



EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare

2018 Work Plan

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Fee / October 2018



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The views expressed are purely those of the writer and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.

Health and
Food Safety



Responsibilities and tasks

- a. providing **scientific and technical expertise** (...), where appropriate in the form of **coordinated assistance**, to relevant national support networks and bodies (...)*
- b. providing scientific and technical expertise for the development and application of the **animal welfare indicators** (...)*
- c. developing or coordinating the development of **methods for the assessment** of the level of welfare of animals and of **methods for the improvement** of the welfare of animals;*
- d. carrying out **scientific and technical studies** on the welfare of animals used for commercial or scientific purposes;*
- e. conducting **training courses** for staff of the national scientific support networks or bodies referred to in point (a), for staff of the competent authorities and for experts from third countries;*
- f. disseminating research findings** and technical innovations and collaborating with Union research bodies*



1st Reference Centre

- *Consortium of 3 national bodies:*
 - **Wageningen Livestock Research (NL)**
 - **Aarhus University (DK)**
 - **Friedrich Loffler Institut (DE)**
- *Designated for 5 years: 2018 – 2022*
 - **Focus on the welfare of pigs**
 - **On farm, transport and killing**
 - **Related to official controls of EU legislation**



Work Plan 2018

- *From 1st October – 31 December 2018*
- *5 areas of work linked to Article 96*
 - **Coordinated Assistance (a)**
 - **Animal Welfare Indicators (b) (c)**
 - **Scientific and Technical Studies (c) (d)**
 - **Training courses (e)**
 - **Disseminating Research and Innovations (f)**



Coordinated Assistance

- ***Establishing a network of national support bodies***

List of national bodies and a protocol of coordination

- ***A strategic plan for the period 2019-2022***

Key options for future activities with objectives, priorities and indicative timeframe per activity



Animal Welfare Indicators

- ***Inventory of needs regarding animal welfare indicators***
 - *List of indicators used to assess pig welfare along the food supply chain*
 - *List of methods of assessment to verify compliance*
 - *Areas of future work for developing indicators and methods of assessment*



Scientific and Technical Studies

- ***Inventory of needs regarding scientific and technical studies***
 - *Overview of ongoing scientific and technical works*
 - *List of knowledge gaps to ensure compliance*
 - *list of possible future scientific and technical studies to be coordinated by the Centre*



Training Courses

- ***Establishing a Training & Education Network***
 - *List of national training bodies*
- ***Inventory of needs regarding training in Member States***
 - *Ongoing training activities performed by EU (BTSE) and national training bodies*
 - *Areas of future works for developing training activities and materials*



Dissemination Research and Innovations

- ***Inventory of needs regarding dissemination***
 - *A dissemination plan with target groups, communication techniques*
- ***Website and leaflet***
 - *operational website and a hand-out leaflet with basic information on the Reference Centre*



Conclusion

- ❑ 2018 = **planning** the next four years period
- ❑ Essential to ensure **strong cooperation** with Member States scientific support bodies
- ❑ **EU added value** = complement ongoing Member States support bodies activities
- ❑ **EU added value** = directly assist Member States without or little support bodies



Thank you for your attention!

