Western Balkans Veterinary Network

'Western Balkans Veterinary Network’- advancing animal welfare through education, research and professional training.

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Introduction

- RSPCA International
- RSPCA in Europe
- Western Balkans Veterinary Network
RSPCA International

- Europe, Asia, Africa
- Sharing experience
- Working in partnership
- NGO
- Concern for all animals
RSPCA in Europe

Greece - Dog handling for the municipal authorities

Bulgaria - Welfare in abattoirs for the state veterinary inspectors
RSPCA in Europe

Spain- CITES enforcement for the Green police -SEPRONA

Hungary- CITES regional enforcement conference
WBVN- Background

2008 regional workshops Ohrid, Macedonia
‘Animal welfare: The European Framework’ and ‘The 3Rs concept: The protection of laboratory animals
120 participants
12 countries
Western Balkans Veterinary Network

‘A unique platform for the advancement of animal welfare through research, education and professional training.’
Western Balkans Veterinary Network

Placing animal welfare at the hearth of the veterinary profession, public health, industry, academic and research sectors.
WBVN- Participants

Countries
Albania, Bosnia, Croatia, UNMIK-Kosovo, Montenegro, R. of Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey

Institutions
State Veterinary Departments, Agricultural and Veterinary faculties, Veterinary organisations, Meat Industry, Farming associations, NGOs

External partners: FVE, EU Commission, Bristol University-Department of farm animal science
Western Balkans Veterinary Network
for Animal Welfare

A unique platform for the advancement of animal welfare through education, research and professional training

Thank you for your attention.

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WBVN- Working to improve animal welfare standards

Aims:
- to initiate and develop research and training in the field of animal welfare
- to achieve closer collaboration between stakeholders such as legislators, enforcers, industry, farming community, academics, ngos
- to facilitate cross border academic and scientific co-operation
- to assist implementation and enforcement of the EU legal framework by developing professional skills training in the relevant fields
WBVN- Providing sustainable solutions

Red meat programme: 8 modules delivered over two years leading to the development of a national training resource
WBVN- Providing sustainable solutions

The red meat cycle

- Farm / Market
- Transport
- You are here
- Reception
- Lairage
- Animal handling
- Restraint
- Stunning / killing
- Shackling
- Slaughter
- Product
- Profit?
WBVN- Providing sustainable solutions

- Development of stable framework for education and training at all levels.
- Improve implementation of animal welfare legislation in the livestock production sector (husbandry, transport, slaughter).
- Development of training courses for undergraduate and graduate programmes to feed into a wider curriculum.
- Sustainable training model for the food industry to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation and to promote higher animal welfare standards.
WBVN- Working to improve farm animal welfare

The Network works to assess conditions and develop strategies that will improve welfare at all stages of the livestock production process including on the farm, during transport and slaughter.
WBVN- Developing systems for on farm monitoring

- Introduce outcome based indicators into existing resource/management based systems.
- Deliver technical skills and knowledge to farmers and producers.
- Deliver technical skills and knowledge to veterinary professionals on welfare assessment and work on strategies to raise standards.
- Recognise good animal welfare practices within traditional farming methods to encourage participatory approach between the animal keepers, producers, veterinary professionals and official veterinarians.
WBVN- Developing systems for on farm monitoring
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- Highlight specific problem areas and develop intervention tools for improving AW standards on farms.
- Establish a continuous dialogue between the stakeholders (public, industry, farming community, policy makers)
- Develop intervention guidelines for farm management of health and welfare issues (health and welfare plan).
- Maintain and improve animal welfare standards during production.
WBVN- Regulating the use of research animals
WBVN- Regulating the use of research animals

- Improve standards and conditions for animals used in education.
- Establish a database of alternative educational materials.
- Conduct a comparative survey of conventional and alternative education veterinary, biomedical and pharmacological faculties in the region.
- Promote the role of ethics committees in the region.
- Disseminate information and prepare recommendations for the competent authorities.
WBVN- Improving companion animal management

The Network will organize and support stray population survey to gather data on numbers and sources of stray dogs.

WBVN will contribute towards the creation of a humane, practical and scientific approach to stray animal control in the region.
WBVN- Establishing animal welfare reference centers

- Increased co-operation between the veterinary faculties, veterinary organisations and veterinary public administration.
- Increased interest for continuing education on animal welfare.
- Development of training courses on EU AW legislation.
- New training courses developed for undergraduate and postgraduate studies and continuing education.
- Support the implementation and harmonisation of standards.
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