

Animal Welfare: Best Practice Resources for Animal Welfare Development & Implementation

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Introduction

No country's development should take place without giving full consideration to the situation and welfare needs of the sentient fellow animals which share human territory, homes, work, livelihoods, leisure and lives. Development is not just economic. Most importantly, it is about well-being and quality of life – it's about flourishing: For people, nature and animals.

In addition to ethical and altruistic concerns for the well-being of animals, there are many human-centric reasons for including animals and their welfare in development. Animal welfare is inextricably linked to animal health, which is clearly important in many development programs (including disease control, as well as animal production). Moreover, there are many additional benefits to including animal welfare in relevant development programs, and these positively impact many key areas of development concern, such as:

- Poverty reduction;
- Sustainable livelihoods;
- Biodiversity/environment;
- Disaster/ emergency response work;
- Agriculture/livestock/fisheries and rural development; and
- Health/safety (including food safety and security).

Some of these are explained in more detail in the World Animal Net (WAN) paper on [Animal Welfare & Development](#).

As regards food production, animal welfare is now of considerable importance to consumers of animal products. Food quality is not only determined by the overall nature and safety of the end product but also by the perceived welfare status of the animals from which the food is produced. The fact that improving the animal's welfare can positively affect product quality, pathology and disease resistance also has a direct bearing on food quality and safety.

Moreover, there is now an international policy framework specifically covering animal welfare - with a rapidly growing body of World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [international animal welfare standards](#) and [regional strategies](#). These now need to be implemented in developing countries, as well as the rest of the world. This is unlikely to happen (with so many diverse

problems to tackle) unless it is included in development policy and planning. Many international development organizations (and regional economic communities) are collaborating partners of the OIE, and could have a massive beneficial impact if they mainstreamed animal welfare in their development work and programs. Indeed, some of these organizations are already working on the development of animal welfare, as are many individual countries, businesses and development banks.

WAN's website contains background information and analysis on the subject of animal welfare and development, including:

- [An overview](#)
- [A WAN report](#)

Animal Welfare

Animal welfare is increasingly acknowledged as an issue of major ethical and practical importance. Science has now confirmed that non-human animals are sentient beings who share with us consciousness, emotions, feelings, perceptions – and the ability to experience pain, suffering and states of well-being. Just like us they have biologically-determined natures, instincts and needs which are important to them. This underlines the necessity to acknowledge each individual animal's intrinsic value, and the fact that every single animal is not only worthy of respect and care, but also deserves to live a life that is meaningful without unnecessary human exploitation or interference.

The concept of animal welfare is evolving over time in line with ethical, scientific and policy developments. It is now more complex and developed than in early days when it was considered only in relation to absence of cruelty or 'unnecessary suffering'. Meanwhile it is generally defined using a number of concepts including: sentience; needs, interests and emotions; physical, mental and natural states ('telos'); and the five freedoms. It follows that animals should have a good quality of life (enjoying physical, mental and emotional well-being; including the ability to live meaningful and natural lives, where they are able to meet their species-specific and ethological needs and behaviors) and a humane death.

The definition of animal welfare currently used by the OIE is:

“Animal welfare means how an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. An animal is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behavior, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress.”

“Good animal welfare requires disease prevention and appropriate veterinary treatment, shelter, management and nutrition, humane handling and humane slaughter or killing. Animal welfare refers to the state of the animal; the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment.”

The OIE has 'Guiding Principles for Animal Welfare', which were included in its Terrestrial Animal Health Code from 2004. These categorically state that: 'The use of animals carries with it an ethical responsibility to ensure the welfare of such animals to the greatest extent practicable.'

The Five Freedoms

Also included amongst the OIE's Guiding Principles are the internationally recognized 'Five Freedoms' which were originally published by the UK's Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC) in 1979 (although they originated in the 'Brambell Report', which dated back to 1965), and have been adapted slightly since their formulation. These are as follows:

1. **Freedom from Hunger and Thirst and Malnutrition** – by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor;
2. **Freedom from Fear and Distress** – by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering;
3. **Freedom from Physical and Thermal Discomfort** – by providing a suitable environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area;
4. **Freedom from Pain, Injury and Disease** – by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment; and
5. **Freedom to Express Normal Patterns of Behavior** – by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.

The 'Five Freedoms' provide valuable guidance on animal welfare needs; and they cover all three of the states identified above (physical, mental and natural states).

WAN's Model Animal Welfare Act defines Animal Welfare as follows:

“How an animal is coping with the conditions in which he/she is living. For animal welfare to be satisfactory, the animal must be in a state of overall well-being, which is a condition of physical, mental and emotional harmony, and which includes the ability to live naturally and to meet all species-specific and ethological needs: This would include the provision of the Five Freedoms under Section 6 (3) 1.”

Areas where Animal Welfare is Needed in Development

International Development

WAN has identified the need for Animal Welfare to be included in development policy, planning and practice in the following ways:

- The introduction of Animal Welfare impact assessments – *to ensure that any planned projects do not adversely impact Animal Welfare.*
- The mainstreaming of Animal Welfare – *to include the proactive development of Animal Welfare. This would mean the inclusion of Animal Welfare in national development policies and planning, and the introduction of programs to support implementation (including the national implementation of Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and international standards, as well as any additional national policies).*
- The provision of Best Practice resources on Animal Welfare for development stakeholders.

When assessing the approach to be taken on animal use in international development, WAN considers that this should follow the principles elaborated in the ‘Three Rs’ (3Rs) – Reduction, Refinement and Replacement. These were originally drafted to provide valuable guidance for the use of animals in science, and are now internationally recognized – and included in the OIE’s Guiding Principles for Animal Welfare. However, there is no logical reason why they should not be applied to all commercial uses of animals, particularly where there is doubt that all the welfare needs of the animals can be met. The wording would need to be slightly amended for wider use, but the principles remain the same:

- Reduction - in numbers of animals used.
- Refinement - of methods and conditions of use/keeping.
- Replacement - of animals with non-animal alternatives.
- *With replacement always being the ultimate objective.*

There is more on the general applicability of the 3Rs in the [WAN blog on Livestock and Development](#), which provides an example relating to the use of animals for food. This blog also covers some of the many reasons why intensive farming/aquaculture systems should not be promoted or supported in development. These are inherently bad for animal health and welfare; are resource inefficient; and have known detrimental impacts affecting human health and welfare, the environment, and the livelihoods of small-scale farmers. They are simply not suitable for poverty alleviation programs in developing countries because they involve high-tech systems which require specialist management and maintenance, high inputs (feed, medicines and pharmaceuticals), and are low on labor. There is more information on this in the World Society for the Protection of Animals (now World Animal Protection) publication on “[Industrial Animal Agriculture: Part of the Poverty Problem](#)”. Intensive systems also use large quantities of antimicrobials, raising concerns about growing antimicrobial resistance. Livestock are also a major contributor to Greenhouse Gases which cause climate change.

Humane and Sustainable agriculture is now universally accepted as a sustainable and beneficial development. This is clearly better for animal welfare, and can be achieved without compromising food security – as set out in this well-researched report: [Food Security and Animal Welfare](#).

National Development

There are a number of areas where Animal Welfare should be included in national development, in order to progressively develop Animal Welfare, and to implement international standards and regional strategies. Some examples are given below:

➤ ***Animal Welfare Policy/Strategy***

A national policy/strategy on animal welfare to provide the government with greater detail on the ethical basis of its animal welfare work, and chart a course that it can follow for the proactive development of measures to improve animal welfare and educate and inform stakeholders and citizens.

➤ ***Government Structures and Enforcement Systems***

Plans to develop government structures and enforcement systems which are able to deal effectively with animal welfare policy administration and enforcement. These will need to identify the lead government department and bodies to be involved in enforcement; formulate plans to develop an effective animal welfare committee; establish what more is needed to strengthen systems, procedures and staffing – including expertise/training; and funding provisions for animal welfare policy, programs, education and enforcement.

➤ ***Knowledge and Skills on Animal Welfare***

Plans to improve knowledge and skills on animal welfare where most needed, e.g.: drivers of change (including OIE Delegates and AW Focal Points), policy officials, enforcement officers, veterinarians, animal owners and keepers, farmers/farmers groups, traders, transporters and handlers. This would include building national animal welfare science programs and capacity building/training and guidance for animal welfare; and could be carried out in conjunction with extension services, development partners and NGOs.

➤ ***Education and Awareness***

Incorporation of humane education/animal welfare education into existing school programs; the development of animal welfare in further and higher education (for example veterinary universities and agricultural colleges); and the development of clear consumer information, and communication and public awareness strategies for the broader public (including through mass media).

➤ ***Mainstreaming Animal Welfare***

Integration of animal welfare into relevant sectoral and cross sectoral policies and programs (including poverty reduction, livelihoods, agriculture and fisheries, transport, trade, science and research, health/safety, rabies control and environment).

➤ ***Research and Development***

Collection and dissemination of good practice: pilot projects, case studies and research (within and outside of the region) – thus facilitating the application of nationally appropriate best practice. This should include the collection and use of indigenous knowledge on animals and animal welfare.

➤ ***Monitoring and Evaluation***

Systems for monitoring and evaluation of progress with the implementation of animal welfare legislation, including robust systems for monitoring compliance with animal welfare legislation (which would include OIE standards). Also, mechanisms to monitor enforcement and collate feedback on animal welfare problems (for corrective action on the root of problems).

In the case of developing countries, these interventions should be supported by international development organizations.

Provision of Best Practice Resources

This resource pulls together some of the Best Practice (or more accurately “Best Available Practice”) on Animal Welfare in order help development stakeholders to incorporate Animal Welfare in their work. It is recognized that Best Practice is not universally applicable and replicable, and needs to be carefully considered and adapted as necessary to suit prevailing culture, situations and practical realities. However, the provision of Best Practice does serve as guidance, and can prevent different Animal Welfare stakeholders from “reinventing the wheel”.

Regional Animal Welfare Strategies have already been developed to form a framework for the progressive development of Animal Welfare. The contents of these have been carefully designed to include working towards lasting social change, instead of simply enacting laws that are never adhered to (or enforced) or isolated programs that are never rolled out. Therefore a similar structure has been applied to these resources. The contents of the regional strategies vary slightly from region to region, depending on the baseline situation and differing regional priorities - however, the fundamental categories remain the same, and cover aspects such as:

- I. Education and training/capacity building on animal welfare.
- II. Awareness-raising and information.
- III. Animal welfare structures, policies/strategies, legislation and enforcement.
- IV. Proactive project support [including priority programs to improve animal welfare at slaughter, in transport, and at markets; and humane stray dog control].

Some also include research and regional information/coordination, however, these are not considered necessary in this Best Practice resource.

This is the basis for the design of this resource, which has been formatted into sections covering these categories.

We hope that the resource will prove useful both to support the proactive development of Animal Welfare, and as background to the development of Animal Welfare impact assessments.

I. Education & Training/Capacity Building

[Animal Welfare Courses](#)
[Humane Education](#)
[Animal Welfare Education](#)
[Animal Welfare Training](#)
[Resources](#)

Animal Welfare Courses

World Animal Protection

[*Advanced Concepts of Animal Welfare*](#)

Downloadable 35 module tertiary education course, with lecture support notes.

To help vets, animal scientists, university lecturers, and other professionals to develop their knowledge, and educators to incorporate animal welfare into the education of veterinary students.

Cambridge University

[*Course on Animal Welfare, Science, Ethics and Law \(CAWSEL\)*](#)

This course takes place at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, UK. The entire course is less than two weeks, and it is broken down into modules, which can be studied separately.

Each year the Douglas Houghton Memorial Fund gives financial support for one or two people registering for the course.

University of Edinburgh

[*International Animal Welfare, Ethics & Law \(Online Distance Learning\)*](#)

The overall objective of this online distance learning program is to provide knowledge and an understanding of animal welfare science, with a focus on the international issues arising from animal use in all its forms. Post graduate.

The program is delivered by researchers and teachers from both the Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education (within the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies) and the Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) with a series of guest lecturers from around the world.

[*MSc. in Applied Animal Behavior and Animal Welfare*](#)

An on-campus, research-based program.

[*Coursera Course: Animal Behavior and Welfare*](#)

This is an On-Demand Coursera course from the University of Edinburgh. You can start the course at any time and work through the course materials at your own pace. It works to improve understanding of animal welfare through the fascinating study of animal behavior, as well as the challenge of accessing the emotions of animals.

[*The Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education*](#)

The JMICAWE also offers a range of animal welfare resources, including links to courses.

University of Winchester

[*MSc. Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law*](#)

A distance learning course which accepts international students.

Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona

[*Master in Animal Law and Society*](#)

Online Distance Learning and on campus research-based program.

The Master in Animal Law and Society is a specialization program, which aims to train experts in work related with animals from a comparative legal perspective, taking into account the needs of a global society.

Cambridge E-Learning Institute (CEI)

[*Online Certificate in Animal Welfare*](#)

The Online Certificate in Animal Welfare provides the same information as that in the university courses, but enables more study flexibility. You can complete the several modules at your own pace, when it suits you, from your own home.

Animal Welfare Indicators Project (AWIN)

[*Web-Based Portal for Animal Welfare Education*](#)

The European funded AWIN project has developed a web based portal for animal welfare education resources. These include a repository of animal welfare courses and training available worldwide and a collection of free to use downloadable learning materials, on many animal welfare topics.

Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

[*Animal Welfare Teaching in European Veterinary Faculties*](#)

Humane Society Academy

[*Courses, Programs and Webinars*](#)

A variety of development opportunities for professionals, volunteers, and advocates in the field of animal protection. Online offerings include self-paced and instructor-led courses, certificate programs, and webinars.

Scholarships are available for students seeking certification in animal sheltering or humane education.

Humane Education

World Animal Net

[*Humane Education Information, Advice and Links to Resources*](#)

A collection of humane education “best practice”.

Humane Education Advocates Reaching Teachers (HEART) and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), with support from ASPCA

[*Humane Education Resource Guide*](#)

A humane education resource guide intended for not only educators, but also concerned citizens who do not have a formal background in teaching. The guide consists of a total of 40 lessons and activities.

The Humane Society of the United States

[Humane Education Lesson Plans and Service-Learning Projects](#)

Free downloadable lesson plans, listed in order by grade level, designed to teach age-appropriate, standards-based academic skills and major character concepts - kindness, citizenship, fairness, respect, responsibility, and integrity - while reinforcing those ideas as they apply to our treatment of animals.

[Animal Welfare Worksheets](#)

A collection of free downloadable worksheets to teach students in grades K-6 about animals and animal issues while also covering the major subject areas.

Animal Welfare Education

International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

[Animal Action Education](#)

A library of free education resources on a wide variety of animal welfare and conservation themes, which are aligned with core curricula for both primary and secondary children. Materials, which focus on both individual species and cross-cutting issues, include films, teaching guides, lessons, student magazines, worksheets, arts and crafts, and interactive activities. In addition to the UK library, these **[resources are available](#)** in more than a dozen languages and dialects for use in schools worldwide.

World Animal Protection

[First Concepts in Animal Welfare](#)

Animal welfare education tools for 5-16 year olds.

There are links to other animal welfare education resources in the above WAN Humane Education resource.

Animal Welfare Training

OIE

[Improved Animal Welfare Training](#)

The OIE improved animal welfare program has been developed as a capacity building program to assist recipient countries implement OIE animal welfare standards on land transport and slaughter. To date the training program has been applied for transport and slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs. The training program is designed as a training of trainers program.

European Commission

[Better Training for Safer Food: Animal Welfare](#)

Better Training for Safer Food is a Commission training initiative covering food and feed law, animal health and welfare and plant health. Eligible participants are Public Veterinary Officers belonging to the National Competent Authorities of EU Member States, EFTA, Candidates and Third Countries involved in the official controls on Animal Welfare aspects and the development of best practices to improve the application of European norms and/or international standards on this issue. See also: **<http://www.sancotraining.izs.it/joomla/>**.

Animal Welfare Training

[Professional Welfare Officer training, education and consultancy](#)

International animal welfare training, education and consultancy for the meat industry. Includes Animal/Poultry Welfare Officer courses and Training Trainer programs. Constant course creation and development using the latest hardware and software. AWT has a vast (probably unique) media library of high quality images as well as digital SD/HD movie data as a consequence of constant international training and consultancy which constitutes the media core of many training courses, programs and presentations.

University of Bristol

[Animal Welfare Officer Training](#)

Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) training and Poultry Welfare Officer (PWO) training. The training consists of a two day course with assessments that meet the requirements of EU Regulation.

Humane Slaughter Association (HSA)

[Training and Education](#)

The HSA provides training for stockmen in handling animals during transport, in markets and for slaughter.

Animals Angels

[Police Training](#)

Animals Angels conducts seminars on animal transport for police and border guards. It also distributes handbooks which offer the police practical advice on checking lorries on the road.

IRTA

[IRTA](#) is a research institute of the Government of Catalonia ascribed to the Department of Agriculture. The Animal Welfare sub program focuses on the behavior and welfare of cattle, pigs and sheep on farms, during transport and in the slaughter process. The breadth of the topic of animal welfare allows it to be included in different research lines, such as meat and carcass quality, nutrition, genetics, and species such as rabbits, ruminants, poultry and aquaculture. Their lines of work are: animal welfare during slaughter; animal welfare during transport; evaluation of animal welfare on farms and at the abattoir and alternatives to painful practices.

Resources

European Union

[European Animal Welfare Platform](#)

The European Animal Welfare Platform (EAWP) aims at improving farm animal welfare throughout the food chain. It does so by providing a discussion platform where stakeholders like farmers, processors, retailers, academics and a variety of NGOs can meet. It will define and disseminate best practices for safeguarding and improving animal welfare in the food supply chain.

Compassion in World Farming (CIWF)

Good Agricultural Practice

Animal welfare aspects of Good Agricultural Practice for pigs and broiler case studies. The pigs resource includes book, film, PowerPoint, case studies and lecturers' notes on pig welfare for agriculture, veterinary and animal science courses.

Humane Slaughter Association (HSA)

Publications

It also provides a wide selection of resources including a collection of material for personnel training in transport, marketing and slaughter of animals (which includes printed publications, DVDs and online guides).

II. Awareness/Raising and Information

Awareness Days

[World Animal Day](#)

[World Wildlife Day](#)

[World Rabies Day](#)

[Others](#)

Information

[Food and Agricultural Organisation \(FAO\) Animal Welfare Information](#)

[Australian Animal Welfare Strategy Website](#)

[Animal Welfare Information Center \(AWIC\)](#)

[The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare \(UFA\) Journal Animal Welfare](#)

Conferences and Events

[OIE World Conferences](#)

[OIE Key Events](#)

[World Animal Net \(WAN\) Events](#)

Awareness Days

[World Animal Day](#)

4th October.

World Animal Day is the most appropriate day for raising awareness of animal welfare. World Animal Day is celebrated in different ways in every country, irrespective of nationality, religion, faith or political ideology. Through increased awareness and education we can create a world where animals are recognized as sentient beings and full regard is always paid to their welfare.

This website includes events around the world (and the opportunity to add your own), and information and resources.

[World Wildlife Day](#)

3rd March.

World Wildlife Day is now an UN-recognized celebration and awareness day for wildlife. A special theme is chosen for World Wildlife Day each year.

[World Rabies Day](#)

28th September.

World Rabies Day is a good day to create awareness of humane stray control issues and programs.

[Others](#)

There are also other animal awareness days commemorating many different species, events and programs. These include a World Day for Laboratory Animals on 24th April, which is an international commemoration day for animals who have died in laboratories (now often celebrated for the whole week, as World Week for Animals in Laboratories).

Information

[Food and Agricultural Organisation \(FAO\) Animal Welfare Gateway](#)

A single access point for a wide range of information related to the welfare of farm animals. A participatory platform to retrieve and submit information, as well as to engage in commonly developed projects and thematic discussions.

[Australian Animal Welfare Strategy Website](#)

The Australian Animal Welfare website is under the custodianship of the Australian Veterinary Association, but was designed for all animal welfare stakeholders. This website is a useful tool for accessing relevant and useful research and advice about animal welfare.

[Animal Welfare Information Center \(AWIC\)](#)

The United States Department of Agriculture's Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) is mandated by the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) to provide information for improved animal care and use in research, testing, and teaching.

[The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare \(UFAW\) Journal Animal Welfare](#)

Animal Welfare is an international scientific and technical journal. It publishes the results of peer-reviewed scientific research, technical studies and reviews relating to the welfare of kept animals (e.g. on farms, in laboratories, zoos and as companions) and of those in the wild whose welfare is compromised by human activities.

Conferences and Events

[OIE World Conferences](#)

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) world conferences.

[OIE Key Events](#)

Other key OIE events.

[World Animal Net \(WAN\) Events](#)

Upcoming animal protection events.

III. Information and Resources for Policy, Legislation and Enforcement

[Policy & Legislation Enforcement](#)

Policy & Legislation

OIE

[International Animal Welfare Standards](#)

A neat infographic on the OIE's international animal welfare standards, with hyperlinks to each standard.

World Animal Net

[Model Animal Welfare Act](#)

World Animal Net's Model Animal Welfare Act has been designed to serve as a basic template and guidance document for those interested in enacting new legislation or improving existing animal protection legislation. It has been drafted using an extensive comparative law exercise, taking into account 'best practice' in the field. The Model Animal Welfare Act also contains advice on implementation and enforcement, including government structures and systems.

[Animal Protection and Constitutions](#)

Information and resources on the inclusion of animal protection provisions in constitutions, including a chart providing a summary of current constitutional provisions relating to the care, protection, and general status of animals throughout the world.

[Animal Protection Resources and Contacts](#)

A selection of animal protection resources, advice and contacts.

GAL Global Animal Law

[The GAL Project - Global Animal Law](#)

A specialized portal for animal law – which includes visionary concepts, ideas and expertise; and an international database of animal welfare legislation at every level.

Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN (FAO)

[Legislative and Regulatory Options for Animal Welfare](#)

This FAO legislative study reviews the ways in which countries can choose to legislate on animal welfare against the backdrop of international developments.

European Union

[Animal Welfare in the EU](#)

Background information, related documents etc.

Council of Europe CoE)

The CoE has a number of conventions covering animal protection issues:

[European Convention for the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes](#)

[European Convention for the Protection of Animals for Slaughter](#)

[European Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Animals during International Transport](#)

[European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals](#)

[European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals Used for Experimentation and other Scientific Purposes](#)

Animal Legal and Historical Center

[Animal Legal and Historical Center Web site](#)

On this site you will find a comprehensive repository of information about animal law, including: over 1200 full text cases (US, historical, and UK), over 1400 US statutes, over 60 topics and comprehensive explanations, legal articles on a variety of animal topics and an international collection.

Enforcement

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

[Veterinary Legislation Support Program](#)

Upon request, the OIE conducts missions to help governments that wish to modernize their national veterinary legislation and enforcement structures and systems, in order to help the veterinary services to meet the OIE standards.

[OIE Improved Animal Welfare Programmed](#)

The OIE improved animal welfare program has been developed as a capacity building program to assist countries to implement OIE animal welfare standards on land transport and slaughter.

European Union (EU)

[European Enforcement Network of Animal Welfare Lawyers and Commissioners](#)

This web portal includes EU legislation, judgments, strategy, enforcement activities and challenges. It also includes an [enforcement overview](#).

Fitness for Transport Resources

[Practical Guidelines to Assess Fitness for Transport of Adult Bovines](#)

These guidelines have been prepared by a group of animal protection organizations and other stakeholders with significant combined expertise in the field. They are designed for operators involved at any stage in transport of adult cattle, in order to help with decisions on whether an animal is fit to travel or not.

[Practical Guidelines to Assess Fitness for Transport of Pigs](#)

These guidelines have been prepared by a group of animal protection organizations and other stakeholders with significant combined expertise in the field. They have been designed to provide clear and helpful advice for all operators involved at any stage in transport of pigs, in order to help with decisions on whether an animal is fit to travel or not.

[Practical Guidelines to Assess Fitness for Transport of Equidae \(Horses, Ponies, Donkeys and their Hybrids\)](#)

These guidelines have been prepared by a group of animal protection organizations and other stakeholders with significant combined expertise in the field. They have been designed to provide clear and helpful advice for anyone involved in transporting horses, ponies, donkeys or their hybrids, to assist them in determining whether an animal is fit to travel or not. They aim to support good animal welfare throughout the transport process (i.e. before, during and after travel). Whilst they are based on European Union legislation, they include common sense provisions and advice which are more widely applicable.

Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

[Livestock Production Animal Resources](#)

Standards, principles and implementation guidance.

UK Government

[Keeping Farmed Animals: Guidance](#)

Advice and guidance on protecting animal welfare on farms, in transport, at markets and at slaughter.

Food Standards Agency

[Slaughter licensing and animal welfare](#)

Includes information on compliance with slaughter provisions, licensing, checks and use of CCTV to monitor.

IV. Information and Resources for Animal Welfare Programs

Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Priorities

[Farmed Animals](#)

[Transport](#)

[Slaughter](#)

[Stray Dog Control](#)

Other

[Aquaculture](#)

[Working Animals/Equids](#)

[Animal Experimentation](#)

RAWS Priorities

Farmed Animals

[Business Benchmark on Farmed Animal Welfare \(BBFAW\)](#)

The first global investor statement on farmed animal welfare. The BBFAW claims to be “the leading global measure of company performance on farm animal welfare”.

The [Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare 2015 Report](#) includes benchmark questions and scoring, which reflect major aspects of good Animal Welfare practice.

The [Summary of the Business Benchmark consultations](#) includes the rationale for each of the questions asked, providing helpful background.

The BBFAW states that: “There is growing investor interest in the business risks and opportunities associated with farm animal welfare. However, investors’ ability to make robust comparisons between companies or to use farm animal welfare-related performance in their investment decisions is hampered by a lack of robust reporting by companies and a general absence of tools that enable investors to compare different companies on a consistent basis. The Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare is designed to address these challenges.”

[European Animal Welfare Platform](#)

The European Animal Welfare Platform carried out EU wide consultations on various farmed animal welfare issues, bringing together different stakeholders in the food chain from across the EU - from farmers, processors, retailers, food producers and NGOs. The issues it prioritized were: [Beef and Dairy](#), [Poultry Meat and Eggs](#), [Farmed Fish](#), [Pork](#). Strategic documents were produced for these welfare issues, providing some background to the welfare problem, describing its impact and frequency of occurrence, and identify existing best practice for dealing with the problem. These can be found on its website.

[Farm Animal Investment Risk & Return \(FAIRR\) Initiative](#)

FAIRR is an initiative that aims to alert investors to the significant material impacts that farm animal welfare issues could have on their portfolio. On the [Resources](#) page, there is a series of

tools, information booklets and research material on investment risk and opportunities relating to farm animal welfare and factory farming. These include [case studies and guidance on considering farm animal welfare in investment decision-making](#)

Welfare Quality®

The Welfare Quality® project was funded by the EU. It focused on integration of animal welfare in the food quality chain: from public concern to improved welfare and transparent quality. The project aimed to accommodate societal concerns and market demands, to develop reliable on-farm monitoring systems, product information systems, and practical species-specific strategies to improve animal welfare. Throughout this Integrated Project efforts were focused on three main species and their products: cattle (beef and dairy), pigs, and poultry (broiler chickens and laying hens).

Global Animal Partnership: 5-Step Animal Welfare Standards

This is a farmed animal welfare certification system, but it incorporates many aspects of good animal welfare practice. It contains multi-tiered animal welfare standards, specifically designed for farmed animal welfare certification. Each set of species-specific welfare standards—from Step 1 to Step 5+ - has its own requirements that must be met before a farm or ranch can receive a 5-Step certificate. The main emphasis of the standards is described as “looking at what the animals are showing us through their physical condition and behavior”. They currently contain standards on beef cattle, broiler chickens, pigs, turkeys, sheep, meat goats, bison and collection point and transport – but they have been awarded a sizeable grant to expand these.

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

EFSA

The EU has among the world’s highest standards of animal welfare. The European Commission has mandated EFSA to provide scientific advice on the welfare of a number of farm animal categories. EFSA’s activities in this area are carried out by the Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW). The Panel provides independent scientific advice to the European Commission, European Parliament and Member States on all aspects of animal health and animal welfare, chiefly for food producing animals. Its scientific opinions focus on helping risk managers identify methods to reduce unnecessary pain, distress and suffering for animals and to increase welfare where possible. The EFSA website contains [reports on a wide range of welfare issues affecting animals](#), such as housing and husbandry systems, nutrition and feeding, transport and stunning and killing methods.

OECD-FAO

OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains

The OECD and the UN’s Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) developed this guidance to help enterprises observe standards of responsible business conduct to ensure that their operations do not lead to adverse impacts and contribute to sustainable development. It includes animal welfare (see Page 26).

This tool should help in engagement with OECD member governments in other policy processes and especially with OECD country-based corporations for guidance on how to shape a model

policy, how to carry out due diligence and how to mitigate and prevent risks – in all of which animal welfare should be fully integrated according to this document.

CIWF

[Animal Welfare Aspects of Good Agricultural Practice \(GAP\)](#)

[Good Agricultural Practice - Broiler Production.](#)

[Good Agricultural Practice – Pig Production](#)

Including film, book, PowerPoint, Lecturers Notes.

[Report on the Welfare of EU Dairy Cows](#)

A report from Compassion in World Farming and Eurogroup for Animals which examines the health and welfare problems suffered by dairy cows in the European Union. It includes a strategy/suggestions for improving the welfare of dairy cow

[The Welfare of Broiler Chickens in the European Union](#)

This report uses scientific literature to detail the health and welfare issues caused by broiler breeding for fast growth, high stocking densities, lameness, heart disease, catching, transport and slaughter, plus broiler breeders. Includes conclusions on the welfare needs of broilers.

[Case Study of Chinese Chicken Farming](#)

The multiple benefits of farming traditional chicken for meat and eggs in China.

[Welfare of Pigs in the European Union](#)

Report on the welfare of pigs in the EU in relation to current legislation and enforcement. Includes recommendations on pig welfare.

[Practical Alternatives to Sow Stalls](#)

Case studies of good alternative housing systems for breeding sows in the France, Netherlands and UK.

[Providing Enrichment for Pigs](#)

Briefing examining ways of providing enrichment for pigs.

[The Case Against the Veal Crate](#)

A scientific report which includes alternatives to the veal crate.

[Controlling Feather Pecking Without Beak Trimming](#)

Report containing evidence from the scientific literature and practical experience on controlling feather pecking and cannibalism.

[Laying Hen Case Study: UK](#)

Case study account of how beak trimming of laying hens in Columbian Blacktail hens is being phased out in the UK without an increase in feather pecking or cannibalism.

[Laying Hens Case Study: Austria](#)

Case study on the successful phasing out of beak trimming in Austria without increasing pecking injuries.

[Practical Alternatives to Battery Cages for Laying Hens](#)

Case studies of practical alternatives to the battery cage from Belgium, France, Spain, Sweden, and the UK.

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)/Humane Society International (HSI)

HSUS has a [library of subject area white papers](#) on farmed animal issues.

HSI also has an [international library of subject area white papers](#).

HSUS also has an Institute for Science and Policy, which includes an [Animal Studies Repository](#).

RSPCA

[Good practice housing and care](#)

Includes links to resource on housing and care of various species.

[Welfare outcome assessment](#)

[AssureWel welfare outcome assessment for the major farm animal species](#)

Humane Society International

[Humane Society International animal welfare guidelines for smallholder livestock programs](#)

ING Groep N.V. (“ING”)

ING [Environmental and Social Risk Framework](#), includes Section 4.3. which covers Animal Welfare.

International Congress of Meat Science and Technology

[Strategies to promote farm animal welfare in Latin America and their effects on carcass and meat quality traits](#)

Transport

World Horse Welfare

World Horse Welfare provides a selection of [horse welfare information and advice](#).

In 2015 World Horse Welfare and Eurogroup for Animals have produced a comprehensive report – [Removing the Blinkers](#) - on the Health and Welfare of the Equidae in Europe.

Humane Slaughter Association

The HSA includes [welfare during transport](#) within its remit, and organizes workshops and conferences to enable exchange of ideas on best practice for live animal transport.

It has produced a training package for those involved with the road transport of cattle, sheep and pigs (which includes driver’s pocketbook). This is called [The Road Ahead - Livestock Welfare in Transit](#), and it has been translated into ten languages.

HSA's [Online Guides](#) include:

- Humane handling of livestock
- Transport of livestock

HSA's [DVD Packages](#) include:

- The road ahead – livestock welfare in transit
- Poultry welfare – taking responsibility
- To market to market

Eurogroup for Animals and others

[Practical Guidelines to Assess Fitness for Transport of Pigs](#)

A consortium of organizations collaborated to produce this practical guidance to help all operators to decide on the suitability of a pig for transport.

[Practical guidelines to assess fitness for transport of adult bovines: A stakeholders' initiative](#)

A consortium of organizations collaborated to produce this practical guidance to help all operators to decide on the suitability of an adult bovine for transport.

[UECBV and Eurogroup for Animals](#)

Compassion in World Farming

[The Modern Solution to the Exports of Calves](#)

Final report of the Beyond Calf Exports Stakeholders Forum. Realistic and economically viable solutions that could reduce live exports of calves, and case studies.

Slaughter

Humane Slaughter Association

[Humane Slaughter Resources](#)

Printed publications, Online Guides, DVDs and conference/workshop reports.

HSA has a number of useful resources, including:

Printed Publications

<http://www.hsa.org.uk/publications/printed-publications>

These include guidance notes, technical notes and other publications on:

- Cattle, sheep & goats, and pigs
- Poultry
- Fish
- Other species

[Online Guides](#)

Online guides covering:

- Electrical waterbath stunning of poultry
- Practical slaughter of poultry
- Captive-bolt stunning of livestock

- Electrical stunning of red meat animals
- Emergency slaughter
- Humane killing of livestock using firearms
- Humane harvesting of fish

[Conference and Workshop Reports](#)

Stray Dog Control

International Companion Animal Management (ICAM)

The ICAM coalition has collected “best practice” on companion animal management. Its [resources](#) include:

- Humane Dog Population Management Guidance
- Are we making a difference? A Guide to Monitoring and Evaluating Dog Population Management Interventions
- The welfare basis for euthanasia of dogs and cats and policy development
- Humane cat population management guidance

CARO Dog

CARODog stands for: Companion Animals Responsible Ownership / Dog.

The CARODog website is an [online tool](#) which contains comprehensive information aimed at supporting the development of a European overall strategy on responsible ownership of dogs. CARODog also organizes workshops and conferences, and coordinates a European working group on Identification and Registration (I&R) of companion animals.

Other

Aquaculture (including Killing)

Business Benchmark on Farmed Animal Welfare

[Investor Briefing on Farmed Fish](#)

Humane Slaughter Association

[Humane Harvesting of Fish](#)

Compassion in World Farming

[Closed Waters: The Welfare of Farmed Fish](#)

A collaborative report with the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA, now World Animal Protection). Includes conclusions/recommendations to address welfare issues.

National Aquaculture Council (Australia)

[Aquatic Animal Welfare Guidelines](#)

Working Animals/Equids

The Brooke

Welfare Assessment, including the [Standardised Equine Based Welfare Assessment Tool \(SEBWAT\)](#)

World Horse Welfare

World Horse Welfare provides a selection of [horse welfare information and advice](#).

The Donkey Sanctuary

The Donkey Sanctuary has a range of [resources on donkey health and care](#), including a [Donkey Care Handbook](#).

OIE

[The management and welfare of working animals: identifying problems, seeking solutions and anticipating the future](#)

FAO

[Role, impact and welfare of working \(traction and transport\) animals](#).

Animal Experimentation

RSPCA

[Good practice housing and care](#)

Includes links to resource on housing and care of various species.

Includes resource on human killing of experimental animals.

Interniche

InterNICHE is the International Network for Humane Education. It supports progressive science teaching and the replacement of animal experiments by working with teachers to introduce alternatives and with students to support freedom of conscience. Its [website](#) includes news, information, database access and downloads, and has been developed to meet the needs of teachers and trainers, students, ethics committees, alternatives producers and campaigners internationally.

National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research

[Information](#) and [resources](#) on the application of the 3Rs principle.

International Society for Applied Ethology

[Ethical Treatment of Animals in Applied Animal Behaviour Research](#)

Johns Hopkins University Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT)

[CAAT](#) (the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing) has a number of [resources](#) on the 3Rs and humane experimental techniques.

[Altex](#) is the official journal of [CAAT](#) (the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing), EUSAAT (the European Society for Alternatives to Animal Testing), the Transatlantic Think Tank for Toxicology (Baltimore, Utrecht, Konstanz), and the Doerenkamp chairs in Germany, India, The Netherlands, Switzerland, and USA. It is devoted to the publication of research on the development and promotion of alternatives to animal experiments according to the 3Rs concept of Russell and Burch: Replace, Reduce, and Refine.

Universities Federation for Animal Welfare

[The UFAW Handbook on the Care and Management of Laboratory and Other Research Animals](#)

[The Welfare of Animals Used in Research: Practice and Ethics](#)

[Environmental Enrichment for Captive Animals](#)