

# WOAH RAWS Newsletter



## What's RAWs?

The Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) for Asia-Pacific was endorsed in 2008. This framework, developed by WOA Members and Partners, aims to improve animal welfare while supporting socioeconomic development in the region. RAWs focuses on establishing and implementing standards for animal transport, slaughter, and culling, as well as on capacity building, education, and awareness-raising initiatives.

## Note from the Chair

Dear members & observers of RAWs,

It is my pleasure to introduce myself as your new Chair and to extend my warm welcome to other new members. I have really enjoyed getting to know many of you over the last couple of meetings, especially hearing about all the wonderful activities you have been undertaking to improve the welfare of animals in our Asia-Pacific region. I hope you enjoy reading more about some of those activities in this newsletter. I personally gain so much encouragement in hearing from you about your successes and challenges – they remind me that we are walking together on this journey, and that we all face the same issues and can provide each other with support, encouragement and advice to achieve our aims for animal welfare. I would encourage you to reach out to other members of the group to learn more about activities that interest you and strengthen our network with each other.

It is with a sad heart that I acknowledge the loss of one of our members, Dr Sripad Sosale who passed away in October. Sripad was a much respected and active participant in our meetings, always providing interesting and valuable contributions and perspectives from the Pacific Islands for whom he was a strong advocate. If you would like to acknowledge his passing, his family have requested you may consider donations to your local animal shelter in his memory.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and that as you read the inspiring work being undertaken in our region, it encourages you in your journey to promote WOA animal welfare standards and advance animal welfare in the Asia-Pacific.

With warmest wishes,  
Carolyn Guy

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# RAWS Advisory Group members

Name	Country/ Organisation	Post
 Carolyn Guy	New Zealand	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Emily Orchard-Mills	Australia	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Marzuna Md Yunus	Malaysia	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Audrey Chen	Singapore	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Marie Shella Ordinario	Philippines	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Hikaru Nakano	Japan	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Md. Sohel Rana	Bangladesh	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Atieh Dabaghian	Iran	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Teng Xiangyan	China, PRC	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Abhijit Mitra	India	Commissioner & CVO
 Muhammad Akram	Pakistan	WOAH Delegate
 K.A.C.H.A. Kothalawala	Sri Lanka	WOAH Delegate
 Jacqueline Lusat	WOAH	RRAP, Japan
 Hirofumi Kugita	WOAH	RRAP, Japan
 Ashish Sutar	WOAH	SRR-SEA, Thailand
 Leopoldo Stuardo	WOAH	Headquarters, Paris, France
 The late Sripad Sosale	Fiji	Pacific Community (SPC)

## RAWS Advisory Group members (cont'd)

Name	Country/ Organisation	Post
 S Abdul Rahman	India	Commonwealth Veterinary Associations
 Jackson Zee	United Kingdom	International Coalition for Animal Welfare
 Yi-Chun Lin	Chinese Taipei	Asian Association of Veterinary Schools

## RAWS Advisory Group observers

Name	Country/ Organisation	Post
 Adhiraj Mishra	India	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)
 Praveen Malik	India	Former Commissioner (DAHD)
 Suresh S Honnappagol	India	Former Commissioner (DAHD)
 O P Chaudhary	India	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Sujit Kumar Dutta	India	Animal Welfare Board of India
 Jeff Zhou	China (PRC)	International Coalition for Animal Welfare
 Kasumi Sudo	Japan	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
 Emmerson Oreb	Australia	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
 Abdur Rashid	Bangladesh	(Former) WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Pradeep Lakpriya Kumarawadu	Sri Lanka	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Peter Thornber	Australia	(Former) Commonwealth Veterinary Associations
 Kate Littin	New Zealand	(Former) RAWS Advisory Group Chair
 Suphanan Boonyakarn	Thailand	Department of Livestock Development

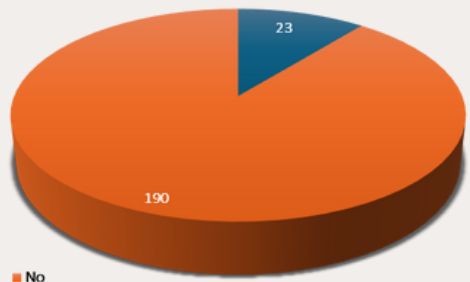


# RAWS Animal Welfare Webinar July 2024

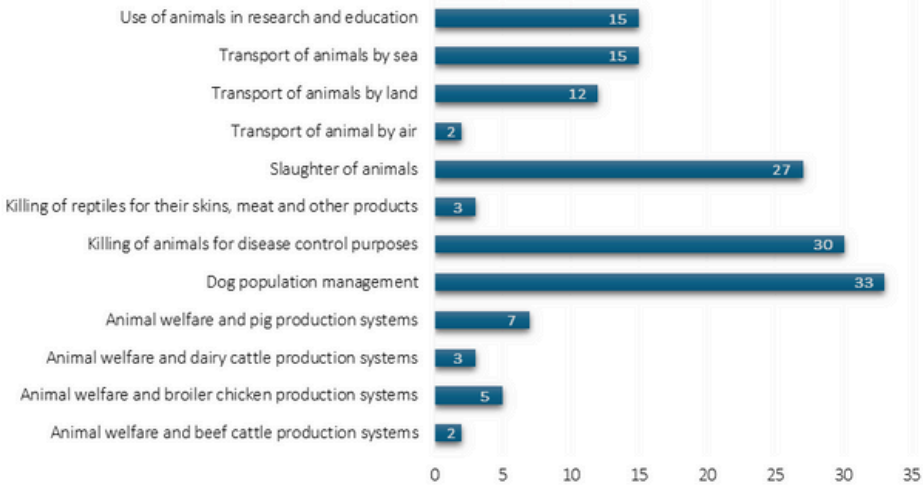
The **WOAH RAWS for Asia-Pacific Animal Welfare Webinar** took place on July 4, 2024. Additional information and slide presentations are available on the WOA Regional website: [rr-asia.woah.org](http://rr-asia.woah.org)



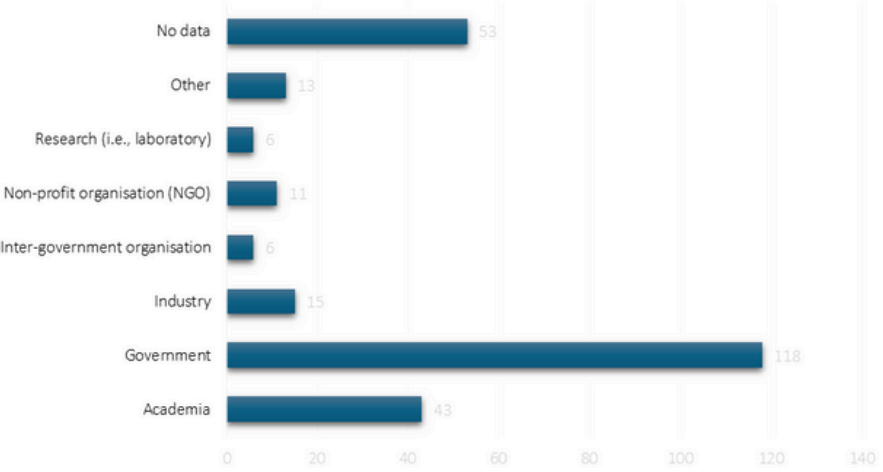
Are you WOA Delegate or WOA National Focal Point for Animal Welfare?



Which topics do you believe should be prioritised most?



Which sector do you represent?



## OBJECTIVES

- Educate WOA National Focal Points for animal welfare about the nexus and what does it mean for animal welfare
- Promote recognition of animal sentience, welfare and the One Health / One Welfare nexus
- Give WOA Delegates & Focal Points the tools to promote animal welfare, sentience and the nexus to others
- Update this discussion with nexus at United Nations and give opportunity for questions





## TEACHER'S GUIDEBOOK



## ANIMAL WELFARE EDUCATION PACK

# MALAYSIA



### LAUNCHING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ANIMAL WELFARE RESOURCE PACK @ PRESCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES (DVS) MALAYSIA

Designed to cultivate compassion and responsibility towards animals from a young age, the Animal Welfare Resource Pack for preschool children in Malaysia aims to integrate animal welfare education into the early childhood curriculum. This initiative fosters empathy, kindness, and responsible pet ownership among young learners.

#### OBJECTIVES

- To cultivate a culture of caring and concern for animals to preschool students through formal education.
- To equip teaching and learning materials on animal welfare according to the student's age and level of education.
- To provide comprehensive animal welfare information and parallel guidance issued by DVS.

#### MISSION

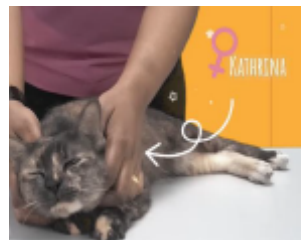
Animal welfare is a practice that involves everyone and is cultivated throughout society. Responsible pet ownership is a cornerstone of every community. Malaysia aspires to become a developed nation with a compassionate society that upholds animal welfare standards and kindness.

### The development of the resource pack

The development of the Animal Welfare Resource Pack, initiated in 2020, is a collaborative effort involving the Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia, the Preschool Sector, Curriculum Development Division of the Ministry of Education (MOE), and many stakeholders.

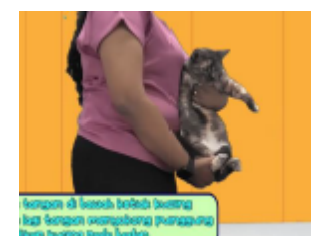
#### Implementation

- **Distribution** - approximately 10,000 preschool classes under the MOE, serving 213,000 students across Malaysia, will receive a complete set of the Animal Welfare Resource Pack.
- **Storybook distribution** - the storybook, "Fara Sayang Haiwan," will be distributed in stages to all preschools throughout Malaysia.
- **Accessibility** - all materials from the resource pack will be uploaded digitally for teachers' use. These resources will be available on both [www.farasayanghaiwan.com](http://www.farasayanghaiwan.com) and the [Ministry of Education \(KPM\)](http://www.kem.gov.my) websites.
- **Evaluation** - to assess the impact of the resource pack on children's attitudes towards animals, the implementation process will be closely monitored. This will involve surveys and observations to evaluate changes in behaviour and understanding among both preschool students and teachers.



The Animal Welfare Resource Pack @ Preschool Launching Ceremony was held on 15 August 2024 at SK Precinct 16(2) Putrajaya. The ceremony was officiated by the Deputy Secretary General (Development) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security. The ceremony was also attended by senior officials from relevant ministries and departments, and school students. It is estimated that 300 people attended the opening ceremony.

A group of child singers performed the theme song, "Love Our Animals," in front of guests during the launch event. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all DVS Partners who contributed to the development of the Animal Welfare Resource Pack. To conclude the program, the Deputy Secretary General and other honoured guests visited five preschool classes to observe learning sessions using the resource pack materials.



# SINGAPORE

## Cat Management Framework

On September 1st, Singapore's animal welfare team launched a new cat management framework with three objectives:

- A mandatory licensing and microchipping scheme from 1st September 2024, with a 2-year transition period till 31st August 2026
- A Trap-Neuter-Rehome/ Release-Manage (TNRM) programme for community cats
- Education and outreach on responsible pet cat ownership and community cat caregiving

The aim is to improve the welfare and management of pets and community cats, and maintaining a harmonious living environment for all.

The finalised framework stems from incorporating views of stakeholders and members of the public, through public engagement via online surveys and focus group discussions.

Key results:

~65% supportive/neutral about up to 2 cats in Housing and Development Board (HDB) flats

~70% supportive/neutral about allowing 3 cats and/or dogs in private premises

**Cat Management Framework**

- Improves traceability of pet cats
- Safeguards public health and animal welfare
- Promotes responsible ownership and caregiving

**2-year transition period**  
1 Sep 2024 - 31 Aug 2026

**Cat Ownership Limits**

During Transition Period	
License during this period to keep all existing pet cats*	

After Transition Period	
<b>HDB Flats:</b> Up to 2 cats (and 1 dog of an approved breed)	<b>Private Premises:</b> Up to 3 cats or dogs, or a combination of both

**Mandatory Licensing and Microchipping**

- 🐾 Free licences with lifetime validity for sterilised cats during transition period
- 🐾 Free licences covering transition period for unsterilised cats\*\*
- 🐾 Complete pet ownership course before licence application

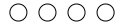
\* And ensure that the cats' health and welfare are taken care of  
\*\* Licensing fees apply after transition period

Scan to find out more!  
<https://go.gov.sg/cat-framework>

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"NO ANIMALS LEFT BEHIND; THEIR LIVES MATTER, TOO"

# PHILIPPINES

## NO ANIMALS LEFT BEHIND; THEIR LIVES MATTER TOO



### THEME

#### "No Animals Left Behind; Their Lives Matter, too"

*'A feathered friend, a scaly companion, an exotic pal. Whatever species they may be, no animal should suffer from poor health and poor welfare because everybody counts, all lives matter'.* This was the theme of the Philippines' Animal Welfare Week 2024.

Presidential Proclamation No. 715 designates the first week of October as Animal Welfare Week in the Philippines. This proclamation aims to foster compassion and kindness towards all animals, both domestic and wild, particularly among young people.

The Department of Agriculture conducted various activities, including training for regional animal welfare coordinators and officers, spay and neuter campaigns, media outreach, pet blessings, and animal welfare workshops.



# INDIA

## Brooke India: 25 years of service

Brooke India, an affiliate of Brooke, has been operating in India since 1999. Initially a mobile veterinary team providing free treatment, BI has grown into a collaborative effort involving equine-owning communities, government organisations, academic institutions, and central and state animal husbandry and rural development departments.



### Achievements

- Great place to work: Recognised as a great place to work for 2 consecutive years (2023-2025)
- Global CSR & ESG Awards: Ranked among the Top 10 NGOs in India for social impact

Celebrating 25 years of service, Brooke India will continue to focus on expanding its operations and strengthening its impact, aiming to improve the lives of working horses, donkeys, and mules throughout India. For more information, please visit [www.thebrooke.org](http://www.thebrooke.org).

### Advocacy Milestones:

#### 2016

- Enhanced Compensation for Euthanasia of Glanders-Affected Equines
- Guidelines for Equine Fair Organisers

#### 2017

- Recognition of Working Equines as Livestock

#### 2022

- Equine Welfare Guidelines for Brick Kilns

#### 2023

- Inclusion of Equine Medicines and Vaccines in Uttar Pradesh (UP)
- Advisory on Microchipping and Animal Identification

#### 2024

- Issuance of Glanders-Free Certificates in UP
- Insurance Initiatives: Subsidised Equine Insurance



# AUSTRALIA

## Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS)

Australia is undertaking a review of the AAWS and is simultaneously working on the development of a comprehensive national statement on animal welfare.



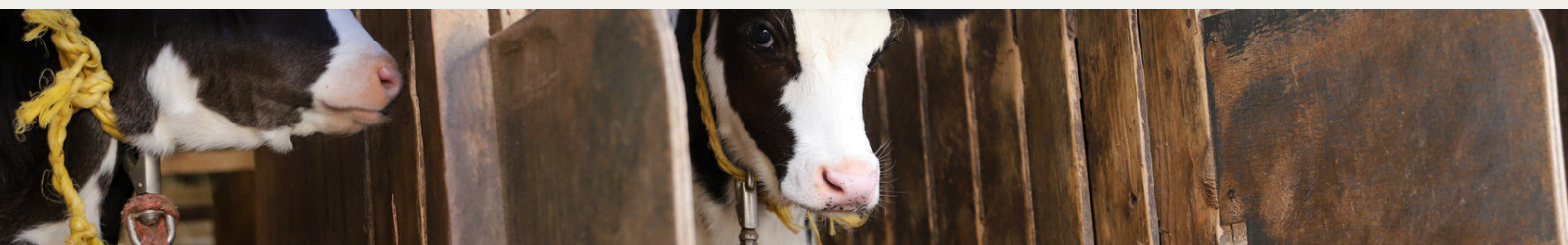
A report detailing the results of the first public consultation period (8 March – 8 July 2024) for the AAWS renewal has been released. This represents a significant milestone in the renewal process and is publicly accessible: [www.agriculture.gov.au](http://www.agriculture.gov.au)



# JAPAN

## Technical guidelines

The Animal Welfare team of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan released newly developed Technical Guidelines in the previous year. Although the original documents were published in Japanese, a selection of these guidelines have been translated into English and are publicly accessible: [www.maff.go.jp](http://www.maff.go.jp)



The team will conduct a multi-year nationwide survey to monitor the implementation of the guidelines by farmers. The initial survey will be conducted this year.



## NEXT EDITION

For more information on RAWs and other WOAHA animal welfare activities in the Asia-Pacific region, stay tuned for our next issue, which will feature more exciting stories and updates from WOAHA Members and Partners.

# RAWS ASIA-PACIFIC

## INFORMATION

Check out our previous RAWs issues at WOAHA Regional website - [rr-asia.woah.org/animal-welfare](http://rr-asia.woah.org/animal-welfare)



## NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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