



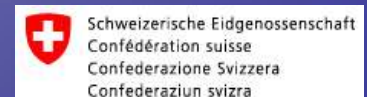
## AnGR in Europe – an overview

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Central Workshop Kutna Hora 8th-10th Feb. 2008

- Legislation, regulation and commissions have established an international and national legal framework for maintaining genetic diversity
- for example:
- **DRAFT Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, Article 23 *Traditional knowledge and practices*:** When implementing this Protocol, the Parties shall take measures for the preservation and promotion of the traditional knowledge, in particular the sustainable land-use patterns, land resource management practices, local breeds of domestic animals and cultivated plant varieties, and sustainable use of wild plants
  - **Nationally**, this protection of AnGR occurs in many different ways. Most countries are party to the CBD and are part of the EU, and this is reflected in the legislation. However, all national protection of AnGR is affected by the national economic and agricultural policy, which is more directed by international trade than a desire to conserve genetic diversity.



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# Strategic Priorities for Europe

- “State of the World’s Animal Genetic Resources” 5 strategic priorities for Europe:
  - - inventory, monitoring and characterisation;
  - - sustainable use and development;
  - - conservation;
  - - capacity building; and
  - - public and stakeholder awareness



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## Inventory, monitoring and characterisation

- Databases and scientific stores of knowledge and resources.
- Europe needs more and better monitoring, an integrated approach to characterisation and definitions have to be set
- There needs to be better collaboration and harmonisation
- A focus on the value and importance of local production systems
- The remit of research needs to be widened - scientific through field work and search tours to research into traditional knowledge and local cultures



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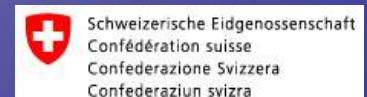
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## Sustainable use and development

- “Sustainable breeding programmes, enhancement and continued use of a variety of breeds are the most important strategies to maintain farm animal genetic diversity in Europe”
- Breeding programmes need a clear strategy to be successful, they also have to be well planned
- Balance of the needs of keepers with the goals of national breeding programmes
- The most important factor in any breeding programme is *recording*



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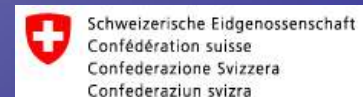
# Total Traceability

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- Total Traceability is important for producers, consumers *and* for conservation
- In Hungary the WAP service on mobile phones can be used to access the central database – to find out which animal and which farm the meat in front of you in the shop comes from. This service could be provided in any country that has a central animal database (required to record animal movement).
- This could be an element in the EU's "Farm to Fork" policy from the Directorate General on Health and Consumer Protection.



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## Conservation of animal genetic resources

- Conservation is going to be most effective when it is combined with human use.
- In situ conservation provides a cost-effective method of achieving similar results - but it also has other benefits.
  - reducing dependency on external support
  - conservation enhances nature protection
  - stimulating local economies, re-valuing local culture, halting rural-urban migration



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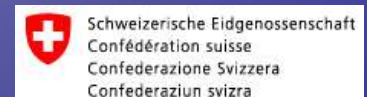
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## Awareness and Education

- Maintaining the genetic resources is a social responsibility
- One of the goals of the ELBARN project is to promote the “experience” of AnGR
- Education and awareness raising can work through:
  - School projects
  - Picture books for children,
  - Farm open days,
  - Tourist areas and nature parks having animals in use and on show.....
- Traditional production methods connect the public to the subject of conservation



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## Capacity building

- There is a gap between countries and regions in terms of capacity to undertake the body of work required for competent conservation of AnGR.
- This can only be changed through cross-border collaboration, through networking, partnerships and knowledge sharing.



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# ELBARN

- The idea:
  - to bring all potential Ark and Rescue Centres into a strategic conservation network
  - to make better use of limited resources,
  - to increase the chance of success
  - and reduce the overall cost of conservation work .
  
- ELBARN intends to do what the pilot project was unable to do, to obtain an overview of the whole-European situation.
  
- We want to use this knowledge
  - to motivate,
  - to inform,
  - to harmonise strategies
  - to link up breeding systems,
  - marketing ideas
  - to provide adequate space for successful conservation.



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