



EU Animal Welfare policies

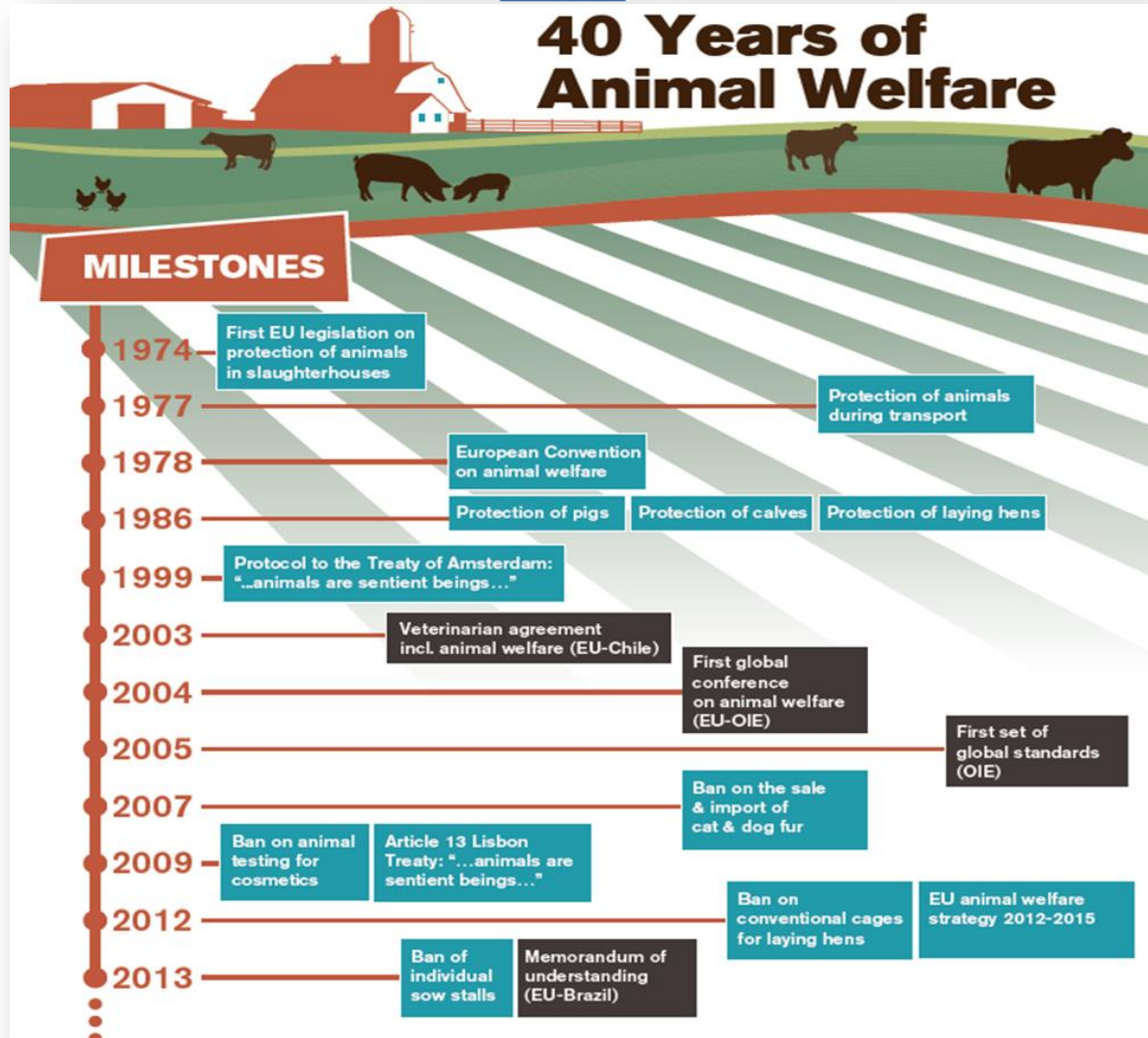
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European
Commission

40 Years of Animal Welfare



FAST FACTS



FVO (Food and Veterinary Office):
15 inspections per year = 250 days of on-site visits

In Europe, there are:



12 million sows



360 million laying hens



**330 million eggs consumed
and processed per day**



**10 million chickens
slaughtered per day**



**1 million sheep, horses, cows and pigs
slaughtered per day**



Animal welfare is a societal concern in the EU

- *Status of animal: from usefulness to emotion = role of modernisation and urbanisation*
- *Ethical issue: how you treat the ones who depend on your responsibility*
- *Economical issue: Most animals are kept for agriculture and businesses*
- *Variety of situations from corridas and foie gras to fur farming prohibitions*



Provisions of the Treaty

Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU:

*In formulating and implementing the Union's agriculture, fisheries, transport, internal market, research and technological development and space policies, the Union and the Member States shall, since animals are **sentient beings**, pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals, while respecting the legislative or administrative provisions and customs of the Member States relating in particular to religious rites, cultural traditions and regional heritage.*

EU Official Journal C 326 (consolidated version of EU treaties)



The EU competence for animal welfare

- *Farm animals: Yes*
- *Experimental animals: Yes*
- *Wild animals: Partially* (zoo directive, trapping standards, seals)
- *Companion animals: No*



The EU Animal Welfare Strategy - where it came from?

Science

Market

Enforcement

Ethics

**Social
demand**

**Coordination of
resources**

Competitiveness



Integration of risk and welfare assessment

Risk assessment

Focus on
hazards

Make
recommenda-
tions to reduce
risk

Welfare assessment

Focus on
outcome

Compares
outcomes in ≠
situations



Creating a **network** of reference centres for animal welfare

- *Technical support to validate animal welfare indicators*
- *Vocational training*
- *Dissemination of research results and promoting innovation*
- *Coordinating applied research*

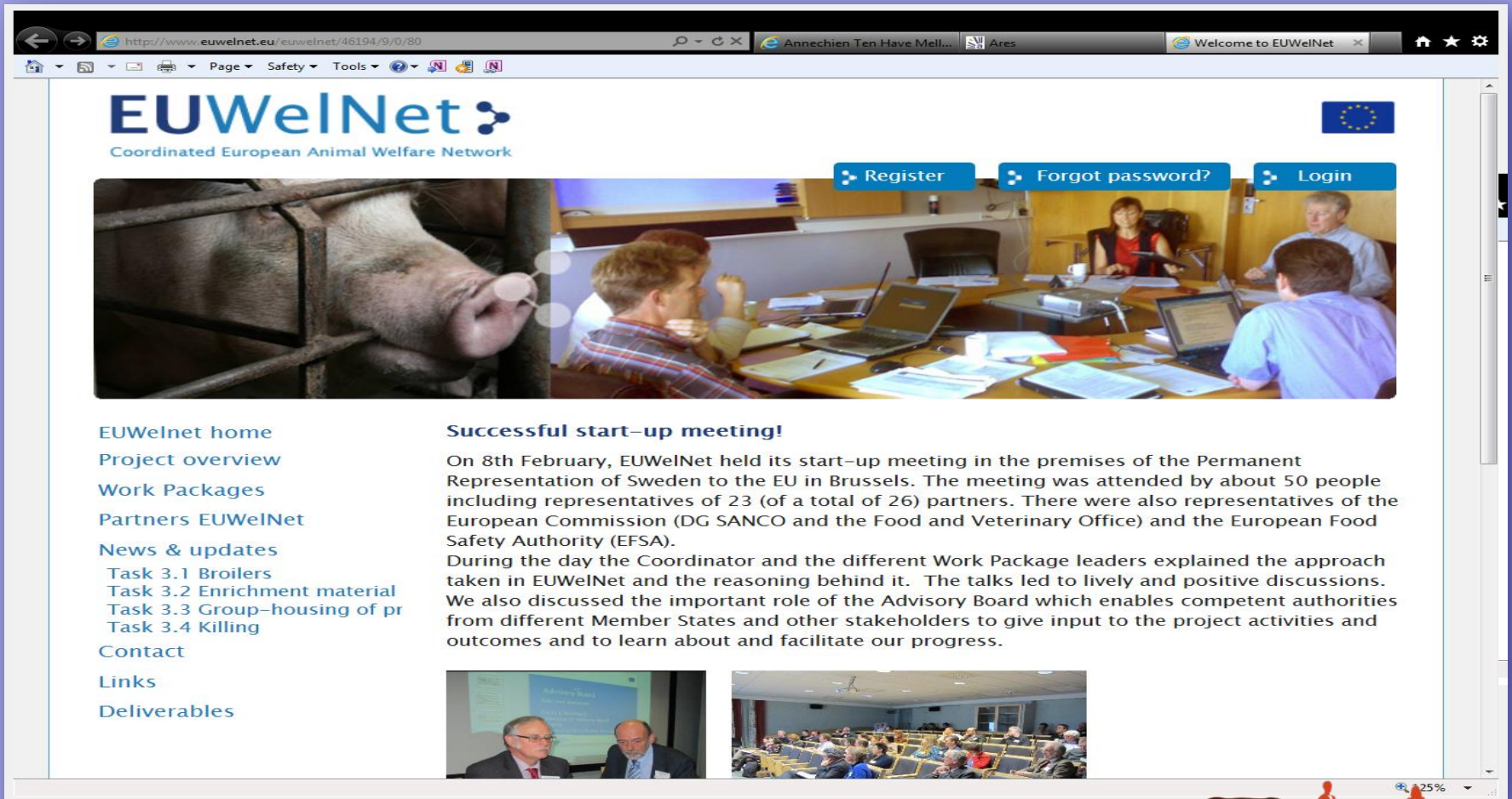




European Commission

EU Welnet

Website: <http://www.euwelnet.eu/euwelnet/46194/9/0/80>



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Successful start-up meeting!

On 8th February, EUWelNet held its start-up meeting in the premises of the Permanent Representation of Sweden to the EU in Brussels. The meeting was attended by about 50 people including representatives of 23 (of a total of 26) partners. There were also representatives of the European Commission (DG SANCO and the Food and Veterinary Office) and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

During the day the Coordinator and the different Work Package leaders explained the approach taken in EUWelNet and the reasoning behind it. The talks led to lively and positive discussions. We also discussed the important role of the Advisory Board which enables competent authorities from different Member States and other stakeholders to give input to the project activities and outcomes and to learn about and facilitate our progress.



EUWeNet

Website: <http://www.euwelnet.eu/euwelnet/46194/9/0/80>

Four main objectives :

- 1) **Establish and coordinate a network** of recognised technical, scientific and educational experts in the field;
- 2) **Identify some of the bottlenecks/ difficulties** in implementing a few examples of EU legislation on animal welfare;
- 3) **Develop and test knowledge transfer strategies** designed to overcome selected bottlenecks;
- 4) Make recommendations on the feasibility and the likely conditions required for an effective European animal welfare network.



Continue to inform and educate citizens and operators

- *Farmland* = www.farmland-thegame.eu
- **Better Training for Safer Food**
- *Workshop for veterinary practitioners*

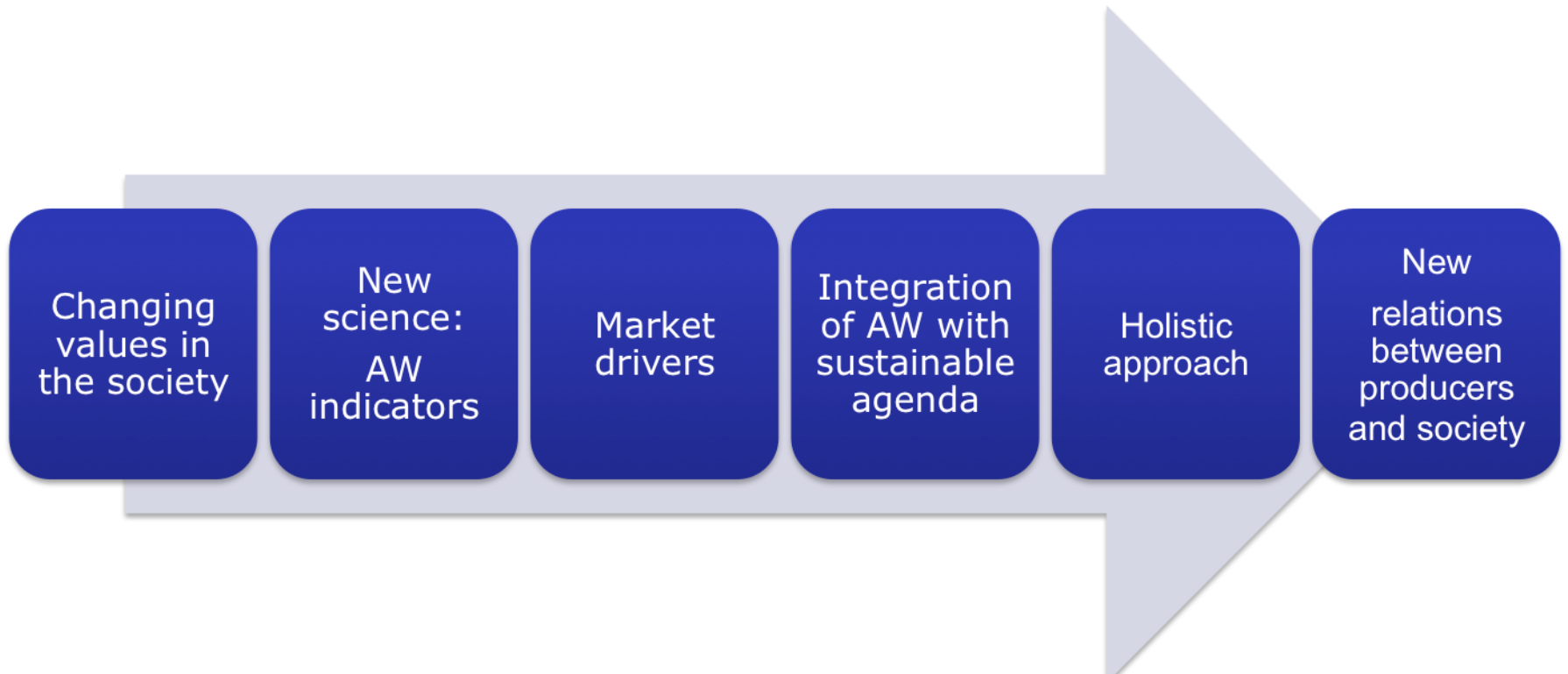


Better integrate animal welfare in others EU policies

- *Most of the EU budget for animal welfare goes through measures on agriculture*
- *Reinforcing the coherence with the EU agriculture policy: cross-compliance, promotion, organic farming, quality of products, etc.*
- *Other possible links: Public procurement, corporate social responsibility, development, etc.*



Main future perspectives for the ongoing change in thinking animal welfare:



From "changing values"... to "added value"



Thank you for your attention!

ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/index_en.htm

