



Responsible Down Standard International Working Group

Health (*F7.1-F7.12*)

Hygiene, Pest and Predator Control (*F8.1-F8.7*)

May 3, 2018

Agenda

1. Introductions, Announcements, and Housekeeping
2. Updates
3. Review of Health Module
4. Review of Hygiene, Pest and Predator Control Module

Anti-Trust Guidelines

- Do not agree or discuss how each of the Participants will price their own goods or related products;
- Do not agree to allocate certain geographic markets (i.e., territories) or product markets (i.e., types of products) among each other;
- Do not discuss or agree to the cost or method of pricing products manufactured or sold by each other or otherwise direct each other's business activities that are outside the scope of the IWG;
- Do not compare cost information that is confidential, such as labor cost, manufacturing costs or other variables affecting pricing;
- Do not agree among yourselves to not do business with certain vendors (potential "boycott") or otherwise pressure other competitors or vendors to comply with certain pricing or cost policies;
- The IWG should not share with each other or discuss confidential, competitive information for individual Participants or any information that might affect the Participants' own day to day business decisions related to cost, price or output of their own products. For example, this confidential competitive information may include: price lists or pricing plans, volume, rebate or refund programs, discount policies, credit policies, advertising credits or program allowances, slotting allowances, product cost variables or profit margins, customer lists or specific complaints, supplier contract terms, current or future marketing plans, bidding plans, purchasing plans, planning strategies, capital improvement plans, terms of sale or other contract terms, or competition in the sale or manufacture of competing products;
- The IWG should not facilitate agreements or coordination among Participants for the prices they charge for the products they manufacture or sell or other collusive conduct, including market allocation or refusals to deal with suppliers or customers, or organize boycotts against other manufacturers or retailers; and
- The IWG should not publish or share any information that would be suggestive or conclusory as to how any individual Participant should deal with individual contracting or other third party issues
- Participants may discuss or share non-confidential, publicly available information or data

Chatham House Rules

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the **Chatham House Rule**, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Member Agreement

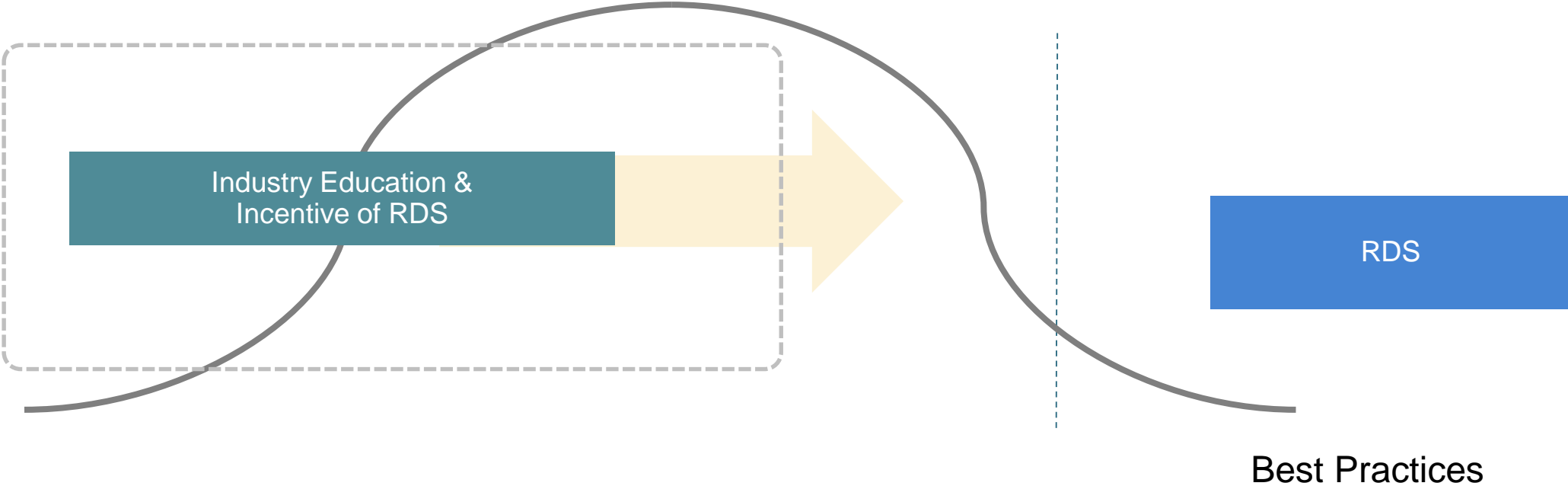
1. Agrees to contribute a reasonable commitment of time and expertise to participate in the Responsible Down Standard IWG.
2. Agrees to act respectfully to other Members of the IWG, and commit to honest and polite discourse.
3. Agrees that in order to maintain a level of trust and continuity, that all meetings and discussions of The RDS IWG and/or its Members remain strictly confidential and will treat any information that is shared within the RDS IWG as confidential in accordance with the Chatham House Rule (appendix A).
4. Agrees to comply with all applicable antitrust and anti-competitive laws, including, without limitation:
 - a. Agrees that none of the information shared during or as part of IWG meetings may be used to cause competitive injury or disadvantage to another Member, participant, Textile Exchange or the RDS; and
 - b. Agrees to abstain from any conversations or activities that may restrict competition or set prices).
5. Refrains from using any information obtained through the RDS IWG other than to advance the objectives of the IWG and in no event to disparage Members, their products, practices, businesses or their reputations.
6. Commits to promote the RDS as a meaningful tool to address animal welfare in the down industry.
7. Works openly and collaboratively to meet the objectives of the RDS and the IWG, sharing best practices and lessons learned.

UPDATES

**PROJECT PRESENTATION BY EMMA HICKEY
PRATT INSTITUTE**

THEORY OF CHANGE

Theory of Change



HEALTH MODULE

Health Module – Veterinary Health Plan

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|--|--|---|
| F7.1 | A documented veterinary health plan (VHP) should be developed in consultation with a veterinarian. | | RECOMMENDATION <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |
| F7.2 | The VHP should have sufficient and detailed measures promoting positive animal welfare. | <p>The following should be included in the VHP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of illness or injury rather than treating disease • Avoidance of physical, nutritional or environmental stress • Lameness and other leg problems • Abnormal behavioral activities • Parasitic infections • Climatic conditions • Vaccinations and other methods to cope with diseases • Nutrition • Environmental conditions, such as manure management and run-off • Ranging and foraging area management • Exclusion of predators and controls of rats and mice • Euthanasia • Tolerance limits for mortality and follow up actions in case one exceeds the limit | RECOMMENDATION <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |
| F7.3 | The farm personnel should follow the measures described in the VHP. | | RECOMMENDATION <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |

Veterinary Health Plan (VHP)

China:

- Veterinarians are most likely found in contacted farm groups with the slaughterhouse. In this case, veterinarians and trained staff from the slaughterhouse visit weekly (or so).
- There are records of the visits from the veterinarians and usually some feeding / vitamin records, but typically there is very little that the farmer provides. If there are health / care plans at all, they are usually provided by the slaughterhouse in a contracted farm group.
 - White Duck (contract farm), veterinarian will visit the farm every 1-3 weeks.
 - White duck (contract farm), they have written health & care plan.
 - Other species, no veterinarian regular visits. Only once birds have problems, farmers will call veterinarian for help.
 - Grey duck, white goose, grey goose, most of these farms do not have written plans.

Europe:

- Most of the times, veterinarians visit industrial farms once per flock, before sending them to the slaughterhouse.
- Sometimes there are written plans, sometimes not

Veterinary Health Plan (VHP)

- Developed with a trained veterinarian
- Updated regularly
- Sufficiently detailed:
 - Prevention of illness or injury rather than treating disease
 - Avoidance of physical, nutritional or environmental stress
 - Lameness and other leg problems
 - Abnormal behavioral activities
 - Parasitic infections
 - Climatic conditions
 - Vaccinations and other methods to cope with diseases
 - Nutrition
 - Environmental conditions, such as manure management and run-off
 - Ranging and foraging area management
 - Exclusion of predators and controls of rats and mice
 - Euthanasia
 - Tolerance limits for mortality and follow up actions in case one exceeds the limit
- Followed on farm/training of personnel

Health Module – Veterinarian Visits

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|---|--|--|
| F7.4 | A veterinarian shall pay regular visits at the farm to check on the health condition of waterfowl. If the veterinarian observes any waterfowl is not in a state of well-being sufficient and immediate measures shall be taken. | Veterinarian shall visit at least once in each growing season. Members of smallholder farmer groups can be excluded from this requirement at the discretion of the certification body. | MINOR <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |
| F7.10 | A veterinarian should carry out any surgical procedures. | | RECOMMENDATION |

Health Module – Care

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|--|---|----------------|
| F7.6 | The farmer should behave as a good caregiver, by checking the wellbeing of the waterfowl at least twice a day. | <i>Small Farmer Groups shall ensure the wellbeing of their waterfowl.</i> | RECOMMENDATION |
| F7.9 | Growth hormones shall not be applied. | | MINOR |

Health Module – Sick or Injured Birds

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|---|--|-------|
| F7.7 | Any sick or injured bird shall be treated immediately to minimize pain and distress. Treatment shall not be withheld in order to preserve a bird or flock’s eligibility for market. | | MINOR |
| F7.8 | A safe place, which is free of competition, shall be provided for sick and/or injured animals to recover. | Feed and water should be continuously available in sick pens. Pens should be checked at least twice daily and supportive care, with veterinary treatment if necessary, should be provided. Individual care and treatment records should be available and easily accessible at all times. | MINOR |

Health Module – Sick or Injured Birds

- Almost always present in China and Europe.
- Regularly monitored.

Health Module – Sick or Injured Birds

- A good hospital:
 - Low density
 - Easy access to food
 - Easy access to clean, safe water
 - Regular observation
 - Within view of the other birds
 - Records of wellness checks?

Health Module – Euthanasia

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|---|---|-------|
| F7.11 | Waterfowl having pain or injury from which they are unlikely to recover shall be immediately and humanely euthanized in a way that renders the waterfowl immediately insensitive to pain. | Workers shall be trained with the proper methodology for euthanasia (a swift, humane method). | MINOR |

When is euthanasia compulsory?

- Lameness
- Unlikely to recover from illness or injury (or has not recovered after some time)
- In uncontrollable pain (how to observe)

What method?

- Captive bolt gun
- Hand-held stunning, neck dislocation
- Decapitation

Performed by trained workers or veterinarians.

Health Module – Euthanasia

- China: Only a few will do euthanasia
 - When birds are sick or injured, they are usually separated (such as put in a hospital) and cared for there until they recover or die.
 - Farmers still hope those birds could recover and can sell to slaughterhouse, even with a lower price
- Hungary and The Netherlands: Do practice euthanasia
- Poland: Mostly not practiced

Health Module – Records

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|---|---|---|
| F7.5 | Results of veterinary visits and follow up actions if necessary should be recorded. | Members of smallholder farmer groups may be excluded from this requirement. | RECOMMENDATION <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |
| F7.12 | Records on administration of veterinary medicinal products or any intervention, mortality rate, number of limping, injured and euthanized waterfowl (reasons and methodology) should be maintained for at least three years or for the length of their validity, whichever is longer. | | RECOMMENDATION <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |

HYGIENE, PEST AND PREDATOR CONTROL MODULE

Hygiene, Pest and Predator Control Module – Hygiene

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|--|--|---|
| F8.1 | Accommodation for waterfowl shall be regularly and thoroughly cleaned and disinfected according a cleaning policy. | At a minimum cleaning shall happen between flocks. | MINOR |
| | | <i>Small Farmer Groups shall ensure clean bedding and shelter for their animals.</i> | |
| F8.2 | Appropriate hand washing facilities and toilets should be available for all personnel working on or visiting the farm. | | RECOMMENDATION |
| | | | <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |
| F8.4 | Foot brush/disinfectant or barrier footwear systems should be provided at the entrance of the farm. | | RECOMMENDATION |
| | | | <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |

Hygiene, Pest and Predator Control Module – Written Policy

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|---|---|---|
| F8.3 | An effective written policy on control of visitors, vehicles and materials should be available, known by the responsible personnel and implemented. | The site should have a biosecurity plan for preventing the transfer of disease between farms. | RECOMMENDATION |
| | | A written policy is required for operations with more than five employees. For farms with five or less employees, it is sufficient for the inspector to interview the farmer. | <i>Not applicable for Small Farmer Groups</i> |

Hygiene, Pest and Predator Control Module – Predator and Foreign Animals

| NUMBER | REQUIREMENT | GUIDANCE | LEVEL |
|--------|---|--|----------------|
| F8.5 | No farm cats, dogs and other pets should be present in the waterfowl housing and shelter. | | RECOMMENDATION |
| F8.6 | Appropriate measures shall be taken to protect waterfowl from predators. | | MINOR |
| F8.7 | Predator control should be humane. | The first line of defense should be fencing and other methods of excluding wildlife and dogs. Lethal predator control methods should not be used, especially indiscriminate methods that cause severe pain and suffering such as snare and leg-hold traps. | RECOMMENDATION |

Reminders

- Have you signed the RDS IWG Charter?
- Do we have your permission to be publically listed?
- Any other questions or feedback:
ResponsibleDown@TextileExchange.org

THANK YOU!