



Organisation:

**Network/Rete Pro Patrimonio Montano
(abbrev. "PatriMont")**

Countries:

**Covering the mountainous areas of five
Alpine countries: AT, CH, DE, FL and IT**

Title of the project or activity:

**Conservation of the Black and spotted
Alpine pig**



**Introduction of the project and short description of the genetic recourse(s) that are
involved:**

**Target is the re-establishing a population of pigs best adapted to mountainous
conditions.**

**The project brings three relict populations together in a gene pool and conserves
them in a composite breed, as they cannot be conserved on their own. So at least the
"eco-type" of the old alpine pigs can be preserved**

Objective of the project or activity:

**The project "Black Alpine Pigs" aims to set the qualities of this type in a market niche.
Products from extensive farming, traditionally prepared, with high taste qualities and
regionally produced have a future and are marketed with special labels. The aim of the
project is to breed grazing pigs that can be raised on the alp and have a moderate fat
quantity.**

**So the project aims at a marketable animal that provides an opportunity for a
sustainable Alpine farming again.**

Steps and activities undertaken:

2013-2015: Rescuing last specimens and forming new pilot breeding groups

**From 2014 on multiplying the breeding animals and distribute them in decentralized
areas for minimizing the risks**

Since 2015 stronger breeding selection and breed standardization with herdbook

Results to date and next steps:

At the moment we have 44 breeding groups with some 150 adult pigs in AT, DE, IT.

The breed should become re-introduced in Switzerland too, but not yet done

A European wide registered trademark is ready to support the marketing (see above)

Lessons learned and best practices (or needs) for SAVE partners:

**If a breed-relict can't be conserved on its own, at least the eco-type may be rescued in
a composite breed**

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