

A workshop on BAT in intensive livestock farming was held on 16 February 2016, on the premises of IEEP.

The main purpose of the workshop was dissemination of information obtained in the course of project work and discussion of elaborated Recommendations.

The workshop was attended by 54 researchers and specialists from 6 countries, including 8 foreign experts from the following organizations: Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation; German Environment Agency (UBA); Agricultural Management Consultancy DöhlerAgrar (Germany); Republic of Belarus, Scientific and Practical Center of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus for Mechanization of Agriculture, Minsk; the Ministry of Energetics of Republic of Kazakhstan; Republic of Moldova Agency on Innovations and Technology Transfer of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova; Director of SRL «AVANTBIOS»; Tadjikistan Center for Innovative Development of Science and New Technologies of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tadjikistan; Russian Research Institute of Information and Technical and Economic Studies on Engineering and Technical Provision of Agro-Industrial Complex” (FGBNU “Rosinformagrotekh”), Moscow; State Scientific Institution All-Russian Research Institute for Organic Fertilizers and Peat (VNIIOU); Scientific Research Institute for Atmospheric Air Protection “SRI Atmosphere”; National Union of Pig Breeders; Kaliningrad State Technical University; Vologda State Dairy Production Academy named after N.V.Vereshchagin; Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy; ФГБОУ ВО Kostroma State Agricultural Academy; Saint Petersburg State Veterinary Academy; North-West Research Institute of Agriculture Economics and Organization, Saint Petersburg ; Kubansky State Agrarian University; Don State Agrarian University, Saratov State Agrarian University named after N. I. Vavilov ; Saint Petersburg State Agrarian University as well as experts from other institutions working in the sphere of ecology and agriculture. The English-Russian and Russian-English simultaneous translation was provided.

The workshop featured reports and communications related to the general issues of BAT for intensive livestock farming and the project outcomes delivered by the project members, including:

- Seville process and the current state of EU BREF on intensive rearing of pigs and poultry development;
- Background, Work Packages and BAT identification methodology;
- Regulatory and legal basis for introduction of BAT for intensive livestock farming in Russia;
- Survey of intensive livestock farms and acquisition of the source information for BAT reference book;
- Technologies to be identified as BATs
- Recommendations and requirements on identification of BATs for intensive livestock farming in Russia (North-West Federal Districts, in particular)
- Information exchange between Russian interested parties, dissemination and introduction of the project outcomes, including target purpose of the website

The workshop participants noted that the issues related to BAT identification and introduction system are of great scientific, administrative and practical relevance in Russia and EECCA countries.

Under conditions of much too high introduction rates of BAT system, communication of accumulated information on the results of testing and application of BAT approaches for specific conditions of Leningrad and Kaliningrad regions and discussion of emerging issues among

professionals is of paramount importance. An essential and positive result of the workshop is that contacts were established between agricultural researchers and specialists of Russia and EECCA countries. Representatives of the Republic of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Tajikistan took part in the discussion and shared scientific developments, which may be useful in justifying and implementation of BAT in intensive livestock farming.

“Recommendations and Requirements How to Identify BATs for Intensive Livestock Farming in the Russian Federation (North-West Federal District, in particular)”, prepared in the framework of the Russian-German project, were evaluated positively by the audience.

At the same time the workshop participants noted that

- at the current stage of BAT introduction some bylaws have not been elaborated yet, including those regulating the issuing procedure of integrated permits; there is a problem of ambiguous understanding of BAT idea, principles and methods by the specialists at all levels.
- It is of vital importance to start elaboration of BAT reference books for agriculture as early as possible by organizing the Technical Working Group in 2016 in order to keep to the schedule set by the Government for this work.
- Taking into account a very short time allocated for elaboration of the Russian reference books on BAT for intensive livestock farming it is expedient to use the EU BREF as the basis for structuring the description of technologies at the early stage of work.
- In the further work on the Russian reference books on BAT for intensive livestock farming it is expedient to consider the bio-security issues and available practices of its provision.

The workshop participants have listed a number of issues to be addressed on the level of Federal Agency for Scientific Organizations, Russian Academy of Sciences, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation:

- To add into the state assignments associated with priority fundamental and applied research the topics related to environmental assessment of intensive livestock rearing with the main focus on:
 - Theoretical and experimental study of all the elements of technologies of intensive livestock rearing in order to obtain the values of specific emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases to support technological standards and data for the inventory of emissions (including, the data on the loss of nutrients from animal excrements depending on the species, productivity and animal feeding system);
 - Research and construction of models of nitrogen and phosphorus flows at different stages of animal production in order to substantiate the optimization methods of nutrients use efficiency and to reduce the negative impact on the environment.
- To develop regional concepts and programs for agricultural waste management, which would motivate the enterprises engaged in environmental protection activities through the implementation of best available techniques;
- To substantiate and create a BAT reference book for cattle farms with the design capacity of 400 animal places and more.
- To find the opportunity to financially support the establishment of “lighthouse farms” for demonstrating BAT for intensive livestock production in Russia

The workshop participants emphasized the need for IEEP together with other scientific teams to continue the research related to BAT for intensive livestock rearing, to encourage initiating the international and Russian scientific projects on the basis of interdisciplinary comprehensive research related to BAT with the involvement of leading scientific organizations in EECCA countries.

According to the workshop resolution the prepared “Recommendations and Requirements How to Identify BATs for Intensive Livestock Farming in the Russian Federation (North-West Federal District, in particular)”, will be forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation, to the Federal Agency for Scientific Organizations, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation, Federal Agency on Technical Regulating and Metrology – Rosstandart, Bureau on Best Available Techniques and branch associations.