

Scope

1. IFU's sustainability policy covers among other things environmental issues, labour practices, human rights and anti-corruption. The sustainability policy also includes animal welfare and requires that animals are treated properly. This means animals should be housed, fed, watered and looked after in consideration of their physiological and behavioural needs and protected against pain, suffering, fear, distress, injury or disease in the best possible manner.
2. These guidelines describe the implications of IFU's sustainability policy as applicable to project companies involving the use of animals (e.g. pigs, cattle, sheep and poultry) in food production or for other commercial purposes, including testing, and shall be applied to such projects.
3. Animal welfare rules and regulations that are relevant for such project companies include but are not limited to good management practice, stable design, veterinary practice and the use of medicine, transport and slaughtering of animals.
4. Other sustainability issues that are particular to the use of animals include but are not limited to environmental rules and regulations such as handling and disposal of animal manure.

Compliance

5. All relevant sustainability and animal welfare issues for the project company will be assessed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the host country.
6. In addition, IFU strives to set high animal welfare standards in livestock operations. With regards to animal welfare (physical environment, veterinary practice and transport and slaughtering), Danish rules and regulations will normally be used as a comparative benchmark. With regards to environmental impacts, EU directives will normally be used as the benchmark based on a comprehensive environmental impacts assessment.
7. If any deviations exist, and the project company does not comply with Danish standards, the project company must prepare a sustainability action plan satisfactory to IFU prior to disbursement. The sustainability action plan must describe what will be done to comply and include a budget and reasonable timeframe for rectifying the deviations identified. The project company shall ensure that it is in compliance before the installation of animals.

Good management practice

8. Animal welfare is influenced by management commitment and competency. Top management at the project company should be committed to protecting animal welfare and follow appropriate animal welfare codes such as the latest version of the Danish Veterinary Association's policy for the relevant type of livestock, which includes but is not limited to minimising animal mortality rates and illnesses.

Physical environment

9. Animals should be provided with appropriate shelter and resting area. The stables or cages should be properly designed and follow the current Danish requirements and

recommendations, as appropriate for each type of livestock. In case of deviations, the project company shall prepare a renovation plan for the buildings, including a description, budget and timeframe for implementing the necessary improvements. These requirements and recommendations include but are not limited to ensuring that animals have sufficient space, comfortable resting areas and rummage material as appropriate, separate boxes or areas for new-borns, separate boxes or areas for sick animals, and that there is an optimal indoor temperature.

10. Animals should also be provided with a suitable quantity and quality of food, appropriate for each type of livestock and according to their age, breed and gender.

Veterinary practice

11. Rules and regulations regarding veterinary practice should be followed so that the use of medicine must be made on a solid professional basis and in conformity with legal requirements. Pain, injury and disease must be prevented, rapidly diagnosed and treated in an appropriate manner, and if treatment is not possible or has been shown to be ineffective, the animal must be put down in a quick and humane manner.
12. A **veterinarian** with relevant and proven training must supervise the conditions at the farm, either as an employee of the project company, as a consultant on a fixed contract or after having been appointed by the authorities in the host country.

The veterinarian has to visit the farm on a regular and frequent basis, for example once a month. As a minimum, each visit must cover an inspection of all animal housing units, and the results of any autopsies, laboratory check-ups and relevant production data must be checked. On this basis, diagnoses can be made, and antibiotics and vaccines and other relevant treatment can be prescribed.

The veterinarian is to prepare a schematic outline of the diagnoses made and the treatment prescribed for each disease(s).

A survey must be made of all preparations (analgesics, antibiotics, hormones etc.) used, as well as applied vaccines/vaccination programmes.

If necessary, the veterinarian can prepare treatment guidelines to ensure that all treatment and all vaccinations are made on a consistent and correct basis.

Based on the diagnoses and medicine surveys and possible treatment guidelines, the veterinarian must, in cooperation with the project company, work out and maintain accounting which proves that medicine is used as prescribed. This documentation must be kept for at least one year, or longer, if required according to host country legislation.

13. All **prophylactic treatment** must address a specific diagnosis. Antibiotics can only be dispensed as prophylactic treatment against diagnosed diseases, and their use must be limited as far as possible. Prophylactic treatment with antibiotics that is not directed at a specific disease but used only to secure improved productivity must not take place.

In the event that prophylactic treatment directed at a specific diagnosed disease has been used, the treatment must be assessed regularly by the veterinarian. At least once a year, the following must be considered and described taking the livestock data into consideration:

- Is this treatment still needed?
- Have prophylactic measurements been made and are new measurements advisable?
- Is the treatment period and the dosage sufficient, or should it be adjusted?

Fluoroquinolones must not be used unless investigation from an approved laboratory has proven that another kind of treatment is not possible. Such laboratory results must be proven, and the documentation must not be more than 6 months old.

If the authorities of the host country require that special vaccinations are made, such requirements must be complied with, unless an exemption has been made by the relevant authority in the specific case. IFU is entitled to obtain a copy of such an exemption.

Transport and slaughtering

14. The handling and transport of animals to for example slaughterhouses, markets or another farm should not cause stress, injury or unnecessary suffering. The journey should be properly planned and travel time kept to a minimum. Animals should be fit to travel and be given water, feed and rest as appropriate, as well as sufficient floor space and height during the journey. The persons transporting animals should have the necessary qualifications and training.
15. Humane methods of slaughter should be used. Animals should be stunned prior to slaughter and only by persons with the necessary knowledge and skill to do so as quickly and humanely as possible. Only permitted methods should be used to stun or kill animals.

Environmental issues

16. Manure and slurry should be stored according to the latest EU requirements and recommendations, and an adequate storage capacity ensured considering the type and number of livestock and possibilities for disposal.

Manure and slurry must be disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner, preferably by application to agricultural land, and in compliance with the latest EU requirements. Requirements relating to application methods and rates, including the amount and quality of manure and slurry that can be spread on agricultural land, must be met.

17. The project company must comply with requirements for a sanitary protection zone.
18. The project company must prepare a comprehensive waste management plan for disposal of all waste from the farm, including the storage and disposal of dead animals.

The above guidelines were approved by IFU's Board on 9 June 2015