

Leaders of the *Ad Hoc* action: Ewa Sosin, Poland, Fernando Tejerina Ampudia, Spain, Holger Göderz, Germany/EURC-EAB

Report of the ERFP *Ad Hoc* action - 2025

Integration of in situ and ex situ conservation approaches

1. Objectives (Summary)

The goal is to follow the recommendation and the proposed actions to achieve development and implementation of national strategies and action plans for integrated and complementary in situ and ex situ long term conservation strategies for AnGR.

2. Membership

Coordination: Ewa Sosin, Poland, Fernando Tejerina Ampudia, Spain, Holger Göderz, Germany/EURC-EAB

- Members of the team developing the AHA:

Delphine Duclos	France
Zhivko Duchevev	Bulgaria
Jana Peippo	Finland
Christian Reimer	Germany
Mira Schoon	The Netherlands/EURC-EAB
Srdjan Stojanovic	Serbia
Nina Svartedal	Norway

3. Activities in the past year and output/results

The *Ad hoc* action started with a virtual kick-off meeting on 28th April 2025 where a detailed work plan and the expected outcomes were discussed. As the next step, a questionnaire was set up and sent to the ERFP community. The aim of this survey was to collect and analyse information about already existing national action plans and strategies and examples of integrated in situ/ex situ approaches in European countries.

In an onsite meeting on 27th November 2025 in Balice (Poland), the submissions to the survey were analysed and a structure of the planned guidelines was created subsequently. The task of drafting the text for the individual chapters was divided among the members of the group.

The day before, the activities of the Ad hoc action had been presented in a national event of Polish stakeholders in the field of animal genetic resources.

The summarized guidelines were discussed in several virtual meetings afterwards. A part of the AHA team had met the day before the ERFP Working Groups meetings in Sassari in May 2026. During the meeting the team worked on the text of the guidelines. The first draft of the guidelines was the main issue of the joint meeting of the Working Groups Ex situ conservation and In situ conservation in Sassari.

The (current) structure of the guidelines:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Explanation of the context
- 1.2 Different levels of regulations
- 1.3 The Need of integration

2 Key elements

- 2.1 Building a national network
 - 2.1.1 Identification of stakeholders
 - 2.1.2 Integration of all relevant stakeholders
 - 2.1.3 Clear distribution of tasks and responsibilities among stakeholders
 - 2.1.4 Communication and promotion
- 2.2 Conservation of genetic diversity
 - 2.2.1 Ongoing exchange between gene bank and live breeding populations
 - 2.2.1.1 Characterization of diversity in gene bank material and live breeding population
 - 2.2.1.2 Targeted use of stored material in live breeding populations
 - 2.2.1.3 Targeted choice of donor animals to obtain new gene bank material
 - 2.2.1.4 Inclusion of ex situ in vivo facilities
 - 2.2.1.5 Integrated databases for in situ and ex situ conservation

2.3 International collaboration

- 2.3.1 Recommendations for integrated/concerted conservation across countries in transboundary breeds
- 2.3.2 Exchange of material and data
- 2.3.3 Exchange of knowledge

3. Summary/Recommendations

4. Plans and priorities for the rest of the year.

The guidelines shall be finalised, published and distributed among all interested stakeholders.

Afterwards, a related paper shall be submitted to the GenRes Journal.