

ELBARN

AREA ACTION PLAN

CENTRAL AND NORTH EAST EUROPE



euronatur



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Summary of Actions

The ELBARN Area Central and Northeast Europe is made up of the countries Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary. The recommended goals, requirements and actions were discussed in an Area Workshop in Roznov pod Radhostem, Czech Republic from 26th to 28th of March 2009 with 30 participants from the above-mentioned countries. Those discussions laid the basis for this Area Action Plan. A main goal of ELBARN is to build up a functioning network of Ark and Rescue Centres (A&RCs). These centres will be used in emergencies, such as old age of important breeders or the outbreak of contagious diseases, to prevent the loss of animals from autochthonous livestock breeds. They also have an important function to raise public awareness of rare and autochthonous livestock breeds and traditional farming, and to conserve the breeds through active breeding work.

The existing Area Action Plan covers the following points:

- What a rescue centre needs to be successful and what actions must be undertaken to guarantee a successful rescue
- The steps that are necessary to prevent losses in case of disease outbreaks
- Networking of existing ark farms and establishment of new ones
- Raising public awareness of the importance of conservation of autochthonous breeds and disease outbreaks
- Improvement of the information flow between all relevant stakeholders, including seminars for veterinarians and practical information and guidelines for farmers

- Exchange of information about implementation of European rules and laws, marketing initiatives/best practice, etc.
- Setting up of special national groups and an Area Task Force to include all stakeholders and network them better.

For the implementation of this Action Plan it should be considered that although there are many similarities between the countries of the area, certain actions are more important to some than to others. For example, the number of ark farms differs widely, with more than 100 in the German-speaking countries, but only 4 in the Baltic region. Also in the former case, the ark farms are relatively well networked.

This Area Action Plan covers the requirements for reaching the goal of a functioning network of A&RCs broadly. The actions which should be taken depend therefore on the situation in the individual countries. However, an exchange of experience between the countries of the area is considered very useful, and a combined approach, for example, in the case of European legislation and regulation regarding the effect of diseases on rare and autochthonous livestock breeds would benefit all.

If the Area Action Plan, as outlined in this document, is put into practice, it is expected to have a positive impact on the conservation and utilization of autochthonous livestock breeds in the Central and Northeast Area. In order for the Area Action Plan to be a success, all stakeholder levels – from farmer through to government minister – will need to work towards the same goals.

Elli Broxham, ELBARN Project Manager
SAVE Foundation

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photo: B. Milerki (GEH)

Portrait of a Skudde ram. Geographical extension: Germany and Baltic states.

Souhrnná informace ze setkání

Oblast ELBARN pro střední a severovýchodní Evropu zahrnuje Německo, Švýcarsko, Rakousko, Polsko, Lotyšsko, Litvu, Estonsko, Českou republiku, Slovensko, Slovinsko a Maďarsko. Na oblastním setkání v Rožnově pod Radhoštěm, Česká republika, které se konalo od 26. do 28. března 2009, diskutovalo 30 účastníků z uvedených zemí o záměrech, požadavcích a připravovaných akcích. Tyto diskuse položily základ pro předkládaný oblastní plán akcí. Hlavním cílem ELBARNu je vybudovat fungující síť záchranných center (Ark and Rescue Centres, AR&RCs). Tato centra budou využita v mimořádných naléhavých případech, jako je např. vysoký věk chovatele, nebo vypuknutí infekční choroby, umožní zabránit ztrátě zvířat – příslušníků původních plemen. Centra mají rovněž důležitou funkci ve zlepšování informovanosti veřejnosti o unikátních a původních plemenech hospodářských zvířat, o tradičním hospodaření a významnou roli v aktivní chovatelské práci na záchraně plemen.

Připravený oblastní akční plán (Area Action Plan) zahrnuje následující body:

- Jaké oblastní centrum je potřebné a jaké akce musí být provedeny, má-li být zaručena úspěšná záchrana.
- Jaké kroky jsou nezbytné, aby bylo zabráněno ztrátám v případě vypuknutí choroby.
- Vytvoření sítě existujících záchranných farem, založení nových.
- Zvyšovat veřejnou informovanost o důležitosti zachování původních plemen a riziku vypuknutí chorob.
- Zlepšení informačního toku mezi všemi významnými chovateli včetně pořádání seminářů pro veterinární lékaře, poskytování praktických informací a návodů pro farmáře.
- Výměna informací o zavádění a používání evropských předpisů a práva, iniciativ v oblasti marketingu atd.
- Ustavení speciálních národních skupin a oblastních operačních skupin, jejichž cílem bude kontaktovat a propojit všechny chovatele.

Při uskutečňování tohoto plánu musíme mít na zřeteli, že i když jsou mezi zeměmi oblasti četné podobnosti, některé akce budou pro určitou zemi důležité více, pro jinou méně. Například velmi odlišný je počet záchranných farem, v německy mluvících zemích je jich více než 100 spojených v dobře fungující síti, avšak v baltické oblasti jen 4.

Tento akční plán popisuje obecně požadavky potřebné k dosažení cíle, tj. vytvoření funkční záchranné sítě. Jaké akce budou provedeny závisí proto na situaci v jednotlivých zemích. Avšak výměnu zkušeností mezi zeměmi v oblasti považujeme za velmi užitečnou, spojený přístup např. v evropské legislativě a v oblasti regulace chorob u vzácných a původních plemen může pomoci všem.

Pokud bude akční plán, jak je navržen v tomto dokumentu, zaveden do praxe, očekáváme, že bude mít pozitivní vliv na záchranu a využití původních plemen hospodářských zvířat v oblasti střední a severovýchodní Evropy. Aby oblastní akční plán byl úspěšný, musí spolupracovat partneři na všech úrovních, od farmářů po ministra.

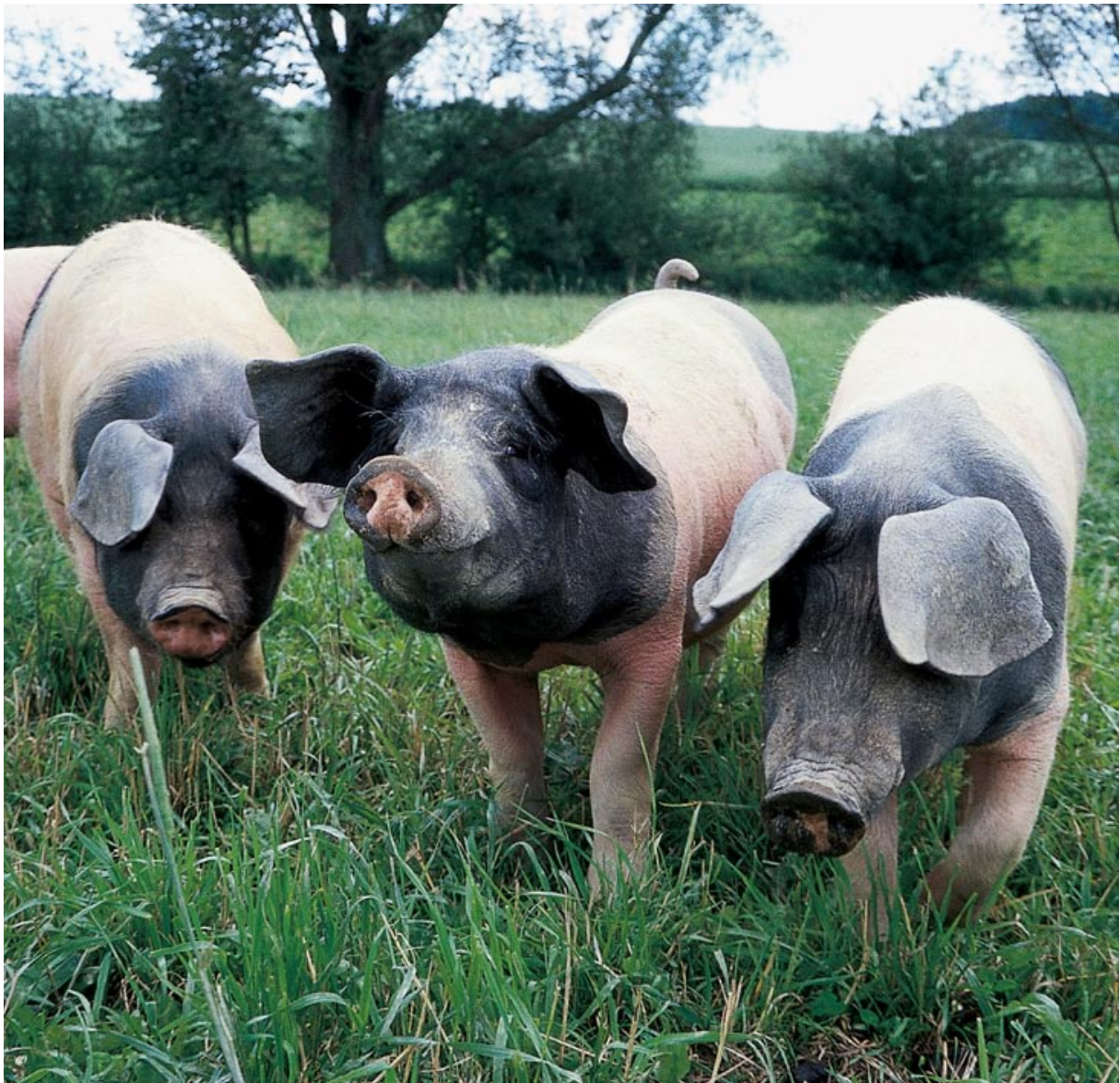


photo: C. P. Hutter

The Schwäbisch Hällisches Schwein was almost lost at the beginning of the 1980s. Today, over 1.000 farmers keep this breed. Its excellent meat is a speciality served in many restaurants of the Hohenlohe region in southern Germany.

Regionaler Aktionsplan für die Region Zentral- und Nordosteuropa (Area Action Plan)

Die ELBARN Region Zentral- und Nordosteuropa besteht aus den Ländern Deutschland, Schweiz, Österreich, Polen, Litauen, Lettland, Estland, Tschechien, Slowakei, Slowenien und Ungarn. Die angedachten Ziele, Aufgaben und Aktivitäten wurden in einem Gebiets-Workshop in Roznov pod Radhostem in der Tschechei vom 26. bis zum 28. März 2009 mit 30 Teilnehmern aus den oben genannten Ländern diskutiert. Diese Diskussionen legten den Grundstein für den sogenannten Area Action Plan (Regionaler Aktionsplan). Eines der Hauptziele von ELBARN ist es, ein funktionierendes Netzwerk von Arche-Höfen und Rettungszentren (A&RC's) aufzubauen. Diese Zentren sollen in Notfällen genutzt werden können, wie zum Beispiel falls wertvolle Zuchttierbestände bei altersbedingter Aufgabe des Tierhalters gefährdet sind, oder um den autochthonen Tierbestand beim Ausbruch einer ansteckenden Krankheit vor Verlust zu schützen. Außerdem haben die Einrichtungen die wichtige Funktion, das öffentliche Bewusstsein für seltene und heimische Tierbestände und die traditionelle Landwirtschaft zu erhöhen und die Rassen durch aktive Zuchtarbeit zu erhalten.

Der vorliegende Area Action Plan beinhaltet folgenden Punkte:

- Leitlinie für die erfolgreiche Einrichtung eines Rettungszentrums und Auflistung der Aktivitäten, um eine erfolgreiche Rettung zu garantieren.
- Zusammenstellung und Einleitung nötiger Schritte, um Tierverluste im Fall eines Krankheitsausbruches zu verhindern.
- Vernetzung von bestehenden Arche-Höfen und die Etablierung von neuen Höfen.
- Sensibilisierung der Öffentlichkeit für die Wichtigkeit der Erhaltung heimischer Rassen und über die Gefahren für die Rassen, die ein Krankheitsausbruch darstellt.
- Optimierung des Informationsaustausches zwischen allen wichtigen Interessensgruppen, einschließlich der Organisation von Seminaren für Tierärzte, Verfügbarmachung von praktischen Informationen sowie die Erstellung von Praxishinweisen für Landwirte.

- Austausch von Informationen zur Umsetzung von europäischen Verordnungen und Gesetzen, über Vermarktungsinitiativen, zu bewährten Methoden und Techniken, etc.
- Einrichtung von speziellen nationalen Gruppen und einer Gebietsarbeitsgruppe (Area Task Force), die alle Interessensgruppen beinhaltet und sie besser vernetzt.

Zur Umsetzung des Area Action Plans muss bedacht werden dass es, obwohl es viele Gemeinsamkeiten zwischen den Ländern der Region gibt, auch einige Aktivitäten enthalten sind, die je nach Region mehr oder weniger dringlich sind. Ein Beispiel dazu wäre die Anzahl von Arche-Höfen. Diese weicht in den verschiedenen Ländern stark voneinander ab, von mehr als hundert in deutschsprachigen Ländern, aber nur vier Höfen in der baltischen Region. Die Arche-Höfe in den deutschsprachigen Ländern sind relativ gut vernetzt.

Der Area Action Plan beinhaltet die Grundlagen für ein funktionierendes Netzwerk von Arche-Höfen und Rettungsstationen. Welche Aktivitäten im Detail umzusetzen sind, hängt von der Situation in den einzelnen Ländern ab. Trotzdem ist ein Erfahrungsaustausch zwischen den Ländern der Region sehr sinnvoll und als gemeinsamer Ansatz zu sehen. Dies wäre zum Beispiel im Falle der europäischen Rechtssprechung hinsichtlich einheitlicher Maßnahmen zum Schutz tiergenetischer Ressourcen im Seuchenfall von großem Nutzen.

Wenn der Area Action Plan, wie hier beschrieben, umgesetzt und durchgeführt wird, ist zu erwarten, dass dies einen positiven Effekt auf die Erhaltung und Nutzung von heimischen Zuchttierbeständen in der ELBARN Region Zentral- und Nordosteuropa hat. Der Erfolg hängt maßgeblich davon ab, dass alle involvierten Akteure - vom Landwirt bis zum Minister - zusammen für die gleichen Ziele arbeiten.



photo: M. Schneider-Jacoby

The Hungarian Grey can be found in steppe and grassland areas like the Vértes region in Hungary.

A tevékenység összefoglalása

A közép- és észak-kelet európai ELBARN régió a következő országokat foglalja magába: Németország, Svájc, Ausztria, Lengyelország, Litvánia, Lettország, Észtország, Csehország, Szlovákia, Szlovénia és Magyarország. A kitűzött célokat, szakmai követelményeket és tevékenységeket a régió munkaértekezlet keretében, a csehországi Roznow pod Radhostemben 2009. március 26–28. között vitatta meg a fenti országok 30 szakértője.

Ez a megbeszélés fektette le a régió cselekvési tervét. Az ELBARN fő célja a védett őshonos állatok számára az „Ark and Rescue Center”-ek, azaz „Gyűjtő és Mentő Központok” hatékony hálózatának kiépítése. Ezeket a központokat lehet igénybe venni olyan esetekben, amikor például a tenyésztő megöregszik, és nem tudja folytatni a fajta megőrzését, fertőző állatbetegségek kitörése esetén, vagy más vészhelyzetben a védett őshonos állatok elvesztésének megelőzése céljából. További fontos funkció a védett őshonos fajták és a hagyományos állattartás népszerűsítése, a fajták fenntartása az aktív tenyésztői munka által.

A régió cselekvési terve a következő pontokat tartalmazza:

- Mi szükséges a megőrző központ sikeres működéséhez, milyen akciókat kell végrehajtani a sikeres megőrzés során.
- Milyen lépések szükséges a veszteségek elkerüléséhez járvány kitörése esetén.
- A meglévő megőrző tenyészetek hálózatba szervezése, új tenyészetek létrehozása.
- A közvélemény figyelmének felkeltése a védett őshonos háziállat fajták megőrzésével kapcsolatban, figyelemztetés a járvány kitöréssel kapcsolatos veszélyhelyzetre.

- Az információ áramlás kifejlesztése a szereplők között, beleértve az állatorvosok tájékoztatását, hasznos információk és irányelvek kidolgozása az állattartók részére.
- Információcsere az EU törvények és egyéb szabályozások végrehajtásával, a piaci fellépéssel, a jó gazdálkodási gyakorlattal és egyéb hasznos ismeretekkel kapcsolatban.
- Speciális nemzeti munkacsoportok és regionális szakmai szervezet felállítása valamennyi szereplő részvételével, a jobb együttműködés érdekében.

A cselekvési terv megvalósításával kapcsolatban fontos szempont, hogy bár sok hasonlóság van a régióon belül, az egyes feladatok eltérő fontosságúak lehetnek a különböző országokban. A megőrző tenyészetek száma például jelentősen különbözik. Több mint száz található a német nyelvterületen, ahol a megőrző tenyészetek hálózata relatív jól kiépített, míg a balti államokban mindössze négy van.

A cselekvési terv tartalmazza a megőrző tenyészetek hatékony rendszerének kiépítéséhez szükséges követelményeket. A végrehajtandó programokat az egyes országokban kialakult helyzet határozza meg. Éppen ezért nagyon fontos a tapasztalatcsere a régió országai között, és nagyon jó lenne a közös megközelítés EU jogszabályok és egyéb előírások szempontjából a védett őshonos állatfajták tekintetében a járványhelyzetek kezelésére. Amennyiben a jelen dokumentumban bemutatott cselekvési terv megvalósul, annak jelentős pozitív hatása lesz a védett őshonos állatfajták megőrzésére és hasznosítására a közép és északkelet európai régióban.

A régió cselekvési terv mentén sikerülhet megvalósítani az együttműködést a közös célok érdekében valamennyi érintett részvételével az állattartótól az ágazati miniszterig.



photo: A. Feldmann (GEH)

The Vorwerk chicken is a typical dual purpose breed, it is kept for both meat and eggs. The breed is to be found in Germany.

Veiksmų plano santrauka

Vidurio ir šiaurės rytų Europos projekte ELBARN dalyvauja Vokietija, Šveicarija, Austrija, Lenkija, Lietuva, Latvija, Estija, Čekija, Slovakija, Slovėnija ir Vengrija. Rekomenduojami tikslai, reikalavimai ir veiksmai buvo aptariami seminare, kuris vyko Rožnov pod Radhoštem mieste, Čekijoje, 2009 m. kovo 26–28 d., dalyvaujant 30 dalyvių iš minėtų šalių. Vykusios diskusijos tapo šio regiono veiksmų plano pagrindu. Pagrindinis ELBARN tikslas yra sukurti veikiantį Arkų ir gelbėjimo centrų (A&RCs) tinklą. Šie centrai bus naudojami ypatingais atvejais, pvz. svarbių veisiamų gyvūnų senatvės, užkrečiamos ligos protrūkio atvejais, siekiant išvengti vietinių gyvūnų rūšių išnykimo. Kita svarbi projekto funkcija yra informuoti visuomenę apie retas ir vietines gyvūnų rūšis ir tradicinį ūkininkavimą, bei išsaugoti gyvūnų veisles vykdant aktyvų veisimą.

Regiono veiksmų planas apima šiuos punktus:

- Ko reikia, kad gelbėjimo centras būtų sėkmingas ir kokių veiksmų reikia imtis, siekiant užtikrinti sėkmingą gelbėjimą.
- Veiksmai, reikalingi siekiant išvengti praradimų ligos protrūkio atveju.
- Esančių Arkos fermų jungimas ir naujų kūrimas.
- Visuomenės informavimas apie vietinių gyvūnų rūšių apsaugojimą ir ligų protrūkius.
- Informacijos srauto tarp visų dalyvių pagerinimas, įskaitant seminarus veterinarams ir praktinę informaciją bei nurodymus ūkininkams.
- Pasikeitimas informacija apie Europos taisyklių ir įstatymų įgyvendinimą, marketingo programas, geriausią praktiką ir kt.
- Specialių nacionalinių grupių ir regiono projekto grupės sukūrimas, įtraukiant visus suinteresuotus asmenis ir palengvinant jų bendravimą.

Įgyvendinant šį veiksmų planą reikia atsižvelgti į tai, kad, nepaisant daugelio panašumų tarp šalių, vieniems iš jų kai kurie veiksmai yra svarbesni nei kitoms. Pavyzdžiui, žymiai skiriasi arkos ūkių skaičius – Vokietijoje jų yra virš 100, tuo tarpu Baltijos šalyse – vos 4. Taip pat pirmuoju atveju, arkos ūkių ryšiai yra gana gerai išvystyti.

Regiono veiksmų planas apima funkcionuojančio A&RCs tinklo tikslų siekimo reikalavimus. Veiksmai priklauso nuo kiekvienos šalies situacijos. Tačiau patirties keitimasis tarp regiono šalių yra labai reikalingas, o bendras požiūris, pavyzdžiui, į Europos įstatymus ir taisykles, susijusias su retų ir vietinių gyvūnų rūšių ligomis, būtų naudingas visiems.

Jei regiono veiksmų planas būtų taikomas praktiškai, jis turėtų teigiamą poveikį vietinių gyvūnų rūšių saugojimui ir naudojimui vidurio ir šiaurės rytų regione. Tam, kad regiono veiksmų planas būtų sėkmingas, visi dalyviai – nuo ūkininkų iki ministrų – turi siekti tų pačių tikslų.



photo: B. Mflerski (GEH)

Thüringer Wald Ziege with kids. Geographical extension: Germany.

Podsumowanie działań

Obszar ELBARN-u Centralnej i Północnej Europy obejmuje następujące kraje: Niemcy, Szwajcaria, Austria, Polska, Litwa, Łotwa, Estonia, Republika Czech, Słowacja, Słowenia i Węgry. Zalecane cele, potrzeby i działania zostały przeanalizowane na warsztacie w Roznowie pod Radhostem (Republika Czech), który odbył się w dniach 26 do 28 marca 2009. Uczestniczyło w nim 30 osób z wyżej wymienionych państw. W wyniku dyskusji sformułowano podstawy Planu Działania Obszaru ELBARN-u w Centralnej i Północnej Europie. Głównym celem ELBARN-u jest zbudowanie i funkcjonowanie sieci Arek i Centrów Ratunku.

Centra te będą pomocne w takich sytuacjach jak: podeszły wiek hodowcy rodzimych ras, wybuch epidemii lub zakaźnych chorób – po to by uchronić rodzime rasy od wyginięcia. Pełnić będą również funkcję edukacyjną: podnoszenia świadomości społeczeństwa na temat znaczenia rzadkich i rodzimych ras, tradycyjnego rolnictwa, ale również umożliwią zachowanie tych ras poprzez aktywną pracę hodowlaną.

Obecny Plan Działania Obszaru zawiera następujące zagadnienia:

- Jakie są potrzeby centrów ratunku, by spełniały właściwie swoją rolę, jakie działania należy podjąć, by zapewnić efektywny ratunek.
- Jakie działania należy podjąć, by zapobiec stratom w przypadku epidemii, chorób.
- Połączenie działaniem sieciowym istniejących farm-arek i budowanie nowych sieci.
- Podnoszenie świadomości społecznej na temat znaczenia ochrony rodzimych ras i zagrożeń z powodu wybuchu epidemii i chorób.
- Wzmocnienie przepływu informacji między wszystkimi istotnymi grupami zainteresowanymi tematyką – w tym seminaria dla weterynarzy i praktyczne informacje oraz wskazówki dla rolników.

- Wymiana informacji na temat wdrażania praw i dyrektyw europejskich, inicjatyw dot. marketingu, najlepszych praktyk itp.
- Powstanie specjalnych narodowych grup i Oddziału Specjalnego Obszaru zrzeszających wszystkie grupy zainteresowania oraz połączenie ich w sieci.

Przy wdrażaniu tego Planu Działania należy wziąć pod uwagę fakt, że pomimo wielu podobieństw w państwach Obszaru, pewne działania są dla jednych ważniejsze niż dla innych.

Na przykład liczba farm-arek jest bardzo różna w zależności od kraju: ponad 100 w krajach niemieckojęzycznych, ale tylko 4 w regionie Bałtyckim.

Podobnie, jak i network farm-arek, który w przypadku krajów niemieckojęzycznych stosunkowo sprawnie działa.

Przedstawiony Plan Działania Obszaru zaspokaja potrzeby niezbędne dla sprawnie funkcjonującego networku Arek i Centrów Ratunku.

Natomiast działania, jakie zostaną podjęte, zależą od sytuacji w poszczególnych krajach.

Jednak, wymiana doświadczeń między krajami Obszaru jest bardzo pożądana, a wspólne rozwiązania, dotyczące np. europejskiej legislacji i regulacji skutków chorób rzadkich i rodzimych ras będą pożyteczne dla wszystkich.

Wprowadzenie powyższego Planu Działania Obszaru w życie będzie miało pozytywny wpływ na ochronę i użytkowanie rodzimych ras w Centralnej i Północnej części Obszaru.

Aby Plan Działania Obszaru zakończył się sukcesem, wszystkie grupy zainteresowania – począwszy od rolników, a skończywszy na rządach i ministerstwach – powinny pracować nad tymi samymi celami.



photo: A. Feldmann (GEH)

The Polish Red (Polska Czerwona) represents a highland breed type, it can also be found in the low mountains of the Czech Republic and Germany.

Súhrn aktivít

Súčasťou projektu ELBARN v oblasti Strednej a severovýchodnej Európy sú štáty: Nemecko, Švajčiarsko, Rakúsko, Poľsko, Litva, Lotyšsko, Estónsko, Česká republika, Slovensko, Slovinsko a Maďarsko. Navrhnuté ciele, požiadavky a aktivity boli prediskutované na oblastnom workšope v Rožnove pod Radhoštěm (Česká republika) v dňoch 26.-28. marca 2009 za účasti 30 delegátov z horeuvedených krajín. Tieto diskusie viedli k vytvoreniu základne pre Oblastný akčný plán. Hlavným cieľom projektu ELBARN je vybudovať funkčnú sieť ochranných fariem a záchranných centier. Tieto zariadenia sa môžu využiť v naliehavých prípadoch ako je napríklad vysoký vek významného chovateľa alebo vypuknutie nákazlivej choroby a zabrániť strate zvierat v autochtónnom chove. Ďalšími dôležitými funkciami je zvyšovanie povedomia verejnosti v oblasti ochrany autochtónnych chovov hospodárskych zvierat a tradičného poľnohospodárstva ako aj zachovanie chovov prostredníctvom aktívneho šľachtenia.

Oblastný akčný plán je zameraný na nasledovné otázky:

- Čo je potrebné pre to, aby záchranné centrum bolo úspešné a aké aktivity sú nutné pre zabezpečenie úspešnej záchrany.
- Kroky, ktoré sú nevyhnutné pre predchádzanie stratám v prípade vypuknutia nákazlivých chorôb.
- Vytvorenie siete existujúcich záchranných centier a zakladanie nových.
- Zvýšiť povedomie verejnosti a propagovať ochranu autochtónnych chovov a opatrenia v prípade nákaz.
- Zlepšenie informačného toku medzi všetkými účastníkmi vrátane seminárov pre veterinárov, tvorbu praktických informačných materiálov a príručiek pre chovateľov a farmárov.

- Výmena informácií o zavádzaní Európskych pravidiel a zákonov, marketingových iniciatív, správnej praxe atď.
- Založiť špeciálne národné skupiny a oblastnú pracovnú skupinu angažovaním všetkých účastníkov procesu ochrany a záchrany a zabezpečiť ich lepšie vzájomné prepojenie v jednotnom systéme.

Pre implementáciu tohto Akčného plánu treba vziať do úvahy, že aj keď sú krajiny v oblasti v mnohom podobné, určité aktivity môžu byť pre niektoré štáty dôležitejšie ako pre iných. Napríklad počet ochranných fariem sa líši od krajiny ku krajine – kým v nemecky hovoriacich krajinách je ich vyše 100, v baltickom regióne sú len 4. Zároveň aj prepojenie prvej skupiny ochranných fariem je na relatívne dobrej úrovni.

Tento Oblastný akčný plán zahŕňa podmienky nutné pre zvýšenie úrovne prepojenia záchranných a ochranných centier do funkčného systému. Budúce akcie by sa mali prispôbovať situácii v jednotlivých krajinách. Za veľmi významné sa považuje potreba zlepšiť výmenu skúseností medzi krajinami oblasti ako aj kombinovaný prístup založený na uplatňovaní európskej legislatívy a regulácie vplyvu chorôb na vzácne a autochtónne chovy zvierat, z čoho by mali úžitok všetci.

V oblastnom akčnom pláne, ako je to dokumentované v tomto dokumente, sa očakáva po jeho zavedení do praxe pozitívny vplyv na ochranu a využívanie autochtónnych chovov zvierat v strednej a severovýchodnej oblasti Európy. Aby sa tento úspech dosiahol na všetkých úrovniach – od farmárov až po vládnych ministrov, bude treba efektívne pracovať a snažiť sa o dosiahnutie vytýčených cieľov.



photo: C. Simanik (GEF)

Zlotniki White (Zlotnicka Biala), a white landrace from Poland.

Povzetek ukrepov

Področje projekta ELBARN, vključuje države srednje in severovzhodne Evrope in sicer: Nemčija, Švica, Avstrija, Poljska, Litva, Latvija, Estonija, Češka, Slovaška, Slovenija in Madžarska. V okviru projekta je bila organizirana področna delavnica v kraju Roznov pod Radhoštem na Češkem, od 26. do 28. marca 2009. Trideset predstavnikov iz zgoraj navedenih držav je razpravljalo o priporočenih ciljih, zahtevah in ukrepih.

Te razprave, so bile osnova za pripravo akcijskega načrta za srednjo in severovzhodno Evropo. Glavni cilj ELBARN projekta je vzpostavitev delovanja mrež »Ark-farm« kmetij in reševalnih centrov »Ark-rescue net«. Ti centri (kmetije) bodo v nujnih primerih (npr.: starost rejca in posledično prenehanje reje, izbruh nalezljive bolezni), pripomogli k preprečevanju izgub avtohtonih pasem domačih živali. Takšni centri (kmetije) imajo pomembno vlogo pri ozaveščanju javnosti o ogroženih in avtohtonih pasmah domačih živali, ter pri predstavitvi tradicionalnega načina kmetovanja, še posebej pri prikazu ohranjanja pasme z aktivnim rejskim delom.

Obstoječi področni akcijski načrt vključuje naslednje pomembne vsebine:

- Kaj potrebuje reševalni center, če hoče biti uspešen, in kateri ukrepi so potrebni, da bo reševanje ogroženih pasem uspešno;
- Potrebni ukrepi za preprečevanje izgub avtohtonih pasem v primeru izbruha bolezni;
- Povezovanje obstoječih »Ark-farm« kmetij in ustanavljanje novih;
- Ozaveščanje javnosti o pomenu ohranjanja avtohtonih pasem ter o posledicah izbruhov bolezni;
- Izboljšanje pretoka informacij med vsemi vpletenimi inštitucijami, vključno z organizacijo seminarjev za veterinarje, ter praktičnimi informacijami za kmete;

- Izmenjava informacij o izvajanju evropskih predpisov in zakonov, pobude za trženje izdelkov in izvajanje dobre kmetijske prakse;
- Ustanovitev posebnih nacionalnih in regionalnih skupin, vključitev vseh zainteresiranih strani in boljše povezovanje vseh vpletenih.

Med državami obstajajo številne podobnosti, vendar je za izvajanje tega akcijskega načrta potrebno upoštevati, da so nekateri ukrepi v eni državi bolj pomembni, kot v drugi. Kot primer naj povemo, da imajo nemško govoreče države več kot 100 takšnih kmetij, ki so med seboj tudi dobro povezane, medtem ko v baltskih državah najdemo le štiri takšne kmetije. Zato bodo v baltskih državah nekatera pravila bolj pomembna, kot pa v nemško govorečih državah, ki imajo ta sistem že dobro urejen.

Ta akcijski načrt je pripravljen za izpolnjevanje ciljev in delovanje teh kmetij na zelo širokem območju. Ukrepi, ki jih je treba sprejeti v posamezni državi, so torej odvisni od razmer in trenutnega stanja v tej državi. Izmenjava znanj in izkušenj je med državami na določenem območju zelo koristna, prav tako kombiniran pristop pri reševanju težav. Takšen primer je ureditev evropske zakonodaje in ureditve v zvezi z vplivom bolezni na ogrožene in avtohtone pasme domačih živali, ki bodo koristile vsem vpletenim državam.

V primeru, da bo akcijski načrt v posamezni državi stopil v veljavo, bo imel pozitiven učinek na ohranjanje in rabo avtohtonih pasem domačih živali v območju srednje in severovzhodne Evrope. Da bi področni akcijski načrt uspel, morajo vse vpletene inštitucije – od kmeta, pa vse pristojnih ministrstev – delovati v smeri izpolnjevanja istih ciljev.

Area Action Plan Central and Northeast Europe

Introduction to ELBARN

People concerned with in-situ or live conservation of rare breeds are often faced with the danger of losing important stock in cases of, for example, increased age or changed priorities of keepers or, even, epidemics. ELBARN, the European Livestock Breeds Ark and Rescue Net, is a pan-European project which focuses on solving some of the problems facing livestock keepers within a network of so-called 'Ark and Rescue Centres' (A&RCs).

The ELBARN Network will be spread throughout Europe to share knowledge and encourage collaboration between organizations and institutes wishing to conserve European animal genetic resources for food and agriculture (AnGRFA). Additionally, the promotion of the products of these livestock breeds, whether this as a food product or as a service such as grazing for environmental management, is a central theme of the project.

The project documents, in the form of an online database, all sites that already exist and can be used as A&RCs, and will also encourage the founding of new A&RCs.

These Centres will:

- Keep core breeding groups.
- Offer breeding help for livestock keepers.
- Offer a place for the public to see the AnGRFA of Europe.
- Offer emergency places for endangered genetically important livestock.

ELBARN was not intended as a project that buys property or animals. Nor does it have any finances available for helping in the upkeep of A&RCs. However, through Work Groups, ELBARN is able to make concrete suggestions on how A&RCs can maximize the marketing potential of the rare livestock breeds in their care, thus rendering them profitable. It is also hoped that, through the existence of an international network sponsored by the EU, smaller projects related to fulfilling the wider goals of ELBARN will find funding to achieve their goals.

ELBARN was launched with a 'Central Workshop' in February 2008, where working groups discussed rescue and quarantine, the characterization of A&RCs, breeding programmes and the marketing of rare breed products. The results of these discussions were published as ELBARN Guidelines in 2009 and can be downloaded from the ELBARN website www.elbarn.net.

In early 2009, four 'Area Workshops' were held in Ghent, Belgium, in Roznov, Czech Republic, in Legnaro, Italy and in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. Each workshop was a meeting of a wide range of stakeholders from the area, each of whom has a special interest and expertise in the field of in situ conservation of agrobiodiversity. For each area an 'Area Action Plan' has been developed and tailored to perceived local needs. The Action Plans have been developed together with local partners and, therefore, can be seen as a representation of the views of current participants in the ELBARN project.

Introduction to the Central and Northeast Europe Area

Within the frame of the ELBARN project, the area of Central and Eastern Europe (CNE) is made up of the following countries: Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary. With the exception of Switzerland, they are all members of the EU. Most of the countries were under socialist rule till the beginning of the 1990s. The collapse of the socialist republics has led to many changes, especially in rural areas. Former state farms and agricultural production co-operatives were closed or had to suffer heavy cuts. Handing over these farms to small landowners was mostly difficult to realize, so that some herds were lost.

The landscape of the countries is very diverse and varies from the mainly lowland areas of North and East Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Hungary to low mountain ranges, like the Carpathians or Bohemian Mountains, up to the alpine regions. The size of the countries ranges from 20 000 km² (Slovenia) to almost 400 000 km² (Germany).

All countries have signed the Convention on Biological Diversity which had a positive effect on autochthonous breeds. Also in all countries, national programmes are in place for conservation and utilization of animal genetic resources. But it can be also seen that in many countries of CNE, animal production relies on international breeds like Holstein-Frisian Cattle and hybrids from international companies (especially in poultry and pork production). However, there are chances to improve the utilization of autochthonous breeds, for example, in the expanding organic sector or in marginal areas. Fortunately, in the whole area, there is good knowledge of the status quo of autochthonous breeds, their geographic distribution and of the holdings where they are kept. National breeding programmes exist in most of the countries for many of the autochthonous breeds; however, they are not always sufficient for conservation aspects. Generally, rare breeds have nearly the same breeding programmes as the high-yielding international breeds as regards of genetic improvement.

It is necessary to have a clear description of selection factors and a suitable pairing system to avoid in-breeding. Therefore special programmes for conservation need to be applied with the aim of maintaining the established breed characteristics. There is already special software available for herdbook programmes, which can be applied to these topics (e. g. Animal Database ZVSN, Breeders Assistant, ENDOG; OPTIMATE; PEDSYS, ChromoSoft, InterHerd; see http://www.save-foundation.net/docu/en/Pedigree_Analysis_Software.pdf).

A main goal of ELBARN is to build up a functioning network of A&RRCs which can act as rescue centres in case of emergencies, such as increasing age of important breeders or the outbreak of contagious diseases. Ark farms for conservation and breeding purposes and farm animal parks open for public viewing should also be networked. Important requirements are that: contingency plans are in place; a good knowledge of quarantine and quarantine centres exists; the information flow between all relevant stakeholders works well; and that the public is aware of the situation of autochthonous breeds and the necessity to conserve and utilize them. These issues were discussed at the Area Workshop in Roznov pod Radhostem from 26th to 28th of March 2009. To ensure rescue and conservation of rare breeds, contingency plans and quarantine centres have to be in place. This has already been achieved in part, but improvements still need to be made. Efforts to improve the information flow between the stakeholders and raise awareness in the public are also in place, but needs to be strengthened in the future.

This Area Action Plan sets out the ideas for achieving the goals which were discussed at the CNE Area Workshop in Roznov pod Radhostem. Additionally, recommendations from the ELBARN guidelines were incorporated. In the next section a vision for the area is presented, followed by concrete actions to reach the goals of a functioning ark and rescue net and improving the conservation and utilization of the farm AnGRFA in the area of CNE.

CNE vision for ELBARN

Three workgroups discussed the issues of Contingency plans: rescue in case of diseases; Rescue centres: how to save nucleus groups; and Sustainability. At the plenary sessions a vision with the most important points was presented.

The number and status of autochthonous breeds in the countries of CNE vary. For example, the number of breeds varies from around 10 in each Baltic country and around 25 in Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary, Switzerland to 40 in Poland and Austria and 85 in Germany. The breeds and their situation are mostly well documented, except for poultry and rabbits where a large proportion of the autochthonous breeds are kept only by hobby breeders. Some countries have their data available in one national database, and others rely on more sources, so that access for the public and other interested institutions varies accordingly.

The degree of decentralization and the size of populations differ from breed to breed, but naturally there are some breeds that need more attention than others due to small population size and restricted distribution. For example, the Lithuanian Native pig is only kept in one large herd (around 150 animals) at the Lithuanian Institute of Animal Science, whereas private people keep only single pigs. If an emergency situation occurs in such a case the breed is in greater danger than breeds which have a broad basis throughout a country. The need for A&ERCs depend on the just-mentioned characteristics of a country and also on the number of farms which are already there. For example in the German-speaking countries there are more than 100 ark farms (which maybe can also work as rescue centres), whereas in the in the Baltic region there are only four.

Regarding rescue in case of diseases, the vision is that the veterinarians are more included in the discussion about measures in case of rare breeds and that they are actively involved in a work group / committee. Practical guidelines for farmers should be developed with clear guidance about what to do in case of an

outbreak and whom to inform. Knowledge about quarantine and suitable sites needs to be strengthened. Nucleus groups should be set up. Exchange of information about laws / regulations and experience should take place between all stakeholders. Rare breeds should be included in the contingency plans and a list of approved centres should exist. Alongside this, public awareness should be strengthened regarding diseases, epidemic outbreaks and the role of rare breeds. The rare breeds should be presented as part of everyone's cultural heritage. The public should be informed in a non-emotive way about diseases, before and not during an outbreak. Since the topics of workgroup 1 (Contingency plans) and 2 (Rescue centres) overlapped and the discussions partly took place together, the visions were similar. Additional points were the setting up of European Emergency Funds (direct costs of a rescue action should be reimbursed) and the possibility of rapid actions and quick decisions in case of emergencies through a strong collaboration between the relevant stakeholders.

Regarding sustainability of A&ERCs the functioning network of these centres is an important point. This network should then also be integrated in the overall conservation concept for autochthonous breeds. Ideally it would be helpful to have a non-governmental organizations (NGO) in every country where consumers, public relations people and fundraisers work together in promoting autochthonous breeds and marketing products and services of autochthonous breeds. They could also work on raising the public awareness of these issues. For the marketing of products (and services) it would be good to have an 'umbrella label' for the whole area which makes it easier for the consumer to recognize when rare and autochthonous breeds have been used. This label should not seen as competition for national labels but more as an add-on which can raise the awareness of rare breeds products area-wide. The use of autochthonous breeds in services and education like grazing, recreation and tourism should be developed more and should be an integral part of the conservation concept.

Plan of action for CNE

1. Rescue

Rescue is a central point in the ELBARN project. Experience in the past has shown that rescue of animals threatened by slaughter is only possible when an existing network is in place. The goal is to have a number of rescue centres in each country, who are able to take over animals in case of emergency. These rescue centres have to fulfil the following general requirements:

- Free space.
- Flexibility in terms of sanitary status, possibilities for isolation.
- Readiness for collaboration – agreement.
- Registration as a rescue centre.

Further it has to be clarified:

- Which species can be accepted?
- How many animals can be kept?
- The time period for which the animals can be accepted (minimum 2 month).
- That there is sufficient experience of animal husbandry.

Likewise a defined protocol of tasks should be followed to guarantee a smooth chain of actions. These should include the following points:

- An agreement to take over the animals has to be signed.
- Veterinary status of the animals has to be checked.
- There should be a management plan to back-up the rescue action.
- The farm must have the option to cancel the agreement.
- It is a national duty to find a new site for the animals (e.g. through the national committee, government, university, breeding organization).
- The actual cost for labour and fodder has to be re-funded. The cost has to be fixed using normal costs in the country.
- The products (e.g. milk, eggs) of the animals belong to the rescue centre and their value will be used to balance the costs.
- Young animals which are born at the rescue centre belong to the person / organization which paid for the animals.

The list of rescue centres for each country has to be updated regularly by those responsible. It is important that agreements are made with the approved rescue centres. The list will then be published by ELBARN for use in emergency situations.

A special situation within the rescue scenario occurs in the case of diseases such as foot and mouth, swine fever and avian influenza. For this purpose, it is necessary to have the following matters clarified before an outbreak occurs:

- There has to be a census / register of breeds and holdings.

At the workshop in Roznov pod Radhostem, it was confirmed that every country in the area has some kind of census or register. Holdings and farmers have been recorded, as well as the geographic distribution of the breeds. Some data are not publicly available because of data privacy protection, but they can be made available on special request. Here it is important that there is a consensus between the different stakeholders about who has access to the data and who has to make it available (see also decision making / information exchange).

- A clear definition of 'nucleus herd' must be in place.

Such a definition has not been agreed for the area of CNE. However, the concept of a nucleus herd is known, but different terms are used and the details of what a nucleus herd should cover varies from country to country.

The following aspects should be considered before building up nucleus herds:

A nucleus herd:

- Should represent the breed characteristics.
- Should be used for reproduction of the breed.
- Should include the whole genetic diversity of the breed.
- Does not have to live together, as it can include separate breeding lines (this relies on good herdbook keeping).
- May be helpfully divided into separate flocks to prevent loss in case of disasters.
- Can include animals in neighbouring countries that are part of a cross-border breed.
- The nucleus population should not receive new individuals with the exception of the descendants of already registered ancestors (i.e. a closed herdbook).

It is important to remember that each species is different, and each breed has different requirements. Therefore the exact requirements of a nucleus herd will have to be worked out breed by breed. For cross-border or transnational breeds, it is important to network the different authorities in the involved countries.

- Quarantine centres have to be in place.

As EU members, all countries in the area have approved quarantine centres according to the EU law. Switzerland, as a non-EU member, has them too. They are mostly used for imported animals. Also test centres for breeding animals have to have quarantine facilities before the animals are kept at the centre to prevent spreading diseases. However, a lack of knowledge about quarantine of rare breeds and quarantine centres occurs. Therefore information must be exchanged with the veterinary authorities.

- Contingency plans have to be in place.

Contingency plans aim to:

- Specify national measures.
- Include the access to all facilities, equipment, personnel and other appropriate measures.
- Secure co-ordination with neighbouring states in advance.
- Ensure access to emergency funds, budgetary means and financial resources.
- Make detailed plans for emergency vaccinations.
- Set up an up-to-date operations manual.
- Ensure that all preventive measures (e.g. list of holdings, census of breeds) are in place.
- Ensure that information about the measures (preventive and emergency) are given to all relevant stakeholders in advance (holdings, governmental and non-governmental institutions working on rare and autochthonous breeds).

In the CNE area, contingency plans are in place, but they are not known to farmers or the public. Guidelines and clear rules on the flow of information are missing. Practical guidelines would help produce better collaboration with the farmers.

	Purposes	Requirements	Type of facilities
Educational A&RCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public awareness, special information programmes for schools, organizations of farmers, scientists, hobby breeders, consumer groups - Safeguarding knowledge of breeding rare breeds, including traditional and cultural aspects of animal breeding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have a representative sample of endangered, typical, local farm animals. - Provide guide-facilities, documentation, well-equipped meeting rooms - Able to offer 'learning by doing' programmes such as working with products of traditional farming (e.g. baking, cheese making, weaving) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - farm parks, model farms - school farms, university - research farms - city farms - zoological gardens and wildlife parks - open air museums - information centres at: national parks, in-situ conservation parks, biosphere reserves
Farm A&RCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breeding of endangered farm animals, keeping of breeding males - Production and sale of (labelled) local breeds products - Sustainable farming with local breeds - Farming in combination with nature conservation - Farm tourism (bed and breakfast) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professionally run farms ('working farms') - Farms should be economically sustainable - Majority of animals present on the farms should belong to local endangered breeds - Highest animal welfare standards to be applied on the farm - Open to the public and provide guided tours on request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ark farms, organic farms, state farms, prison farms - grazing projects or other nature conservation projects - community care farms connected with therapy or sheltered workshops - farms with bed and breakfast facilities

2. Ark institutions

Besides rescue it is important to network existing ark farms and establish new ones where needed. Ark farms are important in providing a professional service for conservation of autochthonous breeds. For reproduction only pure breed animals should be used. If animals under preservation are used in commercial cross-breeding, the acquired cross-breds must not be used for further breeding. Furthermore the ark institutions have the task of promoting products and services, showing the public a selection

of rare breeds and raise awareness for the topic of AnGRFA. There should be many ark farms, which are equally distributed geographically, so that school classes and other interested persons can visit an ark farm within a daytrip.

The participants of the central workshop in Kutna Hora, which took place in the first year of the ELBARN project, distinguished between the following two ark institutions (see also ELBARN Guidelines page 14):



photo: Klein (GEH)

Contact with animals can be an important learning experience for young people. This picture shows a boy relaxing with a Raetian Grey – a breed adapted to mountainous regions.

Ideally there should be a general agreement on ark farm criteria to guarantee specific standards. For the inclusion in the already existing database (Arca-Net), there are specific requirements which have to be fulfilled depending also on the different categories like ark farm, ark village, ark reserve, ark park (they can be found at www.arca-net.info). Those can be taken as a first guideline for national organizations who want to organize the ark farms respectively establish new ones.

There is a range of tasks by which the existing ark farms can be supported and barriers for building up new ones can be overcome:

- Lobby for subsidies to create new ark farms (initial aids).
 - Connect younger breeders and other interested people with older farmers (to carry on breeding work, etc.).
 - Train ark farm owners in marketing and education.
 - Establish a coordination platform within the countries / area to.
 - Raise public awareness.
 - Provide advertising material to display the topic at the farm.
 - Stress the benefits of becoming an ark farm.
 - Provide education material for school classes.
 - Provide a platform for marketing.
 - Create a kind of 'club feeling' (membership).
 - Help farmers to apply for subsidies.
- Integrate the ark farm network in a conservation concept.
 - Promote the use of rare breeds in services (e.g. grazing) and education.
 - Develop an umbrella brand / trademark with which products and services of rare and autochthonous breeds can be identified area-wide. This can be used besides national labels. Initial development of this brand / trademark is done by the partners of the running ELBARN EU-Project, but to carry it further a follow-up project should be sought.

3. Decision making/information exchange

Decisions regarding diseases are made by the competent veterinary authority (CVA) of each country. Collaboration between the different levels of decision making (CVA – veterinarians – farmers) needs to be strengthened. Therefore information flow from the CVA to the base has to be improved. To guarantee this, practical information and guidelines for farmers, e. g. disease information leaflets with the typical signs of sick animals and addresses where to go and whom to inform in case of an outbreak should be distributed. Additionally seminars for veterinarians about rare and autochthonous breeds (e.g. set-up by breed organizations) would be a good opportunity for a better network of the stakeholders.

Also exchange with the public should be intensified. They should be better informed about rare breeds and the breeds should be presented as a common heritage for everybody. The public should be informed in a non-emotive manner about animal diseases, before and not within an outbreak.



The Tarpan-like Polish Konik horse counts as one of the original breeds of horses. The breed is distinguished by 'zebra' stripes found on the back and legs.

4. Area action

- Exchange of information about rules and laws regarding contingency plans, quarantine centres etc. on all stakeholder levels.
- Exchange of experience about the rare breeds. All involved stakeholders should be informed about the relevant regulations.
- Exchange about marketing initiatives and best practice.
- Raise public awareness: show that keeping rare breeds is valuable for everybody and not a special privilege.
- Organize funding in case of emergency (identify organizations, create an European emergency fund etc.).
- Organize funding for ark farms. This seems necessary in the case where EU subsidies for breeding animals is given but no additional support for the keeping of the animals is available. (However in general ark farms should be as self-sustainable as possible through selling services and products).
- Setting up of an 'Area Task Force' out of national representatives could be useful to address general issues like logistics of rescue, sustainability and promotion of agrobiodiversity. It could then:
 - Address international (especially European) legislation and regulation that can affect Rare Livestock Breeds like diseases etc.
 - Create breed specific work groups for crossborder breeds. There the management of those breeds and the historical and current political barriers to conservation could be discussed.
 - Join forces with similar bodies in the rest of Europe in order to lobby and coordinate the conservation and utilisation of farm AnGRFA on an international level.



photo: Günter M. Künkele

The Pinzgauer cattle, found in the Alpine region of Austria and Germany, is characterised by the white markings down the length of its spine.

National requirements for achieving goals

The creation of national groups which include the whole range of stakeholders (e.g. one person from relevant ministry, one person from a breeding organization, one NGO-representative, one person from a veterinary authority) would be helpful to:

- Determine where and how to set up A&RCs.
- Identify what needs to be saved.
- Create a structure which is able to carry out quick actions and short decisions in the case of rescue.
- After rescuing: carry out intensive research about the value of the animals.
- Integrate rescued animals into an official breeding programme.
- Apply special programmes for conservation of rare breeds (most breeding programmes today are not sufficient enough for this purpose). Avoid inbreeding and create a clear description about selection factors (see Introduction).

Since all the countries in the area signed the Global Plan of Action for AnGRFA and the Interlaken Declaration, national focal points or national committees for AnGRFA already exist. They are already doing good work. Nevertheless it should be the goal to expand those groups and to include all relevant stakeholders where they have not been previously involved. They could then work more closely with the umbrella NGO SAVE and their partners and build up an area-wide Task Force to carry out the actions mentioned in this Action Plan.

Milestones and deliverables

- List of approved rescue and quarantine centres.
- Inclusion of rare breeds in contingency plans.
- Protocol of tasks for rescue actions.
- Access to data regarding holdings for all relevant stakeholders.
- Establishment of nucleus herds.
- Establishment of a long-term funding structure.
- Work out a strategy for marketing service and products.
- Establishment of a stakeholder network.
- Establishment of National groups and an Area Task Force.



photo: B. Młotkowski (GEH)

Herd of Skudde with white and black animals. Geographical distributions: Baltic states and Germany.

Conclusion

The discussions at the Area-Workshop in Roznov pod Radhostem with participants from 11 countries were very fruitful. The lectures and reports presented by the participants were very useful to get a deeper impression about the activities in the countries. Many similarities and differences could be worked out and an understanding of the status quo regarding An-GRFA in the area was reached. The problems and requirements for an improvement were discussed. On the basis of the discussions the Area Action Plan was set up.

The following points were the most important:

- What a rescue centre needs to be successful and what actions must be undertaken to guarantee a successful rescue.
 - What steps are necessary to prevent losses in case of disease outbreaks.
 - Networking of existing ark farms and establishment of new ones.
 - Raising awareness of the public regarding importance of conservation of autochthonous breeds and disease outbreaks.
- Improvement of the information flow between all relevant stakeholders, including, seminars for veterinarians, and practical information and guidelines for farmers.
 - Exchange of information about implementation of European rules and laws, marketing initiatives / best practice, etc.
 - Setting up of special national groups and e. g. an Area Task Force to include all stakeholders and better network them.

If the Area Action Plan, as outlined in this document, is put into practice, it is expected to have a positive impact on the conservation and utilization of autochthonous livestock breeds in the Central and Northeast Area. In order for the Area Action Plan to be a success, all stakeholder levels – from farmer through to government minister – will need to work towards the same goals.



photo: B. Milerki (GEH)

The goat breed Capra Grigia can be found in Ticino (Switzerland) and South Tyrol (Italy).



photo: Walter Venne

Senne horses from the Westphalian lowlands, north west Germany.

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M. Schneider-Jacoby (EuroNatur)
Hinterwälder Cattle, an old landrace from the mountainous
region of the southern Black Forest, Germany.

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Valachian sheep belong to the group of Zackel sheep which
can be found in different countries like the Czech Republic,
Slovakia, Hungary and also Germany.

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