



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

Country: Zimbabwe

### 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)

In Zimbabwe there is an Act of Parliament: Registration of Pedigree Farm Livestock Act which is administered by Ministry of Agriculture through an association "Zimbabwe Herd Book (ZHB)". Individuals can register their herds through ZHB. The system of registrations is not being forced to individuals at the moment.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Very few animals are registered. Breed societies are being resuscitated but at a slow rate. The number of stud breeders is very low as compared in the nineties.

Future needs

There is need to enforce registration through breed societies. Encouraged new farmers to become stud breeders.

#### 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)

At the moment there is a draft on the agricultural policy which will address some of these issues.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

#### 3. Surveying and monitoring of animal genetic resources

Legislation  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Performance recording systems need to be revived. Every livestock owner has to have what we call "stock card" which shows the number of animals owned per household.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

No performance records.

Future needs

Farmers need to be trained in record keeping.

#### 4. Official recognition of livestock breeds

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

There is a move to resuscitate breed societies and protect the existing few breeders.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

There will be a significant improvement in the national herd.

Future needs

Within the ministry of agriculture there is a move to establish breeding sites at the four livestock research institutes in the country.

#### 5. Animal breeding and genetic improvement strategies

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Conservation and utilization of breeds, introduce new technologies in breed conservation. At the moment the 'in situ' is being promoted.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

Establish breeding sites for farmers to access high quality genetic material.

#### 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)

All animals particularly cattle need be "branded" by law. Law enforcing agents monitor movement of livestock throughout the country.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

Sheep and goats need to be branded for monitoring purposes.

##### 5.2 The establishment and operation of breeders' associations

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

ZHB was established to register all breed societies.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

Government to give support to the resuscitation of association.

#### 6. Use of reproductive biotechnologies (excluding zoosanitary issues)

*Note: Zoosanitary issues are covered in Section 3.*

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

## 7. Genetic modification of animals used for food and agriculture

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

## 9. Conservation programmes for animal genetic resources

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

### Do these measures include provisions specifically related to:

#### 9.1 *In vivo* conservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

## 9.2 Cryoconservation

Legislation

No

Policy

Under development

Details of the measure(s)

Semen preservation at a small scale is in place.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

## 10. Research and development related to animal genetic resources management

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

The ministry of agriculture has four livestock research institute which are undertaking work related to Animal Genetic resources management.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

Public and private to support the initiative.

## 11. Patenting

Legislation

Under development

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

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

Yes

Living organisms in general

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

A national inter-ministerial on intellectual property rights committee was established in 2010 to come up with a policy to support all sector.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Protection of some of new animal genetic material.

Future needs

Generate high quality material for improved genetic resources.

## 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

No

Policy

No

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

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

No

Genetic resources for food and agriculture in general

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Access and benefit sharing in plant genetics is in progress of coming up with instruments to support the initiative.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

To follow up processes undertaken in plant genetics.

## 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

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Agricultural Products Marketing Act: To establish a fund for the development of the agricultural industry and to provide for the administration and disbursement of the moneys therein; to provide for the imposition and collection of levies on producers, buyers and processors of agricultural products; to provide for the fixing of standards of quality and other matters relating to agricultural products produced in Zimbabwe.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

### 2. Production and marketing of organic products

Legislation

No

Policy

No

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

No

Policy

No

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

**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

No

Policy

No

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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

Under development

Details of the measure(s)

GMO foods are restricted/not allowed in the country.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Traceability: used to exist when Zimbabwe was exporting animal products to the EU markets. When exports resume it will be in use. This is also related to animal identification procedures which are being encouraged through the association responsible.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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 or 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 zoonosanitary 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. Zoonosanitary 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  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Animal Health Act exists: AN ACT to provide for the eradication and prevention of the spread of animal pests and diseases in Zimbabwe, for the prevention of the introduction into Zimbabwe of animal pests and diseases and for incidental matters.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Animal identification is encouraged in the sector. Special tags are on sale.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

Cheaper tags which can be affordable to all farmers are needed.

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Animal Health act controls the import of animal genetic materials.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

**1.4 Zoosanitary rules related to the use of reproductive technologies**

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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)



Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

## 2. Animal welfare

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

The Environmental Management Act; Zimbabwe National Water Authority Act; Water act; Land Survey Act; Land Occupation Act; Land Acquisition Act; Agricultural Land Resettlement Act.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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)

Issues on animal genetics are included in the draft agricultural policy.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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)

Environmental Management Authority (EMA) established through an Act of Parliament, to provide for the sustainable management of natural resources and protection of the environment; the prevention of pollution and environmental degradation; the preparation of a National Environmental Plan and other plans for the management and protection of the environment.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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  Policy

**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  Policy

#### 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  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Private sector is providing support through livestock insurance or livestock bank to farmers. Inputs to livestock farmer in drought prone areas are under consideration.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Local communities (Rural and District Councils) are responsible for coming up with by-laws regulating grazing areas.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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

No

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Farm holdings depend on the farming area, type of enterprise. Extension services provide plans for various holdings.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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

Under development

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Livestock and Meat Advisory Council (LMAC): this one focuses on products for import and export.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

No

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Consultative meetings are held from time when there is need e.g. where drought is imminent, stakeholders come up with strategies.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

Under development

Policy

Under development

**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

No

Policy

Yes

##### Livestock in general

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future 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.