



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

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# **Progress report for Regional Focal Points on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources 2007-2019**

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September, 2019

# Cagla Kaya, Projec...

## European Forum of Farm...

Submission Date  
September 6, 2019 13:10

Name and position of respondent Cagla Kaya, Project Manager ; Ana Granados-Chapatte (director)

Name of organization European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders

Email of organization cagla.kaya@effab.info ; ana.granados@effab.info

Geographic coverage of your organization Europe and Canada

Animal species coverage of your organization  General livestock  Large ruminants  Pigs  Poultry

1. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes on phenotypic characterization of animal genetic resources?  Yes

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and species involved and whether you include characterization of production environments: Some of our members are involved on it but we don't have figures and details. Probably you have had more information coming from national authorities

2. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes on molecular characterization of animal genetic resources?  No

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and species involved: We don't know

3. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes for surveying the size and/or structure of animal genetic resources populations and  Yes

monitoring population trends?

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and species involved:

no details

4. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes for identifying and monitoring threats to animal genetic resources?

No

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and species involved:

probably but we don't have details

5. Does your organization support countries in the development of early warning and response systems for animal genetic resources?

No

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and species involved:

we don't know, perhaps, some global companies

Phenotypic characterization

Yes

Molecular characterization

Yes

Surveying and monitoring

Yes

If you answered "yes" above, is this participatory monitoring?

Yes

Breed evaluation or comparison

Yes

Economic evaluation

Yes

Please provide details:

EFFAB MEMBERS ARE INVOLVED IN THE BREEDING PROGRAMMES WHERE THEY CARRY OUT  
- HERDBOOK MANAGEMENT  
- GENETIC EVALUATION FOR PRODUCTION, CLASSIFICATION AND FUNCTIONAL TRAITS  
- GENOMIC EVALUATIONS  
- PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS OF BREEDING FOR REDUCTION OF GHG EMISSION  
- LOCAL BREEDS conservation

7. Has your organization identified major obstacles to inventory,

No

characterization and monitoring of animal genetic resources in all or part of your mandate area or species coverage?

If yes, please list them being as specific as possible regarding geographical area / species:

We are not sure. The answer is not "no" but we don't have enough information

10. Does your organization support countries in developing, reviewing or adjusting their national policies affecting the sustainable use of animal genetic resources?

No

11. Does your organization promote agro-ecosystem approaches?

No

If yes, please provide details:

EFFAB members and EFFAB are involved in projects that promote sustainability, which is one of the aims, which is one of the aims of an agro-ecosystem approach. B

Mainstream breeds

Yes

Under-utilized breeds

Yes

If yes, please provide details (including the breeds involved) being as specific as possible:

IMPLEMENTATION OF BREEDING PROGRAMMES IN DAIRY AND BEEF CATTLE, LAYERS AND BROILERS IN POULTRY, AND PIGS IN EUROPE.

13. Does your organization contribute to the development of recording systems or organizational structures for breeding programmes?

Yes

If yes, please provide details (including the breeds involved) being as specific as possible:

FOR DAIRY CATTLE (HOLSTEIN FRIESIAN, JERSEY, NORDIC RED, BROWN SWISS, SIMMENTAL) MILK RECORDING, LINEAR CLASSIFICATION, FEED INTAKE AND HEALTH TRAITS RECORDING  
FOR BEEF CATTLE (CHAROLAIS, LIMOUSINE, BELGIAN BLUE, Belgian blue mixte, SIMMENTAL, DANISH BLUE, HEREFORD, ANGUS, BLONDE) DAILY GAIN, CARCASS CONFORMATION, FAT GRADE  
FOR LAYERS (POULTRY) FEED CONVERSION RATIO (FCR), EGG QUALITY, BODYWEIGHT  
FOR BROILERS AND MEAT (POULTRY) GROWTH RATE, CARCASS & MEAT QUALITY, LIVEABILITY, FCR AND HEALTH TRAITS  
FOR PIGS GROWTH RATE, CARCASS & MEAT QUALITY, LONGEVITY, HEALTH TRAITS, FCR AND CONFORMATION TRAITS

14. If the projects and

No

programmes that your organization implements or supports involve the use of exotic breeds, have any assessments been made of the long-term impacts of the use of exotic breeds on animal genetic resource diversity, livelihoods and/or food security in the affected countries and production systems?

15. Has your organization implemented or supported the implementation of animal genetic resources-related projects that aim at achieving sustainable intensification of production?

Yes

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and animal genetic resources involved:

PROHEALTH - The European FP7 project PROHEALTH aims to contribute to our understanding of the multifactorial dimension of animal pathologies linked to the intensification of production and to help provide effective control strategies to reduce the impact on animal welfare including health. The project will address the production diseases of pigs, broilers and egg laying chickens and turkeys in a wide range of intensive systems across Europe.

16. Does your organization contribute to the development of mechanisms for facilitating interactions among stakeholders, scientific disciplines and sectors as part of planning for sustainable use development of animal genetic resources?

Yes

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries or regions involved:

EFFAB covers the breeding industry part of FABRE-TP thus facilitating interactions among researchers and industry in Europe for sustainable livestock breeding which also involves the sustainable use development of livestock genetic resources. EFFAB is and has been involved in several FP7 and H2020 projects that aims to develop sustainable use of animal genetic resources in various ways (from breeding to animal health approaches) mostly in charge of stakeholder engagement and knowledge exchange between scientific disciplines and breeding industry and livestock sector. Among these, IMAGE project is the most important one. Aim of the IMAGE project is to enhance the use of genetic collections and to upgrade animal gene bank management. It demonstrates the benefits brought by gene banks to the development of sustainable livestock systems by: enhancing the usefulness of genetic collections to allow the livestock sector to respond to environment and market changes; using latest DNA technology and reproductive physiology for collecting, storing and distributing biological resources; Minimising genetic accidents such as abnormalities or genetic variability tipping

points; Developing synergies between ex-situ and in-situ conservation to maximise resources for the future. Thirteen EU countries are involved, together with Switzerland and four non-European countries (Argentina, Colombia, Egypt and Morocco).

17. Do your organization's activities contribute to improving farmers' and livestock keepers' knowledge of animal genetic resources from various sources?

Yes

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and types of animal genetic resources involved:

We haven't details on how it is done but some of them do it

18. Do your organization's activities contribute to improving farmers' and livestock keepers' access to animal genetic resources from various sources?

Yes

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries and types of animal genetic resources involved:

We don't have details

19. Does your organization contribute to the development of agreements for equitable sharing of benefits arising from access to and use and development of, animal genetic resources?

Yes

If yes, please provide details:

We are involved in ABS stakeholders strategy

20. Does your organization contribute to efforts to preserve and respect indigenous or local production systems and associated traditional knowledge and practices related to animal genetic resources?

Yes

If yes, please provide details:

Some of our members do that but we don't have details

21. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects that aim to promote the marketing of products from local breeds or local production systems?

Yes

If Question 21 was answered yes, please provide details and specify the breeds and production systems involved:

Not us, but our members are involved on it.  
Blanc-Bleu mixte in Be and other local breeds in other countries.  
But again, we don't have details

22. Has your organization identified obstacles to enhancing the sustainable use and development of animal genetic resources?

No

If yes, please provide details:

We are not sure. Probably yes but we cannot certify it

24. Does your organization provide, or support the provision of, training or technical support programmes for animal breeding activities in pastoralist and farming communities?

Yes

If yes, please provide details:

Probably in Spain and in France and other countries but again, we don't have enough details

25. Has your organization identified priorities for future training or support programmes to enhance the use and development of available animal genetic resources?

No

27. Is erosion of animal genetic resources occurring in any of the countries or regions in which your organization is active?

No

28. Does your organization support the establishment of emergency response systems that provide for immediate action to maintain threatened breeds?

No

29. Does your organization take or support actions to protect breeds and populations that are at risk from natural or human-induced disasters?

No

In situ

Yes

Ex situ - in vivo

No

Ex situ - in vitro (i.e. cryoconservation)

Yes

If yes, for any of the above, please provide details, and specify the countries and animal genetic resources involved:

SOME EFFAB MEMBER BREEDING COMPANIES KEEP SEMEN STRAWS FROM THEIR POPULATION/BREEDS IN NATIONAL GERMPLASM BANK (SPAIN) OR SOMETIMES THEY HAVE THEIR OWN COMPANY GENE BANK WHERE THEY WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITIES AND BREED ASSOCIATIONS, AND THEY ALSO KEEP SEMEN FROM RARE AND THREATENED BREEDS (SCANDINAVIA, WEST EUROPE) IN POULTRY SECTOR, GENES ARE MAINLY CONSERVED IN SITU THROUGH THE MAINTENANCE OF LARGE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT LINES (NORTH & WEST EUROPE).

32. If your organization maintains ex situ collections of animal genetic resources, could you please provide further information on these collections?

MEMBERS IN SCANDINAVIA HAVE THEIR OWN COMPANY GENE BANKS FOR CATTLE WHERE THEY HAVE COLLECTIONS OF RARE AND THREATENED BREEDS IN THE AREA. SOME POULTRY COMPANIES ALSO WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH SOME PROJECTS IN AFRICA FOR CONSERVATION OF LOCAL BREEDS. SOME WESTERN EUROPEAN PIG COMPANIES WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL BANKS TO CONSERVE OLD LINES AND RARE BREEDS.

33. Is your organization conducting research to further develop methods and technologies for in situ or ex situ conservation of animal genetic resources?

Yes

If yes, please briefly describe the research:

EFFAB IS A PARTNER IN IMAGE PROJECT ([www.imageh2020.eu](http://www.imageh2020.eu)) WHICH ALSO HAS RESEARCH ON IMPROVING METHODS AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR CONSERVATION OF GENETIC RESOURCES.

34. Has your organization identified major obstacles to enhancing the conservation of animal genetic resources?

No

38. Does your organization support or facilitate the establishment of institutional frameworks for planning and implementing animal genetic resources programmes?

No

39. Does your organization support countries in formulating or implementing national strategies and action plans for animal genetic resources?

No

40. Does your organization contribute to

Yes



the development of regulatory frameworks or legislation for animal genetic resources?

If Question 40 was answered yes, please provide details and specify the countries or regions involved:

Through projects like GenREs Bridge

41. Does your organization have a database or information system for animal genetic resources-related data?

Yes

If yes, please describe the purpose and contents of the system and, if relevant, how frequently data are updated:

not us but probably our members

42. Does your organization have collaborative links to other stakeholders involved in the management of animal genetic resources (e.g. the breeding industry, livestock keepers, government agencies, research institutes and civil society organizations)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details:

EFFAB is an association of organisations and companies active in the field of animal breeding and reproduction. Members of EFFAB are involved in the genetic improvement of different farm animal species: ruminants, pigs, poultry, fish and shellfish. EFFAB is the secretariat for Code-EFABAR which is the commitment to responsible farm animal breeding. European farm animal breeders have agreed a Code of Good Practice. The Code sets out the goals of animal breeding organisations, the way in which these goals are pursued, and the rules and standards that govern the activities of breeders. The Code is intended to be both transparent and variable so that it is both easy to understand and simple to apply. It includes a dedicated part on Genetic Diversity. It is a voluntary Code adopted by member breeding and reproduction organisations.

43. Does your organization cooperate with breeders' organizations?

Yes

If yes, please provide details:

EFFAB is a unique organisation that represents the majority of animal breeding and reproduction organisations and companies in Europe. Members are leading suppliers to European and worldwide markets.

44. Has your organization supported the establishment or

No

strengthening of community-based organizations, networks or initiatives for sustainable use, breeding or conservation?

If yes, please provide details:

we don't know if our members are doing it

45. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of training or capacity-building programmes for animal genetic resources management?

No

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries involved:

we don't know if our members are doing it

46. Has your organization identified priorities for future animal genetic resources-related capacity-building and education?

No

47. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of programmes to increase public awareness of the roles and values of animal genetic resources?

No

If yes, please provide details:

Some of our members do that

49. Has your organization's budget for activities supporting the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and animal genetic resources programmes increased since the plan's adoption in September 2007?

No

50. Has your organization contributed to the establishment or strengthening of international research and/or education programmes to assist developing countries or countries with economies in transition to better manage animal genetic resources?

No

51. Has your organization

No

contributed to the establishment or strengthening of international programmes to assist developing countries or countries with economies in transition to obtain training and technologies or develop information systems related to animal genetic resources?

52. Has your organization provided funding to countries for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources?

No

Characterization of animal genetic resources

No

Use and development of animal genetic resources

No

Conservation of transboundary breeds

No

Characterization

Yes

Sustainable intensification

Yes

Conservation of breeds at risk

Yes