

# Country report on animal welfare during slaughter

Serbia

Nikola Trikos

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WOAH Regional workshop on animal welfare during slaughter

11 - 12 February 2025, Tirana, Albania

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World Organisation  
for Animal Health



# Overview of the country's situation

*Please provide a short description*

- *Number of establishments / average throughputs*

***More than 1000 establishments with very different throughputs ,***

- *Main slaughtered species and restrain/slaughter methods (with numbers of animals if available)*

***Main slaughtered species are pigs, cattle, lambs, poultry***

***Stunning is done with electricity, gas or a special gun***



# Regulatory framework and Competent Authority(ies)

*Please provide a short description*

What are the legal acts /regulations on animal welfare during slaughter in your country

**Animal welfare law**

What is/are Competent Authority(ies) and other Authority(ies) responsible for animal welfare during slaughter?

**Ministry of agriculture , forestry and watter management over  
Veterinary directorate and veterinary inspection**



# National animal welfare standards

*Please provide a short description*

- Are the established minimum requirements on animal welfare during slaughter in your country, including
  - development and implementation of an operating plan
  - training and competency of personnel;
  - design of premises and choice of equipment;
  - standard operating procedure;
  - recording, reporting adverse incidents, and taking corrective actions;
  - throughput (number of animals slaughtered per hour);
  - maintenance and cleaning procedures of equipment and premises;
  - emergency plans.



- **Yes, the standards are determined by special laws and regulations, which include handling and inspection of animals before and after slaughter, handling of animals upon arrival at the slaughterhouse, stunning procedure, duration of stunning and bleeding, stunning equipment as well as procedures and records for implementing corrective measures**



# Training a competency of slaughterhouse/abattoir personnel

*Please provide a short description*

What are the standards established in your country for the competencies of animal handlers and other slaughterhouse/abattoir personnel, including those carrying out restrain, stunning and bleeding operations?

***The standars are defined by the rules on the conditions and means for depriving of life , methods of handling animals imeddiately before slaughter and bleeding animals, conditions and the method of slaughtering animals without previous stunning as well as training program on animal welfare during slaughtering***



# What is the level of awareness and understanding of animal welfare among slaughterhouse staff in your county?

- The staff employed in slaughterhouses understand welfare well as they undergo training related to the given area, but there is another problem related to the lack of manpower and frequent changes of staff.

# What is the established training system in your country for animal handlers and other personnel, including personnel carrying out restrain, stunning and bleeding operations?

- The training program on animal welfare during slaughter consists of:
  - 1. Basis in the field of animal protection during slaughter
  - 2. The basis from the area that governs movement, i.e. starting animal,
    - unloading, movement of animals in the premises of the slaughterhouse from the place of unloading to depot, stunning and slaughter;





- **3. Basics related to the conditions that must be met by facilities, that is, areas for the reception and temporary accommodation of animals**
- **4. Basics related to the way animals are restrained before slaughter;**
- **5. Basic principles and permitted stunning procedures;**
- **6. Procedures for slaughtering and bleeding animals;**
- **7. Practical or audio-visual presentation of procedures from this program.**

The minister prescribes a training program on animal welfare

# Training and competency Veterinary Services

*Please provide a short description*

What are the training systems and regulations established in your country for the competencies on animal welfare during slaughter for veterinary services in your county?

**The minister of agriculture prescribes training program on animal welfare for veterinary inspectors**

**All slaughterhouse entities are required to provide training related to animal welfare as part of their HACCP program**

## Implementation of the standards

*Please provide short description*

How is the Competent Authority implementing standards on animal welfare during slaughter in your country?

**Through veterinary inspectors during regular and extraordinary inspections as well as doctors of veterinary medicine who perform tasks entrusted by the Ministry**

## Monitoring and evaluation

*Please provide a short description*

How is the Competent Authority monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of standards on animal welfare during slaughter in your country?

**The competent body controls and improves standards in the field of animal welfare through veterinary inspectors**

What data on animal welfare during slaughter do you collect and how?

**We collect data on the number of slaughtered animals and all data are entered into a system called ITCM through software**



## 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?

**Yes , I am consider.**

Please list the main gaps/weaknesses or challenges for the Competent Authority(ies) in your country to implement WOAH standards and country legislation and requirements for animal welfare during the slaughter.

**Main weakness is small number of veterinary inspectors ( about 275 per all country)**

## 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?

**More training should be organized for veterinary workers and other stakeholders**

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?

**All of them...**

Are there any country priorities and goals regarding animal welfare in slaughterhouses

**The priority is to raise awareness of animal welfare among all interested parties**

# Thank you



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