
Comments by Compassion in World Farming

1st March 2016

Compassion in World Farming welcomes paragraph 39 of ESS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources.

Paragraph 39 helpfully provides that borrowers involved in large-scale commercial farming of animals for meat or other animal products must employ Good International Industrial Practice (GIIP) in animal husbandry techniques.

IFC Good Practice Note on Animal Welfare in livestock Operations

In our view it would be extremely helpful – in particular for borrowers - to make it clear that in this context GIIP includes the IFC Good Practice Note on Improving Animal Welfare in Livestock Operations. As the IFC is part of the World Bank Group, GIIP in the field of animal husbandry must surely include the IFC Good Practice Note.

Animal welfare during transport and slaughter

As Paragraph 39 is drafted it is not clear if it only applies to the on-farm stage of animal production or also to transport and slaughter. In our view it should extend to transport and slaughter as these operations can involve extremely poor animal welfare and accordingly should be conducted to GIIP.

Suggested amendments
[additions are in red; deletions in strikethrough]

“Borrowers involved in the industrial production of crops and animal husbandry will follow GIIP to avoid or minimize adverse risks and impacts and resource consumption. Borrowers involved in large-scale commercial farming or in the transport or slaughter of animals for meat or other animal products (such as milk, eggs, wool) will employ GIIP in animal husbandry, transport and slaughter techniques, with due consideration for religious and cultural principles. GIIP includes the IFC Good Practice Note on Improving Animal Welfare in Livestock Operations.”

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