



**Workshop  
'Animal welfare and innovation'**

Hanover, Germany  
9-11 May 2023



Funded by  
the European Union



# European support policies and funding opportunities on animal welfare

Valerio Abbadessa  
DG AGRI, Unit F.2 Research and Innovation  
European Commission



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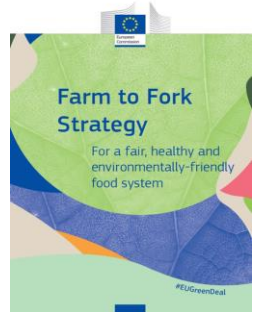
Research Programme Officer

R&I F2 unit

DG Agriculture and Rural Development

10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

# Commitments by the European Commission



## EU Farm to Fork Strategy (COM (2020) 381):

Revise the EU animal welfare legislation to:

- align it with the latest scientific evidence,
- broaden its scope,
- make it easier to enforce and

**ultimately ensure a higher level of animal welfare.**

**Consider options for animal welfare labelling to better transmit value through the food chain.**

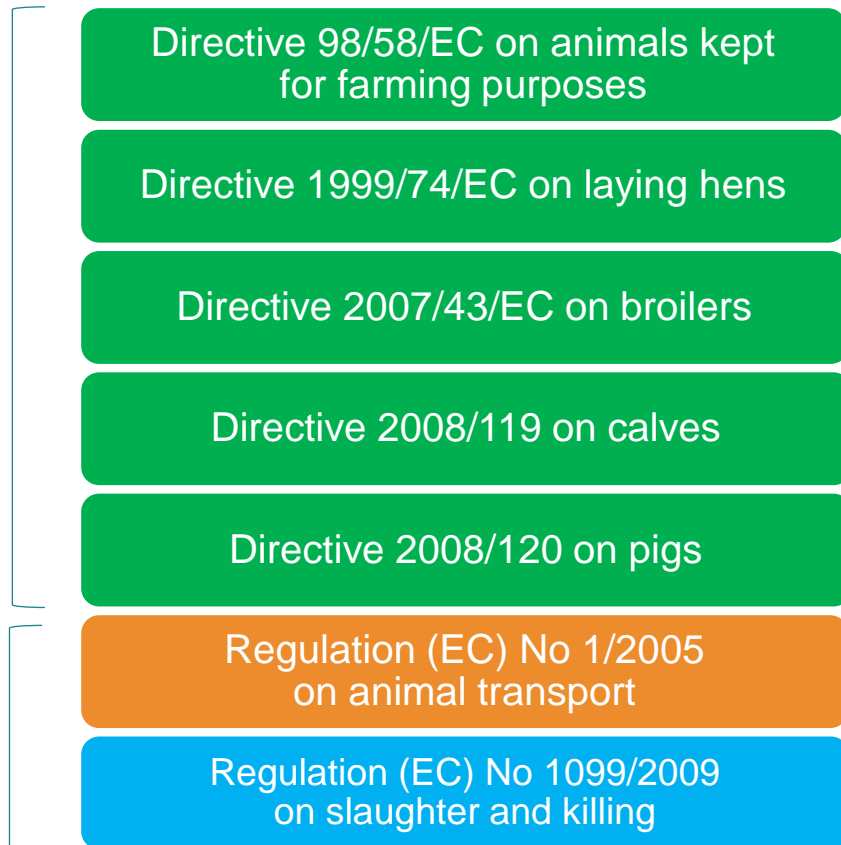
## “End the cage age” communication (COM (2021) 4747):

Proposal by the end of 2023 to **phase out and finally prohibit the use of cages** for laying hens, sows, calves, rabbits, pullets, broiler breeders, layer breeders, quail, ducks and geese.

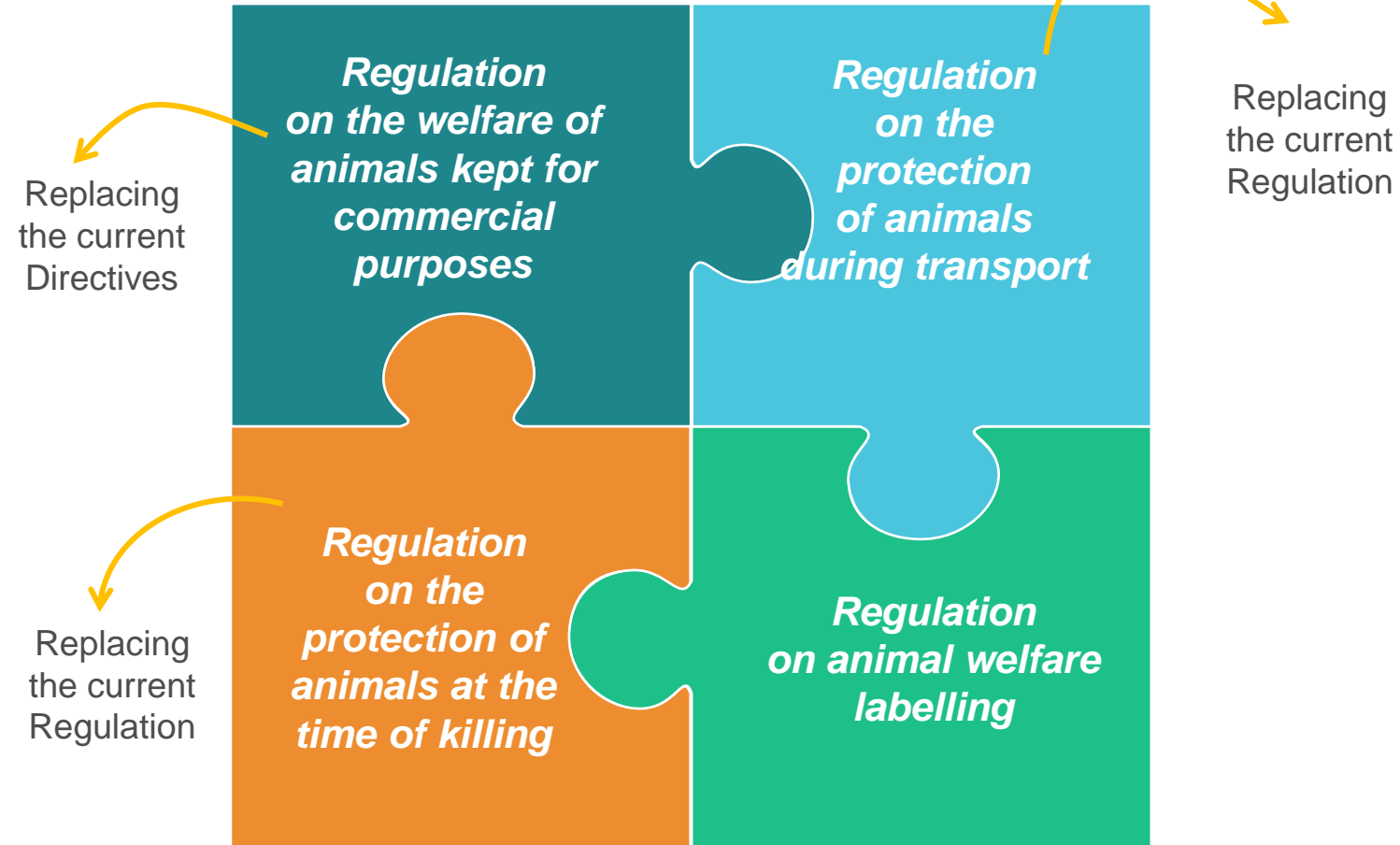
*Options: “Mirror clauses”, labelling or trade agreements and enhanced international cooperation.*

# Animal welfare legislation

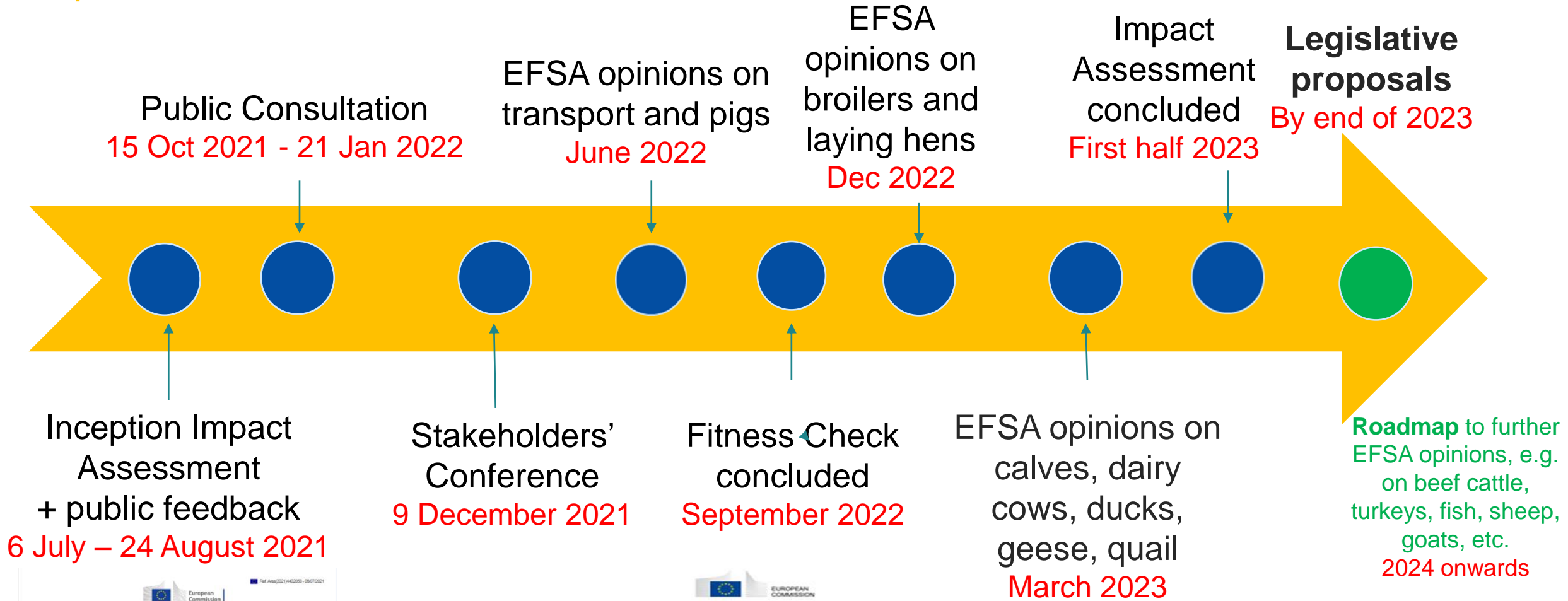
## Existing legislation



## Legislative package in 2023



# Timeline of the process



Ref: Ares(2021)442058 - 09/07/2021

INCEPTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT	
Inception Impact Assessments aim to inform citizens and stakeholders about the Commission's plans in order to allow them to provide feedback on the intended initiative and to participate effectively in future consultation activities. Citizens and stakeholders are in particular invited to provide views on the Commission's understanding of the problem and possible solutions and to make available any relevant information that they may have, including on possible impacts of the different options.	
TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE	Revision of the EU legislation on animal welfare
LEAD DG (RESPONSIBLE UNIT)	SANTE (Unit OS: Animal Welfare and Antimicrobial Resistance)
LIKELY TYPE OF INITIATIVE	Legislative proposal of the European Parliament and of the Council
INDICATIVE PLANNING	Q4 2023
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/strategy/evaluation-eu-legislation_welfare-farmer-animals_03">https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/strategy/evaluation-eu-legislation_welfare-farmer-animals_03</a>
The Inception Impact Assessment is provided for information purposes only. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content. All statements of the initiative described by the Inception Impact Assessment, including its timing, are subject to change.	
A. Context, Problem definition and Subsidiarity Check	

Brussels, 4 10 2022  
SWD(2022) 324 final

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT	
FITNESS CHECK	
of the	
EU Animal Welfare legislation	
(SWD(2022) 329 final)	

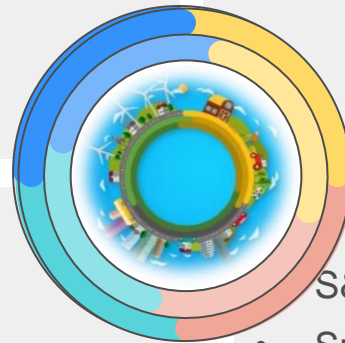
# Findings: a snapshot

## COST

- Difficult to quantify (and safely attribute to EU animal welfare legislation).
- Increased costs and additional administrative burden, mainly borne by the farmers.
- Differences between Member States.

## BENEFIT

- Difficult to quantify (and safely attribute to EU animal welfare legislation).
- Evidence of several benefits, including economic: Higher productivity and product quality, (savings due to) lower use of antibiotics and lower incidence of injuries and chronic diseases.



## MARKET RETURN

- Not sufficient, according to industry.
- Consumers are willing to pay a higher price for animal welfare compared to a standard product (but not more than for organic products).
- Willingness to pay may be maximised through an information campaign, combined with animal welfare labelling.

## GENERAL

- S&T developments are not reflected in current rules
- Sub-optimal level of welfare of animals in the EU, in particular where targeted legislation is lacking
- ≠ in application and enforcement across EU
- Missing robust indicators for monitoring and triggering improvements in AW
- Increasing societal expectations and ethical concerns

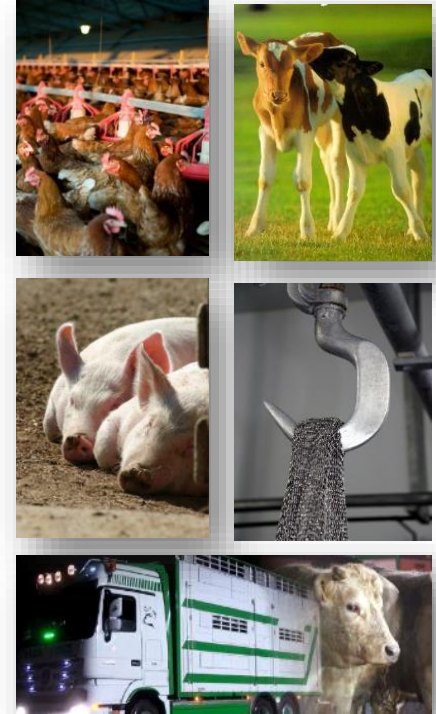
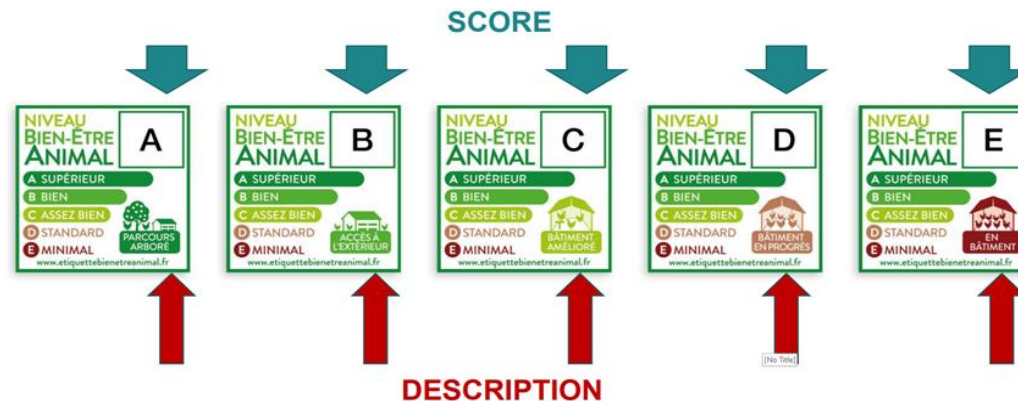
# EU Platform on Animal Welfare

- 6 sub-groups working since early 2022: transport, pigs, calves & dairy cows, poultry, animal welfare labelling, welfare at the time of killing
- All Platform meetings are webstreamed and recorded: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare/platform-meetings\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-welfare/eu-platform-animal-welfare/platform-meetings_en)

Subgroup on Animal welfare labelling

Example of possible policy option: mixed approach

- EU label with key AW criteria
- Key criteria across species
- Governance, traceability & controls





# H2020 projects on animal welfare (mainly)



## Sustainable Animal Production

(Mar. 2016–Feb. 2022; €5M EU)

37 partners from 23 countries

**SRIA and project results:**

<https://era-susan.eu/> - <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/696231>

Calls 2018 and 2021 with other ERA-NETs

Call 2016



- **FREEWALK** (2017-2021) Develop economic sound free walk farming systems elevating animal welfare, health and manure quality, while being appreciated by society. <https://era-susan.eu/content/freewalk-develop-economic-sound-free-walk-farming-systems-elevating-animal-welfare-health>



- **SUSI** (2017-2021) Sustainability in pork production with immunocastration. <https://era-susan.eu/content/susi-sustainability-pork-production-immunocastration>

## CORE organic Cofund

Organic Food and Farming Systems  
(Dec. 2016-May 2022; €5M EU)

26 partners from 19 countries

**Project results:** <https://projects.au.dk/coreorganiccofund/>

Organic



- **POWER** (2018-2021) Power to strengthen welfare and resilience in organic pig production. Handbook "Welfare and environmental impact of organic pig production" <https://www.fibl.org/fileadmin/documents/shop/1300-hb-power-en.pdf> .



- **ProYoungStock** (2018-2021) Young stock and cows benefit from natural feeding systems. Assessment of young stock rearing practices: natural calf rearing and feeding systems. [https://projects.au.dk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/proyoungstock\\_leaflet\\_web.pdf](https://projects.au.dk/fileadmin/user_upload/proyoungstock_leaflet_web.pdf)



- **FreeBirds** (2018-2021) Encouraging organic chickens and laying hens to be more outdoor. Relation between chickens' free-range use and health and welfare. [https://coreorganicplus.org/fileadmin/coreorganicplus.org/Project\\_leaflets/ORGANICDAIRYHEALTHFINAL.pdf](https://coreorganicplus.org/fileadmin/coreorganicplus.org/Project_leaflets/ORGANICDAIRYHEALTHFINAL.pdf)



- **GrazyDaiSy** (2018-2021) Innovative and sustainable grazing-based systems integrating cows and young stock. [https://projects.au.dk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/grazydaisy\\_leaflet\\_web.pdf](https://projects.au.dk/fileadmin/user_upload/grazydaisy_leaflet_web.pdf)

# H2020 / HEU projects on animal welfare (mainly)



H2020  
(SC2 & others)

- **TechCare** (2020-2024; €6M) Integrating innovative technologies along the value chain to improve small ruminant welfare management <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/862050>
- **PPILOW** (2019-2024; €10M) Poultry and PIg Low-input and Organic production systems' Welfare <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/816172>
- **Clearfarm** (2019-2023; €6M) Co-designed Welfare Monitoring Platform for Pig and Dairy Cattle <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/862919>
- **BovINE** (2020-2022; €2M) BovINE Beef Innovation Network Europe <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/862590>
- **Hennovation** (2015-2017; €2,1M) (2020-2022; €2M) Practice-led innovation supported by science and market-driven actors in the laying hen and other livestock sectors <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/652638>
- **LIFT** (COST action; 2022-2026) Lifting farm animal lives – laying the foundations for positive animal welfare. <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA21124/>
- **IPEMA** (COST action; 2016-2020) Innovative approaches in pork production with entire males. <http://www.ca-ipema.eu/>

Horizon Europe

- **aWISH** (2022-2026; €8M) Animal Welfare Indicators at the SlaughterHouse. Automated monitoring at the slaughterhouse of complementary animal-based indicators for monitoring welfare on farm, during (un)loading, transport and slaughter. Piloting and development in broiler and fattening pig production chains. <https://www.awish-project.eu/>

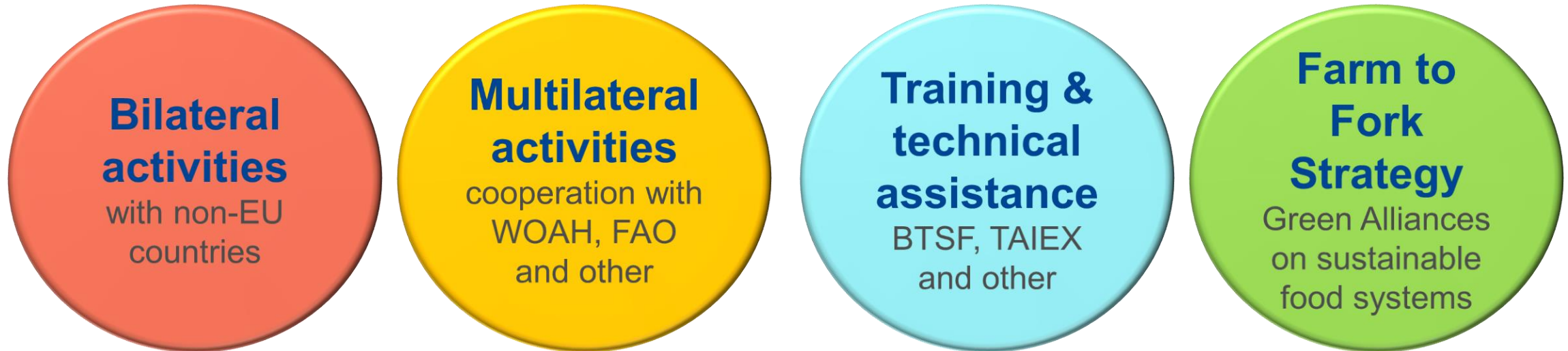
# EU Co-funded Partnership Animal Health & Welfare (version before the proposal submission)



DRIVERS	<p><b>Societal:</b> Vulnerable sector with a societal recognition to be improved</p> <p><b>Technological:</b> New technologies and innovation opportunities, but need to overcome practical locks</p> <p><b>Environmental:</b> Negative impact of climate change, chemical contaminants incl. antimicrobials to be considered</p> <p><b>Economic:</b> Return on investment to be enhanced to stimulate funding</p> <p><b>Political:</b> Animal health, welfare and food regulations at EU level, Tripartite Action Plan AMR, Green Deal, new CAP, etc. enforce rigid restrictions</p>
GEN. OBJ.	<p>To better control animal infectious diseases and reinforce the preparedness of all actors</p> <p>To place animal welfare at the foreground of animal production</p>
SPECIFIC OBJ.	<p>To facilitate the cooperation between all relevant actors on animal health and welfare</p> <p>To boost research and increase evidence-base to develop products and tools for AH&amp;W</p> <p>To enhance cross-sector collaboration in a One Health-One Welfare perspective</p> <p>To strengthen the dissemination and uptake of outputs</p>
OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	<p>Surveillance systems for animal health and welfare</p> <p>Diagnostic procedures and tools for monitoring of animal health</p> <p>Procedures and tools for monitoring of animal welfare</p> <p>Adapt risk assessment and alert communication to new needs</p> <p>Guidelines and preventive tools to fight animal infectious diseases on farm</p> <p>Guidelines and prototype solutions to advance animal welfare</p> <p>Interventions and treatments against animal infectious diseases</p> <p>Vaccines, adjuvants and immunomodulators</p> <p>Access to veterinary vaccines, interventions and treatments</p> <p>Integrated approach on animal health and welfare, incl. socio-economic aspects</p>
IMPACT	<p><b>Scientific:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved coordination of all actors in animal health and welfare, public health and the environment</li> <li>Increased investments in research and innovation, infrastructures, education and training, and services in animal health and welfare</li> <li>State-of-art science to improve animal health and welfare, and protect public health</li> </ul> <p><b>Societal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heightened food safety and security, and reinforced capacity of the livestock sector to meet the objectives of related political priorities</li> <li>Improved protection of public health by capacity to reduce zoonoses and reduce inappropriate use of traditional antimicrobials</li> <li>Improved preparedness of all actors and stakeholders and provision of means for farmers and other actors to manage their activities in a way to prevent and control AIDs</li> <li>Improved societal perception of animal production by better addressing animal welfare across the entire chain.</li> </ul> <p><b>Economical / Technological</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to a more healthy, sustainable and resilient livestock and aquaculture sector</li> <li>Create a more dynamic animal healthcare industry</li> <li>Protect economic viability of livestock and aquaculture farming systems</li> <li>Uptake by all actors of tools and methods to prevent and control animal infectious diseases and strengthen animal welfare</li> </ul>

- [Animal Health & Welfare](#)
- [Agroecology](#)
- [Agriculture of Data](#)

# International activities on animal welfare



*“Animal welfare international activities are a long-term investment, based on three subsequent steps: awareness raising, capacity building and funding.”*

Commission’s report on the impact of animal welfare international activities on competitiveness:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/aw\\_international\\_publication-report\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/aw_international_publication-report_en.pdf)



## 2023 EU Agricultural Research and Innovation Conference

31 May – 1 June / Brussels

Registration closed



Breakout Session 3: *Challenges and opportunities for healthy and sustainable livestock systems*

More info [here](#)

*So much more than food...*

**Thank you**



# EU CAP Network workshop

## ‘Animal welfare and innovation’

9-11 May 2023  
Hanover, Germany

All information on the workshop is available on the event webpage:

[https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-animal-welfare-and-innovation\\_en](https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-animal-welfare-and-innovation_en)

