



Proposal to work with Chinese professionals to share information on high standards of animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter through translation of educational materials and technical and educational visits.

Background

The Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) works to improve standards of welfare for food animals during transport, marketing, slaughter, and killing for disease control and welfare reasons. It works through research, education, training and technical advances to bring practical and lasting improvements in food animal welfare around the world.

In China there is a growing interest in animal welfare and its regulation. For example, veterinarians are drawing up proposals for voluntary standards for commonly farmed species, and the HSA's sister organisation (www.ufaw.org.uk) has been working with Chinese research scientists on codes of practice for the use of animals in research. The HSA has extensive experience of working with industry on farm animal transport, marketing and slaughter, and is unique in the range and quality of its technical guidance and educational materials and activities. The HSA increasingly works internationally and has already made contacts in China and translated some key documents into Mandarin and other languages.

We believe there is potential to build on this, to work with the very sizeable Chinese industry to provide practical, constructive advice and educational opportunities to improve the welfare of a great many animals (in 2013 China produced 4.8 billion chickens, 480 million pigs and 191 million sheep, FAOSTAT).

Some of the activities will involve further developing relationships with influential Chinese organisations, but translation of HSA educational materials can be done relatively quickly. To maximise the accessibility of the translated documents, the HSA will provide them free to download from its website www.hsa.org.uk. Translated HSA publications will also be advertised via direct contact with organisations in China and the HSA might also advertise in Chinese industry magazines.

Outline work plan with estimated costings.

a) Translation of a variety of HSA publications into Mandarin Chinese including guidance on: transport of livestock, online guide to electrical waterbath stunning of poultry (for non-management staff), humane killing of day-old chicks, humane handling, designing animal facilities with welfare in-mind, humane slaughter of rabbits. www.hsa.org.uk/publications/publications

The HSA produces a range of guidance on slaughter systems and methods. Professionals in China (including slaughter equipment manufacturers) have requested HSA guidance

regarding the building of slaughter systems with animal welfare in-mind. As an initial step to meet this request, the HSA is translating into Mandarin the HSA publication *Guidance Notes No.7 on Electrical Waterbath Stunning of Poultry* www.hsa.org.uk/shop/publications-1/product/electrical-waterbath-stunning. The guidance is designed for supervisors of poultry welfare in slaughterhouses and contains technical, detailed information on setting-up electrical waterbath stunners and the types, and design features, of accessory equipment that can be installed to improve bird welfare.

The HSA chose this publication because in late 2014 it was informed that China were using only electrical waterbaths for poultry and the top 10 Chinese poultry producers alone slaughtered approximately 3.7 billion birds in 2014 (Poultry International, June 2016). In some parts of the world waterbaths are being replaced by controlled atmosphere stunning (which offers more advantages for bird welfare and product quality) but, worldwide, the waterbath remains the most common method of large-scale stunning for poultry and advice on good practice operation of this method is required.

Further, the HSA Guidance Notes on this subject have attracted international recognition; in late 2015 the French government, at their request, translated this HSA document into French for their poultry slaughter industry; and the OIE recently informed the HSA that the GN7 were informative and fully considered by their expert ad hoc group for the revision of the article concerning this method in the OIE Chapter 7.5 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code. The English version of the Guidance Notes has been viewed over 400 times in the last year (at present there are less than 90 EU-approved poultry slaughterhouses in the UK).

Building on this initial activity, if funds were available, the HSA would translate into Mandarin, HSA technical publications on humane handling, transport and slaughter procedures for other commonly farmed species (including pigs, for which China is the leading producer in the world, www.pork.org). Translation of these HSA publications would be timely and helpful because in November 2015 WATTAgNet.com reported that vets in China were drawing up proposals (expected to attain government approval by 2018) for their first voluntary animal welfare standards for poultry, pigs, cattle and sheep farmed and slaughtered in China.

Estimates include the use of professional translation companies. The publications would be provided by the HSA, to China, for free. With little extra cost, the HSA would largely promote and publicise the translated materials through contacts in China.

Estimated Cost: £19,435

b) Publicising the translated publications via Chinese industry magazines.

It might also be useful to place adverts (colour, full-page) in a small number of Chinese agricultural industry magazines (e.g. the Chinese special edition of World Poultry magazine) to further advertise the availability of the publications.

Estimated Cost: £26,000

c) HSA travel to China to visit veterinary universities (to offer lectures on animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter) and to visit slaughterhouses

and livestock markets (with the aim of offering HSA expertise on animal welfare and animal welfare training).

In the UK the HSA successfully provides educational lectures for vet students and a confidential welfare assessment service and training service for industry in animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter. The HSA undertook a similar initiative in Kenya in November 2015 - please read the HSA Spring 2016 Newsletter for further details www.hsa.org.uk/publications/newsletters--annual-reports. HSA staff would offer some free lectures in China, to encourage veterinary students, at the start of their careers, to apply good practice principles when working/overseeing work in slaughterhouses. Visits to slaughterhouses and livestock markets will be opportunities to share HSA information with industry and small-scale producers and to offer animal welfare training if desired. This approach is aimed at encouraging veterinary graduates, industry and small producers to understand the principles of humane animal slaughtering procedures and to help them spread good practice in animal welfare. The HSA will offer to visit China and, in one trip, travel to perhaps 4 universities, 4 slaughterhouses and 2 markets. Four trips to China might be required to visit the north, south, east and west of China. The HSA would then visit China at a later date for an extended trip to assess impact. This venture is likely to be undertaken in year 1 of Open Philanthropy's funding.

Estimated Cost: £48,820

d) Opportunity for representatives from China to visit the UK for a study tour in animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter, involving lectures and visits to livestock facilities if possible.

One of the HSA's aims is 'training trainers' to improve animal welfare in their own country. For example, the HSA has previously hosted Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (KSPCA) inspectors on four visits to the UK for training and refresher/update training in animal welfare at slaughter. The HSA would invite a select number of Chinese professionals, responsible for animals during transport, marketing and slaughter, to attend a UK study tour, with the aim that they could share their experiences and subsequently disseminate information gained to industry and other vets in China. The Chinese delegates who visit the UK will be asked to provide a brief impact statement/report 12 months after their attendance on the UK study tour, describing and illustrating how they used/planned to use their experience to improve animals' welfare in China.

The Chinese delegates' travel and expenses would be paid. This venture is likely to be undertaken in year 2 of Open Philanthropy's funding, following advice and information gleaned during item 1c.

Estimated Cost: £207,070

Note: Items c) and d) depend on Chinese contacts desiring and being able to facilitate these HSA visits/services and on UK contacts agreeing to be part of the study tour (d).

Total	£301,325.00
Grand Total inclusive of 10% contingency	£331,457.50