OIE ANIMAL WELFARE GLOBAL FORUM
Animal Welfare and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
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Dog Population Management – Linkages with SDGs
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International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW)

- created in 2001 to represent NGOs from all over the world at the OIE;
- dedicated to improving the welfare of farm animals, companion animals, working animals, wildlife and animals used for research, education, sporting and entertainment;
- currently composed of 21 organisations, which all share the primary objective of preventing cruelty and improving animal welfare;

Mission:
- to bring together the collective expertise and experience of world-wide animal protection NGO Community to contribute to OIE activities related to animal welfare.
- to work towards the highest possible AWS globally through active cooperative participation in the OIE’s consultation process.
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

WHEREAS, the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as the “OIE”) is an intergovernmental organisation recognised by the World Trade Organization as a reference organisation for international standards concerning the sanitary safety of international trade of animals and products of animal origin and zoonoses, and is in charge of improving animal health, veterinary public health and animal welfare worldwide, as well as transparency of the global animal disease situation:

WHEREAS, the International Coalition for Animal Welfare is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation representing non-governmental animal welfare organisations from all over the world at the OIE (hereinafter referred to as “ICFAW”):

WHEREAS, both the OIE and ICFAW (hereinafter referred to collectively as the “Parties” and individually as a “Party”) have accumulated a breadth of experience in policy development and implementation in various contexts, and have developed significant know-how and practices within their own areas of expertise:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Director General of the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Chair of ICFAW have signed this MoU in duplicate, in English, on

29/06/2018.
International Companion Animal Management Coalition (ICAM)

- Formed 2006
- International animal welfare NGOs and specialist organizations
- Share, learn and support humane and effective companion animal management
Humane DPM guidance

• Updated 2019 edition
  ➢ Available as pdf download in English from www.icam-coalition.org
OIE Chapter 7.7

- **2009** adopted chapter 7.7 on Stray dog population control

- The chapter is currently under revision and will be proposed for adoption in 2022 titled *Dog population management*.

- “**DPM programme** means a combination of DPM measures that enhance the care of dogs and influence dog population dynamics to sustainably improve dog health and welfare, public health and safety, environment and related economic benefit and costs”.
Free-roaming dog means any owned dog or unowned dog that is without direct human supervision or control.

Sources of free roaming dogs are:

- Owned dogs that roam freely;
- Dogs that have been lost or abandoned, including puppies resulting from uncontrolled breeding of owned dogs;
- Unowned dogs that reproduce.
What is DPM

Population management should work as a system. This system is supported by a foundation of legislation, political will and social motivation driving the provision and use of appropriate ‘services’ (ICAM terminology) or ‘measures’ (OIE terminology).
Impacts of effective DPM

1. Improve dog welfare
2. Improve care provided to dogs
3. Reduce dog density/Stabilise turnover
4. Reduce risks to public health
5. Improve public perception
6. Improve rehoming centre performance
7. Reduce negative impacts of dogs on wildlife
8. Reduce negative impacts of dogs on livestock
Traditional stray dog control

- Narrow perception; sees roaming dogs only as unowned dogs
Effective DPM recognises that many roaming dogs are *owned roaming*.
Effective DPM works to reduce **sources** of roaming dogs; the owned dog population.
DPM is a permanent community service.
DPM must address what people do with their dogs – **human behaviour** is the key driver of dynamic processes in dog population.
Assess, design and evaluate

- Evidence base via dog population assessment
  - Problem prioritisation
  - Population dynamics
- Stakeholder informed
- Balance of baseline assessment and M&E
DPM system

- What we actually do to manage dogs humanely
DPM system

- What we actually do to manage dogs humanely
- Foundations support sustainability of DPM as a permanent community service
DPM system

- What we actually do to manage dogs humanely
- DPM services
  - Fundamental to all DPM (outer circles)
  - Context dependent (inner circles)
Fundamental Context dependent

- Strengthen DPM Professional Capacity
- Access to Reproduction Control
- Access to Veterinary Care
- Manage Access to Resources
- Formal Education of Children
- Holding Facilities / Rehoming Centres
- Identification & Registration
- Control of Commercial Breeding & Sale
- Promote Responsible Behaviour

Positive Human-Dog Relationship
Enabling environment

- DPM implementers
  - Local government with NGO support and community involvement

- DPM enablers
  - National Veterinary Services, other national government departments, regional bodies and NGOs

- Building an enabling environment
  - Governance
  - Politics
  - Legislation and enforcement
  - Funding
  - Training and support
  - Rabies control and elimination
ICAM INTERNATIONAL COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT COALITION

HUMANE DOG POPULATION MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE

Humane Dog Population Management 2019 Update

Whether implementing DPM at a local level or providing support through national/regional level activity, ICAM’s (2019) Humane Dog Population Management guide has advice for anyone with the goal of creating positive human-dog relationships.
Impacts of effective DPM

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SDG 1
End poverty in all its forms everywhere

▪ DPM and poverty are linked – DPM is absent where poverty is present.
▪ Billions around the world could be a dog bite away from falling further into the vicious poverty trap.
▪ Simply by reducing the burden of dog mediated zoonotic diseases, DPM can contribute to reduce poverty – at least not make it worse.
▪ The cost of PEP creates a significant economic burden and DPM is very important in reducing the incidence of dog bites through responsible ownership and managed dog populations.

✓ Reduce dog density/Stabilise turnover
✓ Reduce risks to public health
SDG 3
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

- More than 60 zoonotic diseases transmitted to humans are dog mediated including those of significant concerns such as rabies, leishmaniasis and echinococcosis.
- DPM contributes to disease control by increasing responsible owner behaviour and the proportion of dogs that are managed.
- The value of dogs in improving mental well-being are being increasingly recognized by scientists.
- DPM is essential to maintaining harmonious dog – human interaction at community level contributing to overall mental well being of society.
Rabies and DPM

- Rabies alone causes an estimated 59,000 preventable human deaths. Nearly 50% of people bitten by suspect rabid animals are children under 15 years old.
- More than 95% of the 59,000 human rabies deaths each year occur in Africa and Asia, as a result of being bitten by an infected dog. This happens mostly in economically underprivileged countries, where PEP is not accessible or too expensive.
- If not addressed urgently and efficiently, the number of human deaths will increase to 67,000 per year, or more than one million deaths between 2020 and 2035.
- Mass Dog Vaccination must become and remain a priority if we want to reach a goal of elimination by 2030 and DPM elements are important not only for helping attain at least 70% coverage, but also sustaining the gains of MDV.
SDG 8
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

DPM policies and programs will result in much needed full and productive employment at local level in developing and least developed countries. This will make positive contribution to nation’s economy.

- Improve dog welfare
- Improve care provided to dogs
- Improve rehoming centre performance
SDG 11
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- 0.7 billion more people living in cities in 2030 than today – equivalent to 213,000 people moving to cities everyday.
- Unmanaged dogs can be a significant concern for citizens and limit their use of public spaces. DPM is essential to resolve these issues and make cities safer and more welcoming - without DPM this goal cannot be achieved.

✓ Improve dog welfare
✓ Improve care provided to dogs
✓ Reduce dog density/Stabilise turnover
✓ Reduce risks to public health
✓ Improve public perception
In many parts of the world, dogs are used for protecting property; for hunting; or for protecting livestock from predators.

There is close interaction between free roaming dogs and wildlife. This has a tendency to negatively disrupt local ecosystem.

Available case studies indicate that vet care, sterilisation and good provisioning at home can reduce disease spread, predation of wildlife and hybridization.

SDG 15
Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

✓ Reduce negative impacts of dogs on wildlife
✓ Reduce negative impacts of dogs on livestock
SDG 17
Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

- Humane DPM brings wider benefits to people and their beloved companion
- Global partnership between different stakeholders (donor community, corporates, civil society, governments) and cross sectoral working (human health, animal health, urban planning, environment and tourism) is essential to implement DPM policies and programs across the world.
- Means of implementation must be made available to encourage and support countries around the world to implement DPM.

✓ Improve dog welfare
✓ Reduce risks to public health
WATCH THIS SPACE

- ICAM will be releasing detailed report on DPM and SDGs linkage later in 2021
- Thank you for your attention.

https://www.icfaw.org/
https://www.icam-coalition.org/