc Action is funding the annual physical meeting of the EUGENA Steering Board in Poland.

Members:
Lead by: Ewa Sossin and Fernando Tejerina.
8 countries representatives + 1 external expert.

Budget: 6.096 €.

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