

EconWelfare is a European research project aiming to provide suggestions for national and European policy makers to further improve farm animal welfare. In collaboration with stakeholder groups it collates and investigates policy options and their impacts on the livestock production chain, the animal and European society.

EconWelfare addresses the following four key questions:

- What are the current welfare initiatives and standards within the EU and in the EU's most important trading countries?
- What are the strength and weaknesses of these initiatives and standards to the animal, society and the production chain?
- What policy instruments can be designed to promote high(er) animal welfare standards as aimed at in the Action Plan on Animal Welfare, and how can progress in the pathway towards these standards be monitored?
- What are the benefits and costs of upgraded welfare standards and what are the implications for international trading patterns?

On the base of these four questions the project will address recommendations for sound scientific research and policy instruments to achieve the plans set out in the Action Plan.

Activities within EconWelfare are clustered in complementary work packages. Therefore, first of all, four horizontal work packages are defined targeting the four major questions that need to be answered. Each horizontal work package is led by a senior scientist able to manage inter-disciplinary activities that need to be performed from the animal, chain and society view point. Secondly, three vertical columns representing the three major target groups (animal, chain, society), are set-up. Each column is coordinated by a senior scientist who is internationally recognised as an authority in that particular discipline, and able to transfer intra-disciplinary information from one WP to another WP.

Finally, two additional supporting work packages are defined: one for communication and dissemination of project information and one for management of the project.

WP0. Communication and dissemination

Main Objective: To interact with representatives of stakeholder groups, organisations or companies in relation to activities and results of the project.

WP1. Identification and analysis of animal welfare standards and initiatives in the EU and third countries

Main Objective: To carry out an analysis on the current state of animal welfare standards as well as public and private animal welfare initiatives.

WP2. Stakeholder analysis on strength and weaknesses of animal welfare standards and initiatives

Main Objective: To identify the (in)adequacy of current welfare standards based on reviews and stakeholder dialogues.

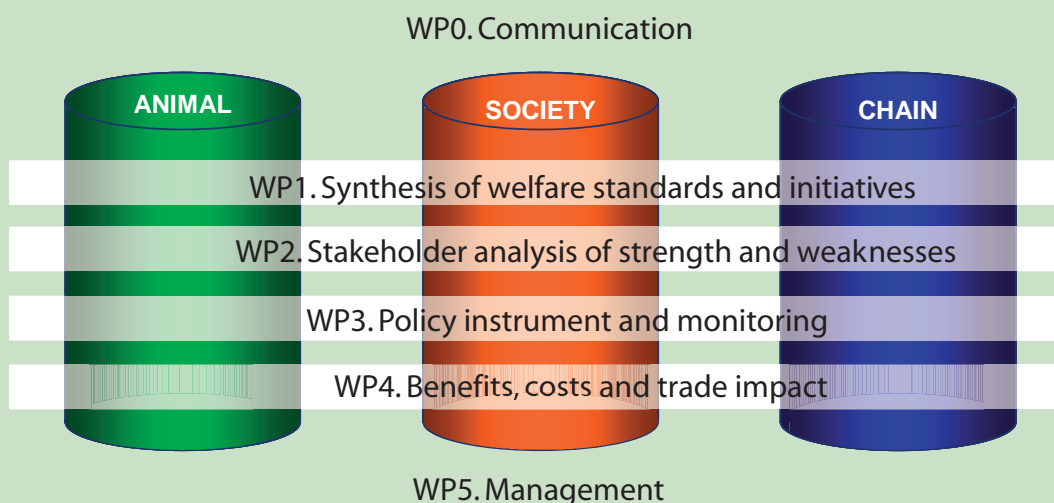
WP3. Development of policy instruments towards the Action Plan on Animal Welfare

Main Objective: To develop strategic options and documentation methods for the EU to implement and follow the progress of the Action Plan on Animal Welfare.

WP4. Benefits & costs and trade impacts of upgraded animal welfare standards and initiatives

Main Objective: To assess the impact of upgraded animal welfare standards and initiatives for the animal production chain on a European and world level.

WP5. Management



EconWelfare



Acronym project

- EconWelfare
www.econwelfare.eu

Project full title

- Good animal welfare in a socio-economic context: Project to promote insight on the impact for the animal, the production chain and European society of upgrading animal welfare standards.

Funding

- FP7 programme of the European Commission

Project number

- KBBE-1-213095

Total cost

- 1.3 million euro

Duration

- August 2008 - July 2011

Project Coordinator

- Dr. Hans Spoolder, ASG Veehouderij B.V., Lelystad

Project Office

- Mrs. Anke de Lorm
P.O. Box 65
8200 AB Lelystad, The Netherlands
Phone +31 320 293503
info@econwelfare.eu

Participants and members of the Core Team

ASG Veehouderij B.V.	The Netherlands Hans Spoolder	www.asg.wur.nl hans.spoolder@wur.nl
Centro Ricerche Produzioni Animali SpA	Italy Kees de Roest	www.crpa.it k.de.roest@crpa.it
Forschungsinstitut für biologischen Landbau	Switzerland Otto Schmid	www.fibl.ch otto.schmid@fibl.org
Landbouw Economisch Instituut B.V.	The Netherlands Paul Ingenbleek	www.lei.wur.nl paul.ingenbleek@wur.nl
Szkola Główna Gospodarstwa Wiejskiego	Poland Edward Majewski	http://www.sggw.pl edward_majewski@sggw.pl
Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet	Sweden Linda Keeling	www.slu.se linda.keeling@hnh.slu.se
University of Newcastle upon Tyne	United Kingdom Jonathan Guy	www.ncl.ac.uk j.h.guy@ncl.ac.uk
Universidad de Extremadura	Spain Miguel Angel Aparicio	www.unex.es aparicio@unex.es
University 'St. Cyril and Methodius'	Macedonia FYR Vlatko Ilieski	www.fvm.ukim.edu.mk vilieski@fvm.ukim.edu.mk