



FARMS
INITIATIVE

Examples of Farm Animal Welfare Policies and Programs by Financial Institutions

ABN AMRO	“We encourage our business relations ... to shift to more animal friendly production methods for livestock farming and to comply with voluntary standards on animal welfare... ABN AMRO supports reducing the time limit of animal transport to a maximum of eight hours.” (2016)	ABN AMRO
Allianz	“ESG risks related to animal agriculture include: “Absence of assurance or certification of farm’s management of animal welfare; Inappropriate use of antibiotics, hormones or other growth promoting substances; Occurrence of routine mutilation without anesthetic; Slaughter practices without pre-slaughter stunning; Animal transport (incl. loading and unloading) exceeding 8 hours.” (2018)	Allianz
Australian Ethical	“The majority of animal products consumed today are produced in intensive systems with high density stocking and accelerated fattening. Over-use of antibiotics within intensive factory farming also leads to dangerous antibiotic-resistant bacteria... As a result, we exclude investment in current systems of commercial animal agriculture including meat, dairy, eggs and seafood.” (2019)	Australian Ethical
Bank Australia	“We don’t lend to organisations that use intensive animal farming systems like battery caged hens and sow stalls.”	Bank Australia
BNP Paribas	“BNP Paribas will only provide financial products or services to livestock or poultry producers that comply with or plan to achieve compliance with the IFC’s Good Practice Note...”	BNP Paribas
CDC (UK’s development finance institution)	“Cages should, generally, be avoided as they have inherent disadvantages for welfare. Narrow stalls – in which animals cannot turn around – should also be avoided.”	CDC
Climate Bonds Initiative	States “Where agricultural production includes livestock in intensive production systems, standards for animal welfare must be certified to one of the following schemes: Humane Farm Animal Care Certified Humane, RSPCA	CBI

	Assured, Animal Welfare Approved by A Greener World, Beter Leven levels 2&3 and G.A.P. levels 4&5". It adds "If the issuer demonstrates that none of these schemes certify in the country where the operations are located, then assessment should be undertaken using the requirements (principles and the relevant species-specific mitigation criteria) detailed in the FARMS Initiative RMS"	
DBS Bank	Sustainability-linked loan with attractive financing for cage free egg aviary systems in Singapore with capacity for over 500,000 laying hens. (2019)	DBS
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	"Where the client is involved in the farming, transport and slaughtering of animals for meat or by-products (e.g. milk, eggs, wool), the client will adopt and implement national regulatory requirements, relevant EU animal welfare standards and GIP, whichever is most stringent, in animal husbandry techniques." (2019)	EBRD
European Investment Bank	For both EU and non-EU projects: "Beneficiaries will be requested to comply with applicable national and EU legislation, as appropriate." (2014)	EIB

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International Finance Corporation	"Animal accommodation should be designed, constructed, and maintained to allow all animals space to stand, stretch, turn around, sit, and/or lie down comfortably at the same time... Scientific research shows that certain housing systems have inherent major disadvantages for animal welfare and do not have the potential to provide satisfactory outcomes, for example, systems of extreme confinement of animals or barren environments." (2014)	IFC Good Practice Note
Netherlands Development Finance Agency	Unacceptable practices include "non-enriched battery cages for chickens, the tethering of sows, individual sow stall housing throughout the entire pregnancy, individual pen housing for veal calves beyond the age of eight weeks, forced feeding of geese and ducks... FMO will not make investments that substantially involve any of these systems or practices." (2018)	FMO

Rabobank	Commits to “strongly encourage all of our clients to have transitioned to cage-free housing systems for laying hens and group housing systems for sows by 2025” and highlights the importance of “promotion of positive experiences” and states that this “refers to improving welfare above the survival minimum by providing animals with enriching opportunities to engage in behaviours that increase their comfort, confidence and capacity to make rewarding choices.” (2018)	Rabobank
Standard Chartered	“We will only provide financial services to clients who use cage-free or crate-free production systems for livestock (including both hens and sows) - applicable to Producers.” (2018)	Standard Chartered
Triodos Bank	“Triodos Bank supports agricultural initiatives that follow the organic principles and allow animals to express their natural behaviour and fulfil their natural function within ecosystems.” (2019)	Triodos
UNEP FI’s Principles for Responsible Banking	“The FARMS Initiative has published Responsible Minimum Standards that financial institutions can use to influence and guide meat, milk and egg producers, and other companies in the supply chain, towards responsible treatment of farm animals, including how farm animals are raised, transported and slaughtered.” (2019)	UNEP FI
UNEP PSI’s Guide for Insurers (DRAFT)	“Controversial living conditions,” “overuse of antibiotics,” and “live transport over 8 hours” are Risk Criteria. “Relevant certification for farming” is listed as an example of how to mitigate such risks. (2019)	UNEP PSI
World Bank Group	“The Borrower involved in large-scale commercial farming, including breeding, rearing, housing, transport, and slaughter, of animals for meat or other animal products (such as milk, eggs, wool) will employ GIIP [including IFC Good Practice Note] in animal husbandry techniques.” (2018)	World Bank