Development of a roadmap for action for the project More Welfare: towards new risk assessment methodologies and harmonised animal welfare data in the EU - NGO

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

Welcome to the survey **More Welfare: towards new risk assessment methodologies and harmonised animal welfare data in the EU**. The aim of the roadmap for action is to map ongoing developments in animal welfare assessment.

This survey aims to gather crucial information from **non-governmental bodies regarding on-farm animal welfare.** Your participation in this survey is highly valued, as it will help us identify gaps and challenges in current assessment and monitoring practices. The insights provided by non-governmental bodies will contribute to the development of improved methodologies, indicators, tools, and protocols for assessing and monitoring animal welfare.

The survey focuses on various categories of farm animals, namely beef cattle, dairy cattle, small ruminants, pigs, poultry (including broiler chickens, laying hens, turkey, ducks, geese, and quail), horses, farmed fish (such as salmon, trout, carp, seabream, European eel, and tuna), rabbits, and insects (including mealworms, crickets, and bees).

We would like to thank you very much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and ask you to submit it no later than Wednesday, September 6th, 2023.

Completing the questionnaire will only take 20 / 30 minutes of your time.

Disclaimer and data processing: The information collected through the survey will be used exclusively for the purpose of this project, ensuring data privacy and confidentiality. We are committed to safeguarding the data and using it solely for analysis and insights related to the project at hand. You can find the data protection notice attached to this survey.

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Before starting to reply to the survey, please read the definition of animal welfare used by EFSA – European Food Safety Authority:

"The welfare of an individual is its state as regards its attempts to cope with its environment. The welfare of an animal is good if, as indicated by scientific evidence, it is healthy, comfortable, well-nourished, safe, able to express key aspects of behaviour, and not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress. Good animal welfare requires disease prevention, veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter,

management, nutrition, humane handling and humane slaughter/killing. Animal welfare refers to the state of the animal, whereas the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, management, and humane treatment".
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Data protection notice:
   More_Welfare_-_Data_protection_notice.pdf

Identity of the respondent

* What is the name of the organisation you work for?

> Green REV Institute

* Please select all activities that your organisation is involved with:
- ☐ Animal genetic selection and breeding
- ☐ Animal nutrition
- ☐ Animal welfare
- ☐ Animal behaviour
- ☐ Animal health
- ☐ Animal control
- ☐ Animal livestock market
- ☐ Animal transportation
- ☐ Animal production
- ☐ Slaughterhouses
- ☐ Meat processors
- ☐ Animal-based industry
- ☑ Other

Please specify:

> animal rights and welfare of farmed animals

* Which species are covered by your organisation?
- ☐ Small ruminants
- ☑ Beef cattle
- ☑ Dairy cattle
- ☑ Pigs
- ☑ Poultry
- ☐ Horses
- ☑ Farmed fish and invertebrates
- ☐ Rabbits
- ☑ Insects
- ☐ None of the above

* What are the activities of the organisation related to animal welfare?

- ☑ Work on public policy
- ☐ Advice or represention of farmers
- ☐ Advice or representation of companies
- ☑ Communication and sensitisation
- ☑ Work on specific projects on animal welfare
- ☐ Other

Data information

* Does your organisation monitor animal welfare?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

* Does your association collect data that could be used for animal welfare assessment?

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

* Does your organisation collect data that comes from other sources? Please mark all those that apply:

- ☐ My NGO
- ☐ Interprofessional or sector associations
- ☐ Competent authorities
- ☑ Label scheme / Certification scheme / private standard
- ☐ Veterinarians
- ☐ Data from experimental research
- ☐ Farmers
- ☑ Industry / private companies
- ☑ Other NGOs
- ☑ International agencies
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I do not know

Please provide the sources and / or the link if available:

* What is preventing your organisation in collecting/monitoring animal welfare data?

- ☑ Lack of time on resources
- ☐ No interest in collecting such data
- ☐ The methodology is not clear (e.g., welfare indicator thresholds)
- ☐ The methodology is hard to apply (e.g., methodology of sampling)
- ☐ Lack of knowledge on animal welfare
- ☑ Other

Please specify:

> we mainly focus on food system datas

Past projects

*Has your organisation worked (in the past five years) projects related to animal welfare?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

*Please indicate the main thematic area of these projects:

- ☐ Defining welfare impacts and consequences to enable quantification
- ☐ Aggregation of individual animal welfare measurements
- ☑ A scientific framework for comparison, classification, and grading of farming systems in terms of risks to animal welfare
- ☐ Development of an early warning monitoring system
- ☐ Positive animal welfare
- ☐ Conceptualisation of animal welfare - notions from other disciplines such as human psychology, sociology, anthropology, and others
- ☐ Supporting the development of a framework/tool for policymakers allowing appraisal and comparison of different policy options
- ☐ None of the above

What is/are the name of the project(s)? Please share a weblink of the project and its acronym):

> White Paper on Animal Agriculture: Stench, Blood and Tears.

Ongoing projects

*Is the organisation currently involved in animal welfare projects?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ I do not know

What is/are the name of the project(s)? Please share a weblink of the project and its acronym):

> Bringing fish back to the water, animal welfare legislation review by EC

*Which species are concerned?

- ☐ Small ruminants
- ☑ Beef cattle
- ☑ Dairy cattle
- ☑ Pigs
- ☑ Poultry

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- [ ] Horses
- [x] Farmed fish and invertebrates
- [ ] Rabbits
- [x] Insects
- [ ] Other

Please share the sources and / or links if available. Otherwise, please shortly describe the objectives of the research projects:

> na

Gaps and limitations

* What are the main gaps or limitations observed in animal welfare risk assessment?
- [x] Lack of feasible methods for positive welfare assessment
- [x] Lack of methods/tools for combining the effects of different individual welfare consequences on the welfare state of the animal
- [x] Lack of methods/ tools for aggregation of individual animal-based welfare to group level
- [x] Lack of methods for defining thresholds and cut-offs for determining welfare problems
- [x] Lack a scientific framework for comparison, classification, and grading of farming systems in terms of risks to animal welfare
- [x] Lack of an early warning monitoring system
- [x] Missing framework that would support policymakers prioritise policies which improve animal welfare
- [ ] I do not know
- [x] Others

Please give details on the gaps you indicated:

> -

Please specify "other":

> the lack of political will to promote and transform the food system to the plant based one

Cooperation and collaboration

* Are you collaborating with other bodies regarding animal welfare assessment? Please indicate all those you collaborate with:
- [ ] Private company / Industry
- [x] Associations
- [x] Competent authorities
- [ ] Private labels
- [ ] Private company
- [x] Research institutes
- [ ] University

☐ Network
☐ Other

Please share the names of the bodies you collaborate with (if possible):

prof. Andrzej Elżanowski, prof. Piotr Skubała, CIWF EU, Eurogroup for Animals

What type of interactions do you have with the other bodies?
☑ Data sharing
☑ Knowledge sharing
☑ Trainings
☑ Networking
☑ Common projects
☐ Other

Are there any ongoing initiatives or planned projects related to animal welfare within your organisation that could benefit from collaboration with external entities? Please complete the table below by selecting the relevant option(s) for each research topic:

	My organisation currently conducts research on this topic	In the future we plan to conduct research on this topic	We are interested in future collaboration /cooperation on this topic
Measuring and assessing the benefits of animal welfare in the wider context of biodiversity, climate, environment, animal health	☐	☐	☑
Positive animal welfare	☐	☐	☑
Identification of animal welfare indicators for benchmarking	☐	☐	☑
New technologies and animal welfare (PLF, AI, sensors, etc.)	☐	☐	☑
Developing an early warning monitoring system	☐	☐	☑
Food safety and animal welfare in highly concentrated areas	☐	☐	☑
How to best generate meaningful data for animal welfare	☐	☐	☑
Animal welfare labelling: indicators, data requirements	☐	☐	☑
Animal welfare data collection during all stages of supply chain (indicators, standardisation, threshold)	☐	☐	☑

Integration/adaptation of animal welfare methodology (risk benefit analysis) to system approach / exposure science	☐	☐	☑
Applying concepts from other scientific disciplines to animal welfare assessment (e.g., from human healthcare, human psychology, anthropology, sociology, etc.)	☐	☐	☑

* Considering that the willingness to collaborate may vary depending on the institutions involved, could you specify which organizations you would be interested in collaborating with or working together for data collection operations?

> NGOs, universities

What are the primary factors that make you interested in collaborating with those entities? For example, consider aspects such as database sharing, expertise on various subjects, geographical reach, and more.

> the common values

Are there any specific criteria or requirements that your company/association would consider when selecting potential collaborators in the field of animal welfare?

> na

For open inputs and/or remarks on animal welfare risk assessment:

> na

End

Thank you for taking the time to fill in our survey!

It might be that we would like to reach out to you to discuss some of your responses. If this is the case, would you be happy we contact you. Please give email address below if you are interested:

> anna@greenrev.org

Please feel free to share this survey with your colleagues.

Contact

[Contact Form](#)