

## WELANIMAL PROJECT

(LLP-LdV-TOI-2007-TR-002)

### A NEW APPROACH ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF WELFARE, ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD INTERACTIONS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE WITH USE OF ICT: CURRENT SITUATION ANALYSIS

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#### Summary

The WELANIMAL project is a Leonardo da Vinci Project (Transfer of Innovation). In this Project, it is aimed to transfer and adapt the products and results of the animal welfare x environment x food quality interactions of completed WELFOOD Project in 2007 into WELANIMAL Project partnership region. In the completed first quarter of this two year study, the effects of socio-cultural, religious and regional historical differences of workers and consumers within animal production chain on understanding of animal welfare concepts is being analysed. With WELANIMAL Project, by training and qualification of the registered and hidden work force (unpaid working class such as parents and spouses of sectoral workers and elderly people), general workforce market will be supported, the work force able to instantly adapt themselves to new technologies will be enhanced, and the production process of European food sectors and “the quality assurance” during the whole production process will be encouraged.

**Key Words:** Animal welfare, environment, food quality and safety, Central and Southeastern Europe, ICT

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## Work Package 2.

Current situation (knowledge) analysis of local conditions and comparison with the WELFOOD project's products

A "WELANIMAL evaluation platform" will be assembled by encouraging all organisations, establishments and institutions to participate in the target groups and sectors at the possible widest level. Therefore, as the current knowledge and skill of target groups in each partner country towards animal welfare, environmental impacts on and of animals and food safety and safety and training requirements will be adequately and completely determined, sectoral requirements will be met by the Project products where possible.

Each partner within their country will analyse the knowledge and skill of workers at farms and food sectors in food production chains about interactions between animal welfare, food quality and safety, evaluate the laws and regulations that affect directly or indirectly animal welfare in the fields of vocational training curriculum, agriculture, food and transportation.

### Aims:

- To Build up the project-web site (the system will be kept in a server of the promoting country) and to conduct the questionnaire procedures (in WP3) and other data searching procedures at different stages of the project in a more efficient way and monitor the results instantly and continuously (within the partnership framework) .
- To provide the sustainability of the project concept and results even after the official end of the project. The system will be updated regularly after the end of the project and it will still provide opportunity to conduct product evaluation in its established structure
- Continuous and effective consultation, cooperation with and feedback from national sectors/industries associated with animal and animal production; civil public organisations aiming humane approach towards animals and customer rights; establishments and experts of food hygiene and quality; educational associations, legislators and applicators of the law, and all vocational experts in the field
- Development of internal and external interactions (partnership, dissemination canals etc.)
- Start of quality assurance plan and provision of quality assurance at all stages of work plan
- Improvement of productivity between partners by means of continuous and active communication
- Determination of design of the project logo in this meeting
- To assure sustainability of the project concept and results after the end of the project

### Results

1. Webpage has been constructed. [www.welanimal.aku.edu.tr](http://www.welanimal.aku.edu.tr), [www.welanimal.com.tr](http://www.welanimal.com.tr).  
Last 7 months the web site has mainly carried out the followings; introduction of project, introduction of partner institutions and introduction and publication of activities and products and results of the project.
2. WELANIMAL project logo was democratically determined.
3. Several volunteers have been accepted to the project as silent partners from, mainly target groups, public and private animal product producing and related sectors. These partners shape the WELANIMAL discussion board and all products and results within

WELANIMAL partnership open for their discussion, academic product is supported by sectoral feedbacks.

4. Status analysis of subjects with respect to the scope of the project in central and southeast Europe
  - a) Status of animal and animal product productions

Statistical data indicating animal product production in WELANIMAL consortium region have been collected by each partners. Ongoing analysis these data shows below results initially:

- Legal regulations on animal welfare and animal health are implemented similarly in partners member to EU. Turkey, the only candidate country to EU in the project consortium, regulations concordance with EU regulations (Council Directive 86/113/EC, Directive 1999/74/EC, Commission Directive 2002/4/EC and Council Regulation 806/2003) have been prepared and will be put in the practice in 2009. Thus, a similar structure in terms of principle EU codes that regulate animal welfare in the central and southeast of Europe is obvious. In the later stages of the project, it will provide further contribution for to the definition of common European work and for application of produced training curriculum

### 3. Education

In the WELANIMAL partnership similar educational curriculum in graduate, postgraduate and doctorate programs has been observed. These programs aim to educate veterinarians, agricultural engineers, food engineers and technical personnels work in these areas. Some lectures mainly concentrate on animal behaviour, animal welfare, relationship of living organisms with environment, stress, health, reproduction and production.

The very first finding indicates that, for the determination, measurement and provision of animal welfare requirements, it is necessary to analyse the behaviour and physiology of animals and animal x environment interactions. This analysis should be performed by qualified and unqualified personnel.

The result of the first status analysis of WELANIMAL Project as follows;

1. Legislations associated with animal welfare should be included in the educational curriculum at the EU and national levels. Moreover, these legislations should be provided after evaluating possibility of alternative constitution in relation to EU principles, targets and deficits.
2. Within the scope of animal welfare, physiology, anatomy, health protection and diseases, behaviour and animal welfare assessments are all should be given as contributing each other.
3. Analysis of socio-cultural of qualified and unqualified personnel who have contact to animal should be accomplished. Educational curriculum, contents and tools should reach all European work force and be taken seriously. In this respect the current educational curriculum appears to be insufficient.
4. Especially target groups mainly teenagers and elderly people who work at family-run and small scale managements should be reached using visual educational tools though most them have no access to the internet. This foresight was made during the Project proposal and in the result of this work packet this foresight has been supported and the need is obvious. Besides, for this target group, ministry of agriculture having

educational activities has been observed in all partner countries. However the educational activities contain differences in contents and methods. These differences will be used for development of WELANIMAL educational program.

In conclusion, education status related to animal welfare has been determined, contents have been summarised and similarities and dissimilarities have been analysed in the central and Southeast Europe. Finally, in general, requirement analyses and targets with a road map for animal welfare education, work definition and structural conditions in higher and vocational education for the next stages of the Project have emerged.