Since the update of the IFC Good Practice Note (GPN) on “Improving Animal Welfare in Livestock Operations” and its official release in December 2014, IFC/CRKI has proceeded to disseminate this edition to all stakeholders who have submitted comments as part of the peer review and public comment process. These stakeholders were ranging from Industry Associations, NGOs, bilateral/multilateral financial institutions and equity funds. In addition, IFC presented its GPN at a DFI Roundtable on September 2nd, 2015 organized by the Investment Fund for Developing countries in Copenhagen. Development Financial Institutions (DFIs) represented at this workshop included CDC, DEG, EBRD, FMO, etc. Briefing to World Bank Group Executive Directors also took place during the review process and public release. Finally, the GPN is being systematically distributed to all prospective livestock clients of IFC.

In January 2015, IFC started a pilot project to support the effective implementation of the GPN and more specifically the development of a comprehensive Animal Welfare Assessment and Management Framework. This included:

1. Animal Welfare Audit Checklists - for chickens (broilers and layer hens), ducks, turkeys, pigs and dairy cattle, covering on-farm livestock management procedures, as well as transport and slaughter protocols.

2. A comprehensive HACCP based Animal Welfare/Husbandry, Biosecurity and Contingency Plan Manual for the above species was also prepared as a model template for IFC clients to use in order to develop, document and implement their own company AWHBC Manuals.

The pilot project has taken a unique approach to the encouragement of high level Animal Welfare Standards across IFC’s portfolio client operations by means of:

(i) Highlighting to clients the well accepted correlations between improvements in standards of Animal Welfare and improvements in enterprise profitability,

(ii) Stressing the substantial potential that exists for new market access, as a result of improvements in standards of Animal Welfare, and

(iii) Adopting a broad based approach to Animal Welfare and Livestock Management - by providing invested clients with technical expertise in implementing a Best Practice ‘AWHBC Manual’.

This presentation outlines

- How animal welfare in IFC related to the IFC performance standards?
- The future of animal welfare in emerging markets?
- The influence IFC has had on clients to promote animal welfare?
- Key drivers behind growing food business animal welfare initiatives.
• Indications of the growing importance of responsible animal welfare management in the global business of animal-derived food production:

• Examples of the increasing trend towards responsible animal welfare standards adopted by many of the world’s leading animal derived food production companies:

• The influence of IFC when working with other developmental financial institutions (DFI’s) and NGO’s

Key words: animal welfare - audits - DFI’s - emerging markets – IFC - welfare manuals.