



LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS AFFECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES - 2013 -

Country: Latvia

SECTION 1: SUSTAINABLE USE, DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION OF ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

This section targets information on legislation and policies related specifically to the management of animal genetic resources, i.e. to:

- characterization, surveying and monitoring;
- sustainable use and development;
- conservation; and
- research and development related to animal genetic resources management.

It also includes issues related to patenting and access and benefit sharing. Instruments in these fields of action may or may not include specific provisions related to animal genetic resources or to relevant broader categories such as living organisms or genetic resources for food and agriculture.

1. Overall management of animal genetic resources

Note: In the policy field, this might include, for example, a national strategy and action plan for animal genetic resources.

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Animal Breeding law includes following regarding animal genetic resources:

- 1) Definitions - Farm animal genetic resources - numerically small breeds and populations with heritage, scientific or economical value.
 - 2) Responsibilities of animal breeding organizations - Farm animal breeding organizations develop, approve and implement breeding programs for farm animal breeds, including programs for conservation of genetic resources.
- Owners of animal genetic resources (AnGR) can receive support in accordance with Cabinet Regulations No.295 (23.03.2010) - Support allocation for improvement of environment and rural landscape. In accordance with mentioned regulations animals must meet the criteria of animal breeding program (farm animal breeding organizations are recognizing animals); animals must stay in herd 5 years, from AnGR animal must be received offspring.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Animal Breeding law and regulations issued by the Cabinet helps to monitor and conserve AnGR.

Future needs

It is necessary to develop one common policy programme for conservation of AnGR breeds. One programme could help to understand common needs of breeds and enable to solve problems more effective.

2. Integration of animal genetic resources management with the management of other genetic resources for food and agriculture (plant, forest or aquatic genetic resources)

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Rural development programme 2007 - 2013 ([http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RDP_final\(2\).pdf](http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RDP_final(2).pdf)) and number of Cabinet regulations outline financial support for various activities concerning preservation of biodiversity. More information - item 1, section 4.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Financial support helps to keep the number of animal more stable.

Future needs

No urgent needs

3. Surveying and monitoring of animal genetic resources

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

In accordance with regulations (Cabinet regulations No.650 (16.08.2011) - Procedures for registration of farming Animals, the herds and holdings thereof and the procedures for identification of farming animals) all cattle, horses, sheep, goats and breeding pigs in Latvia are registered with the Agricultural data centre.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Genetic resources of breeds in Latvia belong to cow, horse, sheep, goat and pig species and thus all genetic resource animals are registered too. In accordance with Cabinet Regulations No.295 (23.03.2010) - Support allocation for improvement of environment and rural landscape - farm animal owners receive financial support for animals, which meet criteria of breeding programs. Thus we can see each year dynamics of number of animals from native breeds. That helps surveying and monitoring of AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

4. Official recognition of livestock breeds

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Agricultural data centre establish a commission for approval of breed in accordance with Cabinet Regulations No.475 (21.06.2011) - Approval and registration of farm animal breeds. Commission should include representatives from Agricultural data centre and scientific and educational institutions. For the approval of breed commission takes into consideration number of female and male animals, characteristic traits, productivity, and genetic structure of population.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

As regulations determine procedure of registration of breeds that are founded in Latvia, it has impact on native breeds. All native breeds are registered in Agricultural data centre.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

5. Animal breeding and genetic improvement strategies

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Animal breeding in Latvia is regulated by Animal Breeding law. Important part of animal breeding is animal recording, which helps to improve genetic quality of animals. Recording of main farm animal species is carried out in accordance with Cabinet regulations:

- Cabinet Regulation No.547 (05.07.2011) on recording of dairy cows and goats.
- Cabinet Regulation No.528 (05.07.2011) on recording of sheep.
- Cabinet Regulation No.479 (21.06.2011) on recording of pigs.
- Cabinet Regulations No.548 (05.07.2011) on recording and performance evaluation of horses, and regulations for participation in competitions

All AnGR animals, which receive financial support (Cabinet regulation No.295, item 1, section 1), must be under recording.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Genetic improvement of AnGR does not happen fast enough because of small number of animals.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

Do these measures address:

5.1 Animal identification and recording

Note: Sections 2 and 3 include questions on traceability and on animal identification as it relates to animal health. If relevant, please use cross-references to indicate that a given law or policy affects more than one field of action.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Regarding to identification - see item 3 of this section.
Part of species has determined recording procedure in breeding programs, and part of species (for example, cattle, horses, sheep, goats and pigs) has determined recording procedure in Cabinet regulations (item 1 of this section). In cabinet regulations are laid down following procedures:
1) how animal owner starts recording;
2) procedures for data collecting (milk sampling, animal weighing, exterior evaluating etc.); rights and responsibilities of persons, which are involved in recording.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

All AnGR animals, which receive financial support, must be under recording. It has positive effect on breeding of AnGR, if there is a sufficient number of animals and selection of best animals can be done. Problem is, that in most breeds number of animals is not sufficient for selection, and recording results only show productivity but don't allow culling of worst animals.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

5.2 The establishment and operation of breeders' associations

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

All animal breeding organizations, which maintain herdbooks and works in the field of pure-bred animals, are approved in accordance with Cabinet regulations No.567 (12.07.2011) - approval of farm animal breeding organizations. Before approval animal breeding organization develop breeding program for 5 years. Agricultural data centre establish a commission for approval of breeding organization. Commission should include representatives from Agricultural data centre, The Ministry of Agriculture and Latvia University of Agriculture. Commission takes into consideration following parts of breeding program:
1) breeding goals and tasks;
2) characterization of breed;
3) identification system of animals;
4) methods for estimation of breeding value;
5) methods for maintaining the herdbook;
6) methods for certification of males;
7) the number of animals needed for implementation of breeding program.
In addition, organization must develop attestation rules for pure-breed animal breeding farms and prepare the summary of previous experience in animal breeding. Commission also assess whether the organization has adequate facilities and specialists in animal breeding field.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

With AnGR breeds are working approved organizations. This ensures that native breeds have qualitative programs for breeding and conservation of animals.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

6. Use of reproductive biotechnologies (excluding zoosanitary issues)

Note: Zoosanitary issues are covered in Section 3.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Artificial insemination is widely used in Latvia in bovine population. Transplantation of embryo and ova is not used presently in Latvia.
There are regulations regarding sperm, ova and embryo:
- Cabinet regulations No.320 (30.03.2010) on Veterinary requirements for handling of bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine species animal semen, ova and embryos in the territory of Latvia; and minimum equipment required for a provider of artificial insemination of bovines, porcines, ovines and caprines;
- Cabinet regulations No.818 (31.08.2010) on Requirements for bovine, equidae, ovine, caprine and porcine sperm, embryo and ova collection centres, requirements for registration of centers;
- Cabinet regulations No.529 (27.06.2006) on Regulations for bull bovine sperm trade and for its import from Third

countries;
Cabinet regulations No.235 (28.03.2006) on Regulations for porcine sperm trade and for its import from Third countries.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Artificial insemination has positive impact on conservation of Latvian blue and Latvian brown cows, because sperm from AnGR bulls is kept in artificial insemination centres.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

7. Genetic modification of animals used for food and agriculture

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

There is not carried out genetic modification of animals in our country at this time, but there is legislation developed. Law On Circulation of Genetically Modified Organisms - this law prescribes the competence of State authorities, the rights and duties of natural and legal persons, the principles, supervision and control for the circulation of genetically modified organisms including those for co-existence of modified crops, public participation, liability and legal protection of persons, as well as security measures and circulation of information for the prevention of any possible emergency situation.

In order to release genetically modified organisms into the environment for experiments it is necessary for a person, which has created genetically modified organisms, to receive a permit of the Food and Veterinary Service.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Presently genetic modification of animals does not have impact on AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

8. Suitability of imported genetic material for use in local production environments

Note: For example, rules requiring a "genetic assessment" before genetic material can be introduced.

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Cabinet Regulations No.474 (21.06.2011) - certification of cattle, pig, sheep, goat and horse males, sperm, ova and embryo. In accordance with regulations, male, sperm, ova and embryo designed for improvement of breed, must be certified before use. Male, sperm, ova and embryo can be certified, if following breeding criteria are met:
1) it is obtained or purchased in accordance with breeding program, and its use is planned in accordance with breeding program;
2) its breeding value meet requirements of breeding program;
3) it is evaluated by productivity or quality of progenies or it has status of the male or material under test.

Future needs

Certification of males and sperm has positive effect on AnGR. Certification ensures selection of the most appropriate animals, with proper origin and good exterior and productivity traits.

9. Conservation programmes for animal genetic resources

Legislation Yes

Policy Under development

Details of the measure(s)

As mentioned in items 1.and 5.2.of this section, Animal Breeding law and regulations No.567 set up requirements for development of breeding programs (which are at the same time conservation programs for native breeds).

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Developing of breeding programs help to understand achieved goals, understand current situation and set goals for next period. In the process of developing program, members of organizations discuss about best ways to achieve the goals.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

Do these measures include provisions specifically related to:

9.1 *In vivo* conservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

As animals from native breeds are kept within typical production systems (in farms), conservation *in vivo* is organized by breeding organizations. Breeding organizations have developed breeding programs for all native breeds (Latvian blue cow, Latvian brown cow, Latvian white pig, Latvian native goat, Latvian dark-headed sheep and Latvian breed draught type horse). Animal owners can receive financial support for animals, if animals meet the criteria of animal breeding program (more details -item 1, section 1).

Impact on animal genetic resources management

In vivo conservation enables to compare native breeds with conventional breeds in farm conditions. We can see that in some cases native breeds are less demanding regarding feed and housing conditions. If there is sufficient number of animals, it is possible to carry out selection and thus breed become more productive. *In vivo* conservation has cultural and historical importance too - we can see native animals in environment, young generation is better informed about breeds that are founded in Latvia.

Future needs

It is necessary to establish state farms for AnGR. In such farms GR animals of one breed are kept in groups and this would facilitate research. Such state farms must receive financial support. Presently we have founded nucleus herd for Latvian brown cows in Vecauce (by Latvia University of Agriculture) - 22 cows and heifers, but currently this farm does not receive supplementary funding for research in AnGR field.

9.2 Cryoconservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

In Latvia we use two methods of cryoconservation - artificial insemination and storage of animal tissues in gene bank. As mentioned in item 6 of this section, artificial insemination is widely used in Latvia in bovine population. Artificial insemination stations can receive some financial support, if artificial insemination stations store in their facilities sperm from AnGR bulls.

Conservation of animal tissues is carried out by the Laboratory of Molecular Genetics Researches (at Latvia University of Agriculture). Tissues from all native breeds are stored in this laboratory.

There are not specific regulations for cryoconservation of AnGR. Mandatory procedures related to artificial insemination and operation of laboratories are described in a number of regulations.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Cryoconservation have positive impact on AnGR. Artificial insemination helps to diminish inbreeding in Latvian brown and Latvian blue populations. In gene bank are stored tissues from AnGR animals from different lines and that can help to maintain genetic diversity in native breeds in future.

Future needs

It is necessary to determine in laws and regulations the responsibility of the institutions which carry out cryoconservation. The problem is that if we determine responsibility of institutions, we must allocate constant funding for these institutions (but there was not opportunity to allocate funding yet).

10. Research and development related to animal genetic resources management

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Research related to AnGR is mostly carried out by Latvia University of agriculture. Funds for research are raised mostly through various projects.

There are no specific regulations regarding to research related to AnGR. There are number of laws and regulations regarding to research institutions.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Research has no impact on AnGR presently, because specific positive traits of AnGR are not found yet. But more research is necessary to identify positive traits of animals and so stimulate animal breeders to breed native animals.

Future needs

Constant fund for research related to AnGR is needed and it must be transposed in law.

11. Patenting

Legislation

If legislation is in place or under development, does/will it include provisions (including exemptions) specifically targeting:

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

Living organisms in general

Details of the measure(s)

Patent rights are regulated in Patent law. Law prescribes that:
a patent shall be granted to biotechnological inventions:

- 1) containing biological material isolated from its natural environment or acquired with the help of a technical method, even if it has been previously met in nature;
- 2) pertaining to plants or animals if the technical nature of the invention does not confine itself to some specific plant variety or animal breed; and
- 3) pertaining to microbiological or other technical method or a product acquired with such a method if it is not a plant variety or animal breed.

A patent shall not be granted to plant varieties or animal breeds or to the basic biological methods for the acquisition of plant varieties or animal breeds.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

As there are no patents for breeds in Latvia, there are no patents for native breeds, too. Presently there is no need for patents for breeds in Latvia and it has no impact on AnGR.

Future needs

If native breeds will have some outstanding traits, there could be necessity for patenting in the future.

12. Access and benefit sharing arrangements

Note: The Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, on 8 August 2013, invited countries to report on the conditions under which genetic resources for food and agriculture are exchanged and used (Circular State Letter C/ NRD-5). Please coordinate responses within your country.

Legislation

Policy

If instruments are in place or under development, do/will they include provisions (including exemptions) specifically targeting:

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

Genetic resources for food and agriculture in general

Details of the measure(s)

There are no restrictions for access and benefit sharing of AnGR in Latvia. Animal breeders can buy native animals without restrictions.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Presently the lack of access and benefit sharing arrangements has no impact on AnGR in Latvia.

Future needs

If native breeds will have some exclusive traits, there could be necessity for access and benefit sharing arrangements.

SECTION 2: MARKETING AND CONSUMER INFORMATION AND PROTECTION

This section targets information on legislation and policies addressing the marketing of animal products, including those addressing:

- the production and marketing of organic products;
- the production and marketing of products sold under protected designations of origin or similar labels;
- production and marketing of products sold under labels indicating adherence to animal-welfare-related standards; and
- food safety.

While some policies and legislation in these fields of action may include specific references to animal genetic resources, it is likely that many will not. The latter may, nonetheless, have indirect effects on animal genetic resources and their management. Consumer demand for animal products often has a major influence on the use and development of animal genetic resources. A lack of demand may place a breed at risk of extinction. Marketing initiatives for breed-specific products, or products from production systems in which locally adapted breeds are kept, can provide a means of promoting the use of at-risk breeds and reducing the risk that they will become extinct. Legislation and policies that facilitate initiatives of this kind can have a positive effect in terms of the maintenance of animal genetic diversity. Conversely, legislation and policies that inhibit the marketing of particular types of products, or products from particular locations or production systems, may inhibit the use of animal genetic resources associated with these products, locations or production systems.

1. Marketing of animal products in general

Note: This question refers to measures that are not specifically focused on market subsectors such as organic products or products with designated labels of origin.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

General rules for the trade of food products are set down in the Law on the Supervision of the Handling of Food. The purpose of this Law is to ensure handling of food, which is qualitative and harmless to human health, life and the environment, the elimination of risks, the promotion of trade and the protection of the interests of consumers. There are number of regulations regarding handling of food. There are reduced requirements for the handling of products in small quantity.

Marketing promotion rules for various products are set down in Rural development programme 2007 - 2013 and in Cabinet regulations. For, example, Cabinet regulations No.894 - Procedures for the granting, administration and monitoring of European Union support and State aid for information and promotion measures for agricultural products - prescribes that The Ministry of Agriculture specify products, themes and target markets to be supported, and inform the Rural Support Service thereof. To receive support, an association, a foundation, a cooperative society providing agricultural services, a group of producers or an organisation of producers must develop information and promotion programme and submit such programme to the Rural Support Service.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Marketing promotion activities presently have no impact on AnGR, because there are not developed specific AnGR products.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

2. Production and marketing of organic products

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Regulations No.485 (26.05.2009) issued by the Cabinet on Procedure for the Supervision and Control of Organic Farming - this Regulation prescribes the procedure for the supervision and control of organic farming in accordance with EU Regulations.

Information on policy - item 1, Section 4.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Organic farming regulations have no impact on management of AnGR. Some of AnGR breeders are organic farmers, but they sell production from AnGR together with production from other breeds.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

3. Production and marketing of products sold under protected designations of origin or similar labels

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Law on Trade Marks and Indications of Geographical Origin regulates legal relations as to trade mark registration, as well as the use of and the protection of trade marks and indications of geographical origin (use and protection of trade marks and indications of geographical origin are also regulated by other regulatory enactments).

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Presently we have not in Latvia products under protected designations, which are produced from AnGR. Accordingly, this legislation has no impact on AnGR.

Future needs

It is necessary to develop products from AnGR and gain for these products label of protected designation. This could have positive effect on conservation of AnGR.

4. Production and marketing of products sold under labels indicating adherence to particular animal welfare-related standards

Note: For example, rules relating to the marketing of products as "free range" or under similar designations. Basic animal welfare legislation (i.e. not specifically related to marketing) is covered in Section 3.

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

Presently there are no specific regulations according labels indicating adherence of particular animal welfare - related standards. There are mentioned some welfare requirements in Cabinet regulations No.663 (18.08.2008) - Requirements for food quality schemes, their implementation, operation, monitoring and control procedures. Regulations include National food quality scheme. National food quality scheme is a scheme where all stages of the food chain can be traced, the producer is certified according to national food quality requirements of the scheme and the final product is in retail or direct delivery to the final consumer.

Requirements for National food quality scheme regarding milk and dairy products, beef, pork, goat and sheep for meat and products are, for example:

- Pigs must be provided with walking space with the ability to nuzzle or in pigpen must be put some healthy material for activity - straw, hay, wood, sawdust, mushroom compost, peat or a mixture of these materials.
- Fattening pigs must be provided with a pen at least 0.85 m2 of total floor space and with of the gaps in floor - not exceed 18 mm.

Transport time of beef cattle, goats, sheep and pig from departure to the place of slaughter shall not exceed six hours.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

National food quality scheme has no impact on conservation of AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

5. Safety of food products from animals

Note: If relevant, include measures related to the marketing of products derived from genetically modified organisms.

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

There are number of laws and regulations regarding safety of products (Law on the Supervision of the Handling of Food, regulations regarding producing, hygiene, processing, labeling, control etc.).

There are also regulations relating genetically modified organisms and novel food. Law On Circulation of Genetically Modified Organisms - the purpose of this Law is to achieve high level of safety in all stages of circulation of genetically modified organisms in order to prevent the negative impact on human and animal health or the environment, to preserve biological diversity, to promote the development of sustainable agriculture and biotechnology, as well as the co-existence of genetically modified crops concurrently with organic and conventional farming. This Law prescribes the competence of State authorities, the rights and duties of natural and legal persons (hereinafter - person), the principles, supervision and control for the circulation of genetically modified organisms including those for co-existence of modified crops, public participation, liability and legal protection of persons, as well as security measures and circulation of information for the prevention of any possible emergency situation.

There are number of rules issued pursuant to Law On Circulation of Genetically Modified Organisms, for example, Regulations regarding the procedures for the release into the environment or placing on the market of genetically modified organisms, the procedures for monitoring and issuance of a permit, as well as the procedures for providing information regarding circulation of genetically modified organisms and public involvement in the decision taking process.

Cabinet regulations No.295 (09.07.2002) - Procedures for assessment of novel foods and requirements for classification, labelling and quality of novel foods regulations prescribe that novel foods (foods containing genetically modified organisms; foods and food ingredients isolated from animals, except foods and food ingredients that are obtained by traditional propagating or breeding practices and that have a history of safe food use; etc.) are distributed only after the receipt of a permit in accordance with the procedures prescribed by regulations.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Presently these regulations have no impact on AnGR, but in future genetically modified organisms could have impact on AnGR as well as on conventional breeds.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

6. Traceability of animal-origin products

Note: Sections 1 and 3 include questions on animal identification as it relates to breeding and to animal health. If relevant, please use cross-references to indicate that a given law or policy affects more than one field of action.

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

Veterinary Medicine Law prescribes that The Food and Veterinary Service shall formulate, approve and maintain a system of registration, recording and movement of animal products and products of animal origin, as well as a system that has the function of reporting cases of animals becoming ill with infectious animal diseases.

Cabinet regulations No.650 (16.08.2011) - Procedures for registration of farming animals, the herds and holdings thereof and the procedures for identification of farming animals (more - item 3, section1, item 1.5., section 3).

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Traceability is very important for all foodstuffs, including animal-origin products. But it has not important impact on conservation of AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

SECTION 3: ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

This section targets information on legislation and policies addressing animal health and animal welfare. While some policies and legislation in these fields may include specific references to animal genetic resources, it is likely that many will not. The latter may, nonetheless, have indirect effects on animal genetic resources and their management. Animal genetic resources and their management can be affected both by the direct effects of animal diseases and by the effects of measures taken to control animal diseases. For example, a disease epidemic may threaten the existence of at-risk breeds, particularly if their populations are concentrated geographically. Animal diseases, as influenced by the presence of absence of effective animal health services, can also influence the type of animal genetic resources that can be kept in particular locations, influence breeding objectives and/or affect the economic sustainability of livestock-keeping livelihoods. Compulsory culling measures used to control disease epidemics may pose a threat to geographically concentrated breed populations. Legal restrictions on the import of genetic material because of zoosanitary reasons may affect breeders' access to genetic resources. Legal restrictions on livestock movements, restrictions on particular husbandry practices, or onerous requirements for animal health-related actions on the part of livestock keepers (or in the food processing and marketing chain), may inhibit the keeping of animal genetic resources associated with the production systems targeted. Zoosanitary legislation related to the use of semen, embryos and other genetic materials may have implications for cryoconservation programmes. Legal and policy frameworks related to animal welfare might promote or inhibit the keeping of animals in particular production systems or the use of animals to provide specific products or services. In turn, these developments might promote or inhibit the continued use of the animal genetic resources associated with the respective production systems, products or services.

1. Delivery of animal health services and control of animal diseases

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

Animal health issues are regulated in Veterinary Medicine law and in regulations adopted in accordance with law. The purpose of this law is to regulate the prevention and combating of infectious animal diseases, veterinary medical practice, the circulation of products of animal origin, veterinary control of the import and transit of animal products and products of animal origin, and determine the rights and obligations of State and local government institutions, as well as of individual persons, in this field.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Control of animal diseases helps to prevent outbreak of infection diseases, so protecting AnGR. This is very important in cases, when animals of particular breed are spread in small number of farms.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

Do these measures include provisions specifically related to:

1.1 Animal identification

Note: Sections 1 and 2 include questions on animal identification as it relates to breeding and on traceability. If relevant, please use cross-references to indicate that a given law or policy affects more than one field of action.

Legislation Yes

Policy No

Details of the measure(s)

In accordance with regulations (Cabinet regulations No.650 (16.08.2011) - Procedures for registration of farming animals, the herds and holdings thereof and the procedures for identification of farming animals) all cattle, horses, sheep, goats and breeding pigs in Latvia are registered with the Agricultural data centre.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Genetic resources of breeds in Latvia belong to cow, horse, sheep, goat and pig species and thus all genetic resource animals are registered too and it helps to monitor AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

1.2 Control of the import of animal genetic resources (live breeding animals and/or germplasm) for zoosanitary reasons

Legislation Yes

Details of the measure(s)

There are number of regulations issued pursuant to Veterinary Medicine Law (Cabinet regulation No.1647 (22.12.2009) - Veterinary requirements for the circulation of bovine animals and swine; Cabinet regulations No.206 (30.03.2004) - Veterinary requirements for the circulation of ovine and caprine animals; Cabinet regulations No.145 (18.03.2004) - Veterinary requirements for the circulation and import from third countries of equidae animals). Cabinet regulations regarding import of sperm, ova and embryo - see item 1.4.of this section. Compliance with provisions is controlled by Food and Veterinary Service.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Import of animals currently has not impact on AnGR, but there is always risk of infection diseases during circulation of animals. Outbreak of infectious disease could very significantly affect small populations.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

1.3 Control of the export of animal genetic resources (live breeding animals and/or germplasm) for zoosanitary reasons

Legislation Yes

Details of the measure(s)

There are number of regulations issued pursuant to Veterinary Medicine Law (Cabinet regulation No.1647 (22.12.2009) - Veterinary requirements for the circulation of bovine animals and swine; Cabinet regulations No.206 (30.03.2004) - Veterinary requirements for the circulation of ovine and caprine animals; Cabinet regulations No.145 (18.03.2004) - Veterinary requirements for the circulation and import from third countries of equidae animals). Cabinet regulations regarding export of sperm, ova and embryo - see item 1.4.of this section. Compliance with provisions is controlled by Food and Veterinary Service.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Export of animals currently has not impact on animal genetic resources - native breeds' animals are mostly not exported. There are only few Latvian dark-headed rams exported, but animal breeding organization controls export, and best animals stay in Latvia.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

1.4 Zoosanitary rules related to the use of reproductive technologies

Legislation Yes

Details of the measure(s)

There are regulations regarding sperm, ova and embryo:

- Cabinet regulations No.320 (30.03.2010) - Veterinary requirements for handling of bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine species animal semen, ova and embryos in the territory of Latvia; and minimum equipment required for a provider of artificial insemination of bovines, porcines, ovines and caprines;
- Cabinet regulations No.818 (31.08.2010) - Requirements for bovine, equidae, ovine, caprine and porcine sperm, embryo and ova collection centres, requirements for registration of centers;
- Cabinet regulations No.529 (27.06.2006) - Regulations for bull bovine sperm trade and for its import from Third countries;
- Cabinet regulations No.235 (28.03.2006) - Regulations for porcine sperm trade and for its import from Third countries.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Artificial insemination has positive impact on conservation of Latvian blue and Latvian brown cows, because sperm from bulls is kept in artificial insemination centres.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

1.5 Control of livestock movements (within the country) for zoosanitary reasons

Legislation Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Cabinet Regulations No.650 (16.08.2011) - Procedures for registration of farming animals, the herds and holdings thereof and the procedures for identification of farming animals - regulations prescribe that an owner of the farming animal or a natural or legal person who is responsible for the farming animals has an obligation to update the information regarding the movements in the Register of the Holding Animals.

If the owner of farming animals is changed, the previous and the new owner of the herd shall fill in a declaration of the movements of animals and submit it electronically or in printed form to the Agricultural data centre within seven days after relevant transaction. The Agricultural data centre shall, within three days after receipt of a declaration of the movements of animals, register the change of holding in the Farming Animal Register. Compliance with provisions is controlled by Food and Veterinary Service.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Control of livestock movements does not have negative impact on AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

1.6 Restrictions or compulsory actions related to husbandry practices (for zoosanitary reasons)

Legislation Yes

Details of the measure(s)

In accordance with Veterinary Medicine Law, Food and Veterinary Service has rights to suspend the activity of the facilities under State veterinary supervision, also suspend or prohibit movements of animals, trade of animals, organization of animal competitions, markets, auctions, exhibitions and other events, if there is suspicion that animals may have become ill with an infectious disease, and if there is danger to human or animal health, as well as in cases when requirements of regulatory enactments have been violated.

There are number of regulations issued pursuant to Veterinary Medicine Law regarding combating of diseases and restrictions of animal movement.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Prohibition of movement and trade of animals have - animals are protected against infectious diseases. On the other hand restrictions have negative impact negative impact, for example, if pig breeders can't sell piglets outside the restricted zone, it significantly reduces the level of income.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

1.7 Compulsory culling in the event of outbreaks of specific diseases

Legislation

If legislation is in place or under development, does/will it include provisions to protect at-risk animal genetic resources from the effects of culling programmes?

Details of the measure(s)

In accordance with Veterinary Medicine Law, the Food and Veterinary Service shall formulate and approve the strategy and plans of action for combating the infectious animal diseases monitored by the State. Plans can foresee compulsory culling of animals.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Compulsory culling have on the one hand positive effect - animals are protected against infectious diseases. On the other hand - compulsory culling can liquidate breed, if there is small population in small number of farms.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

2. Animal welfare

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Animal Protection law and provisions adopted in accordance with law - this Law sets out the rights and obligations of a person within the sphere of animal protection and welfare (concerning exhibition animals, experimental animals, animals kept for farming purposes, pet animals, sport and work animals, zoo).

In accordance with law, an animal owner has the obligation to ensure the compliance of animal keeping conditions, equipment, food and water with its physiological and ethological needs taking into account the species of the relevant animal, degree of development, adaptation and domestication. If an animal for farming purposes is ill or injured, the owner or keeper of the animal shall immediately ensure the necessary care and invite a practicing veterinarian for the provision of medical aid.

There are number of regulations issued by the Cabinet (issued pursuant to Animal Protection law) on the farm animal welfare field:

- Cabinet regulation No.5 (02.01.2008) General welfare requirements for farm animals;
- Cabinet regulation No.491 (02.01.2003) Calf welfare requirements;
- Cabinet regulation N.743 (07.07.2009) Pig welfare requirements.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Owners of AnGR don't have problems to provide animals with appropriate housing and care. Presently animal welfare requirements have no impact on conservation of AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

SECTION 4: AGRICULTURE, LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

This section targets information on legislation and policies that address the overall management of the production systems, ecosystems and environments within which animal genetic resources are used and developed. The questions address the following main topics:

- general frameworks or strategies for rural development;
- agriculture, land use and natural resources management;
- management of biodiversity;
- other aspects of environmental protection;
- overall livestock-sector development;
- management of rangelands and other grazing lands;
- establishment of livestock farms or holdings
- establishment and operation of civil society organizations in the livestock sector
- participation of livestock keepers in decision-making in livestock-sector development; and
- prevention, preparedness and response to natural or human-induced disasters

While some policies and legislation in these fields may include specific references to animal genetic resources, it is likely that many will not. The latter may, nonetheless, have indirect effects on animal genetic resources and their management. For example, policies and legislation that promote or constrain the keeping of livestock in particular production systems, for particular purposes or in particular geographical areas may promote or discourage the use of the animal genetic resources associated with these systems/uses/locations (hence possibly affecting their risk status), lead to the establishment of breeding objectives targeting the development of animals suitable for the favoured systems/uses/locations or lead to the import of genetic resources suitable for these systems/uses/locations.

1. General framework or strategy for sustainable agriculture, land use and natural-resources management

Note: This question relates to broad strategic-level instruments such as national agricultural or rural development policies, strategies or laws. Instruments related to specific aspects of agricultural and rural development should be described under other questions as and where relevant.

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Legal basis for agricultural development is Law on Agriculture and Rural Development - the purpose of this law is to provide a legal basis for agricultural development and to specify sustainable agricultural and rural development policy in accordance with the Common Agricultural Policy and the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union. This law determines the implementation, supervision and evaluation of policy in the sphere of agriculture and rural development in order to facilitate the sustainable development of this policy.

Rural development programme for Latvia 2007 - 2013 - one of the axis (2nd) in programme regards to improving the environment and the country side. Axis contains financial promotion measures for the sustainable use of agricultural land:

1. Payments for less favoured areas;
2. NATURA 2000 payments (specially protected nature territories - permanent meadows and pastures which are included in the list of protected areas of European significance - NATURA 2000 sites);
3. Agri-Environment payments. The objective of the measure specified is as follows:
 - 1) To facilitate organic agricultural production by promoting application of organic farming methods in the utilised agricultural area;
 - 2) To eliminate the use of plant protection products and fertilizers and to promote the preservation of biological diversity by promoting application of the integrated growth methods in horticulture;
 - 3) To encourage conservation of biodiversity grasslands and maintenance of wild plants, wild animals, bird population and landscapes in the area of biodiversity grassland of the utilised agricultural land;
 - 4) To facilitate soil cover protection against soil degradation processes, to preserve organic matter in soils and reduce run-off plant nutrients.)

Other measures mentioned in this axis: state aid is provided for measure „Preservation of genetic resources of farming animals” (support is given to preserve, protect and multiply significant breeding animals of local origin, which have been recognized as endangered populations on a national and international scale.). State aid for this measure is prescribed in Cabinet Regulations No.295 (23.03.2010) on support allocation for improvement of environment and rural landscape.

More information - items 2 and 3 of this section.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Rural development programme have positive effect on AnGR, because it ensures financial support for breeding of AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

2. Management of biodiversity

Note: Please use this question to provide information on the general framework for managing all aspects of the country's biodiversity (e.g. instruments related to the designation and management of protected areas). Include, for example, information on whether animal genetic resources issues are included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and on any provisions addressing potential conflicts, or perceived conflicts, between the management of animal genetic resources and the management of other elements of biodiversity. Specific animal genetic-resources-related instruments (e.g National Strategy and Action Plans for Animal Genetic Resources) should be reported in Section 1 (Question 1).

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Latvia has adopted Convention on Biological Diversity (Law on Rio De Janeiro Convention on Biological Diversity of 5th June 1995).

Law on the Conservation of Species and Biotopes - the purposes of this law are:

- 1) to ensure bio-diversity through the conservation of fauna, flora and biotopes;
- 2) to regulate the conservation, management and supervision of species and biotopes;
- 3) to promote the preservation of populations and biotopes in accordance with economic and social preconditions, as well as cultural and historical traditions;
- 4) to regulate procedures for the determination of the specially protected species and biotopes; and
- 5) to ensure the performance of the necessary measures in order to maintain the number of populations of wild bird species living in the wild pursuant to the requirements of ecology, science, culture and taking into account the requirements of economy and recreation or in order to facilitate the approximation of the population of these species to the referred to level. This law do not apply to farm animals.

Additional information on biodiversity - item 3 of this section.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Adoption of Convention of Biological Diversity has large positive impact on conservation of AnGR. This is the basis for all further legislation regarding AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

3. Environmental protection

Note: Instruments specifically targeting the management of biodiversity are covered under Question 2. Please use this question to provide information on instruments addressing other environmental issues (e.g. addressing pollution of land and water, deforestation, climate change, water use or flood protection). If an instrument addresses both biodiversity and other aspects of environmental protection, please indicate this using a cross-reference to your answer to Question 2.

Legislation Policy

Details of the measure(s)

There are number of laws and regulations, which regulate environmental protection.

Law On Environmental Impact Assessment - the purpose of this law is to prevent or reduce the negative impact of the implementation of the intended activities of natural persons and legal persons or of a planning document thereof on the environment. Law prescribes procedures for environmental impact assessment - the procedures to be performed in accordance with the procedures specified by this Law in order to assess the possible impact of the implementation of intended activities or a planning document on the environment and to develop proposals for the prevention or decrease of negative effects or to prohibit the initiation of an intended activity in cases of the violation of the requirements specified in regulatory enactments;

Activities requiring an initial assessment in livestock sector:

- construction of installations for the intensive rearing of livestock and poultry if they are intended for:

- a) more than 2 000 pigs for fattening whose weight exceeds 30 kilograms,
- b) more than 750 sows,
- c) more than 40 000 poultry,
- d) farms in which there are 500 cattle, and
- e) farms in which there are 250 cattle if in such farms there is insufficient agricultural land area for the distribution of manure (determining the permitted animal units - 1.7 animal units per hectare of agricultural land).

Cabinet regulation No.83 (25.01.2011) - Procedures for the Environmental Impact Assessment of an Intended Activity.

This Regulation prescribes: the content of an intended activity submission; the procedures for the performance of an initial environmental impact assessment of an intended activity; the procedures for the organisation of an initial public discussion of the environmental impact assessment of an intended activity, also of construction; the minimum requirements for the content of a programme for the environmental impact assessment of an intended activity and the procedures for the development thereof; the content and procedures for the preparation of a report on the environmental impact assessment of an intended activity, as well as the procedures by which the public shall be informed of the report,

and the procedures for the publishing of a notification; and the procedures by which the Environment State Bureau shall send a report to the initiator for revision and issue an opinion on the notification.

Law On Pollution - the purpose of this law is to prevent or reduce harm caused to human health, property or the environment due to pollution, to eliminate the consequences of harm caused.

Water Management Law - the purpose of this law is to establish a system for the protection and management of surface water and groundwater. The Law specifies a complex approach for the emission limitation from sources of point pollution and diffuse pollution in compliance with the requirements of prevention and control of the pollution specified in the Law on Pollution, limiting the loads of diffuse pollution and, where necessary, facilitating the use of the best available techniques and environmentally friendly technologies.

Protection Zone Law - the subject of this Law shall be different types of protection zones, protected areas, and protection strips, which are specified in laws and other regulatory enactments.

The purpose of this Law shall be to determine:

- 1) the types of protection zones and the functions thereof;
- 2) the basic principles for the establishment of protection zones;
- 3) the procedures for the maintenance and control of the condition of protection zones; and
- 4) restrictions of economic activity in protection zones.

Environment Protection Law - the purpose of this Law is to ensure the preservation and recovery of the quality of the environment, as well as the sustainable utilisation of natural resources.

Natural Resources Tax Law - the purpose of the natural resources tax is to promote economically efficient use of natural resources, restrict pollution of the environment, reduce manufacturing and sale of environment polluting substances, promote implementation of new, environment-friendly technology, support sustainable development in the economy, as well as to ensure environment protection measures financially.

Cabinet regulation No.33 (11.01.2011) - Regulation regarding protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity. This Regulation prescribes:

- 1) the requirements for the protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity;
- 2) the highly vulnerable zones to which increased requirements apply for the protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity, the borders and criteria for the designation thereof; and
- 3) the procedures for managing highly vulnerable zones.

Cabinet regulation No.628 (27.07.2004) - Special environmental requirements for performance of polluting activities in animal housing - these regulations shall apply to:

- 1) polluting activities of category A (categories are specified in Law on pollution);
- 2) polluting activities of category C, if they are performed in animal housing where:
 - a) 10 or more livestock units are located;
 - b) five or more livestock units are located, if the housing is located in a vulnerable zones, to which increased requirements for the protection of water and soil from pollution with nitrates caused by agricultural activity are applicable.

Information on Policy - item 1 of this section.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Legislation concerning environmental protection is stricter regarding to large farms. As AnGR are mostly kept in smaller farms, AnGR owners usually have not problems to comply with this legislation.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

4. Overall development of the livestock sector

Note: This question relates to broad strategic-level instruments addressing the livestock sector as a whole, such as national livestock development strategies or laws. Instruments related to specific aspects of livestock development should be described under other questions as and where relevant.

Legislation Yes Policy Yes

If provisions are in place or under development do/will they include:

Particular provisions aimed at supporting livestock keeping in harsh production environments

Note: Please consider direct and indirect forms of support (e.g. grants or subsidies, favourable access to credit or livestock services, facilitation of market access).

Legislation Yes Policy Yes

Particular provisions aimed at supporting large-scale, high external input or export-oriented production systems or supporting management practices associated with such systems

Note: Please consider direct and indirect forms of support (e.g. grants or subsidies, subsidized inputs, favourable access to credit or livestock services, support for infrastructure development or mechanization).

Legislation Yes

Policy Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Legal basis for agricultural development is Law on Agriculture and Rural Development - the purpose of this law is to provide a legal basis for agricultural development and to specify sustainable agricultural and rural development policy in accordance with the Common Agricultural Policy and the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union. This law determines the implementation, supervision and evaluation of policy in the sphere of agriculture and rural development in order to facilitate the sustainable development of this policy.

Rural development programme for Latvia 2007 - 2013 prescribes various measures for rural development - measures are prescribed both for crop farming and livestock farming. Axis 1 of programme prescribes promotion of the competitiveness of agricultural and forestry sectors (measures: Vocational training and information actions, Setting up of Young Farmers, Early Retirement of farmers, Use of Farm and Forestry Advisory Services, Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings, Adding Value to Agricultural Products, Infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry, Supporting semi-subsistence agricultural holdings undergoing restructuring, Setting up of producer groups). Measures of Information on Axis 2 - item 1 of this section.

In accordance with rural development programme for Latvia 2007 - 2013 and Cabinet Regulations No.295 (23.03.2010) - Support allocation for improvement of environment and rural landscape - owners of agricultural land can receive support for less favoured areas, support is granted for hectares of land.

There are not particular measures aimed to support large-scale production systems. There are some measures supporting export-oriented production.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Each financial support is important and stimulant for all animal breeders, including AnGR breeders.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

5. Management of and access to rangelands or other grazing lands

Legislation Yes

Policy Yes

Details of the measure(s)

In accordance with Rural development programme for Latvia 2007 - 2013 and Cabinet Regulations No.295 (23.03.2010) - Support allocation for improvement of environment and rural landscape - owner of permanent meadows and pastures can receive financial support for:

- permanent meadows and pastures which are included in the list of protected areas of European significance - NATURA 2000 sites;
- meadows and pastures in organic farms;
- permanent meadows and pastures, in which biological diversity is provided.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Each financial support is important and stimulant for all animal breeders, including AnGR breeders.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

6. Establishment of livestock farms or holdings

Note: This question relates to planning rules related to the size, location, ownership, registration, etc. of livestock farms or holdings.

Legislation Yes

Policy Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Cabinet regulations No.650 (16.08.2011) - Procedures for registration of farming Animals, the herds and holdings thereof and the procedures for identification of farming animals - prescribes the procedures for registration of the herds and holdings.

The following terms regarding herds and holdings are used in this regulation:

- 1) herd - an aggregate of farming animals or a farming animal which belongs to one owner;
- 2) holding - separately enclosed area for permanent or temporary keeping of farming animals and beehives.

An owner of the farming animal or a natural or legal person who is responsible for the farming animals, has an obligation to register the herd and holding and update the information regarding the changes occurred therein.

The Agricultural data centre shall indicate a herd number, owner's given name and surname (a firm name for a legal person) and address of the herd in the Herd Register.

The Agricultural data centre shall indicate an holding number, keeper's given name and surname (a firm name for a

legal person), address of the holding, place for permanent keeping and temporary keeping of farming animals, address and geographical co-ordinates in the Holding Register. The Agricultural data centre shall assign a number for each herd and holding. The number assigned shall not be changed during the existence of the herd and holding.

In order to register a herd and holding, an owner shall submit a herd card and a holding card electronically or in printed form to the Agricultural data centre.

In accordance with Law On Environmental Impact Assessment, there is an initial assessment necessary before a construction of installations for the intensive rearing of livestock and poultry if they are intended for:

- a) more than 2 000 pigs for fattening whose weight exceeds 30 kilograms,
- b) more than 750 sows,
- c) more than 40 000 poultry,
- d) farms in which there are 500 cattle, and
- e) farms in which there are 250 cattle if in such farms there is insufficient agricultural land area for the distribution of manure (determining the permitted animal units - 1.7 animal units per hectare of agricultural land).

Information on Politics - item 1 and 4 of this section.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Regulations of establishment of farms and holdings have no impact on conservation of AnGR.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

7. Establishment and operation of civil society organizations in the livestock sector

Note: Instruments specifically related to organizations focused on breeding (genetic improvement) activities are covered in Section 1 (Question 5.2). Please use the present question to provide information on instruments of a more general nature (e.g. related to the operation of cooperative societies or community organizations).

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Activities of organizations regulate Associations and Foundations law - law regulates the guiding principles for the activity, organisational structure, liquidation and re-organisation of associations and foundations. An association is a voluntary union of persons founded to achieve the goal specified in the articles of association, which shall not have a profit-making nature. An association and a foundation obtain the status of a legal person at the moment when it is entered into the Register of Associations and Foundations.

Activities of cooperative societies regulate Cooperate Societies law - law determines the procedures for the founding, re-organisation and liquidation of co-operative societies in Latvia, as well as the legal basis for the activities of these societies.

A co-operative society shall be a merchant, except for agricultural services co-operative societies. Law also prescribes the definition of complying agricultural services co-operative society - an agricultural services co-operative society which complies with the criteria determined in the regulatory enactments regarding the receipt of aid for rural development. Animal Breeding law prescribes, that farm animal breeding organization is merchant, cooperative society, society or foundation, which is occupied with development and breeding of certain farm animal species.

Rural development programme for Latvia 2007 - 2013 - one of the measure in programme is "Setting up of producer groups". The objective of this measure is to promote the formation of producer groups and effective operation thereof for the purpose of securing centralized primary processing and marketing, including finding new market outlets, for selling the manufactured product on the market based on a single quality standard.

Specific regulations regarding animal breeding organizations; and impact on AnGR are mentioned in item 5.2. of section 1.

Rural development programme for Latvia 2007 - 2013 prescribes various measures for rural development - one of the measures is Setting up of producer groups.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Legislation regarding establishment and operation of organizations has positive effect on conservation of AnGR, because animal breeders have possibility to establish organizations.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

8. Participation of livestock keepers in decision-making related to the development of the livestock sector

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Interests of livestock keepers are represented by organizations. Associations and Foundations law prescribes that an

association and a foundation may apply to State and local government authorities in matters related to the goals of the activities of the relevant association or foundation.

Cabinet regulations No.245 (29.04.2003) - Regulations of the Ministry of the Agriculture - prescribes that ministry consults with non-governmental organizations in the decision making process, promote social dialogue on issues related to policy development and implementation, as well as involve society representatives in the public administration.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Regarding AnGR, ministry consults with animal breeding organizations in all significant matters. Cooperation with breeding organizations helps to understand needs of the sector and find best ways to improve situation.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

9. Prevention, preparedness and response to natural or human-induced disasters

Legislation

Policy

If instruments are place or under development, do/will they include any provisions specifically targeting:

Animal genetic resources

Note: For example, measures targeting the protection of at-risk breeds.

Legislation

Policy

Livestock in general

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

There is legislation regarding elimination of effects of disasters. Civil Protection law - purpose of this law is to create a system of civil protection for disaster management, ensuring the legal and organisational grounds for the protection of persons, property and the environment in cases of disasters and when there are threats of disaster.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

There is no specific legislation regarding to livestock and AnGR. Lack of specific legislation presently has not impact on AnGR, but it can have impact in the case of emergency situation.

Future needs

No urgent needs.

SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide information on any aspects of your country's legal and policy framework that affect animal genetic resources and their management but are not covered by any of the questions above.

The responses give only a small insight into the legal framework of Latvia, mentioning the most important matters. There are a lot of regulations in veterinary, animal breeding and rural support legislation (national laws and regulations, EU regulations) and it very complicated to analyze them briefly. Responses are built on national legislation without going deeper in EU legislation. You can see in most responses that there are no urgent needs, because legislation is mostly developed. The major problem is that there is need for more funding to secure better conservation of AnGR.

Part of regulations and laws you can find in English in web site: http://www.vvc.gov.lv/advantagecms/LV/tulkojumi/meklet_dokumentus.html

Submit by e-mail