

PANORAMA

Thematic portfolio

Public-Private Partnerships and perspectives in the veterinary domain



PERSPECTIVES

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DOSSIER

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AROUND THE WORLD

In the International Dairy Federation (IDF), we believe that healthy and productive dairy animals contribute to a safe, sufficient and nutritious food supply. Diseases in dairy animals can decrease productivity and also result in food waste, due to discarded milk. Sustainable milk production is achieved through good management of animal care. Poor animal health may endanger the fulfilment of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. Collaboration throughout each stage of the value chain is essential to deliver successful results when confronted with these challenges.

Control of antimicrobial resistance

Since antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a complex issue that has the potential to affect all living beings, isolated interventions can only have limited impact. Coordinated public–private partnership (PPP) actions are needed to minimise the emergence and spread of AMR and its related impacts.

The IDF promotes prudent and responsible use of antimicrobial agents within the global dairy sector to ensure that they continue to be effective in keeping animals in good health. The IDF guidance on AMR [1] and on the prudent use of antimicrobial agents in dairy production [2] supports the harmonised implementation of the global strategies on AMR.

Control programmes for paratuberculosis

Paratuberculosis, caused by *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* (MAP), is an example of disease control that requires a strong national control programme and collaboration among many stakeholders.

The IDF contributes to a PPP biannual forum to discuss the current state of paratuberculosis research and national control programmes [3]. Key drivers for the implementation of those programmes include growing concerns in the dairy sector about the zoonotic potential of MAP, the desire to be proactive in taking control measures at both the farm and processor levels, and the need to meet trade requirements.

Welfare of dairy animals

Good animal welfare practices benefit everyone, from the animals themselves and farmers to processors and consumers, and society as a whole. In 2019, the IDF, in collaboration with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), released an updated *IDF Guide to Good Animal Welfare in Dairy Production* [4]. This PPP collaborative effort promotes the implementation of good animal welfare practices in dairy production at a global scale. It refers to key international standards and provides guidelines to help dairy farmers and milk processors to interpret and implement these standards, based on scientific evidence and expertise.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.20506/bull.2019.3.3042>

The role of public–private partnerships in the dairy sector

KEYWORDS

#animal welfare, #antimicrobial resistance (AMR), #International Dairy Federation (IDF), #public–private partnership, #World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), #zoonosis.

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