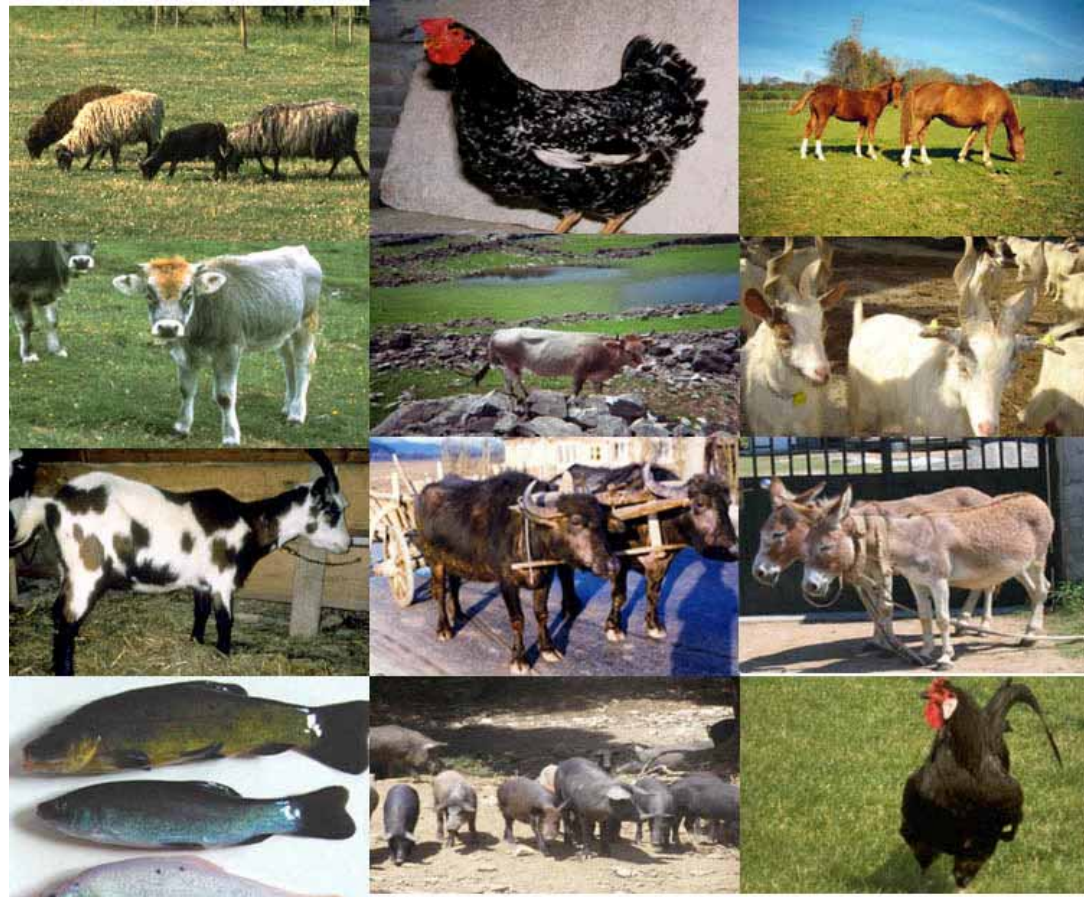




European Livestock Breeds Ark and Rescue Net

www.elbarn.net



Waltraud Kugler, Elli Broxham, SAVE Foundation

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- Introduction to ELBARN
- The ELBARN Guidelines
- Workshop Folders
- Goal of the Area Action Plan



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What is ELBARN?

- A 3 year NGO-run project
- A pan-European Concerted Action within the framework of EU-Regulation 870/2004



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Aims


- To build up a network of *existing* establishments that do in-situ conservation of autochthonous breeds
- To record these in an online database containing information for both the public and the professional
- To establish breeding programmes and herdbooks where they do not already exist
- To motivate towards the establishment of “Ark and Rescue Centres”
- To secure the future of in-situ/on farm conservation
- Website: <http://www.elbarn.net/>



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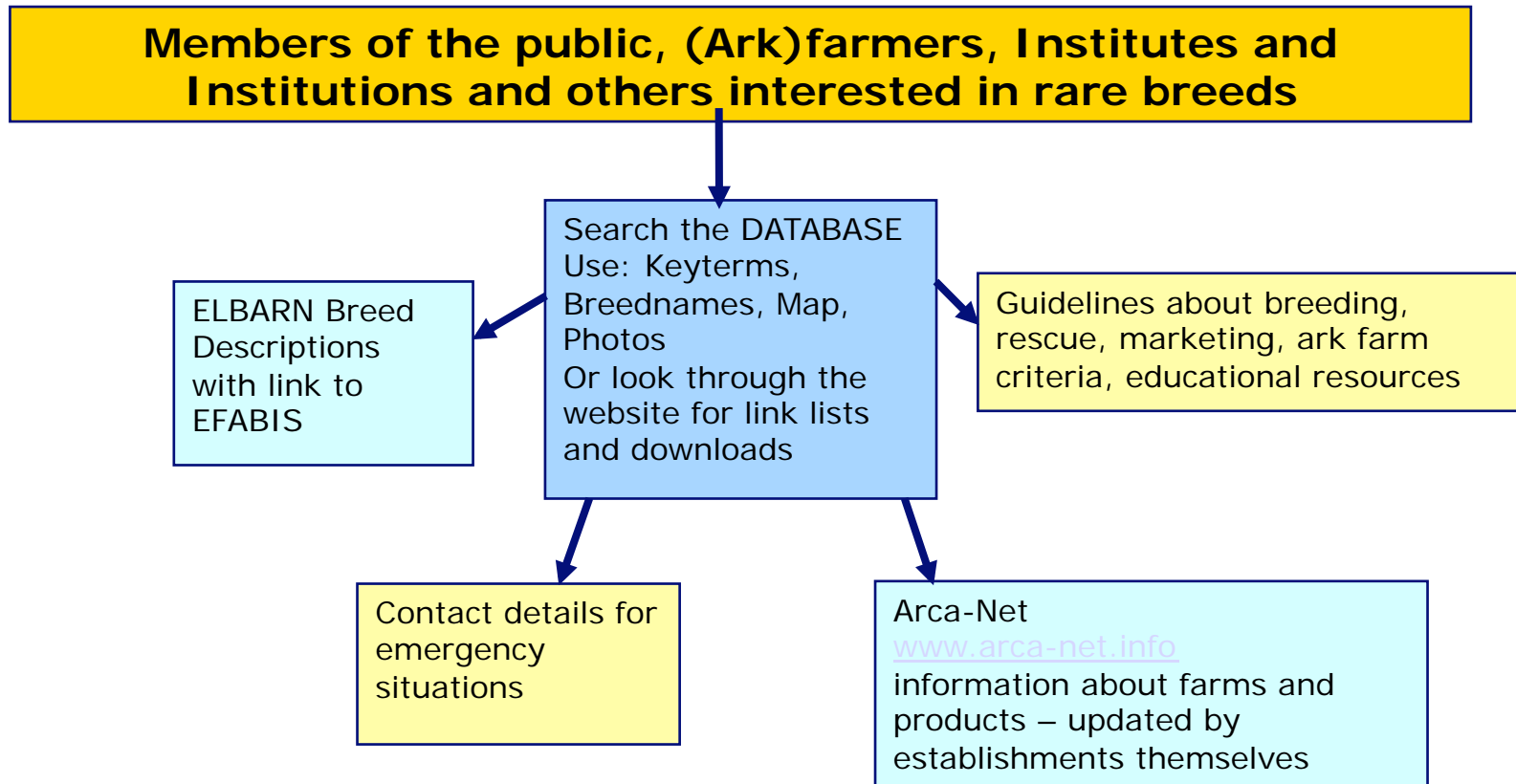
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ELBARN Website and Database

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Central and Northeast Area Workshop, 26th -28th March 2009, Roznov pod Radhostem Czech Republic



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Launch of ELBARN

- Central Workshop in Kutna Hora, Czech Republic
February 8th – 10th 2008

Work Groups:

- Rescue and Quarantine
- Characterisation of Ark and Rescue Centres
- Breeding
- Marketing



Results from the Work Groups = ELBARN Guidelines

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Rescue Guidelines

- Rescue is a temporary act
- Professional accomplishment
- Set up emergency funds
- Verification of the rescued breed
- Ex situ conservation (in gene banks)



Needs for Successful Rescue of a Rare Breed



-
-
-
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-
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Rescue in the case of a disease – an example of required measures, based on EU regulations for FMD, can be found in the guidelines

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Rescue Guidelines

Rescue Centres – Requirements are:

- Free space
- Flexible sanitary status
- Possibilities for isolation
- Readiness for collaboration - contract
- Registration as a rescue centre



Needs:

- Training about rare breeds for any person in a decision-making capacity during a livestock epidemic.
- All new regulations concerning disease should include rare breeds.
- Rare breeds, as genetically valuable stock, should be included into the Terrestrial Animal Health Code

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Ark and Rescue Centres Guidelines

Overview, need for action:

- **Each country should have a national committee on animal genetic resources that includes all stakeholders. This committee should work out national standards for A&RCs,**
- **Networking, on regional level, for action plans and collaboration concerning regional cross-border breeds is strongly recommended**
- **A pan-European lobbying group should be established to address the EU about the needs of rare breeds, e.g:**
 - **special status for registered A&RCs**
 - **protection against slaughter**
 - **medical treatment**
 - **transportation in case of emergency**
 - **protected marketing of products (label)**
 - **networking through out Europe**



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	Purposes	Requirements	Type of facilities
Type 1: Educational A&RCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public awareness, special information programmes for schools, organisations of farmers, scientists, hobby breeders, consumer groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> safeguard the knowledge of breeding rare breeds, including traditional and cultural aspects of animal breeding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have a representative sample of endangered, typical, local farm animals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> provide guide-facilities, documentation, well equipped meeting rooms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> equipped to offer "learning by doing" programmes such as working with products of traditional farming (e.g. baking, cheese making, weaving) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Farm parks, model farms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School farms, university research farms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City farms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zoo's and zoological gardens <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open air museums <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information centres at: national parks, in-situ conservation parks, biosphere reserves
Type 2: Farm A&RCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> breeding of endangered farm animals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> keeping of breeding males <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> production and sale of (labelled) local breeds products <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sustainable farming with local breeds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> farming in combination with nature protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> farm tourism (bed and breakfast) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> professionally run farms ("working farms") <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> farms should be economically sustainable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> majority of animals present on the farms should belong to local endangered breeds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> highest animal welfare standards to be applied on the farm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> open to the public and provide guided tours on request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ark farms, organic farms, state farms, prison farms <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grazing projects or other nature conservation projects <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community care farms connected with therapy or sheltered workshops <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Farms with Bed and Breakfast facilities

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	Purposes	Requirements	Type of facilities
Type 3: Rescue stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to save herds of endangered farm animals from slaughtering in case last remaining breeder(s) (have to) stop breeding activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> to save animals in case of political unrest, military conflicts, flooding, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> facilities that are acquainted with caring for animals and have room, time and personnel available to welcome additional animals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ease of transportation regulation to and from rescue stations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> suitable sanitary status and contingency plans to take unknown animals at short notice and also, if necessary, to provide for isolation of incoming animals and can take care of farm animals during a certain period of time <u>at short notice</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all type of facilities that are equipped
	Purposes	Requirements	Type of facilities
Type 4: Quarantine stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> voluntary isolation to save endangered breeds of farm animals in case of outbreak of contagious diseases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> contract with ELBARN and also relevant governmental body (e.g. Veterinary Authorities) to perform this role.see Guidelines for Rescue in Case of Disease for more details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any registered establishment, willing to take on the role, that fulfils criteria for quarantine

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Breeding Guidelines

Practical guidelines for animal breeders - Overview



- The breeding programme should be managed by a group of interested and knowledgeable people, including all stakeholder levels.
- Breeds that are not already officially recognised by governments should be investigated and, where appropriate, should achieve official recognition
- Cross-border programmes should be established where necessary
- Census, registration and long-term monitoring are a prerequisite for success
- Nucleus herds should be split into geographically distinct groups
- As many male-lines should be established as is possible
- Recording of basis data is essential
- Animals should be integrated into agricultural production

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Breeding Guidelines



Minimum data required for each animal

- Species and breed
- Breed Name (local name or synonym)
- Sex
- Sire
- Dam
- Identification number, if available
- Date of Birth
- Origin (which farm?) and current location
- Date of slaughter/natural death

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Breeding Guidelines

Work Plan for On-Farm Conservation Breeding

1st Phase:

- Monitoring: census, methods of husbandry and usage, breed characteristics
- Result: assessment of needs

2nd Phase:

- Securing all of remnant population through purchase or support at present location.
- Securing or creating *at least* 10 male lines
- Building up of nucleus herds and sperm banks.
- Creation of an NGO herd book including minimum data
- Scientific research (e.g. genetic distance analysis)
- Founding of management group for breed, if not already in existence

3rd Phase:

- Development of a long-term conservation plan for the breed, taking into account potential to integrate breed into agricultural production and/or other uses

4th Phase:

- Integration of the breed in agricultural production/usage

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Marketing Guidelines

Product Marketing

- broad marketing base
- continuity on every level
- direct marketing from farm shop - form cooperatives for a wider product range
- check funding for assistance with local marketing strategies
- make contact with existing eco labels and other associations
- a responsible person should be appointed for each area to coordinate the whole marketing scheme and activities to promote A&RCs



Tourism & Education

- information campaigns
- raising awareness for the importance of conserving rare breeds as preserver of cultural and natural heritage
- promote farm park visits for children and adults through Arca-Net, but also by advertising, course materials for schools, information leaflets etc.
- Prepare lesson plans for teachers to use in schools
- identify suitable breeds for landscape management



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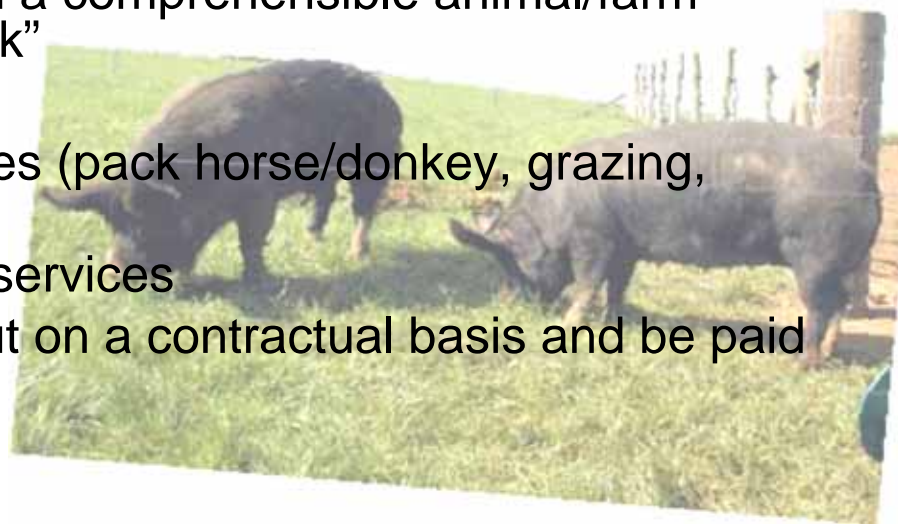
Marketing Guidelines

Labelling

- trademark for small scale, extensive production from local breeds and plant varieties using traditional manufacturing and respecting animal welfare
- look for cooperation with regional, national or international institutions and programmes (e.g. restaurants, “Mountain Farmer” programmes, biosphere products, Slow Food)
- products should be traceable with a comprehensible animal/farm /product number “from farm to fork”

Providing services

- identify suitable breeds for services (pack horse/donkey, grazing, cultivator, etc)
- promote the using of animals for services
- these services should be hired out on a contractual basis and be paid for



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Marketing Guidelines

Conditions for use of trademark by ELBARN A&RCs

Basic Conditions (all must be fulfilled):

- autochthonous breed (or breed traditional to that region)
- free range, extensive environment
- local, extensive and small scale
- valuable part of the cultural heritage
- animal welfare
- herd book or should be a member of a breeding organisation which runs a herd book

Additional Conditions (at least half must be fulfilled):

- quality should be guaranteed (seasonal fluctuations are accepted for natural products but feeding guidelines have to be respected)
- traditional, artisan processing should be used
- the distribution should respect rules of fair trade
- manufacturing should regard as minimum EU organic regulations on organic production and labelling of organic products

Quality Guaranteed



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Area Workshop

Aim of the Area Workshop:

- To discuss issues that are of Area/Regional /National relevance
- To draw up an Area Action Plan



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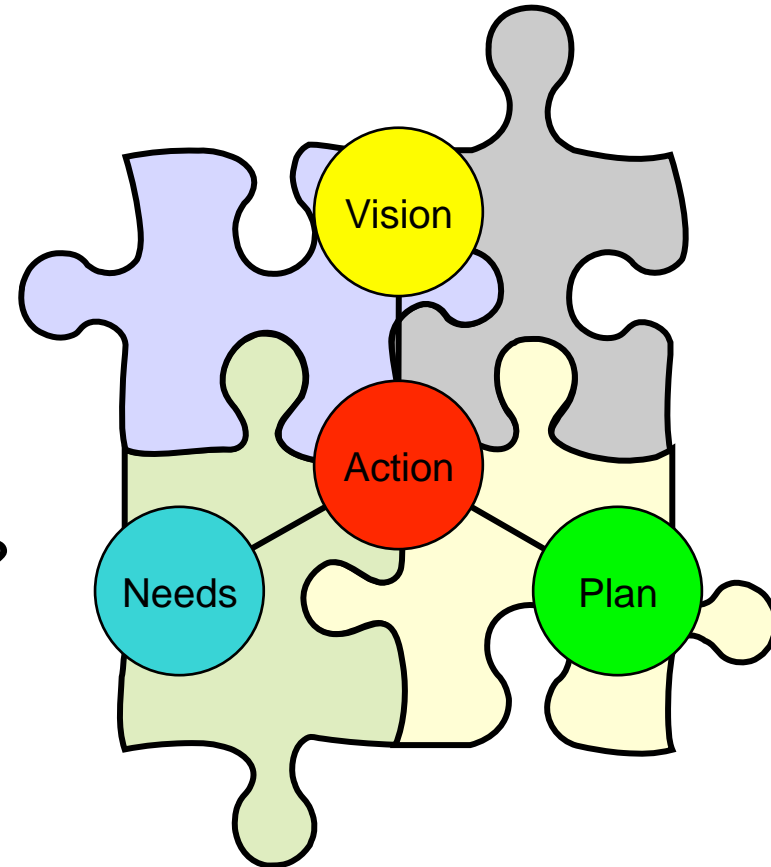


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Area Action Plans

Goal of Discussion:

- National Requirements
- Transnational Requirements
- National/Area contact point: who and where?
- Who is responsible for A&RC?
- Available finances?



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