



OIE Platform
on Animal Welfare
for Europe



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OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe

- UPDATE -

fifteenth meeting of the Regional Core Group (RCG15)
7th of December 2021 – teleconference

Agenda: Update since RCG14 (May 2021)

- Steering Group and Stakeholders meetings
- Whole Journey Scenarios Workshop
- 1st meeting - Network of National Contact Points on Long-Distance Transportation in Europe
- Disaster management
- Stray Dog Control
- Future plans

Update since RCG14 (May 2021)

17th meeting of the Steering Group of the OIE Platform

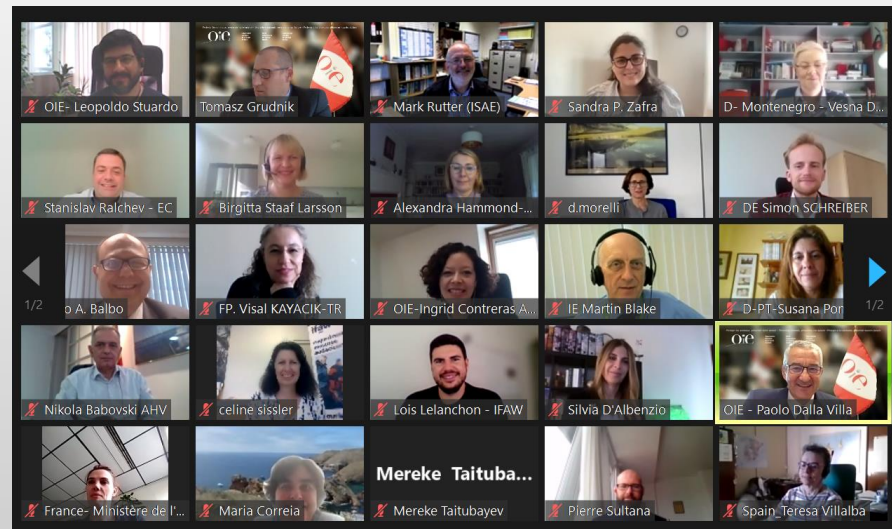
18th October 2021 Online

- To welcome new members of the Steering Group - (Portugal for EU, Kazakhstan, Israel, North Macedonia Non-EU) and the many observers including those who were members in the recent past
- To report on activities implemented since the SG16 (April 2021)
- To present and discuss the next activities of the 3rd Action Plan planned for 2021- 2022

Chair of the meeting:

Vesna Dakovic

Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe



6th OIE Platform stakeholders' consultation

22nd October 2021 – Teleconference

OIE Platform Secretariat: to present the 3rd Action Plan for 2021-2023 and report on the latest developments and activities of the OIE Platform

Stakeholders: to report on new and planned activities in the 5 priority topics of the OIE Platform – transportation, slaughter, stray dogs, disasters, working equids.

Update on general OIE activities regarding animal welfare and outcomes of Global Forum on Animal welfare (L. Stuardo).

Chairman: Vesna Dakovic
(Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe)



Whole Journey Scenario Webinars

1st Multi-regional WJS workshop on long-distance transport by land and sea between Europe and the Middle East

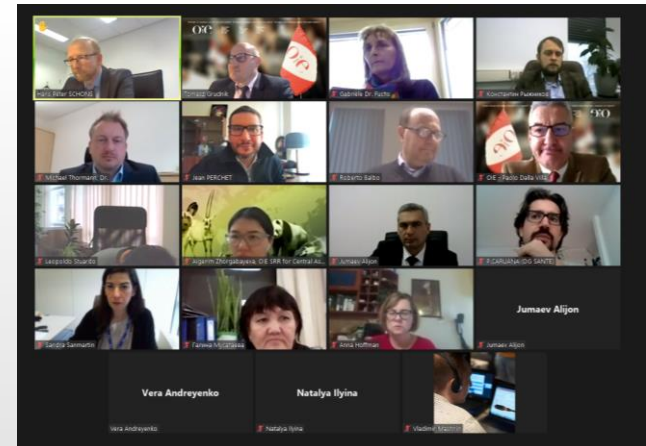
21st June 2021 - Online

- OIE and OIE mandate on animal welfare OIE standards on transport
- Country reports (selected countries):
 - Czech Republic - origin country,
 - Slovenia – transit, EU exit country
 - Jordan – destination country
 - Lebanon – destination country
- Outcomes of the EU report and the EU contact points network and working documents (European Commission)
- Presentations best practices for vessels authorization (Ireland)
- Role of the Custom Services in the transport of live animals and collaboration with Veterinary Services (UAE)
- Business operator perspective (Lebanon - TALIA shipping company)
- Competent Authority role in an emergency – case presentation (Egypt) – response to address potential animal welfare issues during blockage of the Suez Canal (March 2021)
- Over 50 participants:
Europe, North Africa, Middle East, EU Parliament, EU Commission, FVE, IZSAM Teramo, ENMV Tunis



OIE Whole Journey Scenario' Workshop on animal welfare during long distance transport in Europe follow-up webinar 17th November 2021 (teleconference)

- *Previous meeting held in April 2018 in Poland*
- **Countries reports - update on countries situation**
(new developments, changes in regulatory frameworks, procedures and practices)
- **OIE Platform on animal welfare for Europe – update**
- **Challenges identified by EC during audits and update on relevant EU activities (DG SANTE)**
- **Business operator perspective** (European Platform of Exporters of Bovine Genetics - ExPla)
- **Collaboration between CA for approval journey plans including resting points and reporting back animal welfare issues – discussion**
- **Participating countries** Germany, Poland, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan)



**First (kick-off) meeting of the OIE regional
network of National Contact Points on
Long-Distance Transportation in Europe**

First (kick-off) meeting of the OIE regional network of National Contact Points on Long-Distance Transportation in Europe

18th November 2021 (teleconference)

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- Animal welfare during transport from EU perspective - opening remarks (DG SANTE)
- OIE standards on animal transport
- Terms of Reference of the National Contact Point on Long-Distance Transportation welfare for Europe
- OIE Platform on animal welfare for Europe - activities on animal transport
- EU perspective on animal transport and EU network of National Contact Points (DG SANTE)
- EU network of National Contact Points - countries experience - discussion
- OIE and International Horse Sports Confederation collaboration activities to facilitate the movement of competition horses (OIE)

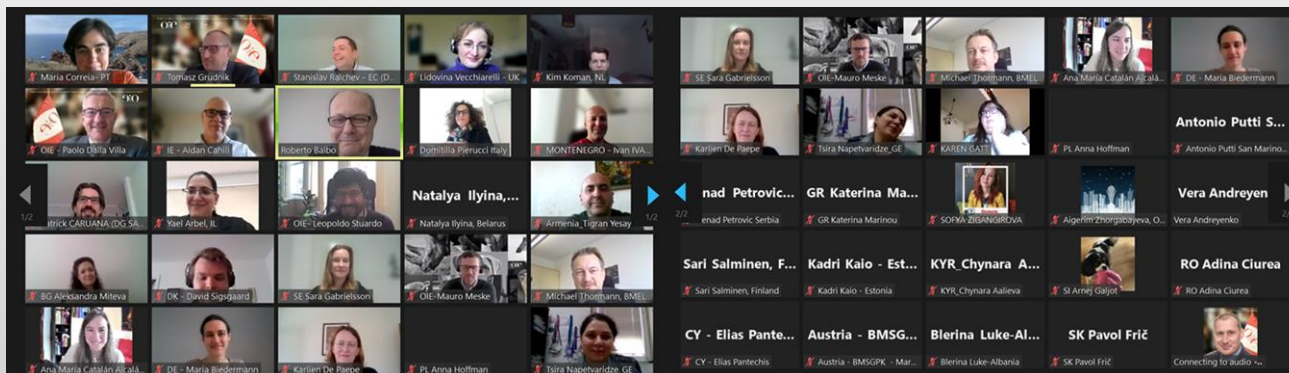
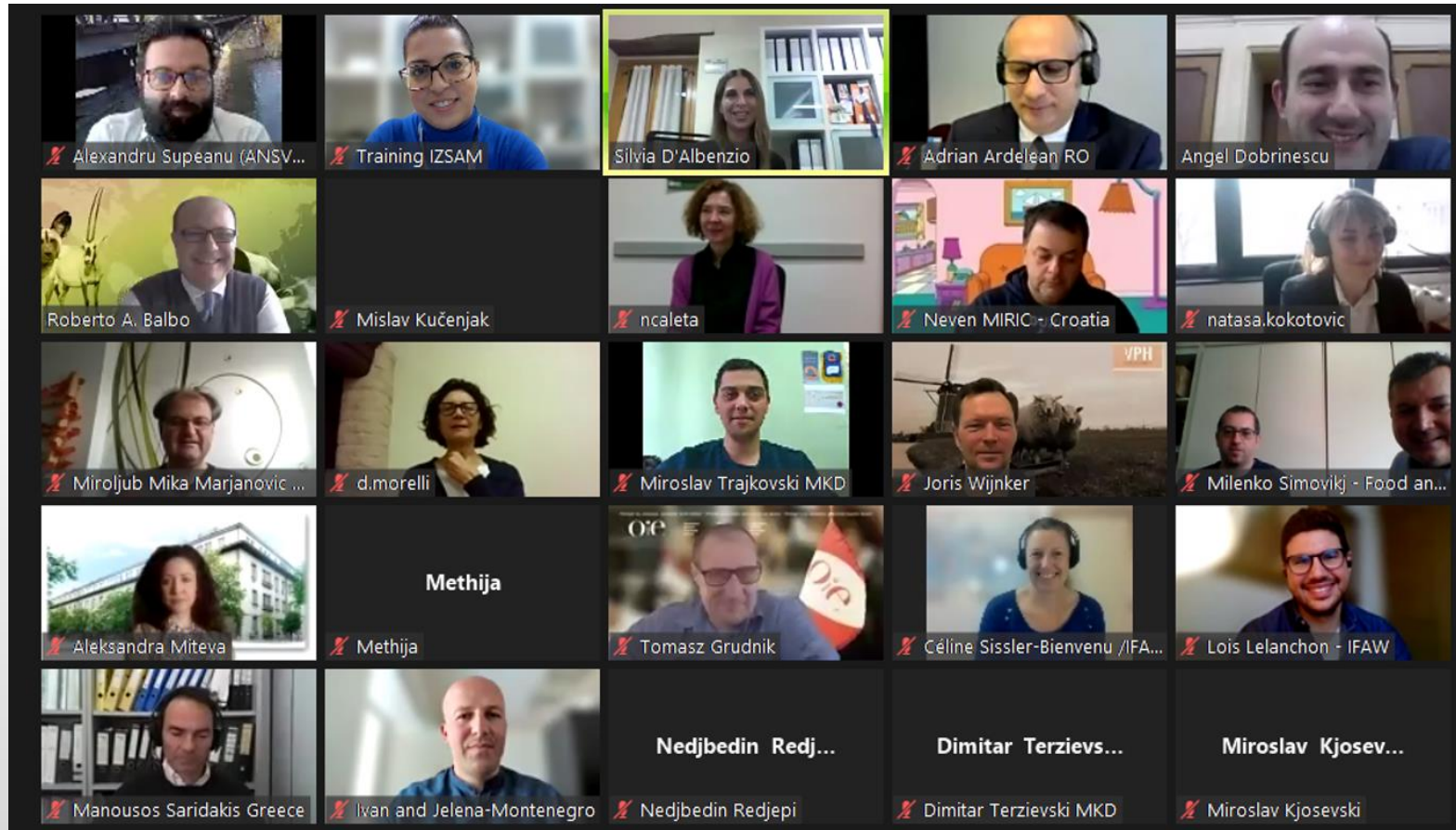


Table-Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management in the Balkans- 9/11 November 2021(teleconference)

1. Table-Top Exercise (TTX) on Disaster Management in the Balkans- 9, 10,11 November (teleconference)



Chapter 3.1 of the OIE TAHC

“quality of Veterinary Services”

- VSs should play a leadership role in advising the various authorities on AW (and AH and veterinary public health) in disaster situations
- VSs should develop and document appropriate procedures and standards for all providers of relevant activities and associated facilities, particularly in relation to preparedness and response to natural disasters which could have impact on AH and AW

The Table Top simulation Exercise (TTX)

- This Table Top Exercise (TTX) aimed at testing and validating model Veterinary Service's Contingency Plans (VS-CP) for the management of animal welfare matters in a flooding scenario whilst identifying issues and improvements of protocols and operational procedures employed in managing the event;
- Romania kindly provided a translated version of their Contingency Plan and contributed to develop the scenario;
- This training event explored the implications for contingency planning to protect the welfare of livestock, wildlife and guarantee companion animal's welfare assistance during and after natural disasters, using the example of a flooding scenario;
- Preliminary results of OIE/LMU survey on VS's preparedness on DMRR in 53 European MCs were presented - 92% of country responded to the questionnaire;
- Representatives from: Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo* Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia- 2 OIE CC, LMU (USA) NGOs ,Industry.

Outcomes/results

- This was the first time a dedicated team of experts reviewed a Contingency Plan on animal welfare in a flooding scenario highlighting its strong points and identifying areas of improvement;
- Targeted Balkan countries can further enhance their management and response capacity on AW during natural disaster situations, with their VS-CP for hydrological disasters developed, known from relevant CAs and tested-Romania;
- They also have better understanding how to mainstream VS matter in the National DMRR Plan.

Fourth Regional workshop on Stray Dog Population control for Balkans Countries (SDB4)

30 November 2021 – Online

Specific country needs raised at the SDB3 in 2018 and expected targeted support in between workshops

- Funds, budgetary resources (programs funded by donors / resources partners (i.e., wildlife rabies control is funded by EU)
- Training programs, workshops - (new specific topics to be addressed during the next SDB workshop, possibility for developing online training modules)
- Development of National Control Strategy / Development of regional/municipal stray dog strategies (political and financial commitments + technical assistance)
- Education and awareness/ Establishment of raising awareness campaign at municipal level (involvement of national FPs on communication)
- Development of a comprehensive database for dog shelters
- Implementation of Identification and Registration IT systems at national level
- Training on methodologies for counting the number of stray dogs
- Strengthening regional and national collaboration and communication mechanisms
- Technical assistance (sharing countries experience, OIE CC, RAWC, Task force)

Outcomes of the 3rd self-assessment round - Main weak points of your National Control Strategy?

Country 1	Ignorance of the population Low pay for services Shortage of funds
Country 2	Some Municipalities are not in compliance with national legislation on stray dogs control No responsible ownership
Country 3	The lack of active involvement of authorities in sterilisation programs The lack of active involvement of NGOs The lack of public awareness campaigns
Country 6	Improvement of the reproduction control of the owned dogs Establishment educational programmes for dog owners at local level Improvement the communication with local community
Country 7	Need of amendments of the Law in the field of dog reproduction control Registration of dog breeders Need of amendments of the law dealing with registration of dog breeding facilities We don't have actual National Dog control strategy, The dog control system is written in the Law of animal welfare and in separate By laws such as Book of Rules Actually, we have to issue and adopt a National Dog Control Strategy
Country 8	Participation in the creation and maintenance of a rabies-immune or rabies-free dog population Promotion of responsible ownership (education and legal framework that encourages responsible ownership) Reducing the number of stray dogs to an acceptable level
Country 9	We don't have NCS yet

Activities for 2022

OIE AW Platform events

- Whole Journey Scenario (inter-regional workshop for Europe / the Middle East / North Africa)
- 2nd meeting of the contact points on long distance transportation
- 3rd Stray Dog West Eurasia (SDWE3) - webinar
- Two Steering Group meetings (with 1 hybrid)
- Stakeholders' consultation meeting
- 1st Global Meeting of the OIE Collaborating Centers on AW - transregional project



Thank you for your attention!