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The First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources coordinated by FAO. Progress and resources

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SUMMARY – This paper describes the goals, components, costs and sources of funding for the First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources coordinated by FAO and to be implemented between 1999 and 2006.

Key words: Animal, genetic, resources, FAO.

RESUME – "Premier rapport sur l'état des ressources génétiques animales mondiales coordonné par la FAO. Progrès et ressources". Cet article décrit les objectifs, composantes, coûts et sources de financement pour le premier rapport sur l'état des ressources génétiques animales mondiales coordonné par la FAO et qui sera mis en œuvre entre 1999 et 2006.

Mots-clés : Animales, ressources, génétiques, FAO.

Introduction

Recognizing the important role animals play in food security, the current erosion of domestic animal genetic resources and the need to conserve and utilize these resources in sustainable ways, FAO developed a global strategy for the management of farm animal genetic resources. FAO received through the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) the mandate to prepare the *First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*. This process will strengthen national and global capacity to manage animal genetic resources. The goals are to promote the use and development of locally adapted animal genetic resources, improve food security, strengthen environmental protection and reduce poverty, aiming also at protecting sound traditional livestock practices of smallholder farmers and nomads.

The main objectives of the process leading to the *First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* are to determine the state of global farm animal genetic resources, to evaluate policies and technologies for their utilization, to identify country priorities for immediate action, and to build local capacity to manage these resources. All objectives fall within the framework of the biodiversity commitments of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Progress to date and the future of the process

All countries (184 FAO member countries plus non-member countries) have been invited by FAO to participate in the *First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*. To date (March 2002) 103 countries have responded positively to this invitation.

(i) The first component of the process is *Capacity Building*. FAO's Animal Genetic Resources Group has carried out a global training effort in the form of Regional Trainer of Trainers Workshops for the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources (SoW-AnGR) reaching 123 countries and 224 professionals in 2001, and ending up in May 2002 by reaching 53 countries and 96 professionals in this year (Table 1).

Table 1. SoW-AnGR: training costs and sources of funding

Workshop	Date	Funding [†]	Cost (\$1000)
East Africa	July 2001	FIN	70
Latin America	Sept. 2001	FNPP	95
North Europe	Oct. 2001	NordGB + FAO	50
SE Europe	Oct. 2001	FIN + FAO	60
North America	Nov. 2001	FAO	15
Australasia	Nov. 2001	NED + FAO	60
West Africa	Nov. 2001	FAO	90
North Africa	Jan. 2002	FNPP	40
Near East	Feb. 2002	FNPP	55
Russia and sub-region	Mar. 2002	FNPP + FAO	80
Southern Africa	Apr. 2002	FNPP	35
Gulf States	Apr. 2002	FNPP	25
Caribbean	May 2002	FNPP	45
Pacific Islands	May 2002	FNPP	65
		Total	785

[†]FIN = Government of Finland; FNPP = FAO-Netherlands Partnership Program; NordGB = Nordic Gene Bank; FAO = Regular Programme; NED = Government of The Netherlands.

(ii) The second component is *direct country help* for the preparation of National Reports. For this purpose FAO has dedicated \$700,000 of its Regular Programme and is implementing technical and financial aid to around 50 countries in all regions, in partnership with the World Association of Animal Production (WAAP). There is expected funding of \$300,000 from FNPP to help around 20 additional countries comply with CBD commitments in agrobiodiversity. An additional \$700,000 is sought from extra-budgetary sources in 2002 in order to complete the task. It is expected that starting in August 2002 and during the following 10-12 months the majority of country reports will have been submitted by FAO, or will be in a state of advanced draft to be taken to the regional meetings described in (iii).

(iii) The third component of the process is a series of *Regional Meetings* to analyse and discuss National Reports and Regional Priorities. These meetings will have official country representation. The objective of these meetings is to identify priorities for actions at regional levels leading to Regional Reports, and to the elaboration of a Strategic Priority Actions Report by the beginning of 2004, which will then be submitted to the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITWG-AnGR) together with a proposed Follow-Up Mechanism, and be considered by the CGRFA in 2004. A previous review by Stakeholders is foreseen. These meetings will follow the same regional format of the Regional Training Workshops (Table 1) for which additional funds of \$900,000 will be required. For the organization, preparation of technical material, technical papers and special studies, and the preparation of the Strategic Priority Actions Report, further \$500,000 will be needed.

(iv) The fourth component of the process is the actual *Analysis of Country Reports* and the elaboration of the *First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*. The format of the Report is to be decided by the CGRFA in 2004 and the elaboration of a Draft Report will commence immediately. The technical work required for the analysis of National Reports, the elaboration of Regional Reports, special studies, and the preparation of the first State of the World Report will need extra-budgetary financial support of \$1,300,000. Guidance from the ITWG-AnGR will be sought during 2005. The Report will be submitted to the ITWG-AnGR in 2006, and will be negotiated in the CGRFA during 2006. An overview is presented in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2. Overview of extra-budgetary funding needs for the SoW-AnGR process

Activities	Date	Cost (\$1000)	Outputs
Direct help to countries	2002	700	National Reports
Regional Meetings	2003	900	National and Regional Reports
Technical work related to Regional Meetings	2003	500	Priority Actions Report
Technical and Analytical work related to First Report SoW-AnGR	2004-2005	1300	First Report of the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources
Total	2002-2005	3400	

Table 3. Calendar of the SoW-AnGR process

Main activities	Time Frames	Outputs	ITWG-AnGR [†]	CGRFA ^{††}
Technical work	Jan. 99-Aug. 00	Guidelines	Sept. 00-2nd	
Technical work	Oct. 00-Aug. 01	Training packs and CD		
Global training	Aug. 01-May 02	Capacity Building		Oct. 02-9th
Direct country help	Mar. 02-Mar. 03	National Reports		
Report analysis	Sept. 02-Aug. 03	Synthesis and guidance		
Technical work	July 02-Aug. 03	Special Studies		
Regional meetings	Jan. 03-Aug. 03	Regional Reports	Nov. 03-3rd	
Technical work	Sept. 03-May 04	Priority Actions Report		Oct. 04-10th
Technical work	May 04-Feb. 05	Format of SoW Report	May 05-4th	
Technical work	Feb. 05-May 06	First SoW-AnGR Report		Oct. 06-11th

[†]ITWG-AnGR = Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources.

^{††}CGRFA = Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.