Evaluation of the EU Animal Welfare Strategy 2012-2015

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The European Union has been promoting animal welfare for over 40 years gradually improving the lives of farm animals. The EU has among the world's highest standards of animal welfare. The overall framework for EU action on animal welfare is set out in the EU Animal Welfare Strategy 2012-2015 ('the Strategy').

The main objectives of the Strategy were to:

- 1. consider simplifying the EU legislation on animal welfare;
- 2. support Member States to improve compliance with animal welfare legislation;
- 3. improve EU level knowledge of certain welfare issues, such as the welfare of farmed fish;
- 4. promote EU animal welfare standards globally;
- 5. improve synergies with the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) and other EU policies:
- 6. and better inform consumers and the general public about animal welfare.

To achieve these objectives, the Strategy had set 20 actions to be implemented between 2012 and 2015.

The European Commission will use information collected through this public consultation, together with other data, to evaluate the Animal Welfare Strategy. If you are unable to use the online questionnaire, please contact us: **SANTE-**CONSULT-G2@ec.europa.eu

About you	<u> </u>
Language o	of my contribution
☐ Bulgaria	
Croatian Croatian	n
Czech	
Danish	
Dutch	
<u>X</u> English	
Estonia:	
Finnish	
French	
Gaelic	
German	1
Greek	
Hungar	ian
Italian	
Latvian	
Lithuan	
Maltese	
Polish	
Portugu	
Romani	ian
☐ Slovak	

	Slovenian
	Spanish Spanish
	Swedish
*	I am giving my contribution as
	Academic/research institution
	X Business association
	Company/business organisation
	☐ Consumer organisation
	☐ EU citizen
	☐ Environmental organisation
	☐ Non-EU citizen
	☐ Non-governmental organization (NGO)
	☐ Public authority
	Trade union
	Other
*	What type of business do you represent?
	X Farmers and professional animal keepers
	X Processors and processors' organisations active in the animal food supply chain
	X Transport organisers, transporters, traders, assembly centres, retailers
	☐ Slaughterhouses (e.g. business operators, staff and animal welfare officers)
	Other supply chain operators and their organisation (e.g. traders, wholesalers,
	retailers)
	Other
Ρl	ease specify
	o character(s) maximum
	Farmer own cooperative businesses, ranging from multipurpose dairy cooperatives
- ;	and livestock markets to breeding cooperatives and other rural and livestock
	services.
*	Where relevant, can you specify the production system of your organisation?
	Barn
	Organic
	Free range
	Under label or private certification
	X Other
	A other
Ρl	ease specify
	o character(s) maximum
	Pasture Based
_	
*	First name
	Alison
Ŀ	MISOII
*	Surname
_	
- 1 '	Graham

* Email (this won't be published)	
Alison.graham@gmail.com	
* Scope International Local X National Regional	
* Organisation name 255 character(s) maximum Irish Cooperative Organisation Society	
* Organisation size Micro (1 to 9 employees) X Small (10 to 49 employees) Medium (50 to 249 employees) Large (250 or more)	
Transparency register number 255 character(s) maximum Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a volun influence EU decision-making. 99345863205-62	tary database for organisations seeking to
* Country of origin Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.	
☐ Afghanistan ☐ Åland Islands ☐ Albania ☐ Algeria ☐ American Samoa ☐ Andorra ☐ Angola ☐ Anguilla ☐ Antarctica ☐ Antigua and Barbuda ☐ Argentina ☐ Armenia ☐ Aruba ☐ Australia ☐ Austria ☐ Azerbaijan ☐ Bahamas ☐ Bahrain ☐ Bangladesh ☐ Barbados ☐ Belarus	Belgium Belize Benin Bermuda Bhutan Bolivia Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana Bouvet Island Brazil British Indian Ocean Territory British Virgin Islands Brunei Bulgaria Burkina Faso Burundi Cambodia Cameroon

☐ Canada	☐ Grenada
☐ Cape Verde	☐ Guadeloupe
Cayman Islands	Guam
Central African Republic	Guatemala
Chad	Guernsey
Chile	Guinea
China	Guinea-Bissau
Christmas Island	Guyana
Clipperton	☐ Haiti
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	Heard Island and McDonald
Colombia	Islands
Comoros	Honduras
Congo	Hong Kong
Cook Islands	Hungary
Costa Rica	☐ Iceland
Côte d'Ivoire	India
Croatia	☐ India ☐ Indonesia
Cuba	☐ Iran
☐ Curação	☐ Iraq
	∐ IIdq X Ireland
☐ Cyprus ☐ Czechia	☐ Isle of Man
	Israel
Democratic Republic of	
Congo	∐ Italy
Denmark	☐ Jamaica
Djibouti	∐ Japan
Dominica	Jersey
Dominican Republic	Jordan
Ecuador	∐ Kazakhstan
Egypt	∐ Kenya
El Salvador	Kiribati
Equatorial Guinea	Kosovo
Eritrea	∐ Kuwait
Estonia	Kyrgyzstan
Eswatini	Laos
Ethiopia Ethiopia	Latvia
Falkland Islands	Lebanon
Faroe Islands	Lesotho
∐ Fiji	Liberia
Finland	Libya
France	Liechtenstein
French Guiana	Lithuania
French Polynesia	Luxembourg
French Southern and	Macau
Antarctic Lands	Madagascar Madagascar
Gabon	Malawi
Georgia	Malaysia
Germany	☐ Maldives
Ghana	☐ Mali
☐ Gibraltar	☐ Malta
Greece	Marshall Islands
Greenland	☐ Martinique

■ Mauritania	Panama
☐ Mauritius	Papua New Guinea
Mayotte	Paraguay
Mexico	Peru
Micronesia	Philippines
Moldova	Pitcairn Islands
Monaco	Poland
Mongolia	Portugal
Montenegro	Puerto Rico
Montserrat	Qatar
Morocco	Réunion
	Romania
☐ Mozambique	Russia
☐ Myanmar/Burma ☐ Namibia	Rwanda
∐ Nauru	Saint Barthélemy
∐ Nepal	Saint Helena Ascension and
Netherlands	Tristan da Cunha
New Caledonia	Saint Kitts and Nevis
New Zealand	Saint Lucia
∐ Nicaragua	Saint Martin
<u></u> Niger	Saint Pierre and Miquelon
☐ Nigeria	Saint Vincent and the
Niue Niue	<u>Gr</u> enadines
Norfolk Island	Samoa
Northern Mariana Islands	San Marino
☐ North Korea	São Tomé and Príncipe
☐ North Macedonia	🗌 Saudi Arabia
Norway	Senegal
Oman	Serbia
☐ Pakistan	Seychelles
Palau	Sierra Leone
Palestine	Singapore
Sint Maarten	Tajikistan
Slovakia	Tanzania
Slovenia	Thailand
Solomon Islands	☐ The Gambia
Somalia	☐ Timor-Leste
South Africa	☐ Togo
South Georgia and the	☐ Tokelau
South Sandwich Islands	☐ Tonga
South Korea	Trinidad and Tobago
South Sudan	Tunisia
Spain	☐ Turkey
Sri Lanka	Turkmenistan
	<u> </u>
Sudan	☐ Turks and Caicos Islands
Suriname	∐ Tuvalu
Svalbard and Jan Mayen	∐ Uganda □ U
Sweden	Ukraine
Switzerland	United Arab Emirates
∐ Syria	United Kingdom
Taiwan	United States

☐ United States Minor Outlying Islands ☐ Uruguay ☐ US Virgin Islands ☐ Uzbekistan ☐ Vanuatu ☐ Vatican City	☐ V ☐ V ☐ V ☐ Y	enezuela ietnam Vallis and Fut Vestern Sahar emen ambia imbabwe			
* Publication privacy settings The Commission will publish the responses to this p details to be made public or to remain anonymous.	oublic consult	ation. You ca	n choose whether	you wou	ıld like your
Anonymous Only your type of respondent, coun All other personal details (name, or number) will not be published.					
X Public Your personal details (name, organ number, country of origin) will be p					gister
X I agree with the <u>personal data prote</u> Individuals	ction prov	<u>risions</u>			
To what extent do you agree with the fo	ollowing st	atements	:		
To what extent do you agree with the fo	Strongly	Disagree	Neither agree	Agree	Strongly
To what extent do you agree with the formula is part of the EU's set of values				Agree	Strongly agree
* The welfare of animals is part of	Strongly		Neither agree		
* The welfare of animals is part of the EU's set of values * As a consumer / citizen, I am concerned about how animals are	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree	X	

Please specify

ICOS has contributed to national and EU discussions on the EU Animal Welfare Strategy and animal health and welfare topics as a whole. As well as this we participate on the EU animal welfare platform, as part of the AEMB.

How important is it to tackle the following issues that are targeted by the Strategy?

	Not at	Somewhat	Moderately	Very	Extremely	Don't
	all	important	important	important	important	know
*National competent authorities failing to	important			X		
enforce animal welfare legislation						
* Animal owners and handlers not being aware of animal welfare rules and principles				X		
* Businesses not being encouraged to respect animal welfare law				X		
* Consumers lacking information about the welfare of the animals reared for food production			X			
* Animal welfare law requiring simplification				X		
* A lack of understanding of the welfare of farmed fish				X		
* Animal welfare not being integrated enough with other policies (agriculture, environment, trade)				X		
* Different animal species not being protected equally in the EU			X			
* EU and non-EU businesses not being subject to the same animal welfare rules					X	
* EU animal welfare standards not being sufficiently promoted globally					X	

* What is the advantage of having a European Union wide Strategy on animal welfare?

 New issues or issues which a addressed New ways to deliver services None. It does not really make one is in the image of the image. I do not know / I do not wis other 	s and po ke a diffe	olicies can		ber State	es can be	
lease specify oo character(s) maximum Intra EU trade of live animals a		-	ts necessita	ites com	mon anim	al
welfare standards, approaches a re there any further comments y so character(s) maximum			nake?			
Awareness How familiar are you with the l	EII Anir	nal welfara	e strateov?			
☐ Moderately familiarX Very familiar☐ Extremely familiar☐ Don't know✓ hich actions planned in the Strange	ategy are	e you famil	liar with?	Very	Extremely	Do
	all familiar	familiar	familiar	familiar	familiar	kn
* Actions to improve compliance (e.g. grouping of sows, protection of laying hens, etc).				X		
* Guidelines (e.g. on transport, slaughter or the protection of pigs)					X	
* Reports to EU institutions (e.g. on the various stunning methods for				X		
poultry, the impact of animal welfare international activities on competitiveness, etc)						

* International cooperation on animal welfare (e.g. multilateral, bilateral and capacity building activities).		X		
* Actions to improve the integration of animal welfare in the Common Agricultural Policy.			X	
* Communication and education activities targeting consumers and the general public		X		
* Other types of actions or activities (e.g. the establishment of reference centers, training activities, a possible legislative proposal for a simplified EU legislative framework for animal welfare)			X	

Please specify all the actions or activities that you are familiar with.

1000 character(s) maximum

Our organisation closely follows European and Irish national actions in the field of animal welfare, in particular in the framework of the strategy. For instance, we have followed and actively worked with the Commission on the guidelines for transport and on the EU Animal Welfare Platform activities.

Relevance

To what extent are the issues targeted by the Strategy still relevant today (2020)?

	Not at all relevant	Somewhat relevant	Moderately relevant	Very relevant	Extremely relevant	Don't know
* Non-compliance due to a lack of awareness among animal owners and handlers			X			
* Non-compliance due to a lack of enforcement by national competent authorities			X			
* Non-compliance due to weak incentives for businesses to comply			X			
* A lack of information among consumers		X				
* A need to simplify the legal framework				X		

* A lack of knowledge on the welfare of farmed fish			X					
* Insufficient use of synergies with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)			X					
* An uneven level of protection for different animal species in the EU			X					
* An uneven level playing field (EU and global market) for EU business operators					X			
Where (for which species, in which sectors and/or countries) is there a lack of compliance with EU animal welfare legislation? Pigs (Council Directive 2008/120/EC) Laying Hens (Council Directive 1999/74/EC) Broilers (Council Directive 2007/43/EC) All farmed animals (Council Directive 98/58/EC) Slaughter (Council Regulation (EC) N° 1099/2009) Transport (Council Regulation EC 1/2005) Other X Do not know								
Please specify the sectors a	nd countr	ries for each	option selec	cted.				

1000 character(s) maximum

The phrasing of the question misses the critical point that there can be and unfortunately still are pockets of non-compliance across the food supply chain, which overall upholds are very high animal welfare status.

In Ireland we are confident that our grass based, extensive production system, operated by family run, small to medium farming operations has enabled a high animal health and welfare status. This is supported by extremely high levels of husbandry and management standards at farm level, together with a strong advisory and education network which is available to farmers, including a range of extension and support services provided to farmers by their co-operatives.

However, there is no room for complacency in this area, which underpins consumers' confidence in farmers and the industry as a while. Indeed, one case of non-compliance is too much.

Full enforcement of the animal welfare legislation in Ireland and across the EU is necessary, with official controls and inspections carried out to avoid non-compliance. We support a cooperative and whole industry approach, from breeding policy, good husbandry and rearing practices to transport and slaughtering, to ensure the provision of continuous best practice animal welfare standards throughout the life of all animals. ICOS co-operative members also actively

programmes to prevent non-notifiable diseases and provide a range of testing and screening programmes to support farmer members of co-ops. Are there other current animal welfare issues which are not reflected in the Strategy? Yes X No Do not know Please indicate which welfare issues are not reflected in the Strategy. 400 character(s) maximum Coherence * How coherent with each other were the Strategy's actions? Not at all coherent Somewhat coherent Moderately coherent XVery coherent Extremely coherent Don't know Are you aware of other national, EU or international interventions in the field of animal welfare that took place at the same time as the Strategy? X Yes □No Please specify which interventions you are familiar with. 600 character(s) maximum OIE Platform on Animal Welfare Irish National Animal Health Strategy, launched 2017 Farmed Animal Welfare Advisory Council (Ireland) Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine - Industry Stakeholder Group on Expansion of the Dairy Herd (Ireland) Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine - National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (Ireland) To what extent do you agree with the following statements on the coherence of the Strategy with other interventions? The Strategy was coherent with... Strongly Disagree Neither Strongly Don't Agree disagree agree nor agree know disagree * the Common Agricultural Policy X (CAP)

participate and financially supports a wide range of animal health and welfare

* animal health interventions	-	and						X	
* other EU-level policies and interventions related to animal welfare (e.g. environment, trade, single market, fisheries, and research)]				X			
* national policies and interventions related to animal welfare (e.g. environment, trade, single market, fisheries, and]			[X		
research) * non-EU interventions related to animal welfare (e.g. interventions by a third country, or by an international organisation such as the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)) Could you specify areas of tension bet						ther in			
an incidence on a 600 character(s) maxi Effectiveness To what extent di	mum				ternati	onar (orga	msations);
To what extent di	No contribution	Some contribut	Mo	derate tribution	Fairly significa contribu		Gre	at tribution	Don't know
*a better protection of animals across species in the EU?					X				
*improving compliance by supporting Member State enforcement?					X				
*improving compliance by increasing awareness among animal					X				

owners and handlers?							
*improving compliance by strengthening /developing incentives for businesses to comply?			X				
*improving consumer information?			X				
*improving knowledge and evidence on the welfare of farmed fish?						X	
*promoting EU animal welfare standards at global level?			X				
*improving the use of synergies with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)?				X			
*creating a more level playing field (EU and global market) for EU businesses?		X					
	* Where (for which species, in which sectors and/or countries) has there been						
improvement of compliance with EU animal welfare legislation?							
☐ Pigs (Council Directive 2008/120/EC) ☐ Laying Hens (Council Directive 1999/74/EC) ☐ Broilers (Council Directive 2007/43/EC) x All farmed animals (Council Directive 98/58/EC) x Slaughter (Council Regulation (EC) N° 1099/2009) x Transport (Council Regulation EC 1/2005) ☐ Other ☐ None ☐ Do not know							

Please specify the se		ıntries for ea	ch option sel	lected.		
To what extent did the Animal Welfare Stra		factors influe	ence the imp	lementation	of the EU	
	Have hindered the implementati on to a great extent	Have hindered the implementati on to some extent	Have not influenced the implementati on	Have facilitated the implementati on to some extent	Have facilitated the implementat ion to a great extent	Don't know
* Political factors (e.g. changing political priorities)			X			
* Economic factors (e.g. market trends)		X				
* Social factors (e.g. cultural changes, changes in consumer /citizens' expectations)					X	
* Scientific or technological factors (e.g. advances in animal welfare science)					X	
Which actions/active objectives?	ities of the St	rategy were	the most effe	ective in achie	eving their	
X Actions to impretc). X Guidelines (e.g. X Reports to EU in the impact of an an X Studies (e.g. on slaughter, on an Impression of the impact of an an Impression of the impr	on transpor nstitutions (on nimal welfar the welfare on nimal welfar cooperation on a activities) ove the integ	t, slaughter of e.g. on the va e internation of farmed fisl e education to on animal we gration of ani	or the protect rious stunni nal activities of h at the time to the general lifare (e.g. mu mal welfare	tion of pigs) ng methods fon competitive of transport l public, etc). ultilateral, bit	for poultry, veness, etc). and at lateral and on Agricultu	ıral

☐ Other types of actions or activities (e.g. the establishment of reference centers, training activities, a possible legislative proposal for a simplified EU legislative framework for animal welfare).							
Please specify the actions/activities that 600 character(s) maximum	·						
Involving farmers in the drafting of gu	uidelines	on good	practices	8			
 Involving farmers in the drafting of guidelines on good practices Which actions/activities of the Strategy were the least effective in achieving their objectives? Actions to improve compliance (e.g. grouping of sows, protection of laying hens, etc). Guidelines (e.g. on transport, slaughter or the protection of pigs) Reports to EU institutions (e.g. on the various stunning methods for poultry, the impact of animal welfare international activities on competitiveness, etc). Studies (e.g. on the welfare of farmed fish at the time of transport and at slaughter, on animal welfare education to the general public, etc). X International cooperation on animal welfare (e.g. multilateral, bilateral and capacity building activities). Actions to improve the integration of animal welfare in the Common Agricultural Policy. Communication and education activities targeting consumers and the general public. Other types of actions or activities (e.g. the establishment of reference centers, 							
training activities, a possible legisl framework for animal welfare). Please specify the actions/activities that 600 character(s) maximum	-		-		J		
Efficiency							
* How familiar are you with the fundin Strategy?	g and hu	man res	ources as	sociate	ed with th	ne	
X Not at all familiar Somewhat familiar Moderately familiar Very familiar Extremely familiar Don't know							
To what extent do you agree with the fol human resources provided for the imple							
	Strongly	D.	Neither	Agree	Ctnomaler		
	disagree	Disagree	agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know	

* The human resources provided for the implementation of the Strategy were sufficient						X
* Considering the costs of the actions and the results achieved, the benefits outweigh the costs						X
* To what extent were the funding and Welfare Strategy appropriate both gi achievements?						
☐ Not at all appropriate ☐ Somewhat appropriate ☐ Moderately appropriate ☐ Very appropriate ☐ Extremely appropriate X Don't know						
To what extent do you agree with the fo Strategy?	ollowing s	statemen	ts about t	he add	led value	of the
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
* The Strategy brought benefits in the field of animal welfare, or related fields, that could not have been achieved through national interventions alone.				X		
* The Strategy had a negative impact on existing national interventions in the field of animal welfare, or related fields.		X				
* Animal welfare issues across the EU called for EU action.					X	
* The Strategy brought benefits that the EU could not have achieved without it.				X		
* To what extent did the Strategy simp welfare by other means than new leg Not at all To some extent X To a moderate extent To a significant extent To a great extent Don't know	•	levelop c	lear princ	eiples f	or anima	al

EU Added Value

Are there any other views on the Strategy that you would like to share? Please note

that you may upload a document/position paper as part of your response to this consultation.

600 character(s) maximum

Ultimately, consumers are becoming more sensitised to food related issues and are increasingly scrutinising animal welfare issues related to the products they buy. Farmers, food processors and retailers are responding to consumer concerns in these areas and adapting to consumer demands in this regard, irrespective of and ahead of policy changes.

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed