

Building capacity to improve Animal welfare in the Americas region



The 4th Regional Training Seminar for National Animal Welfare Focal Points for the Americas took place on 3–6 September in Belém do Pará, Brazil.

During the seminar, National Focal Points were provided with the necessary information and updates to better fulfil their responsibilities and obligations as advisors to their OIE Delegates, while increasing their understanding of animal welfare and its implications for trade and trade agreements. Synergies and commitments were established for the development and implementation of OIE animal welfare standards, legislation and veterinary regulations.

“A world in which animal welfare is respected, promoted and enhanced in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability”.

Vision of the OIE in its Global Strategy.

Countries in the Americas region are motivated by being active participants from the beginning in the development of OIE standards on animal welfare, which will take into account their geographical, productive, cultural and economic particularities.

It is of paramount importance to promote strong cooperation between stakeholders to improve animal welfare conditions.

Workshop objectives

1. Support Member Countries involvement in the development and implementation of OIE animal welfare standards;
2. Discuss the implications of animal welfare for international trade, including international, regional and bilateral trade agreements;
3. Reiterate the OIE animal welfare standards, in particular, those on transport, slaughtering, culling for disease control purposes and stray dog population control;
4. Raise awareness on the chapter on working equids and the newly adopted chapter on animal welfare and pig production systems and identify the role and responsibility of national Veterinary Services in this field;
5. Share knowledge among Member Countries, including training experiences, and provide practical examples to help Veterinary Services develop and implement veterinary legislation and regulations;
6. Discuss the use of a regional animal welfare strategy to support the implementation of OIE animal welfare standards;
7. Provide an update on new chapters that are circulating for comments and on further revisions that are foreseen.

In conjunction with the International Coalition for Working Equids (ICWE), an awareness day was held on the welfare of working equids to gain insight into the potential welfare challenges that are present in the Americas region and to explore how these countries could jointly develop capacity building activities tailored to the identified needs and gaps.

[For more information](#)

Visit the OIE Animal Welfare Portal: www.oie.int/en/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-at-a-glance/

Visit the ICWE website: www.icweworkingequids.org/

Learn more about the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy: www.rr-americas.oie.int/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Estrategia-Regional-Reporte-Final-Barbados_ESP.pdf



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