



Regional workshop
Livestock based Geographical Indication chains as an entry point to
ensure agro-biodiversity
23rd August 2009 Barcelona, Spain

Food and other products that have a specific geographical indication (GI) and possess special qualities or characteristics became widely acknowledged by consumers, and the demand for such products has significantly increased in the past decade. Protected GIs are promising tools to support rural economies and livelihoods by adding value to locally available resources, diversifying the rural economy and are major contributors to the preservation of agro-biodiversity and landscape.

Animal genetic resources are the primary biological capital for livestock development, and are vital to food security and sustainable rural development. Many indigenous breeds have special adaptive traits, such as disease resistance, climatic tolerance and the ability to digest low-quality feed and to survive with reduced or uncertain supplies of feed and water. Yet, the values of these resources are poorly understood and their management has been neglected. This has resulted in substantial erosion of genetic diversity and the extinct of some livestock breeds.

But what are the limits/possibilities for GIs to contribute to the conservation of livestock genetic resources and agro-biodiversity?

In order to analyse/examine this topic, FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and FAO Sub-regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe will organize a regional workshop on 'Livestock based Geographical Indication chains as an entry point to ensure agro-biodiversity' to be held in Barcelona, Spain, on 23 August, 2009.

The workshop will be the third in the series of events that FAO have recently organized in order to raise awareness about the importance of traditional products, their role in agriculture and rural development as well as in preservation of agro-biodiversity. The Barcelona Workshop together with the South-East Europe Technical Seminar "Quality Food Products linked to Geographical Origin and Traditions" hold in Belgrade, Serbia in December 2008 and the Technical Forum "Geographical Indication and its contribution to Food Security" hold at the Berlin Forum during International Green Week in January 2009, have the objective to constitute an important knowledge base for practitioners, scientists and decision- and policy makers for their work related to GIs and rural development.

Organizer: FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU) and Sub-regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe (SEU)

Date: Sunday, 23rd August 2009, 9.00h - 16.00h

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- consider to what extent GI products can contribute to the conservation of Livestock Genetic Resources and rural development;
- share experiences on use of GIs for conservation of Livestock Genetic Resources;

- draw lessons learnt from GI producers and
- prepare recommendations for policy makers.

During the one day workshop renowned experts among other experts will answer the following questions:

- *Are livestock based GI commodity chains a threat – an opportunity – or are they neutral towards biodiversity?*
- *How should GI support policies (as part of rural development support) be formulated in order to contribute to biodiversity for conservation of animal genetic resources and sustainable livestock production systems ensuring quality and safety of the GI food products?*
- *How can society remunerate the positive contribution of GI producers to biodiversity?*

Invited experts:

Elli Broxham	SAVE Foundation, Switzerland
Elena Garbayo Diéguez,	Technician, Chief of AECERIBER (Asociación Española de Criadores de Ganado Porcino Selecto Ibérico Puro y Tronco Ibérico), Spain
Richard Eberlin	Land Tenure and Rural Development Officer, FAO REU
Ilse Koehler-Rollefson	League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development
Roberta Moruzzo	Department of Animal Production, University of Pisa
Olga Rendek	Producer of Mangalica Sausage, Hungary
Dragan Roganovic	Ibar Development Association, Serbia
Zlatan Saric	University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Beata Scherf	Animal Production Officer, Animal Production and Health Division, FAO
Stjepan Tanic	Agribusiness and Enterprise Development Officer, FAO REU
Oleksandr Lepchei	"Zakarpattia Agency for local development" NGO, Ukraine
José Luis Urquijo y Narváez	Vice-President of AECERIBER, President of FEAGAS and Iberian Pig breeder, Spain
Emilie Vandecandelaere	Nutrition specialist, Food Quality and Standards Service, FAO

Attendance is free of charge, but subject to registration by 15th August 2009.

For registration please contact:

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