

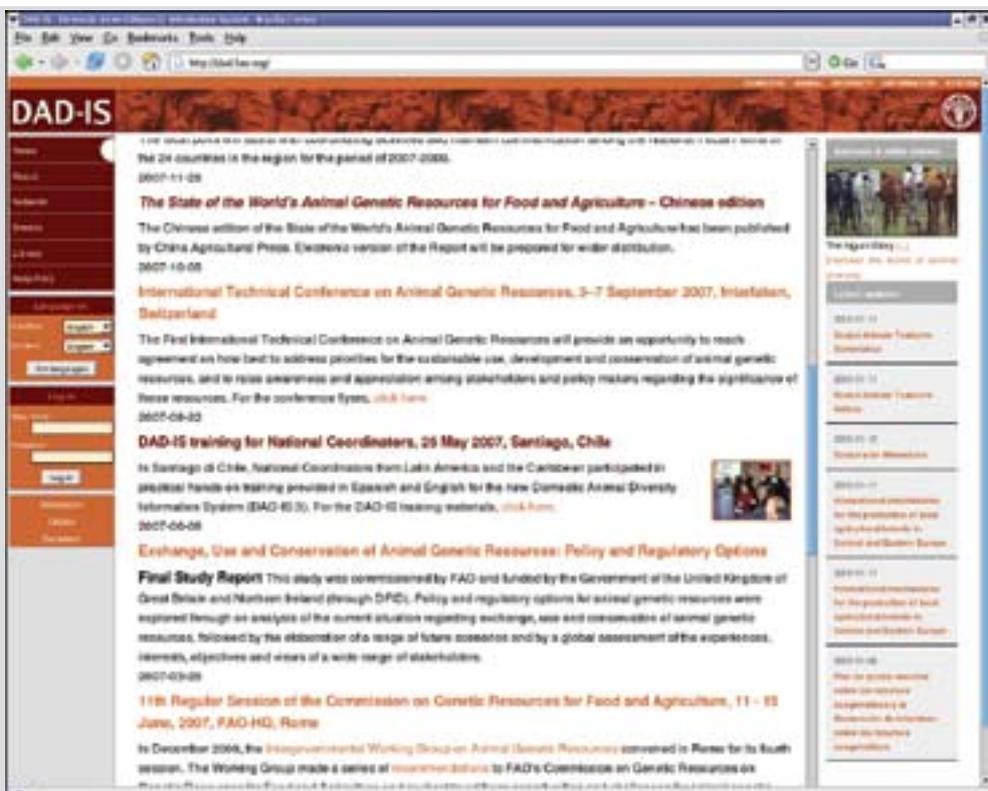


DOMESTIC ANIMAL DIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS) developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is a multilingual, dynamic database driven Web-based communication and information tool based at <http://www.fao.org/dad-is>. Since the mid 1990s, DAD-IS has been recognized as a clearing house mechanism and early warning tool for animal genetic resources for food and agriculture (AnGR) by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The recently adopted *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*, the first agreed international framework for the management of AnGR, calls on FAO to continue to develop DAD-IS to strengthen these roles.

WHY DAD-IS?

DAD-IS provides countries' National Coordinators with a means to manage and disseminate data on their animal genetic resources. It is the centre of an expandable global network of national and regional information systems (FABISNet), which facilitates the coordination of national, regional and global efforts in AnGR management, while allowing scope for national or regional specificities in the management and dissemination of information. One regional (EFABIS at <http://efabis.tzv.fal.de>) and thirteen national systems (Austria, Cyprus, Georgia, Estonia, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) had been established and linked to DAD-IS. Thus, Europe serves as a pilot for other regions of the world.



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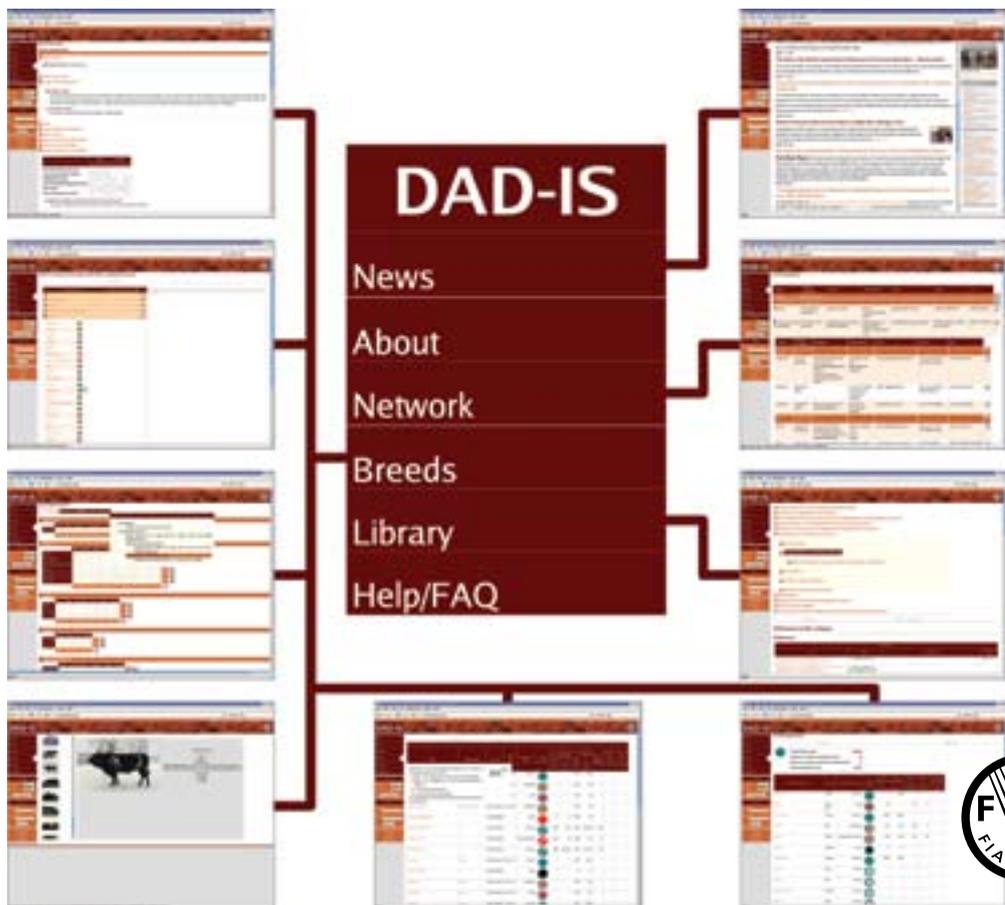
WHO CAN BENEFIT

DAD-IS contains a wide range of information on AnGR. It not only provides countries' National Coordinators for the Management of Animal Genetic Resources (NCs) with a means to manage and disseminate data, but also offers governments, international agencies, NGOs, universities and research organizations access to information that can strengthen their activities in AnGR management. The information contained in DAD-IS is available to the general public via the Internet.

WHAT DOES DAD-IS OFFER USERS?

DAD-IS provides access to information on 14 000 national breed populations, representing 37 species and 181 countries. It features data on breed characteristics, performance-related statistics, and population size, structure and trends. It also includes more than 4 000 high-quality images. NCs take full responsibility for maintaining data quality and quantity. DAD-IS also provides users with up-to-date news on AnGR management and an extensive library of full text publications and links to other Web resources.

The new version of DAD-IS is characterized by more user-friendly interfaces. It has a multilingual interface and content; it is currently available in Arabic, English, Spanish and French (Chinese and Russian are in preparation). Users can switch languages according their needs. Search functions allow users easily to locate breed information and publications within the system. Another important features are new reporting and analytical tools. These include a set of tools designed especially for NCs, with which they can identify gaps in their national data sets. Reporting tools such as a cross-table generator allow users to get quick customized data overviews.



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Learn more:
www.fao.org/dad-is
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Further information about the work of
 FAO on biodiversity is available at:
www.fao.org/biodiversity