

Exploring the role of veterinary services on animal welfare in natural disasters from the context of WOAH Animal Welfare Standards

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WOAH Regional Representative for Asia-Pacific

5th Japan Society for Animal Welfare Symposium: Industrial animals and disaster response





Timeline

1924 1945 1998 2003 2004 2022

Outsting of the United The World Trade

Creation of the
Office International
des Epizooties
(OIE)

Creation of the United Nations (UN)

The World Trade Organisation and OIE signed the SPS Agreement

New common name: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

Adoption of first animal welfare standards

New common acronym: **WOAH**

Our Worldwide Network

103 Members













Who we are

We are the global authority on animal health and welfare: we work to ensure the health and welfare of animals, recognising that animal health impacts everyone's health.

What we do

We disseminate information on animal diseases and welfare and develop science-based strategies to limit their impacts on society.

What is our impact

We are building a better future through better animal health and welfare.

Who we partner with

We collaborate with partners and Members to achieve results for animals, humans and the planet.



Key actions up close

Standard setting & implementation

Develop standards, guidelines and recommendations

Observatory to analyse implementation WOAH standards

Recognition of animal health status

Coordinating global frameworks

Thematic
Animal welfare,
Aquatic Animal Health,
Emergency
Preparedness One
Health, AMR,
Biological Threat
Reduction,
wildlife health

Disease specific ASF, FMD, PPR, rinderpest, rabies, zoonotic influenza, zoonotic TB, MERS-CoV

Information management

Data governance
Data stewardship
Publications
Documentation

Animal Health
Information WAHIS
Observatory
GBADS
ANIMUSE

Capacity building

PVS Pathway

Workforce development

Public-Private Partnerships

E-learning Training Platform

International collaboration

Communicate with and engaging stakeholders

Politicial and strategic advocacy

Building partnerships







No country offices:

We work through and with Government

- National Delegate to WOAH per Member
- National Focal Points on specific subject matter
 - 1. Animal welfare
 - 2. Aquatic animals
 - 3. Wildlife
 - 4. Animal disease notification
 - 5. Vet products AMR
 - 6. Communication
 - 7. Veterinary laboratories







WOAH Animal Welfare

<u>Definition</u>: Animal welfare means the physical and mental state of an animal in relation to the conditions in which it lives and dies.

An animal experiences good welfare if the animal is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and distress, and is able to express behaviours that are important for its physical and mental state.

Animal welfare is a complex and multi-faceted subject with scientific, ethical, economic, cultural, social, religious and political dimensions. It is attracting growing interest from civil society and is one of the priorities of WOAH.



WOAH Animal Welfare Standards

- 1) Recognised WOAH international standards:
 - Terrestrial Animal Health Code Section 7. Animal welfare (chapters 7.1. –
 7.14)
 - Aquatic Animal Health Code Section 7. Welfare of farmed fish (chapters 7.1 7.4)
- 2) Global network of scientific expertise
 - WOAH Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres
 - Animal welfare ad-hoc groups
 - WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission



WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code - Section 7. Animal welfare (as of 3/04/2025)

three

may

chapters

potentially be merged

into one

Chapter 7.1. Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare (revised; will be proposed for adoption at the 92nd GS May 2025)

Chapter 7.2. Transport of animals by sea

Chapter 7.3. Transport of animals by land

Chapter 7.4. Transport of animals by air

Chapter 7.5. Animal welfare during slaughter (Article 7.5.30 is under study/revision)

Chapter 7.6. Killing of animals for disease control purposes (undergone reviewing, many Articles to be discussed; proposed new name -Animal welfare at the time of killing)

Chapter 7.7. Dog population management

Chapter 7.8. Use of animals in research and education

Chapter 7.9. Animal welfare and beef cattle production systems

Chapter 7.10. Animal welfare and broiler chicken production systems

Chapter 7.11. Animal welfare and dairy cattle production systems

Chapter 7.12. Welfare of working equids

Chapter 7.13. Animal welfare and pig production systems

Chapter 7.14. Killing of reptiles for their skins, meat and other products

OIE Animal Welfare Global Forum
'Supporting implementation of OIE Standards'
Paris, France, 28-29 March 2018
1st WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum

2nd OIE Animal Welfare Global Forum 'Animal transport: a shared responsibility' Paris, France, 11-12 April 2019 2nd WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum

3rd OIE Animal Welfare Global Forum Report 'Animal welfare and the UN Sustainable Development Goals'

26 – 28 April & 4 May 2021 (Virtual)

3rd OlE Animal Welfare Global Forum

4th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum: 'Animal Welfare Economics' 12 – 13 October 2022 (Virtual) 4th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum 5th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum:
'Developing national animal welfare
legislation; different paths for the same destination'
2 – 3 November 2023 Paris, France
5th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum

6th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum: 'Exploring how WOAH Collaborating Centres can support Members to improve animal welfare' 28 – 29 October 2024, Merida, Mexico 6th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum









WOAH Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) for Asia-Pacific









WOAH (the OIE) first agreed to include animal welfare in its strategy (2001-2005).

Standalone Global Animal Welfare Strategy adopted by Members in 2017, to deliver "A world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human wellbeing, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability".

REGIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY Asia, the Far East and Oceania documents

2008 RAWS (Edition 1): to implement 2005 animal welfare guidelines & coordinate activities/emerging issues.

OiC



2013 RAWS (Edition 2): updates 1st edition; maintains principles & vision of animal welfare progress alongside development.

EDITION 2

RAWS Third Action Plan 2024 - 2028

Action Plans support the strategy by providing specific steps with measurable targets and milestones to track progress and measure effectiveness.

The third action plan was issued for the period 2024-2028.

It builds on the outcomes of the previous actions plans and the findings of regional surveys of animal welfare focal points and WOAH delegates to identify needs of Members in the region.







WOAH REGIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY (RAWS) THIRD ACTION PLAN (2024 - 2028)

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

and Jacqueline Lusat Spring 2024

IMPACT (long term objectives)

Stronger regional animal welfare achieved via standards development and implementation, capacity building and education, and communication to promote respect and awareness of animal welfare

OUTCOME

(short & mid-term objectives)

- Promote animal welfare awareness through effective coordination, communication, education & training
- Coordinate regional approach to implementation of WOAH animal welfare standards
- Sustainable animal welfare advancements through regional & global R&D
- Sustainably coordinate animal welfare efforts

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES

- 1. Continue RAWS News to share information on member activities and upcoming events
- 2. Revise RAWS documents working group for Strategy review
- 3. Regional animal welfare forum to share updates
- 4. Enhance awareness of the RAWS
- 5. Promote animal welfare and share information about standard implementation at meetings and conferences
- 6. Promote understanding and connection through webinars
- 7. Support the Collaborating Centre activities and research



RAWS past activities 2023

Contributed to 5th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum: 'Developing national animal welfare legislation; different paths for the same destination', 2-3 Nov 2023



Contributed to WOAH 33rd Conference of the Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific, New Delhi, India, 13 - 16 Nov 2023



RAWS past activities 2024

Presented at - 6th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum: 'Exploring how WOAH Collaborating Centres can support Members to improve animal welfare', 28 –29 Oct 2024, Merida (Mexico) and WOAH whole journey scenario workshop on long-distance transport, 6-8 Nov 2024, Cartagena (Columbia)







6th WOAH Animal Welfare Global Forum

"Exploring how WOAH Collaborating Centres can support Members

to improve animal welfare"

Hotel Holiday Inn, Merida, Mexico, 28-29 October 2024



WOAH Whole Journey Scenario (WJS) workshop on long-distance transport by land and sea

- Cartagena, Colombia 6-8 November 2024
- · Speakers included:
 - Brazil
 - Colombia
 - Uruguay
 - Ireland
 - Ireland
 - Komania
 - New Zealand
 - Morocco
- · Case study on scenario

· European Commission

Field visit



RAWS past activities 2025

Regional Workshop for WOAH National Focal Point for Animal Welfare in Asia-Pacific 21-23 January 2025 Tokyo, Japan









Webinars 2023 - 2024

Held the WOAH animal welfare webinar for Asia-Pacific, 29 Sep 2023



WOAH ANIMAL WELFARE WEBINAR

USING WOAH STANDARDS TO SUPPORT GOOD ANIMAL WELFARE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



Details

29 SEPTEMBER 2023

1400 - 1630 BANGKOK | 1600 - 1830 TOKYO





Topics

- . Land transport of animals
- Dog population management
- . Slaughter of animals
- . Culling of animals for disease control

- Lin Anhui (NParks, Singapore)
- · Xiao Xiao (CAHEC, P.R. China)
- . A Kabaila (DAFF, Australia)
- . T Collins (Murdoch University, Australia)
- . L Stuardo (WOAH)



Held the second WOAH animal welfare webinar for Asia-Pacific, 4 July 2024





WOAH RAWS Newsletter





What's RAWS?

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

Note from the Chair

Dear members & observers of RAWS,

E 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.

E is with a sad heart that I acknowledge the loss of one of our members, Dr Sripad Sosale who passed away in October, Stipad was a much respected and active participant in our meetings, always providing interesting and valuable contributions and perspectives from the Pacific tslands 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.

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 WCAH animal welfan standards and advance animal welfare in the Asia-Pacific

Inside this issue

RAWS Advisory Group members & observers

RAWS Animal Welfare Webinar July 2024

Reports from RAWS Advisory Group members and observers

- MALAYSIA Education pack
- SINGAPORE- Cat Management
- PHILIPPINES National Animal Welfare Week Oct 2024
- INDIA (BROOKE): 25 years of service
- AUSTRALIA- Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS)
- JAPAN- Technical Guidelines



RAWS newsletter for Asia-Pacific is back!

Greetings to all in the region from the WOAH Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Advisory Group in Asia-Pacific. We're pleased to say that the RAWS newsletter is back. The RAWS News November 2023 edition introduces new styles and ideas, and is the beginning of our journey to communicate and interact with our communities through digital platforms. We also have a new website with up-to-date information on animal welfare events, the RAWS and the Advisory Group. The topics for this month's newsletter are the revitalisation of RAWS in Asia-Pacific, an introduction of RAWS Advisory Group members (both existing and new members), and highlights of our main achievements since 2022. We hope you enjoy

Introduction

RAWS News is managed by the RAWS Advisory Group (led by the Secretariat), and focuses on updating regional WOAH Members, WOAH Partners and the wider community about animal welfare activities, initiatives and progress of the RAWS in Asia and the Pacific. The RAWS Advisory Group Secretariat encourages WOAH Members and WOAH Partners to contribute to future editions of RAWS News. Please send contributions to Jacqueline at j.lusat@woah.org and in copy to rr.asiapacific@woah.org.

Greetings to all in the region from the WOAH RAWS Advisory Group! We are excited to announce that WOAH celebrated its 100th anniversary on January 25th, 2024. The February 2024 edition of RAWS News showcases highlights from past activities related to animal welfare, including WOAH 100th anniversary celebration by the Regional Representation for Asia-Pacific (RRAP). It also includes a special issue featuring success stories from Malaysia in implementing its animal welfare initiatives. For further details on upcoming animal welfare updates, the RAWS, and the advisory group, please visit the WOAH regional website. We hope you enjoy the newsletter!

Note from the Chair

In 2008, the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) for Asia-Pacific was endorsed, serving as a framework crafted by WOAH Members and WOAH Partners

to bolster animal welfare alongside socioeconomic development in the region. This strategy centres on the formulation and execution of standards concerning the transport, slaughter, and culling of animals, as well as on capacity building, education initiatives, and communication efforts aimed at fostering respect and

awareness for animal welfare.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The implementation of animal welfare initiatives in Malaysia 2

MALAYSIA

WOAH 100th

HIGHLIGHTS

ANNIVERSARY

RRAP Tokyo celebrated

WOAH 100th anniversary

Past activities (Nov 2023 to Jan 2024)

KEY DATES 2024

Welcome to our readers and best wishes for the new year and the Year of the Dragon. We hope you are finding the newslette useful. We have a positive year ahead, with plans for another webinar and regional forum. We are seeking expressions of interest to join the Advisory Group. This is a great way to form good connections and to support and demonstrate progress in animal welfare. Please see information below. It is also happy birthday to WOAH this year. I have personally enjoyed seeing the profile of animal welfare being raised within WOAH and by Members over the years. You might enjoy the new vision statement from WOAH as much as I did:

Happy reading, Kate Littin

QR code:

rr-asia.woah.org/animal-welfare

RAWS Advisory Group – Terms of reference

OBJECTIVES

- 1) Advise & guide on RAWS strategy,
- 2) review & maintain RAWS & Action Plan
- 3) RAWS coordination & communication support, and
- 4) raise awareness: regional animal welfare.



QR code to access the Terms of reference online

ACTIVITIES

- 1) Create & maintain 5-year RAWS Action Plan,
- 2) support RAWS implementation,
- 3) Regional Committee annual report,
- 4) RAWS communications development,
- 5) encourage funding and ensure awareness of RAWS,
- 6) WOAH NF animal welfare training (regional advice),
- 7) RAWS support projects.

MODUS OPERANDI

- 1) RAWS AG leads & coordinates activities, supported by the Secretariat,
- 2) RAWS AG builds collaborations with WOAH members & partners for activities, and
- 3) funding for special activities comes from contributing AG/WOAH members & partners.

MEMBERSHIP

- 1) Chair: 3-year term (renewable),
- 2) AG nominees: WOAH Members/Partners,
- each sub-region: 1+ WOAH
 Member rep (Delegate/FP)
- one representative each from WOAH HQ, RRAP and SRR-SEA,
- A representative: SPC,
 SAARC or ASEAN secretariat,
- Representatives: ICFAW,
- Representatives: regional veterinary associations
- Representatives: WOAH
 Collaborating Centre.



Membership RAWS Advisory Group

	Name	Country/ Organisation	Post
	Carolyn Guy	New Zealand	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
	Emily Orchard-Mills	Australia	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
9	Marzuna Md Yunus	Malaysia	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
9	Audrey Chen	Singapore	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
	Marie Shella Ordinario	Philippines	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
1	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
9	Muhammad Akram	Pakistan	WOAH Delegate
	K.A.C.H.A. Kothalawala	Sri Lanka	WOAH Delegate
9	Jacqueline Lusat	WOAH	RRAP, Japan
	Hirofumi Kugita	WOAH	RRAP, Japan
	Ashish Sutar	WOAH	SRR-SEA, Thailand
6	Leopoldo Stuardo	WOAH	Headquarters, Paris, France
	The late Sripad Sosale	Fiji	Pacific Community (SPC)





Post

Schools

Post

Welfare

Welfare

Chair

Activities, both planned and ongoing, are scheduled to occur

On-going

WEBINARS: Support capacity building on priority topics, delivered to Focal Points and interested stakeholders with involvement from the Collaborating Centre

On-going

FORUMS: Promote networking among animal welfare organisations by hosting a regional WOAH forum every two years, mirroring the global forum's virtual format.

2025

TRAINING: Animal welfare training for WOAH National Focal Points for Animal Welfare in-person.

On-going

AWARENESS: RAWS AG promotes WOAH capacity building for veterinary services & National Focal Points through regional FPs, vet boards, academia, and other stakeholders.

On-going

NEWSLETTER: RAWS AG promotes regional animal welfare events through lists in RAWS News, advisory meetings, and social media updates.

On-going

ISO/TS: Promote awareness of ISO/TS 34700:2016 Animal welfare management General requirements and guidance for organisations in the food supply chain through RAWS News.



WOAH past regional workshops for animal welfare focal points in Asia-Pacific

2010 Bangkok 2011 Tokyo 2013 Seoul 2014 Canberra 2010 Bali 2025 Tokyo Workshop for OIE National FPs for Animal Welfare, Bangkok (Thailand) 5 - 7 Apr 2010 2010 Regional Seminar for OIE National FPs for Animal Welfare, Tokyo (Japan) 30 Nov - 2 Dec 2011 2011 2013 Regional seminar for OIE national focal points for animal welfare, Seoul (Republic of Korea) 27th – 29th Aug 2013 2014 Regional seminar for OIE national focal points for animal welfare, Canberra (Australia) 12th – 14th Nov 2014 Regional training seminar for OIE national focal points on animal welfare, Bali (Indonesia) 11th – 14th Nov 2019 2019 2025 Regional Workshop for WOAH National Focal Point for Animal Welfare in Asia-Pacific, Tokyo (Japan) 21-23 Jan 2025



Workshop for OIE National FPs for Animal Welfare, Bangkok, Thailand 5 - 7 Apr 2010



Regional Seminar for OIE National FPs for Animal Welfare, Tokyo, Japan, 30 Nov - 2 Dec 2011



Regional seminar for OIE national focal points for animal welfare, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 27th – 29th Aug 2013

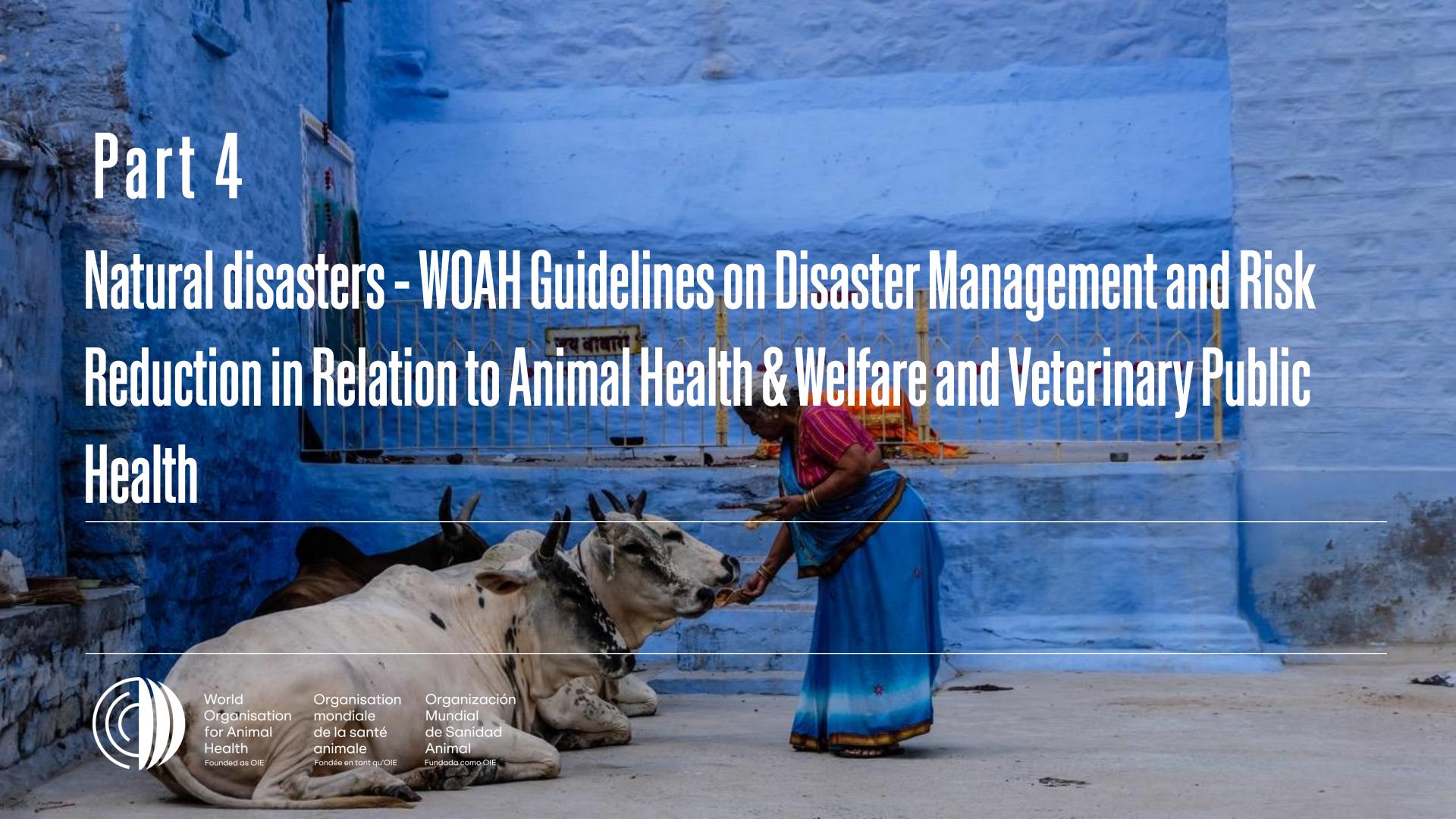


Regional seminar for OIE national focal points for animal welfare, Canberra, Australia, 12th – 14th Nov 2014



Regional training seminar for OIE national focal points on animal welfare 11th – 14th Nov 2019, Bali, Indonesia



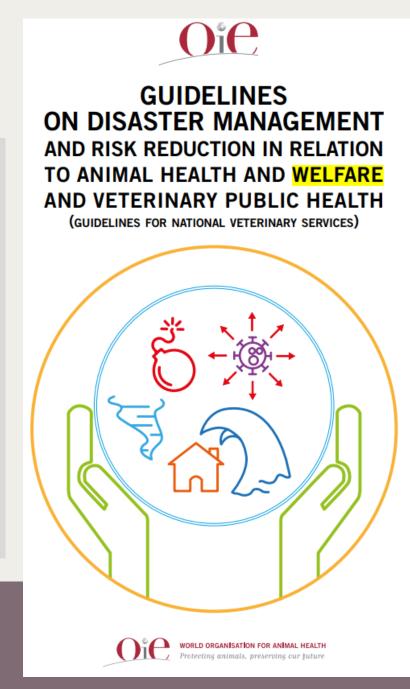


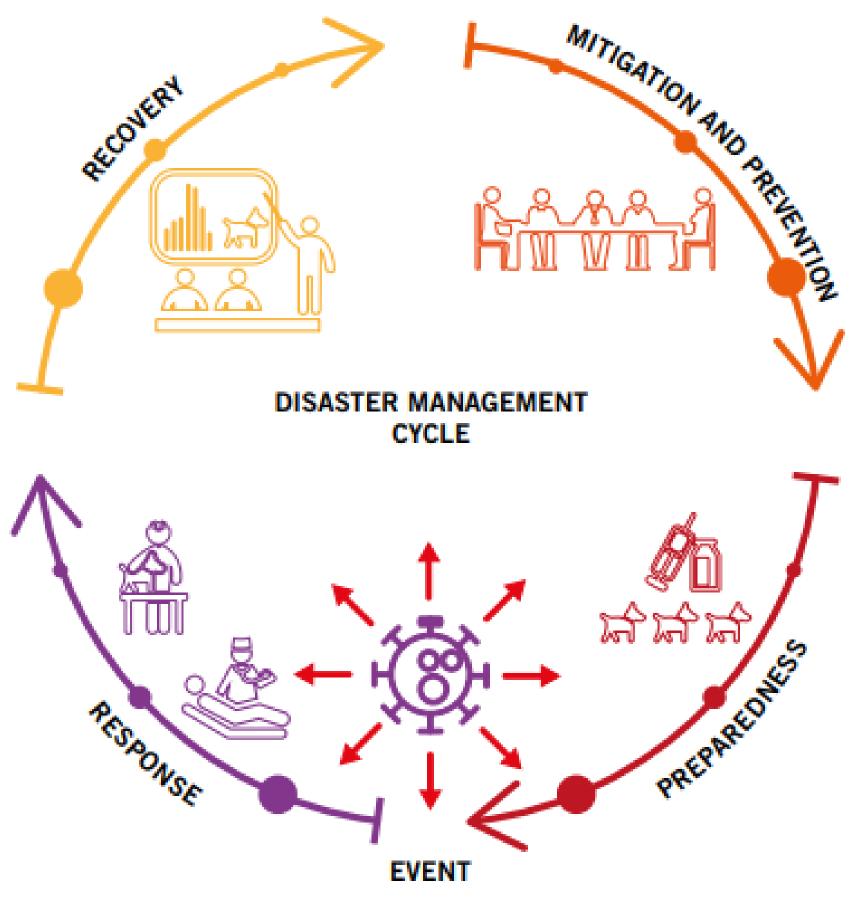


Natural disasters – WOAH guidelines

Natural disasters - WOAH Guidelines on disaster management and risk reduction in relation to animal health & welfare and veterinary public health

These guidelines provide a framework for Veterinary Services to implement disaster management and risk reduction, focusing on animal health, welfare, and public health. They align with WOAH standards and outline principles and roles across the Disaster Management Cycle. Emphasising inter-institutional coordination and national legal frameworks, these guidelines are intended to complement, not replace, existing international, regional, and national disaster management tools.





Key disaster management terms:

- Mitigation: Reducing the adverse impacts of hazards.
- Prevention: Actions to reduce risks and consequences of disasters for people, animals, environment, and property.
- Preparedness: Achieving readiness and capability for rapid disaster response through advance actions.
- Response: Providing emergency services and assistance during or immediately after a disaster to save lives and meet basic needs.
- Recovery: Restoring and improving facilities, livelihoods, and living conditions of disaster-affected communities, including risk reduction

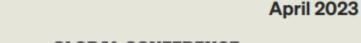


WOAH Global Conference on Emergency Management (3-5 April 2023, Paris, France)

Up to 350 participants per day in person (44% female, 56% male), 90 watching online

Call for action:

- Reinforce a whole of society approach
- Recognise the value of Veterinary Services (in partnership with others) in managing emergencies
- Sustain preparedness for emergencies
- Share data and scientific evidence freely and fairly to support emergency management systems
- **Integrate resource mobilisation** to emergency preparedness
- Adapt to new threats and continue to learn from real events and exercises





Calls for Action

Multisectoral and international cooperation to mitigate biological threats, whether natural, accidental or deliberate, has improved. However, gaps remain and further progress and support is needed across all of society and government including to take the One Health approach.

There should be universal recognition of the benefits of investing in the emergency management capacity of Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services, and that further efforts are needed to strengthen the functional relationship between health and other sectors, such as security (including Law Enforcement).

Greater efforts should be made to adopt an inclusive and sustainable all-hazards approach to emergency management through education, planning, partnerships and networks, and resources.

FAIR* and open access to data and scientific evidence are required to support national, regional and international epidemic intelligence and emergency management systems.

The process of mobilising, prioritising and receiving resources should be better integrated into emergency preparedness (e.g. contingency planning and exercising), and resource mobilisation mechanisms need to be fit for purpose to ensure timely response, whilst being able to adapt to opportunities and local needs.

Emergency management must keep up to date by anticipating new challenges including cybersecurity, misinformation and disinformation, and by learning from preparedness activities and real events.

*Findable. Accessible. Interoperable. Reusable

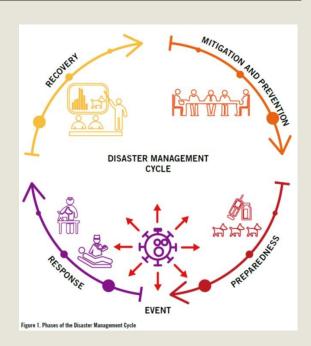






Key MESSAGES

- 1) Animal health and welfare components can be considered at all stages of emergency and disaster management cycle to better prepare and improve an efficiency of the response and recovery.
- 2) WOAH Standards provide clear, scientifically-backed frameworks that help veterinary services establish and enforce national animal welfare regulations and practices.
- 3) Implementation of the recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and Aquatic Code protects animal health and welfare and ensures the safety of international trade in animals and animal product.











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THANK YOU

