

“Update on the WOAHA Global Animal Welfare Strategy (GAWS) activities”

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**Regional Animal Welfare Training Conference
25 - 26 February 2026 Vang Vieng, Lao PDR**

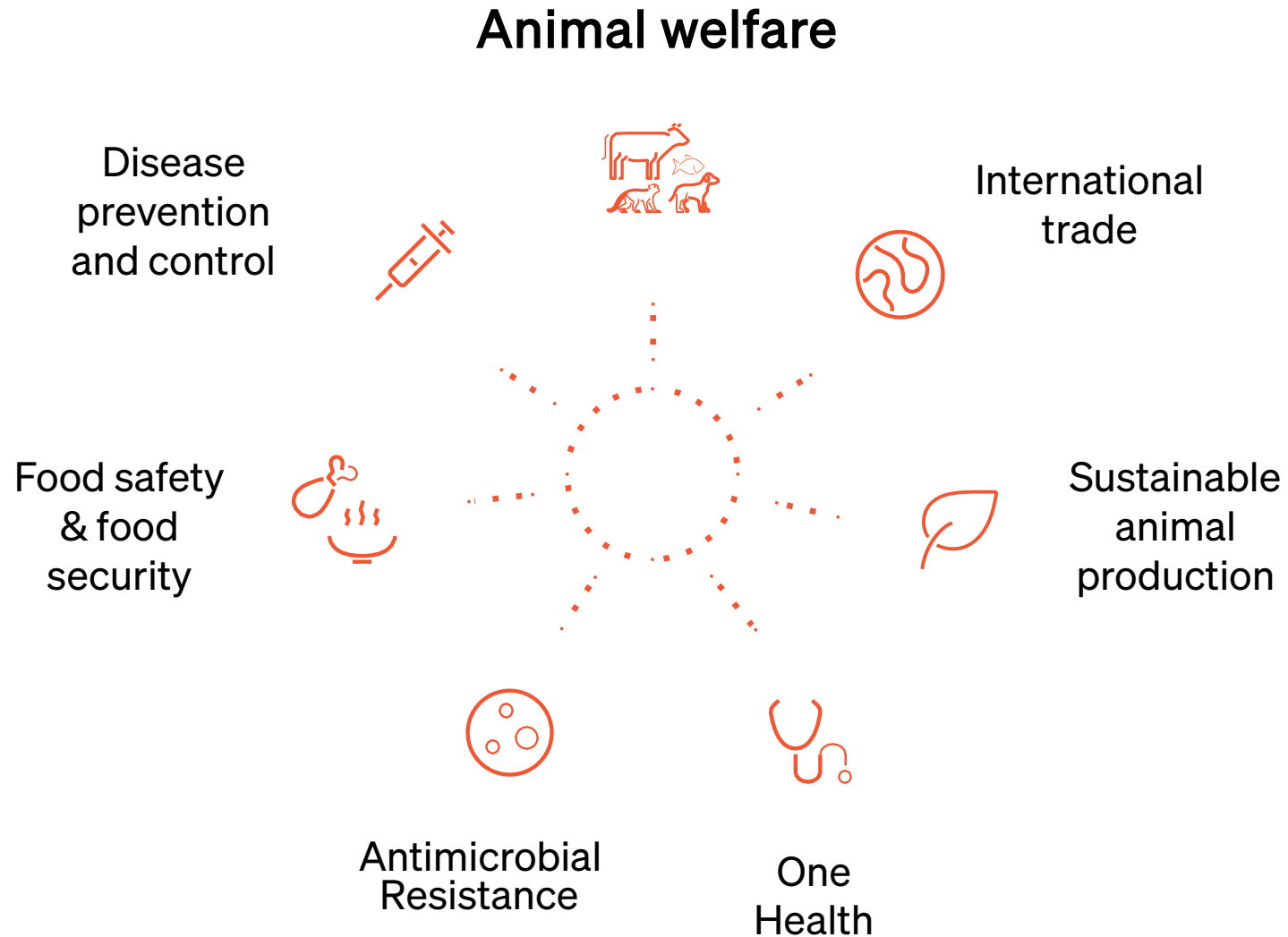


**Animal
welfare a
global
challenge!**





WOAH MAIN WORKING AREAS





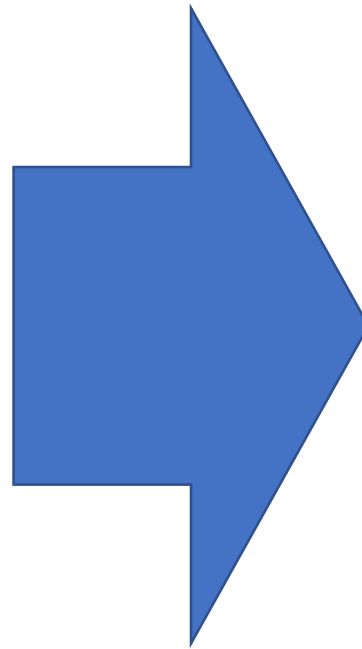
THE WOAAH AND ANIMAL WELFARE: A STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

Resolution No. XIV from the 70th WOAAH General Session, 26 - 31 May 2002

- Animal welfare has been identified as a strategic priority for the WOAAH since 2001, under the mandate granted by all Members.
- Creation of the OIE Animal Welfare Working Group (AWWG)

Resolution No. XXXI from 85th General Session, 21-26 May 2017

- The WOAAH Global Animal Welfare Strategy was developed from lessons learned from actions taken at national and regional level and aims to be a source of ongoing guidance for the WOAAH's activities in this area, and it's based in four main pillars.
- Drafted by the AWWG and discussed at the Fifth Global Animal Welfare Conference, in Guadalajara, Mexico, December 2016.



VISION

A world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human well-being, socio-economic development and environmental



GAWS STRATEGIC PILLARS



**DEVELOPMENT OF
ANIMAL WELFARE
STANDARDS**



**CAPACITY BUILDING
AND EDUCATION**

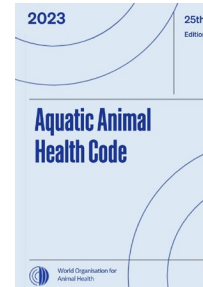
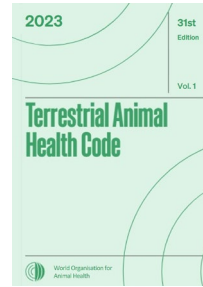


**IMPLEMENTATION OF
ANIMAL WELFARE
STANDARDS AND
POLICIES**



**COMMUNICATION
WITH
GOVERNMENTS,
ORGANISATIONS AND
THE PUBLIC**

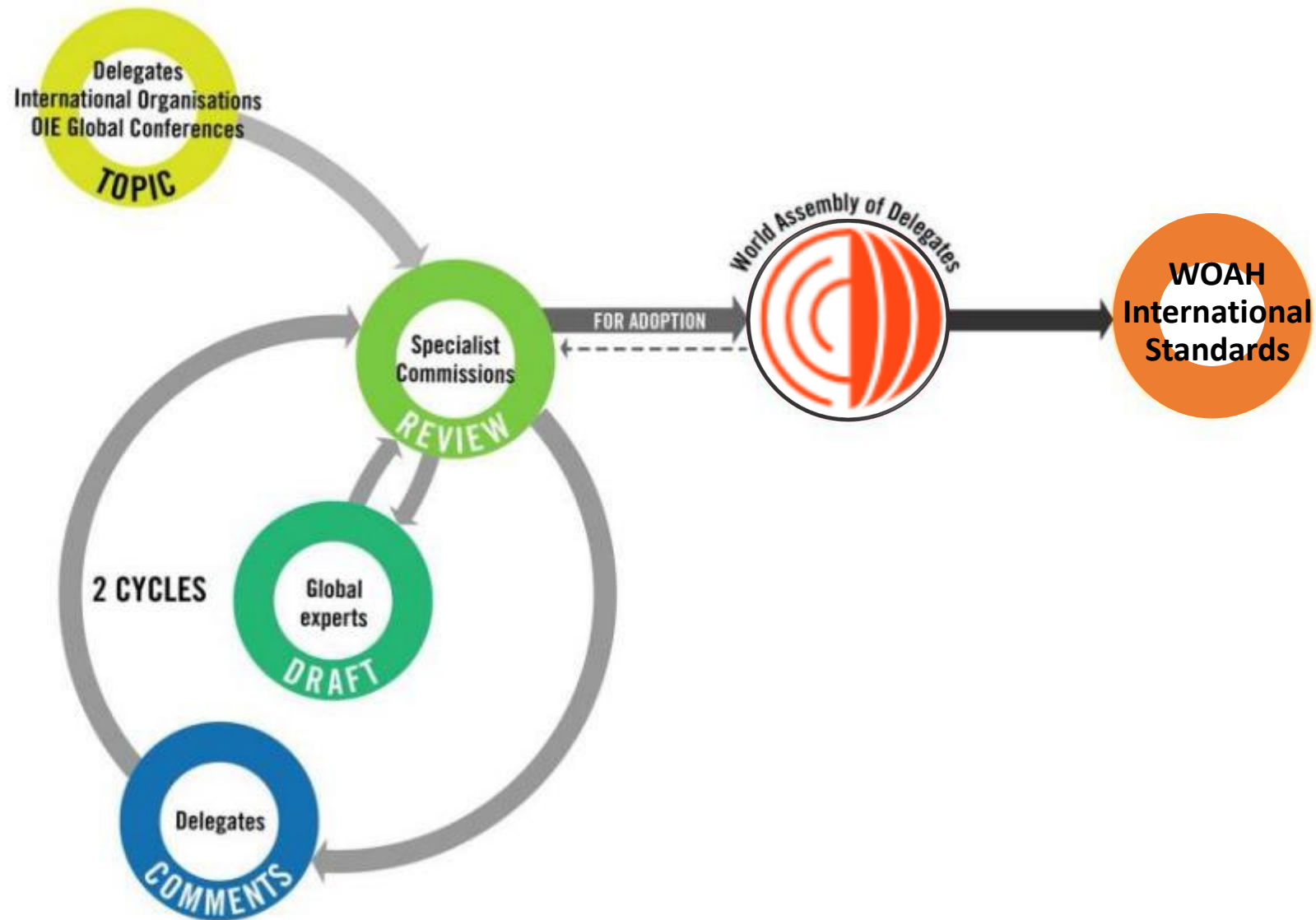




ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY



WOAH STANDARD SETTING PROCESS

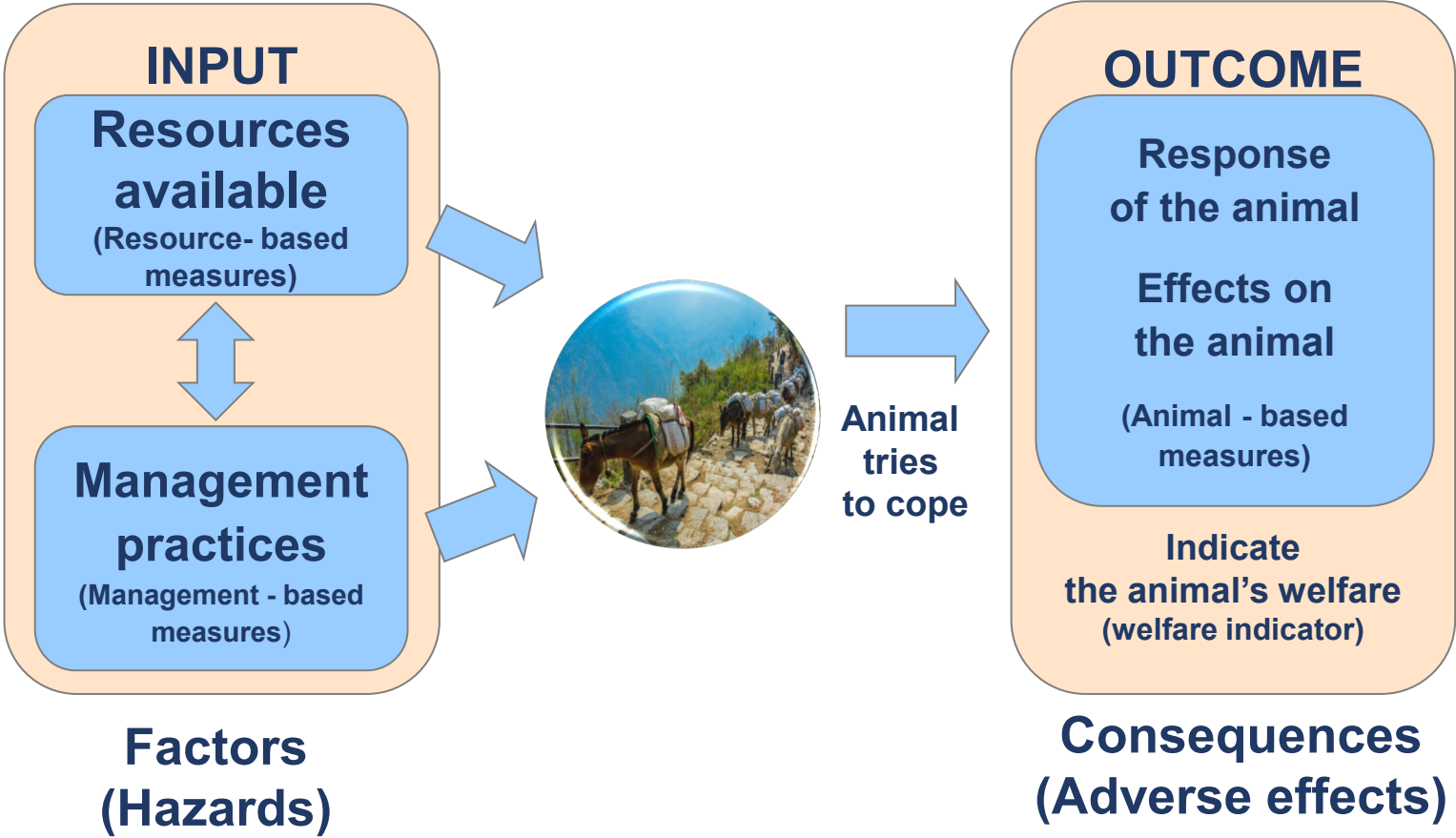




CONCEPTS USED ON THE WOAH ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS



DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS





GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES

Chapter adopted during the 92nd WOAH General Assembly, May 2025

- ❑ Chapter 7.1. Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare; Inclusion of the 'Five domains' concept and clarification on the use of the terms 'animal-based, resource-based and management-based measures',

Animal Welfare Standards under review (Terrestrial code)

Chapter for comments

- ❑ Article 7.5.30 of Chapter 7.5. Animal welfare during slaughter, Annex 12 of the February 2026 Code Commission Report (Chapter/Article propose for adoption too).
- ❑ Chapter 7.6. Animal welfare at the time of killing for purpose other than slaughter, Annex 27 of the February 2026 Code Commission Report.
- ❑ Chapter 7.2. Animal welfare during transport, Annex 26 of the February 2026 Code Commission Report.

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-welfare/development-of-animal-welfare-standards/>





GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES



COMMUNICATION
WITH
GOVERNMENTS,
ORGANISATIONS
AND THE PUBLIC

- First WOAHA AW Forum -March 2018.

‘Supporting the implementation of WOAHA standards’

- Second WOAHA AW Forum - April 2019

‘Animal transport: a shared responsibility’

- Third WOAHA AW Forum (Virtual) April - April 2021

‘Animal Welfare and the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals’

- Fourth WOAHA AW Forum (Virtual) -October 2022.

‘Animal welfare economics’

- Fourth WOAHA AW Forum (Virtual) -October 2023.

‘Developing national animal welfare legislation; different paths for the same destination’

- Sixth WOAHA AW Forum (Merida, Mexico) - October 2024

‘How WOAHA Global Animal Welfare Collaborating Centre Network can support Members in the development of animal welfare policies’

To bring together members of the animal welfare research community, the global animal welfare movement and the global animal-source food sector to debate openly on topics relevant to animal welfare



GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES

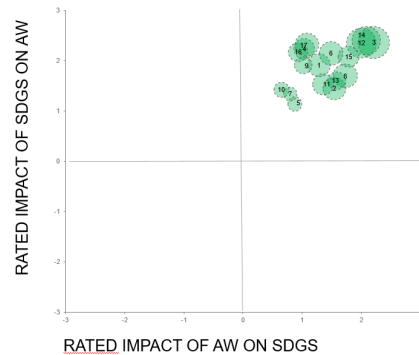
'Animal Welfare and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals'

- Fourth WOAHA AW Forum (Virtual) -October 2022.

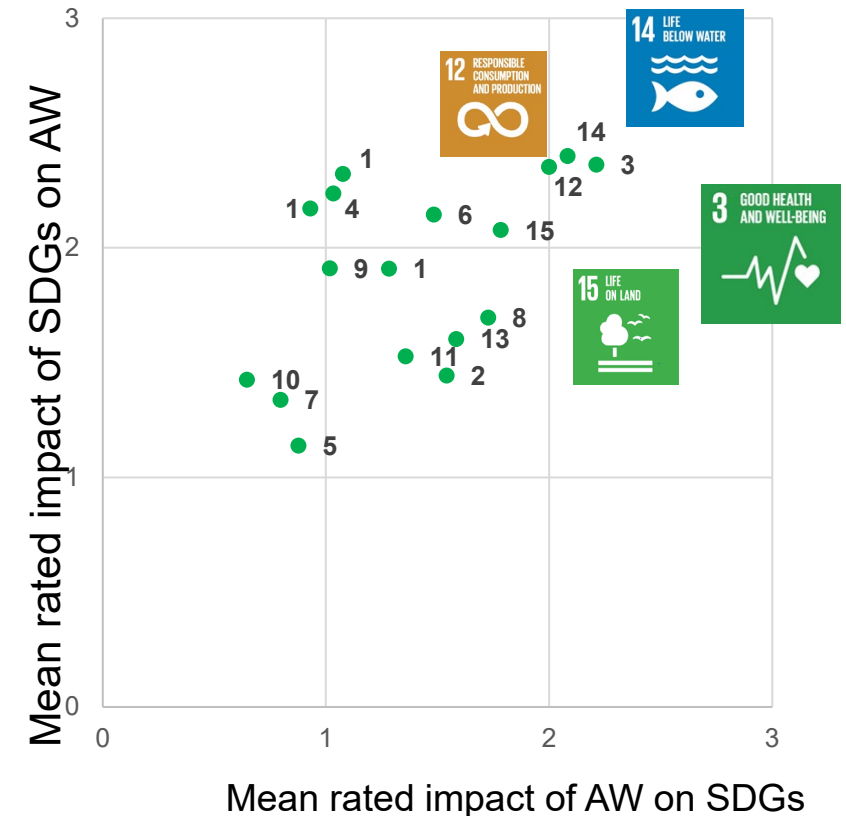


COMMUNICATION
WITH
GOVERNMENTS,
ORGANISATIONS
AND THE PUBLIC

Focus on top right quadrant



Most positive links





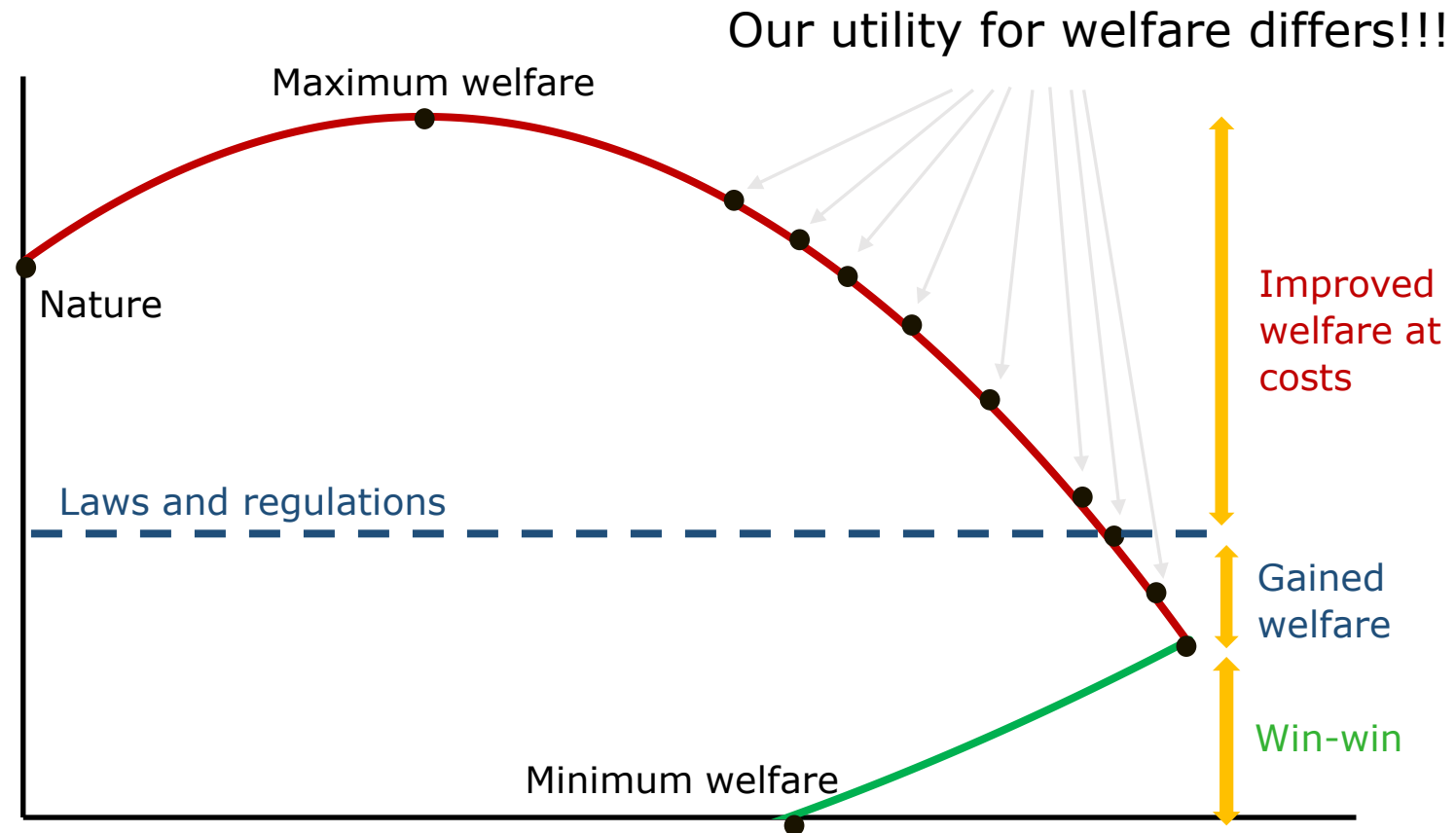
GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES



COMMUNICATION
WITH
GOVERNMENTS,
ORGANISATIONS
AND THE PUBLIC

'Animal welfare economics'

- Fourth WOAHA AW Forum (Virtual) -October 2023.



After McInerney, 2004



GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES

- Fourth WOAHA AW Forum (Virtual) -October 2023.

‘Developing national animal welfare legislation; different paths for the same destination’



COMMUNICATION
WITH
GOVERNMENTS,
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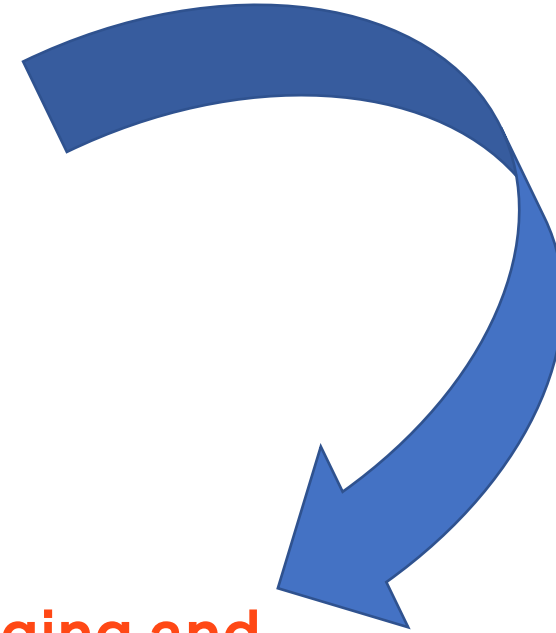
Anti-cruelty

Conservation

Rights

Welfare

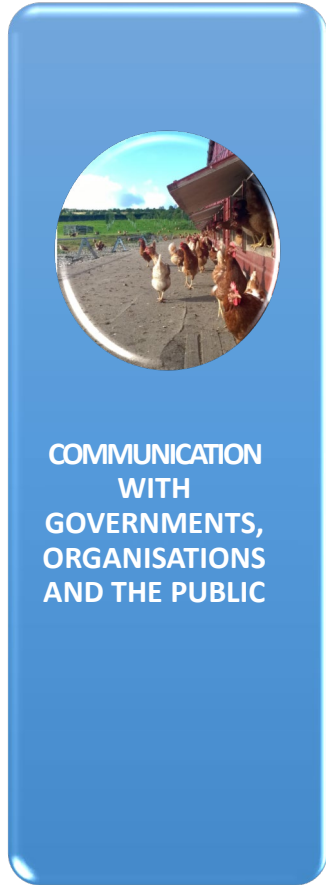
Maciel, 2023



Encouraging and supporting the ongoing development, evolution and implementation of Regional Animal Welfare Strategies (RAWS)



GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES



7th WOAH Global Animal Welfare Forum

13 and 14 November 2025

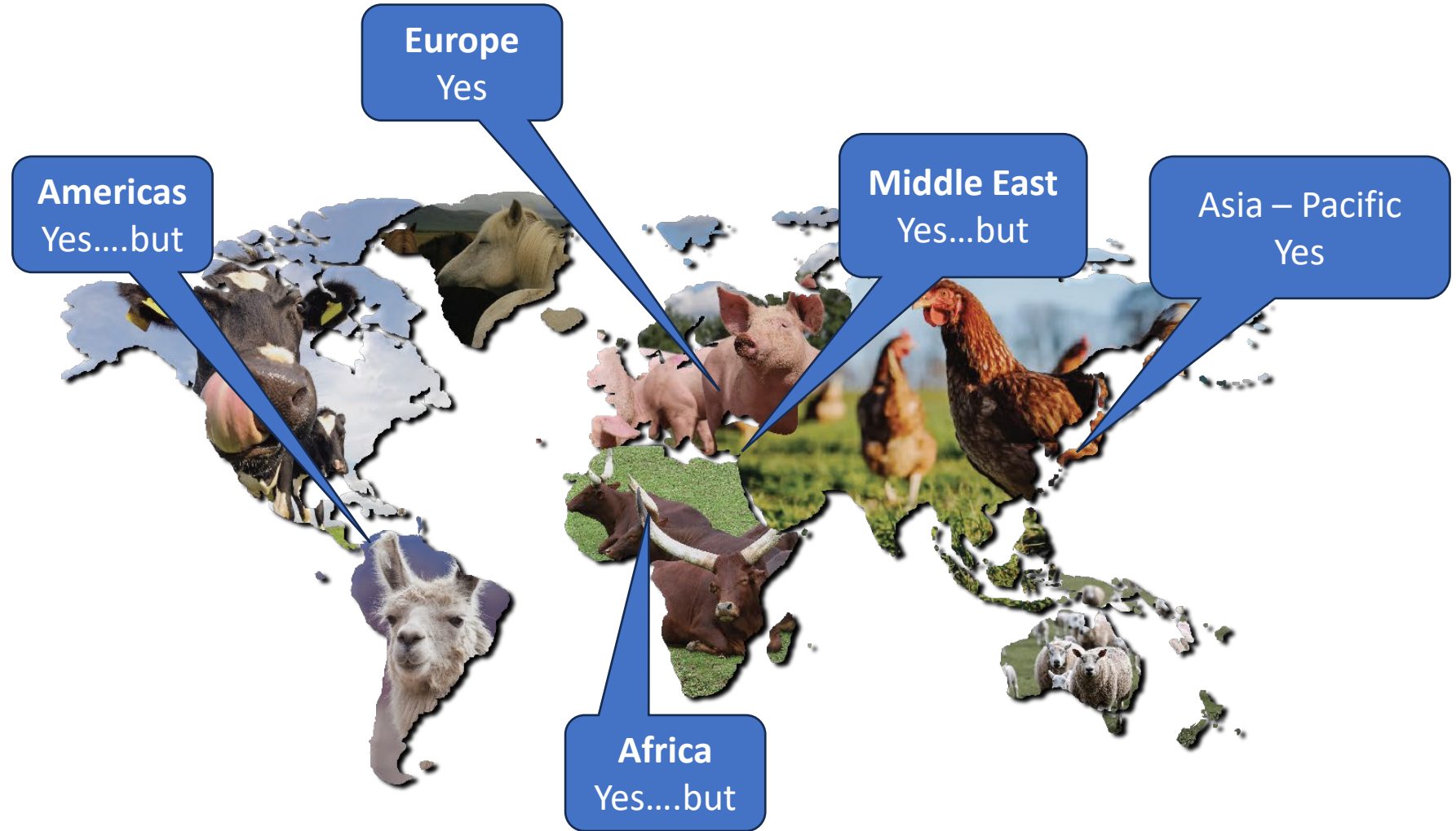
Paris, France



**“Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and
Platforms (RAWS&P); A key tool for the
implementation of WOAH animal welfare
standards”**



What's happening with the RAWS&P





WHAT'S IN THE RAWS&P

Priorities



Partners



Funding



Governance



Content



Administration





POINTS OF DISCUSSIONS

Boost



Identify



Action Plans



Support



Advocacy



Stakeholder agreements



Ownership

Secure funds





GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES

WOAH Training Portal (<https://training.oie.int/>)



Development of e-learning modules

Chapter 7.14. Killing of Reptiles for their Skins, Meat and Other Products (Finalised).

Labelling process of Chapter 7.7. Dog population management (On going).

Initial work on Chapters 7.5. Animal welfare during slaughter, 7.6. Animal welfare at the time of killing and 7.13. Animal welfare in pig production systems (On going).



CAPACITY
BUILDING AND
EDUCATION

Woah Animal welfare Collaborating Centres

A new Global Network of Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres, presented to the Biological Standard Commission at their February 2025 meeting. The Commission acknowledged and encouraged this initiative and in September 2025 the Network presented their 5-years work plan.

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-welfare/capacity-building-and-education/>



GAWS PILLARS ACTIVITIES

WOAH Observatory project



IMPLEMENTATION
OF ANIMAL
WELFARE
STANDARDS AND
POLICIES

Thematic study on animal transport by land and sea. 1st Phase finished (Factsheet on WOAH Website; <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/observatory/the-observatorys-thematic-studies/#welfare>). 2nd Phase started during the 1st Semester of 2025.

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/observatory/>

Collaboration with partners (ISO)

Technical Specification ISO TS 34700, Animal welfare management - General requirements and guidance for organizations in the food supply chain (<https://www.iso.org/standard/64749.html>)



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Thank you!

Merci

Gracias

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