

Country report on animal welfare during slaughter

Bosnia and Herzegovina

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WOAH Regional workshop on animal welfare during slaughter

11 - 12 February 2025, Tirana, Albania



World Organisation
for Animal Health



Overview of the country's situation

Please provide a short description

- *at this moment, we do not have data on the updated number of slaughterhouses*
- *mainly, are slaughtered poultry (cca 45%), pigs, cattle and small ruminants.*

Regulatory framework and Competent Authority(ies)

- *Animal Welfare Law*
- *Rulebook on animal welfare during slaughter*

Competent Authorities responsible for animal welfare during slaughter are:

- Veterinary Office of B&H for implementing education
- Local veterinary inspectors for implementing requirements of regulation

National animal welfare standards

Minimum requirements on animal welfare during slaughter in B&H including

- development of an operating plan
- design of premises and choice of equipment;
- standard operating procedure – partially;
- throughput (number of animals slaughtered per hour);
- maintenance and cleaning procedures of equipment and premises;



Training a competency of slaughterhouse/abattoir personnel

- The standards are established by the regulation on the welfare of animals during slaughter as a prescribed obligation the owner of the slaughterhouse or the responsible person in the slaughterhouse, who must ensure that the persons performing restraint tasks, stunning, slaughtering or killing animals have completed a course and passed an exam in accordance with the training program for personnel handling animals. The training program for persons employed in slaughterhouses was prepared by the Veterinary Office of B&H, but it is not being implemented.



Training a competency of slaughterhouse/abattoir personnel

- The level of awareness and understanding of animal welfare among slaughterhouse staff in B&H is very low.
- Trainings are conducted periodically, within the Twinning project in the country and BTSF training, which does not cover a sufficient number of veterinary personnel.

Training and competency Veterinary Services

- Through the Twinning project, 2 training sessions were conducted for veterinary inspectors on the implementation of regulations for the welfare of animals during slaughter, and good practice guides for slaughter by animal species were created.

Implementation of the standards

- Implementing standards on animal welfare during slaughter in B&H is carried out through inspection supervision at the local level.

Monitoring and evaluation

- Competent Authority does not carry out monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of standards on animal welfare during slaughter- no data.



Conclusions - gaps/weaknesses or challenges

- Overall, do you consider that your country is in compliance with the WOAH standards regarding animal welfare during the slaughter? I don't think so.

Gaps/weaknesses/challenges:

- Lack of resources: Implementing standards and laws requires significant financial and human resources.
- Lack of training: Workers in this sector are not trained in new standards and laws, which can lead to improper implementation.
- Systemic challenges: The existing institutional framework does not ensure data collection for quality monitoring and evaluation.
- Continuous monitoring and supervision: This requires developed mechanisms and infrastructure.
- Social and cultural barriers: These can affect the acceptance and implementation of new standards.

Conclusions - support requirements and next steps

What support or assistance would your county need to effectively implement a national animal welfare training program for slaughterhouse personnel and/or Veterinary Services?

- Financial support: Sufficient funds to cover training costs, including training materials, instructor salaries, and travel expenses.
- Expert support: Engagement of animal welfare experts to ensure high-quality training and compliance with the latest standards.
- Infrastructure support: Provision of appropriate spaces for training, including classrooms and practical work areas.
- Logistical support: Organization of training, including scheduling and coordination of participants, to ensure that everyone has access to the necessary training.
- Legal and regulatory framework: Development of clear guidelines and rules regulating training and ensuring compliance with national and international standards.
- Monitoring and evaluation: Regular evaluation of the training program to ensure its effectiveness and the achievement of set goals.

Conclusions - support requirements and next steps

Which stakeholders and partners (government agencies, NGOs, farmers, veterinary professionals, education establishments) should be involved in the development of an animal welfare training program for slaughterhouse personnel and/or Veterinary Services?

- Government agencies: Relevant authorities should be involved in the development of regulations, financing, and supervision of the training program.
- Non-governmental organizations: Organizations that deal with animal welfare can provide expert knowledge, experience, and resources necessary for the development and implementation of the training program.
- Educational institutions: Veterinary/agriculture faculties can provide academic support and infrastructure for training
- Industry associations: Associations of slaughterhouses and meat processors can collaborate in the implementation of the program.

Conclusions - support requirements and next steps

Are there national priorities and goals regarding animal welfare in slaughterhouses?

At this moment, based on available information, it does not appear that there are any.

Thank you

The background of the slide is a photograph of a clock tower, likely the Bregora Clock Tower in Tirana, Albania. The image is heavily filtered with a warm, orange-red color, creating a soft, glowing effect. The tower's architecture is visible, including its square base, arched windows, and the clock faces on the upper levels. The sky in the background is a pale, hazy blue.

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