



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

Country: Germany

### 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

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

The management of AnGR is ruled in several EU-regulations and the National Animal Breeding Act. Furthermore a National Programme for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Animal Genetic Resources (National Programme) exists.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The Animal Breeding Act rules effectively the administration and organisation of breeding of the species horse, cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat and pig. The National Programme recommends actions which are needed for the conservation and sustainable use of AnGR. Some of these actions are already implemented and help to improve the management of AnGR.

Although there is no special policy and legislation for the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, animal genetic resources are affected in many ways, exempli gratia by EC law, by the national Animal Breeding Act and veterinary legislation, by the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU as well as by promotion and aid rules. In addition to that, other fields of agricultural, commercial, research, and, at national level, environmental and nature conservation policy as well as development co-operation are relevant too. On the basis of EC rules, the German Animal Breeding Act is the essential legal basis for the breeding of farm animals of the species horse, cattle, pig, sheep and goat. The Act was amended on 21st December 2006 and among other things now expressly sets the objective of maintaining genetic diversity. This is also to be promoted by the provision of public funds. The responsibility for the implementation of the Act lies with the Bundeslaender.

#### National Programme

In 2003 the Conference of Agricultural Ministers (Agrarministerkonferenz, AMK) adopted the "National Programme for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Animal Genetic Resources in Germany".

The three main objectives of the National Programme are:

- The monitoring, that is the regular check of the population genetic status of the indigenous farm animal breeds, is the most important requirement. The regular consolidation of the data of individual animals from herdbooks, the comparison of the data, and the check of the data banks for consistency and plausibility will in future enable a far-reaching and altogether objective and scientifically sound statement as to the degree of endangerment of a population. On this basis, the indigenous breeds are classified by the National Committee into different categories of endangerment.
- The establishment, design, maintenance and management of a National Cryobank of the endangered indigenous farm animal

breeds is another central objective of the National Programme. This measure serves to safeguard the breeds' genetic potential in the long term, and as a component of sustainable breeding programmes. First, at least hundred portions of sperm of at least 25 sires (if possible not related to each other) per endangered indigenous breed are to be stored.

- Another goal is the development of sustainable breeding programmes aiming at the conservation of genetic resources. These programmes have to be formulated, incorporated in the herdbook systems of the breeders' associations and, finally, to be implemented by breeders, with the breeders' associations' technical support.

### **National Committee on Animal Genetic Resources**

In July 2003, the German Society for Animal Production (Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Zuechtungskunde, DGfZ) appointed the National Committee on Animal Genetic Resources following proposals of the senior animal breeding consultants of the Federal Government and the Bundeslaender. The National Committee's members represent the entire administrative, operative and scientific area of animal breeding in Germany.

Its aim is the initiation and coordination of measures for the conservation of animal genetic resources in Germany. It prepares recommendations and gives guidance for the selection of actions and decision making regarding the implementation of measures by the Federal Government, Bundeslaender, breeders' organisations and associations.

In principle, a strategy for the conservation of genetic resources includes the application of in situ/on farm measures and ex situ methods, i.e. in particular cryconservation but also keeping small animal groups in zoos and domestic animal parks. In situ/on farm conservation is connected with "Sustainable Use", which is also referred to in international agreements (Convention on Biological Diversity, Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations). In Germany it is first and foremost the breeders that are addressed here. The aim is the formulation and implementation of breeding programmes that focus just as much on genetic conservation as they pursue conventional breeding-related objectives. Herdbook breeders e.g. can be granted subsidies for the breeding of threatened farm animal breeds within the framework of support programmes. These programmes are offered and implemented by the Bundeslaender. The breeding of endangered farm animals often forms part of their agro-environment programmes, which are in most cases co-financed by the EU, according to Council Regulation (EC) No. 1698/2005. Those subsidies for the conservation of endangered species and breeds, however, are subject to the Community Guidelines for state aid in the agriculture sector.

Since 1995, the Society for the Conservation of Old and Endangered Livestock Breeds (Gesellschaft zur Erhaltung alter und gefaehrderter Haustierrassen e.V., GEH) has successfully promoted in situ/on farm conservation of endangered breeds on today more than 70 so-called "Ark Farms".

Ex situ conservation of animal genetic resources through cryconservation (frozen storage) in particular of sperm and embryos in gene banks is currently carried out primarily as complement to in situ conservation ("back-up copy"). Also with respect to the cost factor and aspects of epidemiological hygiene, cryconservation should in the future be the first conservation measure to be considered for breeding populations reaching a defined endangerment status.

[http://www.bmu.de/service/publikationen/downloads/details/artikel/bmu-brochure-national-strategy-on-biological-diversity/?tx\\_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=452](http://www.bmu.de/service/publikationen/downloads/details/artikel/bmu-brochure-national-strategy-on-biological-diversity/?tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=452); and  
[http://www.genres.de/fileadmin/SITE\\_GENRES/downloads/publikationen/national\\_programme\\_tgr\\_eng.pdf](http://www.genres.de/fileadmin/SITE_GENRES/downloads/publikationen/national_programme_tgr_eng.pdf)

#### Future needs

Some of the actions, which are recommended in the National Programme, are not implemented yet. Two main points are still missing: first, the foundation of a national gene bank and second, a regulation concerning the treatment of irrecoverable AnGR in cases of epizootic disease outbreak. In addition more activities are needed to improve the situation of endangered breeds.

## **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)

AnGR management is integrated into national Agro-Biodiversity strategy and national rural development policy.

#### Impact on animal genetic resources management

The national Agro-Biodiversity strategy considers AnGR.

#### Future needs

Grassland management combines crop and livestock production. Grassland has also an indirect impact on the aquatic genetic resources due to its ability to keep nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus) away from aquatic ecosystems. To keep especially the permanent grassland, the economical gap between grassland management and intensive animal production must decrease.

Therefore more research activities on grassland as well as adjustments to the administrative framework (e. g. subsidies, higher environmental and animal welfare standards in animal production) are required.

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

Legislation  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Monitoring of AnGR is ruled in the National Animal Breeding Act. The National Programme provides further details of the monitoring (methods, risk categories). Currently, the monitoring is conducted by the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE).

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The monitoring describes the risk status of local breeds and serves as an important base for the implementation of conservation measures for endangered breeds.

Future needs

A specific regulation about the monitoring process has to be established, however procedures have to be developed.

### 4. Official recognition of livestock breeds

Legislation  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The recognition of breeding organisations is harmonized in the EU and implemented in the German Animal Breeding Act. It describes the requirements of breeders organisations and breeding programs for official recognition. A breed is described from the legal point of view by a breed description, the breeding goals and the breeding program. The European commissions has announced to publish a new animal breeding regulation.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

As breeders organisations are the fundamental actors in animal breeding the animal breeding act provides the basic rules for the work of breeders organisations.

Future needs

When the new EU animal breeding regulation enters into force, national regulations have to be adapted.

### 5. Animal breeding and genetic improvement strategies

Legislation  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The EU-harmonized animal breeding legislation and the German animal breeding act are regulation the formal process of recognition of breeders organisations and breeding programs. The breeding programmes has the goal of enhancement of the breed. Therefore performance recording and breeding values estimation are mandatory. However, no direct rules for breeding goals are existent. For endangered breeds it is possible to conduct a conservation breeding program without performance evaluation. Further, breeding organisations can be imposed to cooperate when a breed becomes endangered. Thus, however, has not happened so far.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The animal breeding act has a positive influence for conserving animal breeds.

Future needs

**Do these measures address:**

#### 5.1 Animal identification and recording

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

Legislation  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

In Germany all cattle, sheep, goats and horses have to be individually identified. Holdings are registered by the competent authority and in the case of movements animals have to be accompanied by a trade/ identification document. Legal requirements for the identification of livestock are laid down in a national ordinance (Viehverkehrsverordnung) enforcing EU-legislation.

Cattle has to be individually identified with two eartags and registered in national electronic database (Hi-Tier) (EU-Regulation

1760/2000)

Sheep and goats have to be individually identified with eartags/ transponders (EU-regulation 21/2004).

Swine have to be individually identified with an eartag (EU-directive 2008/71).

Equine animals have to be identified with a transponder (EU-regulation 504/2008).

For poultry no individual identification is prescribed; however for movements of poultry trade documents indicating origin, destination, number of animals etc. are required.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Animal identification facilitates many actions with regard to animal genetic resources, i.e. monitoring purposes. The German animal breeding act takes also regard to this legislation.

Future needs

## 5.2 The establishment and operation of breeders' associations

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

See question 4

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

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

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Formal aspects like identification of semen and embryos.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

None

Future needs

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

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

EU and national laws on the authorization of GM animals (release into the environment, use as food and feed as well as for other purposes) and "contained use" facilities for these animals, e.g. for R&D (or the production of pharmaceuticals). Laws on traceability.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

None

Future needs

Base decisions on scientific evidence; how to take account of ethical and religious considerations.

## 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)

The import of genetic material is ruled in several EU-regulations (harmonized market and veterinary conditions within the EU) and the national animal breeding and veterinary law. According to the principle of a common EU market, imported genetic material from other EU countries is treated like domestic genetic material. Even genetic material from third countries must fulfill

the same veterinary requirements as domestic material.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

An assessment is needed, how the import of genetic material affects the risk status of local breeds in terms of competition with local breeds and on the other hand in terms of enrichment of AnGR diversity.

Future needs

See above

## 9. Conservation programmes for animal genetic resources

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

In Germany, support measures for endangered farm animal breeds are implemented under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD, EU Council Regulation 1698/2005). Responsible for their formulation and implementation within this framework are the Bundesländer. Altogether 74 measures for 45 different horse, cattle, pig, sheep and goat breeds are currently being implemented. In addition to that, there are further measures aimed at poultry and rabbit.

For more details see: <http://www.genres.de/en/domestic-and-farm-animals/support-measures/>

### Information and Coordination Centre for Biological Diversity (IBV)

In 2000, the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV) initiated the basis for specialised National Programmes to support the efficient conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity. The Information and Coordination Centre for Biological Diversity (IBV) at the BLE is the central authority responsible for information and coordination in this field. The objectives of the IBV relate to biological diversity and here in particular to genetic resources for food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

They include:

- Support of the development and execution of programmes for genetic resources for food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries;
- Secretarial support for the respective advisory and coordination bodies at the BMELV for genetic resources for food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries;
- Data collection and documentation as well as user-oriented central dissemination of information about occurrences, characteristics and performance of genetic resources for food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries;
- Monitoring and assessment of agrobiodiversity trends in Germany;
- Coordination of conservation activities and assistance to conservation networks;
- Facilitation of national and international support measures and programmes;
- Knowledge transfer and advisory services for political decision makers and other stakeholders;
- Public relations activities.

LINK: [http://www.ble.de/EN/04\\_Programmes/02\\_BiologicalDiversity/BiologicalDiversity\\_node.html](http://www.ble.de/EN/04_Programmes/02_BiologicalDiversity/BiologicalDiversity_node.html)

<http://www.genres.de/de/agrobiodiversitaet/>

The "Bundesländer" (co-financed by the federal government and the EU) subsidize the breeding of several endangered breeds. Such subsidies are recommended in the National Programme.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The programme, which was developed together with relevant stakeholders in Germany describes the state of conservation and use of AnGR in Germany, defines concrete goals and appropriate means. With the mentioned subsidies the stocks of some breeds were stabilized. But still there are further breeds which need further support.

Future needs

Because the conservation of AnGR is a public interest and the stocks of some breeds are still decreasing, the subsidization of endangered breeds should be increased. Even the set up of special conservation breeding programmes (and the subsidization of them) would be helpful. Furthermore the implementation of a national gene bank is needed to conserve AnGR effectively.

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

### 9.1 *In vivo* conservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The mentioned subsidies for the breeding of endangered breeds are specifically related to *in vivo* conservation.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

With the mentioned subsidies the stocks of some breeds were stabilized.

Future needs

Because the conservation of AnGR is a public interest and the stocks of some breeds are still decreasing, the subsidization of endangered breeds should be increased. In addition the set up of special conservation breeding programmes (and the subsidization of them) would be helpful.

## 9.2 Cryoconservation

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Cryoconservation of AnGR is recommended in the National Programme. Currently the federal government and the "Bundesländer" are doing some effort, to found a national gene bank for AnGR. The German animal breeding act contains an authorization for a regulation about Genbanking of AnGR.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

When the mentioned national gene bank for AnGR is founded, a lower risk level for endangered breeds would be reached.

Future needs

When the mentioned national gene bank for AnGR is founded, semen from sires of the endangered breeds must be collected for cryoconservation purposes.

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

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Research on conservation and sustainable use of AnGR is part of the research agenda of public research conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and also other institutions. It is further supported by relevant project funding also regarding implementation.

Following research programs are not limited to genetic resources but can in principle promote projects in this area:

- Technical and non-technical innovations in the areas of food/nutrition, agriculture and consumer protection
- Research and development projects and/or measures for technology and knowledge transfer within the Federal Program on Organic Farming (Bundesprogramm Ökologischer Landbau und andere Formen nachhaltiger Landwirtschaft, BÖLN)
- Research projects to supply the BMELV with guidelines for decision-making
- Situation analyses and statistics in biodiversity
- Model and demonstration projects (MaD) in the areas of preservation and innovative, sustainable use of biodiversity

LINK: [http://www.ble.de/EN/03\\_ResearchFunding/ResearchFunding\\_node.html](http://www.ble.de/EN/03_ResearchFunding/ResearchFunding_node.html)

The federal state institute "Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute" is doing several researches on AnGR. Furthermore the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food serves as a funding body for several research programmes. Specifically the Federal Programme for the Support of Innovations in Agriculture, the Federal Scheme for Organic Farming and Other Kinds of Sustainable Agriculture and a federal programme for pilot- and demonstration projects in the field of Agrobiodiversity are related to AnGR.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The mentioned research activities and programmes provide a valuable support for the AnGR management.

Future needs

## 11. Patenting

Legislation

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

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

Living organisms in general

Details of the measure(s)

The patenting of animal breeds is excluded; according to European patent legislation.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Little, very difficult to estimate.



Future needs

## 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

Under development

Policy

Yes

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

Animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

Genetic resources for food and agriculture in general

Details of the measure(s)

Details of the abs-legislation will have to be determined, depending on the European regulation, which is still under discussion.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Extremely difficult to estimate.

Future needs

## 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)

There are different, EU harmonized regulations about quality aspects of animal products. i.e. milk quality.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

None

Future needs

### 2. Production and marketing of organic products

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Yes

Details of the measure(s)

Legislation: The "German organic production logo (Bio-Siegel)" - Eco-labelling Act and Eco-labelling Ordinance

Policy: An alliance between food trade organizations, the food industry, organic farmers union, farmers union and the

government support the logo.

Details: It can be used to mark any unprocessed agricultural products or any agricultural products processed for human consumption that are subject to the EU legislation governing organic farming as long as the prerequisites regarding the indications referring to organic production methods under Article 23 of the EU Basic Regulation on Organic Farming have been met. This basically means that the products are manufactured and controlled in accordance with the requirements of the EU legislation governing organic farming. On 15 December 2001, an Eco-labelling Act took effect to legally protect the Bio-Siegel. The Eco-labelling Ordinance, which is based on the Eco-labelling Act, entered into force on 16 February 2002. It lays down detailed rules regarding the design and use of the Bio-Siegel. The Eco-labelling Ordinance also expressly permits the option of affixing national or regional indications of origin in the immediate environment of the Bio-Siegel (e.g. the "Biozeichen" of Baden-Württemberg, Hesse and Rhoe). The Eco-labelling Act was adapted to the amended EU legislation governing organic farming with effect from 1 January 2009.

Businesses from the processing and trade sectors in particular use the Bio-Siegel. The Bio-Siegel establishes transparency and reliable guidance for consumers in the maze of trademarks in the organic sector and helped to promote the amount of trade with organic products.

A further measure is the Federal Organic Farming Scheme and other forms of sustainable agriculture (BÖLN). It was set up to improve the general conditions for organic farming. The BÖLN aim at improving the general conditions for the organic agri-food sector and other forms of sustainable agriculture in Germany and at paving the way for a well-balanced expansion of supply and demand. Building on the identification of problems and development potential, the Scheme envisages support measures where growth can be efficiently boosted by closing gaps in support.

A range of different measures for all areas of the production chain are included under this general aim: from agricultural production, data collection, and processing to trade, marketing and consumers.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Rare breeds are often kept in organic farming systems. So these kind of labels help in the conservation of AnGR.

Future needs

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

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

see EU regulation 1151/2012

Impact on animal genetic resources management

A direct protection of breeds is not possible due to this regulation. The designation of origin only protects products from a specific region with distinctive features. If a breed exist only in a specific region, a protection would be possible, but would not apply to the breed itself only to the regional product and its features. If the product with the same features could be derived from animals from other breeds, the same protection would be possible.

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

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

In Germany, several private Labels and standards are existing.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Impact on AnGR could be due to the selection of breeding animals with special characteristics with regard to animal welfare aspects according to the label i.e. polled cattle, robustness for grazing, etc.

Future needs

If necessary, an European regulation for voluntary animal welfare labels.

### 5. Safety of food products from animals

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



Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

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

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Harmonized EU-regulation 853/2004 which is currently under revision, i.e.

- Labelling of origin and health marking
- Lists of companies that are allowed for trade of food of animal origin

Impact on animal genetic resources management

None

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 zoosanitary reasons may affect breeders' access to genetic resources. Legal restrictions on livestock movements, restrictions on particular husbandry practices, or onerous requirements for animal health-related actions on the part of livestock keepers (or in the food processing and marketing chain), may inhibit the keeping of animal genetic resources associated with the production systems targeted. Zoosanitary legislation related to the use of semen, embryos and other genetic materials may have implications for cryoconservation programmes. Legal and policy frameworks related to animal welfare might promote or inhibit the keeping of animals in particular production systems or the use of animals to provide specific products or services. In turn, these developments might promote or inhibit the continued use of the animal genetic resources associated with the respective production systems, products or services.

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

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Obligation for notification of certain animal diseases; EU and national rules concerning official measures in the case of a suspicion or an outbreak of certain diseases (e.g. movement restrictions, culling, vaccination, destruction of infectious material). Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Some rules (movement restrictions, destruction) may also concern genetic material.

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)

EU and national rules concerning identification of livestock i.e. Dir. 2008/71/EC, Reg. (EC) No. 1760/2000, Reg. (EC) No. 21/2004; Reg. (EC) 504/2008, national ordinance (Viehverkehrsverordnung). Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Little, eases monitoring efforts for AnGR.

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

None

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)

As a member of the European Union Germany follows the relevant EU legislation e.g. for bovine semen: Council directive 88/407/EEC concerning intracommunity trade. For export to third countries additional veterinary health requirements of the third country have to be respected. Generally they have to be certified by an official veterinarian in a veterinary certificate.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Animal health of traded animal genetic resources is controlled by veterinary authority.

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Animal health of traded animal genetic resources is controlled by veterinary authority .

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Establishment of restriction zones in the case of an outbreak of certain animal diseases; animal certification. Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Restrictions and certification prescriptions can also affect genetic material.

Future needs

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

Legislation

Details of the measure(s)

Exception from culling in the case of an outbreak under certain conditions; possibility for special approval of vaccination. Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Exception from culling in the case of an outbreak under certain conditions.

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)

Exception from culling in the case of an outbreak under certain conditions; possibility for special approval of vaccination. Harmonized EU-legislation, e.g. Council Directives 91/496/EEC, 92/65/EEC, Regulation (EC) No. 2004/882. The relevant legislation is currently under revision in the Council of the European Union.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Exception from culling in the case of an outbreak under certain conditions.

Future needs

## 2. Animal welfare

Legislation

Policy

Details of the measure(s)

Animal Welfare is one of the aims of the German constitution. The aim of the German Animal Welfare Act is to protect the lives and well-being of animals, based on the responsibility of human beings for their fellow creatures. No one is allowed to harm animals without a sensible reason.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The animal welfare act forbids breeding of animals with characteristics that lead to pain, suffer and damages to the animal.

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  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

I.e. EU-Regulation on ecological farming.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Ecological farming has a special need for genetic material, which can be fulfilled with existing Animal Genetic Resources, especially endangered breeds.

Future needs

Special breeding programs, which aim on the use of animal in ecological farming (low input breeds). Therefor monitoring and characterization of AnGR needs to be done.

##### 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)

The National Strategy on Biodiversity aims on the implementation of the CBD on national level and includes the German contribution of the preservation of biological diversity worldwide.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

The number and percentage of breeds in each category of endangerment is one indicator in the National Strategy on Biodiversity.

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)

The protection of the environment is also an aim of the German Constitution.

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)

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)

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  Policy

Details of the measure(s)

The regulation deals about the building of stables. Basically the building of stables is allowed, where the current development plan foresees suitable places. Also in areas outside of cities or villages, where no development plan exists, stables could be built, when they are used for farming purposes. This is then the case if the farm has enough land to produce more than 50% of the feed needed for the animals.

If this is not the case, stables can only be erected, when their size does not exceed the sizes, where an environment impact assessment becomes mandatory. This is the case i.e. with more than 15.000 chicken or 1.500 pigs for fattening.

Impact on animal genetic resources management

None

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

No

Policy

No

Details of the measure(s)

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

No

Details of the measure(s)

Impact on animal genetic resources management

Future needs

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

Legislation

Yes

Policy

Yes

**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

No

### Livestock in general

Legislation

No

Policy

No

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.

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