

WOAH Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) for Asia and the Pacific

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WOAH-ICFAW Animal Welfare Training Conference
Vang Vieng, Lao PDR, 25 -26 February 2025

WOAH Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Asia-Pacific

HISTORY: RAWS - first regional animal welfare strategy issued by WOA



2007	4th OIE Strategic Plan (2006-2010) established RAWS to promote animal welfare and OIE guideline
2008	RAWS endorsed by the OIE 78th General Session (May 2008) and RAWS Strategy Edition 1 published
2010	April 2010 - RAWS Coordination Group (CG) was created to manage RAWS
2013	RAWS Strategy Edition 2 published
2015	RAWS Advisory Group replaced CG; assuming RAWS management under the Regional Commission
2022	Nov 2022 - RAWS AG reinstated. Regional Commission agreed to new membership and terms of reference.
2023	RAWS Third Action Plan (2024 – 2028) circulated; endorsed at the Regional Commission meeting May 2024
2024	RAWS AG new Chair appointed & membership renewed
2025	RAWS Edition 3 updated; will be endorsed at the Regional Commission meeting 13 May 2025

OBJECTIVE: RAWS - developed to provide an overarching, agreed framework and guidance for WOAH Members, non-WOAH members and Partners in the region when implementing WOAH Standards for animal welfare, and to serve as the basis for the development of its action plans



RAWS ASIA-PACIFIC

Objective

Developed to provide an overarching, agreed framework and guidance for WOAHA Members, non-WOAH members and Partners in the region when implementing WOAHA standards for animal welfare, and to serve as the basis for the development of Action Plans

Vision

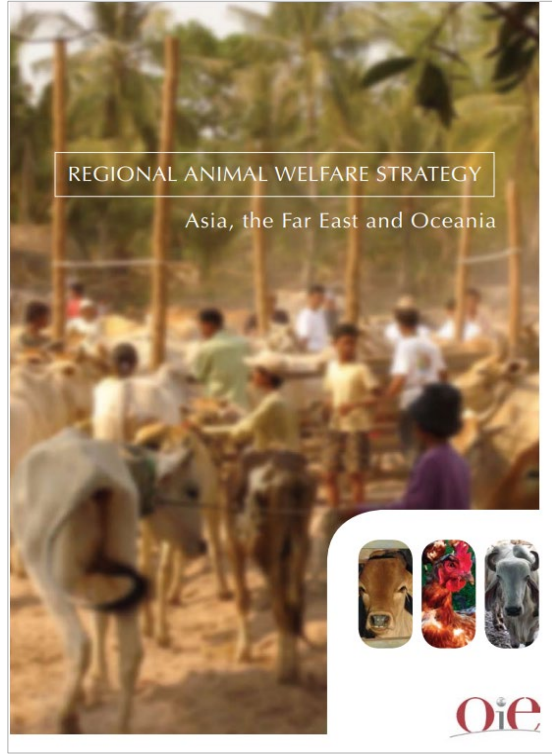
Our vision is a region where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and incrementally advanced, simultaneously with the pursuit of progress and socioeconomic development.



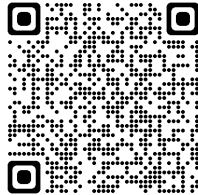
WOAH (the OIE) first agreed to include animal welfare in its strategy (2001-2005).

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 well-being, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability”

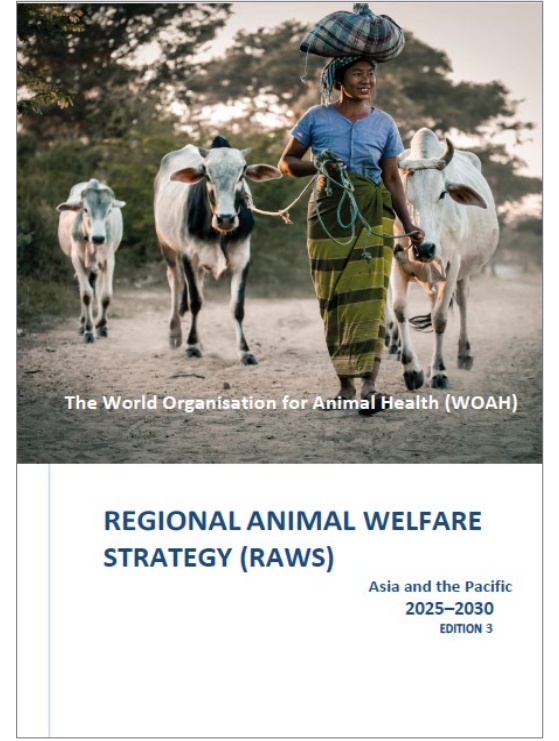
RAWS Asia-Pacific Strategy documents



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



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



2025 RAWs (Edition 3): updated version; maintains principles & vision of animal welfare progress and development progress by incorporating RAWs Third Action Plan (2024-2028)

AIMS

1. to facilitate the implementation of WOAHA Animal Welfare Standards,
2. to provide a framework for the coordination of animal welfare activities, and address emerging issues, and
3. to encourages cooperative efforts between governments and non-government stakeholders from industry and animal welfare organisations to protect and promote the welfare of animals in a sustainable manner

VISION

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



REGIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY (RAWS)

Asia and the Pacific
2025–2030
EDITION 3

PURPOSES

1. provides direction for the development of action plans for WOAHA Members to implement WOAHA Animal Welfare Standards in a way that acknowledges each Member's unique landscapes, ecosystems and climate
2. provides a roadmap for the development of future animal welfare policies, based on a regional consultative approach
3. facilitates the establishment of priorities that are consistent with agreed strategic goals
4. provides a framework for cooperation among Members and stakeholders in promoting and advancing animal welfare in the region

**RAWS Edition 3
(2025-2030)**

IMPACT

(long term objectives)

Stronger regional animal welfare achieved via standards development, capacity building, and education

OUTCOME

(short & mid-term objectives)

1. Promote animal welfare awareness through effective coordination, communication & training.
2. Coordinate WOAHA animal welfare standards regionally.
3. Sustainable animal welfare advancements through regional & global R&D.
4. Sustainably coordinate animal welfare efforts.



World Organisation
for Animal Health



**WOAH REGIONAL ANIMAL
WELFARE STRATEGY (RAWS)
THIRD ACTION PLAN (2024 – 2028)
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Kate Littin, Linda Wilkin-Krug,
and Jacqueline Lusat
Spring 2024

*Endorsed during the Regional Commission
Meeting May 2024*

RAWS Third Action Plan (2024 - 2028)

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES (2024 - 2025)

1. Continue RAWS Newsletter
2. Revise RAWS Strategy document
3. Revise RAWS Advisory Group Terms and reference
4. Continue RAWS regional animal welfare webinar (i.e., yearly basis)
5. Enhance awareness of the RAWS
6. Support WOAHA Members & Partners to raise awareness of RAWS (i.e., conferences, focal point workshops)
7. Promote understanding of and connection on One Health/Welfare through webinars

The RAWS describes four objectives and several activities. RAWS Third Action Plan (2024-2028) suggests the following related priority activities under each objective:

Key RAWS objectives	Priority activities
Goal 1: Promotion and achievement of a high level of understanding and awareness of animal welfare in the region through effective coordination, communication, education, and training.	1-1: Communications with focal points and key stakeholders 1-2: Support capacity building activities for focal points
Goal 2: A coordinated regional approach to the implementation of WOA standards for animal welfare.	2-1: Continued focus on the implementation of WOA standards for transport and slaughter 2-2: Promote understanding of animal welfare as part of One Health (the nexus between the welfare of animals, humans/communities, and the environment)
Goal 3: Sustainable improvements in animal welfare, based on regional and international research and development.	3-1: Support the WOA Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis: the David Bayvel Consortium (the Collaborating Centre) with regional focus
Goal 4: Sustainable mechanisms to coordinate and promote animal welfare programs and priorities.	4-1: Ensure that focal points under WOA mechanisms have the information they need to take part in WOA standard setting processes, including commenting on draft chapters 4-2: Sensitise policy makers and decision makers on importance and benefits of animal welfare and the implementation of WOA standards on animal welfare

Note: Although numerous activities were possible, the advisory group prioritised only seven. This decision acknowledges that targeted actions on a smaller set of priorities are more likely to yield significant progress than spreading efforts across a larger, less focused agenda. Consequently, the selected activities, along with the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) used to track their achievement, must be practical and receive strong support from WOA Members and Partners.

GOAL 1

Priority activities	KPIs	2023	2024	2025
1-1: Communications with focal points and key stakeholders	Number of webinars delivered each year	1	1	1 (tbc)
1-2: Support capacity building activities for focal points	Number of trainings conducted for WOA National Focal Points for Animal Welfare	0	0	3
	Relevant events are listed and promoted in every issue of RAW News	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Number of presentations of WOA capacity building material to WOA National Focal Points for Animal Welfare in the region	1	2	1

GOAL 2

Priority activities	KPIs	2023	2024	2025
2-1: Continued focus on the implementation of WOA standards for transport and slaughter	Number of regional animal welfare forums	0	0	tbc
2-2: Promote understanding of animal welfare as part of One Health (the nexus between the welfare of animals, humans/communities, and the environment)	Number of RAW News special issues and articles in RAW News about ISO Standards	0	1	tbc
	Number of webinars and trainings for WOA National Focal Points for Animal Welfare with a presentation on ISO/TS 34700	1	0	1
	Number of WOA One Health events that have an animal welfare presentation	>5	>5	>5
	Number of webinars, RAW News and regional social media posts that refer to the observatory and encourage involvement	>5	>5	>5

GOAL 3

Priority activities	KPIs	2023	2024	2025
3-1: Support the WOAHA Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis: the David Bayvel Consortium (the Collaborating Centre) with regional focus	Number of webinars delivered each year	1	1	1 (tbc)
	Number of trainings conducted for WOAHA National Focal Points for Animal Welfare	0	0	1
	Relevant events are listed and promoted in every issue of RAWS News	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Number of presentations of WOAHA capacity building material to WOAHA National Focal Points for Animal Welfare in the region	1	2	1

GOAL 4

Priority activities	KPIs	2023	2024	2025
4-1: Ensure that focal points under WOAHA mechanisms have the information they need to take part in WOAHA standard setting processes, including commenting on draft chapters	RAWS-AG encourages focal points to share comments on standards under development or review two times every year (following WOAHA standard-setting cycle)	Yes	Yes	Yes
4-2: Sensitise policy makers and decision makers on importance and benefits of animal welfare and the implementation of WOAHA standards on animal welfare	Number of meetings, webinars and conferences where animal welfare is raised in relation to the RAWS	2 - 5	2 - 5	2 - 5
	Number of invitations received by RAWS-AG members to present on animal welfare and RAWS	2 - 5	2 - 5	2 - 5

The importance of M&E in RAW – why does it matter?

Ensuring the strategy remains on track and effective, and identify any issues

Ensuring the strategy is relevant and responds to changing needs

How has it been implemented? How has it helped?

Feedback mechanisms such as evaluation surveys after events so lessons can be used in the next activity

Clear and measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the Action Plan that can be easily tracked

What are the benefits? How can it help to improve animal welfare?

Ensuring we address the priorities for our members, which vary across the region depending on national situation

Listening to the feedback from a variety of stakeholders ensures better coordination so everyone is 'pulling in the same direction'

Challenges/learnings? How would you improve the M&E aspect in the future?

Need to think really carefully at the start about what KPIs you want to focus on and how you can measure them

Collection of a lot of data from member stories and achievements, which makes it hard to analyse key themes

Future look for your RAWS

Streamlined the 3rd edition to prioritise and clearly define the focus areas

Next steps – moving from sharing experience to implementing activities (in-person events)

RAWS Advisory Group – Terms of reference and *Modus operandi* (is being updated)

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.

ACTIVITIES

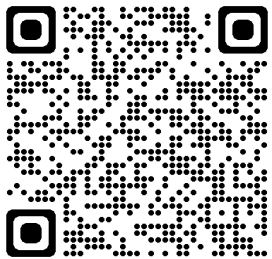
- 1) Create & maintain 5-year RAWS Action Plan,
- 2) support RAWS implementation,
- 3) Regional Committee annual report,
- 4) RAWS communications development,
- 5) encourage funding and ensure awareness of RAWS,
- 6) WOAHP NF animal welfare training (regional advice),
- 7) RAWS support projects.

MODUS OPERANDI

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

MEMBERSHIP

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



QR code to
access
the Terms of
reference

RAW Advisory Group Membership 2025

Members: 20
Observers: 17

Members and Observers meet quarterly to discuss challenges, review activities, and facilitate networking

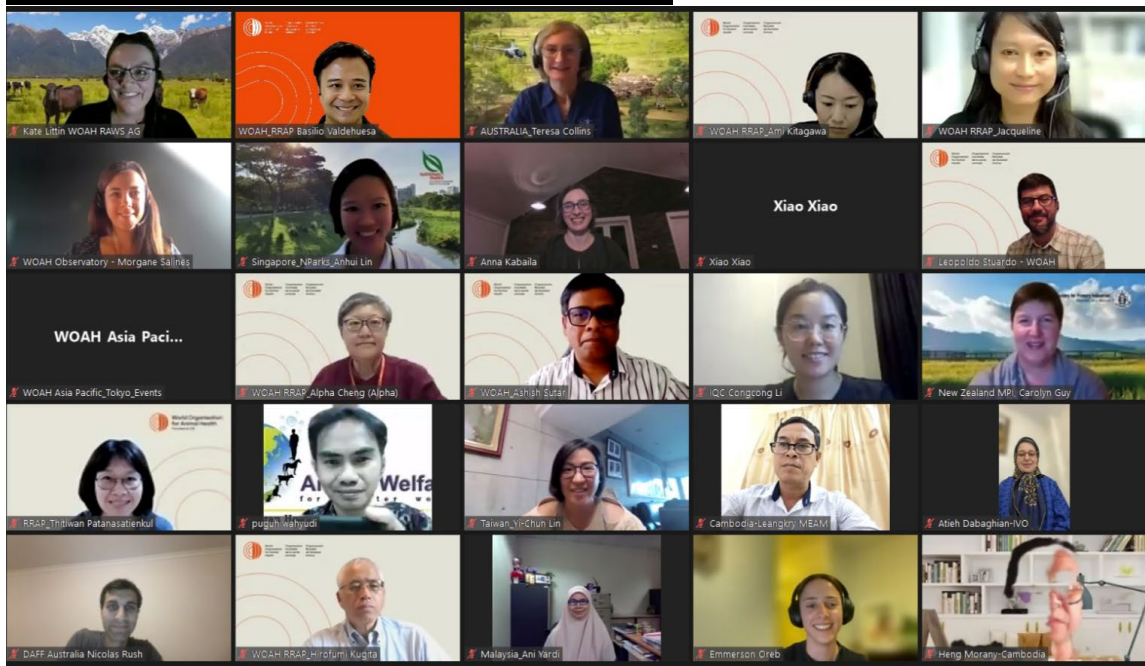
Name	Country/ Organisation	Post
 Carolyn Guy	New Zealand	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Emily Orchard-Mills	Australia	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Marzuna Md Yunus	Malaysia	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Audrey Chen	Singapore	WOAH Focal Point for Animal Welfare
 Marie Shella Ordinario	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)

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 webinar September 2023



WOAH ANIMAL WELFARE WEBINAR

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



WOAH Standards for animal welfare, topics to be discussed at the webinar are transport of animals by land, dog population management, slaughter of animals, and killing of animals for disease control purposes

Details

29 SEPTEMBER 2023

1400 - 1630 BANGKOK | 1000 - 1830 TOKYO

REGISTER AND JOIN ON ZOOM



<https://m.eah.org/en/development/using-woah-standards-to-support-good-animal-welfare-in-the-region/>

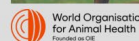
Speakers

DR LIN ANNIE (SINGAPORE)
DR XIAO XIAO (PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA)
DR ANNA KABAILA (AUSTRALIA)
DR LEOPOLDO STUARDO (WOAH)

For inquiries: asia.pacific@woah.org

RAWS Asia-Pacific past webinars (2023 - 2024)

RAWS webinar July 2024



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded in 1924

WOAH Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Webinar 2024

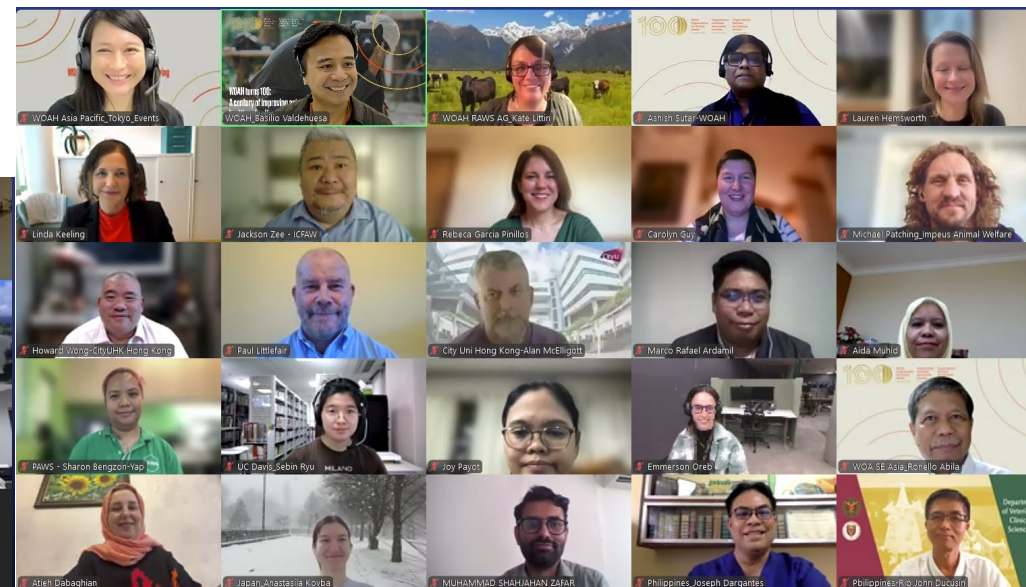
Register here: [RAWS Webinar 2024](#)



Thursday 4th of July 2024
4PM - 6PM Tokyo, Japan (UTC +9h)

Animal welfare – a vital asset for a sustainable region: exploring the relationship between animal health, sustainable and secure food production, socioeconomic progress and animal welfare in Asia and the Pacific

Download Agenda : [RAWS Agenda 2024](#)



RAWS webinar 2025 – 3 Dec



SAVE THE DATE

WOAH Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) Asia-Pacific animal welfare
webinar: 'Maintaining animal welfare when emergency and disaster strike'

4 December 2025 | 3 PM JST (Tokyo time)



Register HERE:

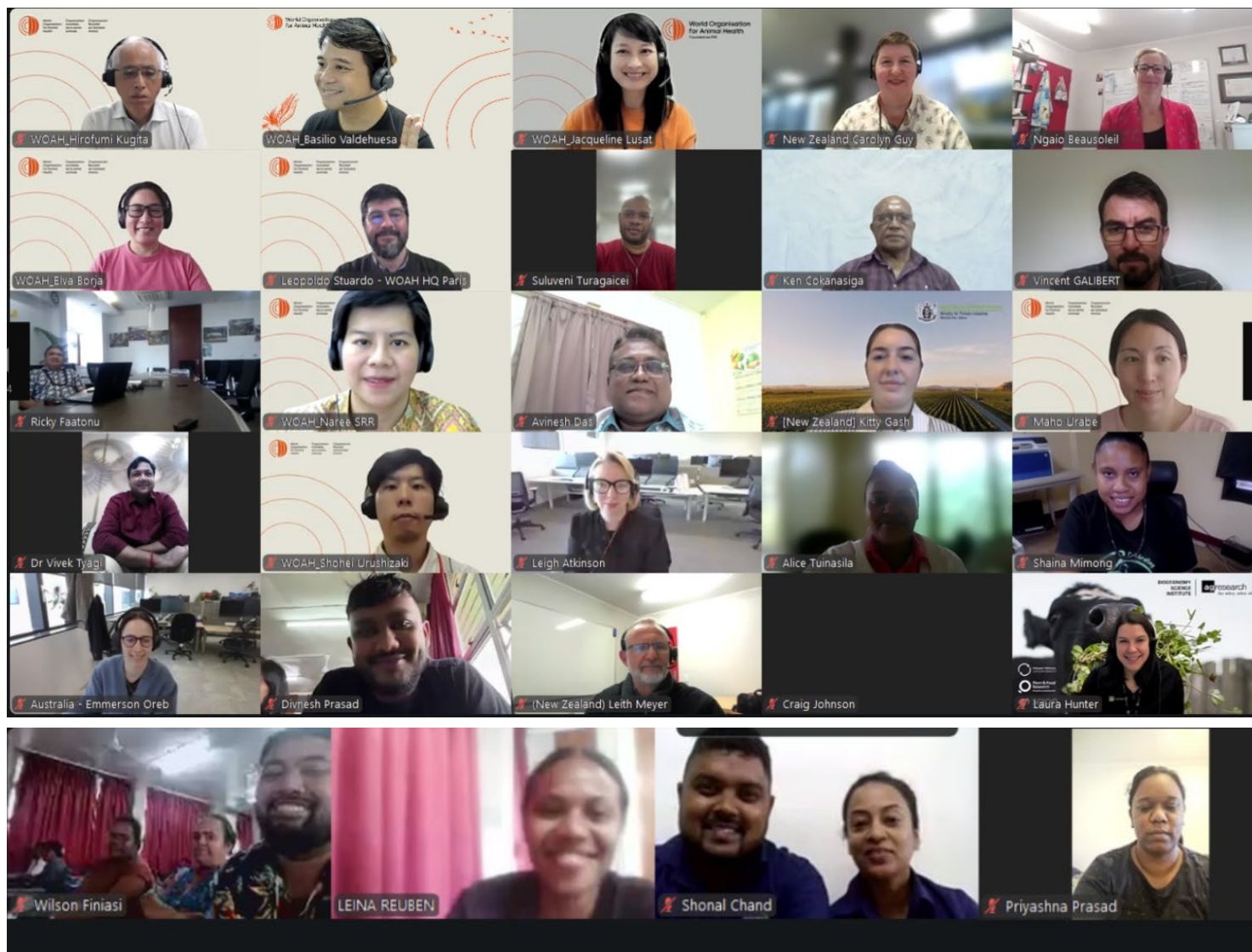
Inquiries:

j.lusat@woah.org with copy to: carolyn.guy@mpi.govt.nz



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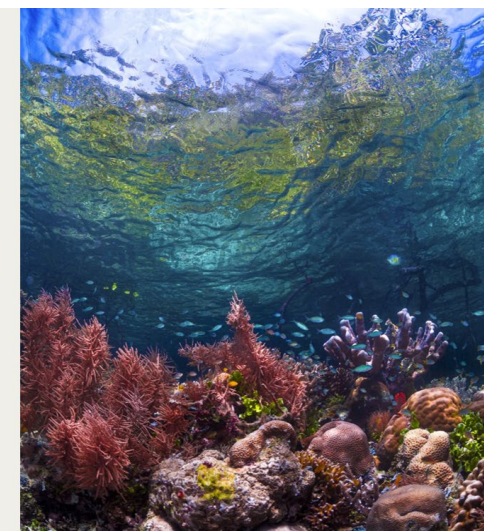




WOAH subregional animal welfare webinar: implementing WOA Standards for good animal welfare in the Pacific

29 July 2025

This webinar is a collaborative effort with the WOA Regional and Sub-regional Representations for Asia-Pacific, Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Heads of Veterinary and Animal Production Services (PHOVAPS) Network, WOA Regional Animal Welfare Strategy (RAWS) for Asia and the Pacific, and WOA Collaborating Centre on Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis (the David Bayvel Consortium)



WOAH subregional animal welfare webinar: implementing WOA Standards for good animal welfare in the Pacific – 29 Jul 2025

RAWS – CC - SPC: Animal Welfare Webinar for the Pacific: Dog Population Management - 12 March 2026 (UPCOMING)

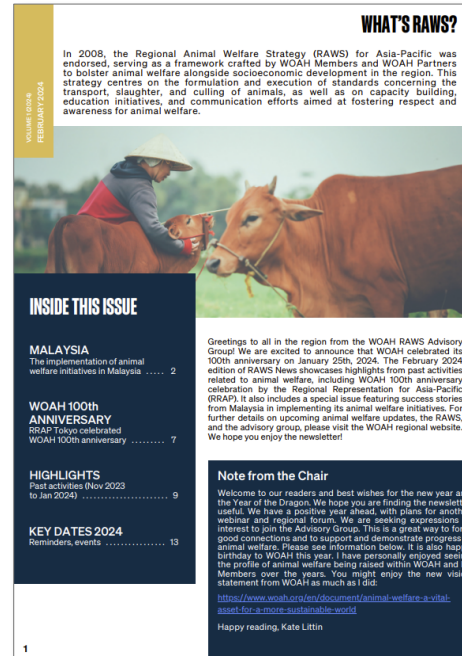
RAWS Asia-Pacific Newsletters (2011 - 2025)

Links to RAWS Newsletters (2011 – 2020)

- RAWS Feb 2011
- [RAWS Nov 2011](#)
- [RAWS Oct 2012](#)
- [RAWS Jul 2012](#)
- [RAWS Feb 2013](#)
- [RAWS Jun 2013](#)
- [RAWS Dec 2013](#)
- [RAWS Jun 2014](#)
- [RAWS Dec 2015](#)
- [RAWS Feb 2017](#)
- [RAWS Mar 2018](#)
- [RAWS Aug 2020](#)



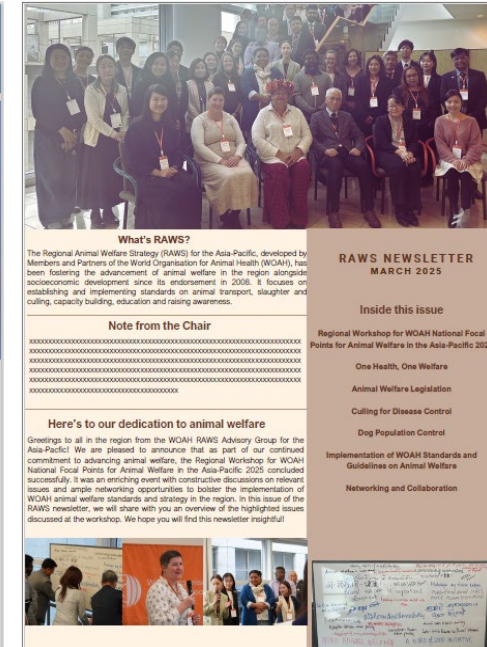
RAWS Newsletter Nov 2023



RAWS Newsletter Feb 2024



RAWS Newsletter Dec 2024



RAWS Newsletter Apr 2025

Please send your contributions (i.e., success stories, updates, challenges, events) to the RAWS AG Secretariat at j.lusat@woah.org, and copy in a.sutar@woah.org and rr.asiapacific@woah.org

RAWS AG encourages WOAH Members and Partners to contribute to the RAWS Newsletter

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

2010 Bangkok

2011 Tokyo

2013 Seoul

2014 Canberra

2019 Bali

2025 Tokyo

2010	Workshop for OIE National FPs for Animal Welfare, Bangkok (Thailand) 5 - 7 Apr 2010
2011	Regional Seminar for OIE National FPs for Animal Welfare, Tokyo (Japan) 30 Nov - 2 Dec 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
2019	Regional training seminar for OIE national focal points on animal welfare, Bali (Indonesia) 11th – 14th Nov 2019
2025	Regional Workshop for WOA 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 workshop for WOA national focal points for animal welfare, Tokyo, Japan 21 – 23 Jan 2025

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



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



Activities and timelines

2024

WEBINAR: Links between animal welfare, biodiversity, climate change, pollution, health, food security and livelihoods (One Health/One Welfare nexus).

2025

WEBINAR: Maintaining animal welfare when emergency and disaster strike [4 December 2025, 1500, hr Tokyo time]

2025/26

TRAININGS: Animal welfare training for WOA National Focal Points for Animal Welfare in-person.
ToT Workshops on Animal Welfare (WOAH Chapter 7.6 and Chapter 7.13)

On-going

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

On-going

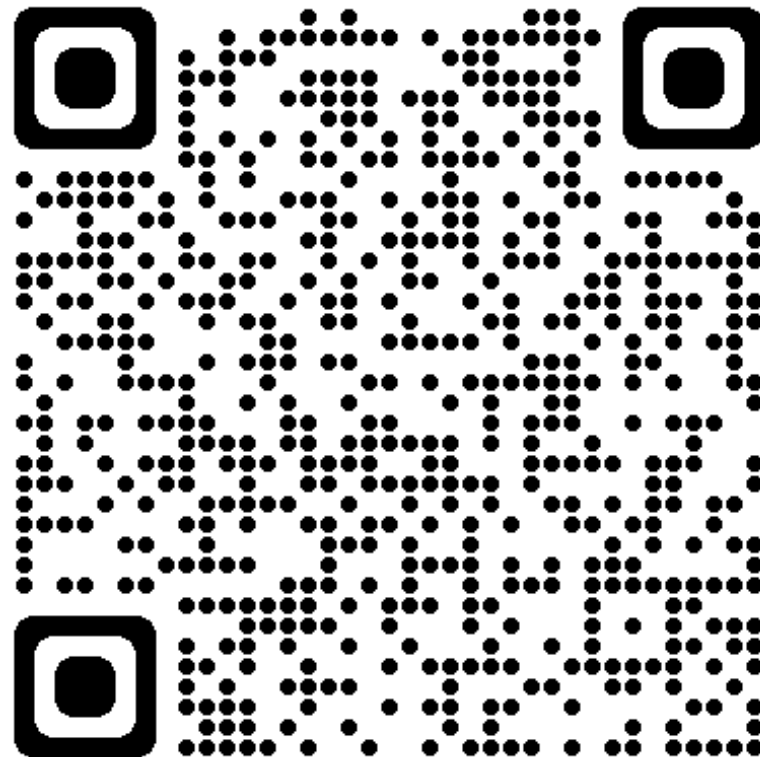
NEWSLETTER: RAWs AG promotes regional animal welfare events through lists in RAWs News, advisory meetings, and social media updates.

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.

**For more information on RAWS Asia-Pacific, please visit
our website at:**

<https://rr-asia.woah.org/en/projects/animal-welfare/>





This photo was taken in Tokyo, Japan, in January 2025 during the in-person RAWS Advisory Group meeting
(please note that not all members and observers were present in the photo)