

Country report on national action plans for animal welfare

GEORGIA

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WOAH workshop on developing national action plans for animal welfare

13 February 2025, Tirana, Albania



World Organisation
for Animal Health





The main priorities issue for animal welfare are:

- Developing and Harmonization of the existing legal framework with EU requirements and WOAH recommendations (full implementation in 2028)
- Animal health care, supervision and monitoring
- Stray dogs population management and control Animal shelters
- Public Safety and Health
- Public Safety & Animal Health, transportation and humane slaughtering
- Public Awareness and Education





Resources

There are several financial and human resources available to support animal welfare efforts in Georgia:

➤ Financial Resources

- Government funding
- Donors/NGOs

➤ Human Resources

- Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians
- Animal Welfare Advocates/Volunteers





Stakeholders

In Georgia, several key stakeholders are involved in animal welfare efforts, each playing a crucial role:

- Government Agencies – MEPA, LEPL NFA, LEPL AMA
 - Oversees animal welfare regulations and ensures compliance with state laws.
 - Provide services such as animal rescue, sheltering, and enforcement of animal welfare laws
 - Animal health care, preventive measures, supervision and monitoring. Raising awareness.
- Farmers/Business operators - Implement animal welfare practices to ensure the humane treatment of farm animals
- Community and Volunteers - Individuals who raise awareness, advocate for policy changes, and participate in community outreach programs.



Regulatory framework – the legal acts/regulations on

- ✓ Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organization of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption – which is harmonized to Resolution No. 55 of the Government of Georgia of February 12, 2015;
- ✓ Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin - which is harmonized to Resolution No. 90 of the Government of Georgia of March 7, 2012;
- ✓ Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules - which is harmonized to Resolution No. 533 of the Government of Georgia of October 16, 2015.
- ✓ Ordinance No.173 2010 of the Government of Georgia On the approval of technical regulations - "General Food Hygiene Rules" and "Simplified Food Hygiene Rules“.



Regulatory framework –the legal acts/regulations

- ✓ Ordinance **No.36** 2023 of Georgian Government on Rules for Protection of Animal at the Time of Killing - which is harmonized from - Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 of 24 September 2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing.
- ✓ Ordinance **No.317** 2023 of Georgian Government on Rules for the Protection of Animals during Transportation and Related Operations.
- ✓ Ordinance **No.75** 2023 of Georgian Government on the approval of minimum rules for the protection of broiler chickens
- ✓ Ordinance **No.445** 2022 of Georgian Government on the approval of minimum requirements for the protection of pigs
- ✓ Ordinance **No.443** 2022 of Georgian Government on the approval of minimum requirements for calf protection
- ✓ Ordinance **No.6 2023** of Georgian Government on approval of the Rules for the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes



Implementation and enforcement

- **Legislation and Ordinances** - Defines general provisions, penalties for animal cruelty, neglect and abandonment.
- **Enforcement by Police Officers** - Officers investigate reports of cruelty and neglect, gather evidence, and prosecute offenders.
- **Compliance Checks, Inspections**
 - Regular Inspections: Conducting inspections of shelters, pet shops, Farms, Slaughterhouses and other facilities.
 - Licensing and Permits: Ensuring that businesses and facilities obtain necessary licenses and permits.
- **Data Collection and Monitoring**
- **Awareness and Education**
- **Collaboration with NGOs** - to enhance welfare efforts.



Data Collections

Collecting data is crucial for effective animal welfare efforts

- ✓ Animal Population Data (NAITS)
- ✓ Health and Veterinary Data (NAITS, EIDSS)
- ✓ Legislative and Compliance Data
- ✓ Public Awareness and Education
- ✓ Methods of Data Collection
 - Surveys and Questionnaires
 - Databases and Management Systems (FMS, GIS)





Public awareness or educational programs

- Georgia has several public awareness and educational programs (workshops, seminars, and educational sessions, modules) focused on animal welfare
- ✓ Since 2023 At the university's veterinary faculty and colleges, the curriculum for all veterinarians and veterinary technicians includes a module on "Animal Welfare".
- ✓ Till 2025 was Twining Programm - EU Enpard IV
- ✓ Trainings, Materials (Print. Video. <https://agronavti.ge/down/>) - USDA, Venture 37
- ✓ Workshops, seminars, Materials e.c.- NGOs/Donors - WOAHA, FAO, Caritass CZECH and e.c.





Barriers and challenges

Implementing animal welfare regulations in Georgia faces several barriers and challenges

➤ **Cultural Barriers**

- ✓ **Traditional Practices:** Some cultural practices and beliefs may conflict with modern animal welfare standards.
- ✓ **Lack of Awareness:** There is often a lack of awareness and understanding about animal welfare issues among the general public.

➤ **Economic Barriers**

- ✓ **Economic Priorities:** Animal welfare may not be prioritized in budget allocations, especially till 2028.



Barriers and challenges

➤ Infrastructure Barriers

- ✓ Inadequate Facilities - There is a shortage of proper facilities for animal care, rehabilitation, and sheltering.
- ✓ Limited Private Veterinary Services - specially in rural areas, affecting the overall health and welfare of animals.

➤ Social Barriers

- ✓ Public Attitudes and Community Engagement – Low numbers of veterinarians and Low levels of Awareness and community involvement and volunteerism.

➤ Environmental Barriers

- ✓ Natural Disasters: Events such as floods, earthquakes, and droughts can disrupt animal welfare efforts.



Thank you



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➤ Resources

- <https://www.matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/1007830?publication=10>
- <https://www.matsne.gov.ge/document/view/5693314?publication=0>
- <https://www.matsne.gov.ge/document/view/5555842?publication=0>
- <https://www.matsne.gov.ge/document/view/5557664?publication=0>
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- <https://www.matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5693325?publication=0>