

## Report of Documentation and Information ERFP working group – 2024/2025

### 1. Objectives of the group (Summary)

Over the past number of years, a European information system for animal genetic resources (EFABIS) as a contribution and gateway to transfer data from national information systems (national inventories) to the global information system, DAD-IS at the FAO, has been developed. National Focal Points in charge of the national inventories and nominated by National Coordinators are therefore now requested to upload their national data into EFABIS.

The EFABIS is essential for monitoring and an assessment of the diversity of AnGR in Europe and allows for an informed decision-making by countries from a regional perspective. Both monitoring and assessment as well as user needs might require further functionalities of EFABIS which should be identified and further developed by the ERFP Working Group Documentation and Information

The documentation of AnGR is one of the main targets of the GPA and an important basis for informed decision-making by countries, the ERFP and FAO at the global level. Countries should be supported by the ERFP Working Group Documentation and Information in the establishment of their national inventories for AnGR.

### 2. Membership of the group (chair in grey)

<b>Country</b>	<b>Name Member</b>	<b>Surname</b>
<i>Albania</i>	<i>Kristaq</i>	<i>KUME</i>
<i>Bulgaria</i>	<i>Zhivko</i>	<i>DUCHEV</i>
<i>Croatia</i>	<i>Ante</i>	<i>IVANKOVIĆ</i>
<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>Georgia</i>	<i>HADJIPAVLOU</i>
<i>Czech Republic</i>	<i>Tomas</i>	<i>NEMECEK</i>
<i>FAO</i>	<i>Roswitha</i>	<i>BAUMUNG</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>Eléonore</i>	<i>CHARVOLIN-LEMAIRE</i>
<i>Germany</i>	<i>Lisa</i>	<i>BALZAR</i>
<i>Greece</i>	<i>Christina</i>	<i>LIGDA</i>

<b>Country</b>	<b>Name Member</b>	<b>Surname</b>
<i>Iceland</i>	<i>Birna K.</i>	<i>BALDURSDÓTTIR</i>
<i>Ireland</i>	<i>Sharon</i>	<i>WALSHE</i>
<i>Italy</i>	<i>Enrico</i>	<i>STURARO</i>
<i>Lithuania</i>	<i>Gediminas</i>	<i>VAGONIS</i>
<i>Montenegro</i>	<i>Božidarka</i>	<i>MARKOVIĆ</i>
<i>Nordgen</i>	<i>Mervi</i>	<i>HONKATUKIA - O</i>
<i>Norway</i>	<i>Anna</i>	<i>HOLENE</i>
<i>Poland</i>	<i>Beata</i>	<i>SMULSKA</i>
<i>Portugal</i>	<i>Pedro</i>	<i>VIEIRA</i>
<i>Romania</i>	<i>Razvan</i>	<i>POPA</i>
<i>Serbia</i>	<i>Srdjan</i>	<i>STOJANOVIĆ</i>
<i>Slovakia</i>	<i>Ján</i>	<i>TOMKA</i>
<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>Tina</i>	<i>FLISAR</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>Clara</i>	<i>SANTOS ISCOA</i>
<i>Sweden</i>	<i>Martin</i>	<i>JOHNSSON</i>
<i>The Netherlands</i>	<i>Mirjam</i>	<i>SPOELSTRA</i>
<i>Türkiye</i>	<i>Mesut</i>	<i>YILDIRIR</i>
<i>Ukraine</i>	<i>Nataliia</i>	<i>RIEZNYKOVA<sup>1</sup></i>
<i>Ukraine</i>	<i>Leonid V.</i>	<i>VISHNEVSKY</i>
<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>Rachel</i>	<i>DAVIS</i>

\* Observer

<sup>1</sup> : Alternate

### 3. Activities in the past year and output/results

The plan for 2024 -2025 included the following activities:

- ⇒ Enhancing the shared work with EURC in the frame of indicators : implementing the proposition from EURC in EFABIS, proposing collaboration to EURC based on EFABIS data. An expert group on the topic of Review and Proposal for the indicators used to assess the status of endangerment of breeds has been established with experts from ERFP and EURC. This group is starting work on 19.08.2025 with its first online meeting and will continue to work in 2026

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- Contacts Spring 2025 and Summer 2025; Virtual meeting of the expert group 19/08/2025
- ⇒ Establishment of regular process for reporting on the status of data quality and completeness in EFABIS
- ⇒ proposing key figures explaining showing progress are made every year, key figures for promotion of ERFP work. Link with a Communication group.
- Exchanges on that task during the WG meeting in Athens 2025 – proposition of an AHA for 2025-2026.
- ⇒ The AHA "New web tools in EUGENA", which is a follow up on a results from the work of the WG, is successfully finalized, resulting in improved interoperability between EFABIS and EUGENA. As a side result the data provided by the gene banks to EUGENA were reviewed and the discrepancies found were cleared.
- ⇒ TF Transboundary breeds and links with the in situ WG.
  - Finalize and submit the article to GenRes in June. Revised manuscript has been accepted in July. The manuscript is on the process to be published
  - Meeting with in situ WG is planned for September. Mail sent in August for fixing meetings
- ⇒ Enhancing the links with FAO; following the evolutions of EFABIS and national nodes
- ⇒ Preparing a second Seminar with EAAP-Med WG in 2026
  - Discussions have been made during the WG meeting in Athens.

The Working Group Doc and info had 2 opportunities to meet this year in its globality : for the annual WG meeting in Athens, and virtually for working on the European strategy for AnGR Action plan.

### 1/ WG Annual meeting

The annual meeting in Athens has been the moment for exchanges in priority with other working groups. Exchanges with other WG is a key point as Documentation and Information about AnGR is supposed to be feed by the 2 aspects of AnGR management : In Situ and Ex Situ management of AnGR.

The discussions have been very fruitful and a source of enhancing collaboration with colleagues of the 2 WG and with EURC too. Different topics have been discussed as Guidelines for assessing the risk status : EURC-EAB proposal, Assessment of breeding

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programs > report from the EURC-EAB expert group, „hardy sheep breeds“ and what criterias for approving derogations, to improve Cryodata reporting in DAD-IS, different aspects of the management of transboundary breeds (Simenthal examples)

The single meeting of Doc and Info has been the guided around the question of limitations of countries for updating data and on the organisation of a second Mediterranean workshop within EAAP regional meeting :

- Update on the DAD IS (System development and data)
  - Organisation of data collection in countries (time for countries to explain their system)
  - Approach to collect and update DAD-IS data, and bottlenecks/limitation
  - Transboundary Breed >Do countries fill the info? status of updating all relevant data fields, approach to collect and update DAD-IS data, and bottlenecks/limitation
  - AHA New web tools in EUGENA : intermediate results of the software development regarding the feeding EUGENA from DAD-IS/EFABIS via API
  - co-organizing with EAAP (and perhaps FAO?) a (second) Mediterranean workshop / Georgia
- As there is a lot of topics each year we should work on, it appears that the annual WG meeting should give more than half a day for single meeting of WG Doc and Info.

## II/ Virtual meeting on the Action Plan of ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES STRATEGY FOR EUROPE

As foundations of sustainable AnGR management, Monitoring and characterization have a particular place in the Action Plan for Europe. Nevertheless, the WG examined all the different parts of the AnGR strategy

The WG discussed the recommendations of ANGR Strategy, as well as the proposed Actions and Indicators. The WG send the complete table as a report about the topics that have been already fulfil or initiated, and the ones that should be developed, with propositions of collaboration when it fitted.

For example, for the recommendation 2.1.1.1. (Improve the quality and frequency of updating EFABIS), the WG estimated important to produce an annual report with short figures. The WG proposed that a small AHA (end 2025 -2026 until WG meetings to share the proposal), in connection with communication actions 3.3.1.1, 3.3.2.1.

A lot of proposals have been sent through this table for next years.

## **4. Plans and priorities for the next year (to be formally approved by Assembly)**

The WG will rely on the propositions made during the discussions on Action Plan and during the WG meeting, other idea or organisations are collected all over the year

- ⇒ Preparing a second Seminar with EAAP-Med WG in 2026
- ⇒ Improve the quality and frequency of updating EFABIS
  - virtual event with exchanges of best practices in different countries
  - Ad Hoc Action to produce an annual report with short figures : end 2025 -2026 until WG meetings to share the proposal and discuss them during the WG meeting Spring 2026 (some propositions of indicators have been made already) – Link with FAO work after ITWG13 discussions.
  - Link with the TF Transboundary > utilise the list produce by the TF to mobilize countries on their data.
- ⇒ Promote genomic and phenotypic characterization, genetic evaluation, data exchange and facilitate stakeholder access > collect information on breeds included in genomic projects (see in SOW3) in publications
- ⇒ Further develop and implement indicators to monitor the status of, trends in and threats to the conservation and sustainable use of AnGR > work with EURC has been initiated in 2025 > close collaboration is expected 2025-2026. The Expert WG has been created. Work will begin in autumn 2025 – Link with FAO work after ITWG13 discussions.
- ⇒ Improve inter-operability of population and gene bank data with other relevant databases
- ⇒ AHA Breeding programs > adapt the EURC tool for the species that are not in the scope of EURC and also to countries that are outside from EURC; links with Ex Situ and In situ WG
- ⇒ supporting the EUGENA network to include also information from ex situ in vivo gene banks
- ⇒ work on improving geographical distribution in DAD IS for the next years.

## 5. Other

Some propositions have been made for the long-term goals and work for Working group Doc and Info during the discussion on the Action Plan. The second objective of the WG meeting on spring 2026 could be to work on these propositions and organize the work as there is already a lot of work to be done within the AHA and TF already in place, and the proposal for the new AHA linked with communication actions.

Looking at the different topic we should discuss on Spring 2026, it appears that we certainly need at least one full day of single WG Docu and Info meeting.