



Shoqata Kombetare per Ruajtjen dhe Zhvillimin e Resurseve Gjenetike Shtazore

Albanian Association for Conservation and Development of AnGR – AACDAnGR

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Project title: *Rescue of endangered pig breeds and building up farmers network in the Velipoja Nature Reserve, Albania*

Name of the local NGO : ALBAGENE

Narrative Report



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In collaboration with SAVE Foundation, Project Office, St.Gallen-Switzerland
www.save-foundation.net

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- GEF Small Grant programme, Tirane-Albania

Project title

Rescue of endangered local pig breeds and building up farmers network in the Velipoja Nature Reserve, Albania

Period

2 years

Objectives of project

- Implementation of urgent measures, necessary to hinder the process of genetic erosion and decrease of animal numbers in the population of local pigs “ White of Scutari”, “Black Spotted of Scutari” and “ Pig with Wattle”
- Awareness of farmer`s communities, informal groups or/and associations of farmers, domestic and international institutions to support any effort that will have as objective, conservation and development of this genetic wealth, valid not only to our country but also region.
- Promoting collaboration among farmers and setting up the Local Network of Farmers managing this genetic fund, who will also be participants in the implementation of *in-situ* conservation program
- Implementation of *in-situ* conservation programs for local pig breed “ White of Scutari”, “Black Spotted of Scutari” and “ Pig with Wattle”. Main objectives of those programmes are:
 - ❖ Establishing farm of 4 -5 sows and 2 boars, which will serve as nucleus for applying *In – situ / on farm* conservation and as a Rescues Centre
 - ❖ Setting up the Network of small private farms of 1-2 sows that will serve as units of applying *in-situ* conservation program and producing male and female reproducers
 - ❖ Producing pure bred breeding boars in order to create, for each of above mentioned local breeds and for a medium term period, up to 10 male lines.
 - ❖ Promotion of genetic, historical and cultural values of local pig breeds “ White of Scutari”, “Black Spotted of Scutari” and “Pig with Wattle”
- Building up and strengthening the capacity of Local Network of farmers to support *in situ/on farm* conservation and Rescue Station

Results - first year

1. Identification and characterization

Three local pig breeds are identify in the Velipoja Region. According the population data, the level of risk status of all these breed is **Critical** (Tab.No.1,2,3)

Local pig “White of Scutari”



Specie	Swine
Classification	Native breed
Local name	White
Economic use	Meat
Risk status	Critical

Size of population	95
- sows	15-20
- boars	4 -5
Trend of the population	decreasing
Prospects for the population	In-situ conservation

Phenotypic traits	
Body weight – adult animal	
-boars	90 – 100 kg
-sows	45 – 50 kg
Number of teats	10-12
Live – born piglets per litter	7 – 10
Number of litters/year	2

Description

The head is long with a straight profile line and large ears. The stature is of medium size. Lengthy and slender body. The limbs are long and sound

The color of the coat is white .

The animals are very enduring under adverse conditions

Production system

Extensiv system. During all the day animals are kept around the farm. Indoor keeping. during the night. Feeding with a limited quantity of concentrated fodder and grazing. Natural matching. Boars circulate among farms.

Need for action

In situ conservation: Building up a rescue station with 6 sows and 2 boars. 5 other farms with 2- 3 sows. Objective: Increasing the number of animals

Sustainable economic use: Improvement the marketing

Commune Velipoja , Back Rrjoll village.



Local pig “Spotted of Shkodra”



Specie	Swine
Classification	Native breed
Local name	Spotted of Shkodra
Economic use	Meat
Risk status	Critical

Size of population	76
- sows	20-25
- boars	5-7
Trend of the population	decreasing
Prospects for the population	<i>In-situ</i> conservation

Phenotypic traits	
Body weight – adult animal	
-boars	160 -190 kg
-sows	120 – 130 kg
Number of teats	10-12
Maturity age	6 – 8 months
Live – born piglets per litter	7 – 8
Number of litters/year	2

Description

The animal are distinguished by a medium long head, slightly bent profile, a long body, straight back, slightly sloped croup and strong constitution. The ears are long.

The coloration is motley. The animal are spotted with black spots The limbs are long and sound

The animals are very enduring under adverse conditions

Production system

Exstensiv system. During all the day animals are kept around the farm. Indoor keeping during the night. Feeding with a limited quantity of concentrated fodder and grazing Natural matching. Boars circulate among farms.

Need for action

In situ conservation: Building up a rescue station with 6 sows and 2 boars. 5 other farms with 2-3sows. Objective: Increasing the number of animals

Sustainable economic use: Improvement the marketing
Commune Velipoja , Back
Rrjoll village



Local pig “Pig with wattle”



Specie	Swine
Classification	Native breed
Local name	Pig with wattle
Economic use	Meat
Risk status	Critical

Size of population	32
- sows	3 - 4
- boars	2
Trend of the population	decreasing
Prospects for the population	<i>In-situ</i> conservation

Phenotypic traits	
Body weight – adult animal	
-boars	120-140 kg
-sows	90 - 100kg
Number of teats	12-14
Maturity age	8-10 months
Live – born piglets per litter	6-8
Number of litters/year	2

Description

The animal are distinguished by a medium long head, slightly bent profile, a long body, straight back, slightly sloped croup and strong constitution. The ears are medium. The color of the coat is white. The whole body, excepting from the belly, is covered with smooth hairs. The animals are very enduring under adverse conditions

Production system

Extensiv system. During all the day animals are kept around the farm. Indoor keeping during the night. Feeding with a limited quantity of concentrated fodder and grazing Natural matching.



In situ conservation: Building up a rescue station with 6 sows and 2 boars. 5 other farms with 2- 3 sows. Objective: Increasing the number of animals

Sustainable economic use: Improvement the marketing Commune Velipoja, Back Rrjoll village.

2. Support of farmers

2.1 Purchase of the animal

During the reporting period are purchase :
25 piglets (f) and 7 piglets (m)
2 young boards and 2 sows



Animals purchase with the financial support of project

2.2 Building the new stable in the Farm – Rescues station.

A new stable that will served as the Rescue station, also, in farm of Gjon Zhuri have start to construction. Gjon Zhuri is leader of the farmers group. According to in-situ/on farm conservation, their farms will served as a Nucleus Farm for three pig breeds.



Actual stable in farm of Mr. Gjon Zhuri



The new stable in construction process

2.3 Subsidies for keeping, fodder and vet.service-animals

The group of farmers are support with a quantity of concentrated feeds according the number of animals that farming in their farm.

2.4 Capacity building of farmers

During the training process different issues are develop. The field open days was carried out.



2.5 Awareness

A regional seminar was carried out in frame of European Biodiversity Day–EAD, 20 September, 2008. In this seminar was present:

Program of *In-situ/on farm* conservation of rare breeds, first results of project of Rescue of endangered local pig breeds and building up farmers network in the Velipoja Nature Reserve, Albania

ELBARN program

The issues and guidelines for capacity building of Local Network of farmers to support *in situ/on farm* conservation and Rescue Station



2.6 Results of breeding program

According to *in-situ /on farm* conservation program a breeding program was compiled and the process of its implementation has started. One of the main important first result of this breeding program is the increasing of the number of animal. Until now five sows has furrowed, three of them in the farm of Mr. Gjon Zhuri. The piglets are in good conditions.



Piglets-results of breeding program - in different ages

Prof.Dr. Kristaq Kume