



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

LIVE TRADE ANIMAL WELFARE PARTNERSHIP

A partnership between the Australian
Government and the Australian livestock export
industry

Program Guidelines

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Program information and related forms are available at
<http://www.daff.gov.au/market-access-trade/iac/live-animal-trade>

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Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership Program Guidelines

1. Overview

The Australian Government announced the Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership (LTAWP) in the 2009-10 Budget. The Partnership will invest \$3.2 million over three years, including \$1.6 million from the Australian Government with matching support from Australian producers and livestock exporters, to further improve animal welfare in, and support trade with, overseas markets.

The Live Trade Animal Welfare Partnership builds on the Live Animal Trade Program (LATP). Since 2004, the LATP has funded a range of improvements, including better infrastructure to reduce livestock stress or injury, and education and training for feedlot and transport staff in overseas markets.

2. Purpose of the program

The LTAWP aims to support activities that will enhance Australia's agricultural trade through improving animal welfare outcomes in countries receiving Australia's livestock.

Objectives

The specific objectives of the LTAWP are to:

- support projects which enable better animal welfare outcomes in the handling, transport and processing of live animals in importing countries
- support importing countries to adopt and implement World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) animal welfare standards
- provide other assistance as appropriate to advance the bilateral agricultural relationship with importing countries with regard to the trade in livestock.

3. What qualifies for funding?

Funding will be considered for, but not be limited to, the following type of activities related to improved handling, transportation and slaughter of Australian livestock in importing countries:

- infrastructure improvements
- workshops/seminars/training
- demonstration and assistance with adoption of new processes or techniques.

Activities or items that attract funding will be consistent with the purpose of the program and its objectives, and may include:

Personnel: airfares, per diems (reasonable accommodation and meals), ground transport for personnel of both countries in respect of approved activities, and medical insurance. Consultants are limited to a maximum of A\$1000 per day per consultant unless the applicant can demonstrate that this amount is significantly below the current rate for consultants in the specialist field required.

Procurement: permitted only for essential items required for the successful completion of the activity. These will normally become the property of the counterpart agency/industry at the conclusion of the activity.

Training courses: include the costs of trainers, venues, consumables etc, and indicate if any assistance is provided in cash or kind.

Other: for example, costs for work attachments and secondments (salaries and salary on-costs are specifically excluded).

Project activities should be self-contained and be 12 months in duration, although planned multi-year programs will be considered provided they do not extend beyond 30 June 2012. Funding for multi-year activities will be reviewed annually. Evidence of the commitment of Australian livestock producer and exporter peak industry bodies to address the issue/s identified in the project/activity will be essential.

4. How do I apply?

If you are interested in seeking funding under the program, email ltawp@daff.gov.au or phone the LTAWP contact on 02 6272 3933.

It will only be possible to apply to the program using the appropriate application forms, available on the LTAWP website or from program staff.

Project proposals should consist of a project plan satisfying the selection criteria outlined below, and include:

- proposed project commencement and completion dates
- project milestones and the date by which these milestones are expected to be achieved
- indicators to measure the success of a project
- an itemised budget proposal

- written evidence of support from at least one of the following peak bodies representing Australia’s livestock producers and exporters:
 - Cattle Council of Australia
 - Sheepmeat Council of Australia
 - Australian Livestock Exporters Council
 - Meat and Livestock Australia
 - Australian Livestock Export Corporation.

Project proposals should be submitted electronically in Microsoft Word format to the LTAWP Project Advisory Committee Secretariat (Secretariat). Contact details are on the front page of the Guidelines. Section 5 of the guidelines explains the assessment process.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be assessed according to the following selection criteria:

- Project outputs meet at least one of the objectives of the LTAWP in section 2 of these guidelines.
- Extent to which the project will lead to improvements in Australia’s agricultural and food trade and market access outcomes.
- Extent of industry funding and support.
 - Evidence of partner country support and/or funding for the project is highly desirable.
- Viability and cost effectiveness of the project.

What are the conditions?

Funds are limited and therefore meeting eligibility requirements and selection criteria does not guarantee funding. Successful applicants will be required to sign a Funding Agreement. Project proponents must adhere to the conditions set out in the Funding Agreement. A standard Funding Agreement can be found on the LTAWP website. Grantee’s should seek independent legal and financial advice before entering into a Funding Agreement.

The eligible applicant, or business manager, must be a fit and proper person.

Applicants must be registered for tax purposes in Australia with an Australian Business Number and may be required to provide proof of financial viability.

Applicants should be aware that if they are successful, Commonwealth policy may require the department to publish information about the applicant including but not limited to:

- Name of the person or entity receiving the grant
- Amount of funding received
- Term of the grant
- Funding location

Applicants should be aware that the department may publish the above information on its website in order to comply with Commonwealth policy and to meet mandatory reporting requirements.

By submitting an application for funding under the LTAWP, the applicant consents to publication of the above information by the department if they are awarded funding under this grant program.

5. How are project applications assessed?

STEP 1: Applicant submits project proposal to the Secretariat.

STEP 2: The Secretariat undertakes Minimum Form and Content Requirement check of project proposal (checklist template available on the LTAWP website).

- Project proposals that meet the Minimum Form and Content Requirements will be referred to the LTAWP Project Advisory Committee for evaluation.
- The Secretariat will seek further information from the proponent for project proposals that do not meet the Minimum Form and Content Requirements or return the proposal to the proponent to address the deficiency. **If the proponent does not address the deficiency within 14 days of being requested to do so, the application will not be considered further.**
- If at a later date the proponent is able to address the deficiency and the proposal meets the Minimum Form and Content Requirements, the proponent may re-submit the proposal.

STEP 3: LTAWP Project Advisory Committee members individually evaluate project proposals against evaluation criteria established in the evaluation worksheet (project evaluation template available on the LTAWP website).

STEP 4: LTAWP Project Advisory Committee will meet; form an agreed position, score and rank (if required) project proposals and provide written recommendations to the Department for submission to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the Minister).

STEP 5: The Department will develop advice to the Minister outlining the LTAWP Project Advisory Committee's recommendations and level of Commonwealth expenditure (if any) for decision.

STEP 6: The Minister will make a decision on the expenditure of Commonwealth money in relation to each project proposal.

STEP 7: The Commonwealth or industry will enter into a funding agreement with successful applicants as appropriate. A standard Commonwealth Funding Agreement can be found on the LTAWP website.

Details of the LTAWP Project Advisory Committee, including its Terms of Reference, are available on the LTAWP website. The LTAWP Project Advisory Committee will use the evaluation worksheet to assess applications against the criteria outlined in this, the Program Guidelines. The LTAWP Project Advisory Committee may also take into consideration longer-term strategic priorities identified by the Minister, the Australian livestock export industry or the Committee itself.

6. Who is selecting the suitable projects?

Projects will be funded at the discretion of the Minister, drawing on advice from the LTAWP Project Advisory Committee.

Can I appeal a decision?

Applicants may seek information on why their proposal was not successful by writing to the Chair of the LTAWP Project Advisory Committee.