

WOAH Observatory

Animal welfare related work

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World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

One key mandate of WOAHA is to develop international standards for its Members.

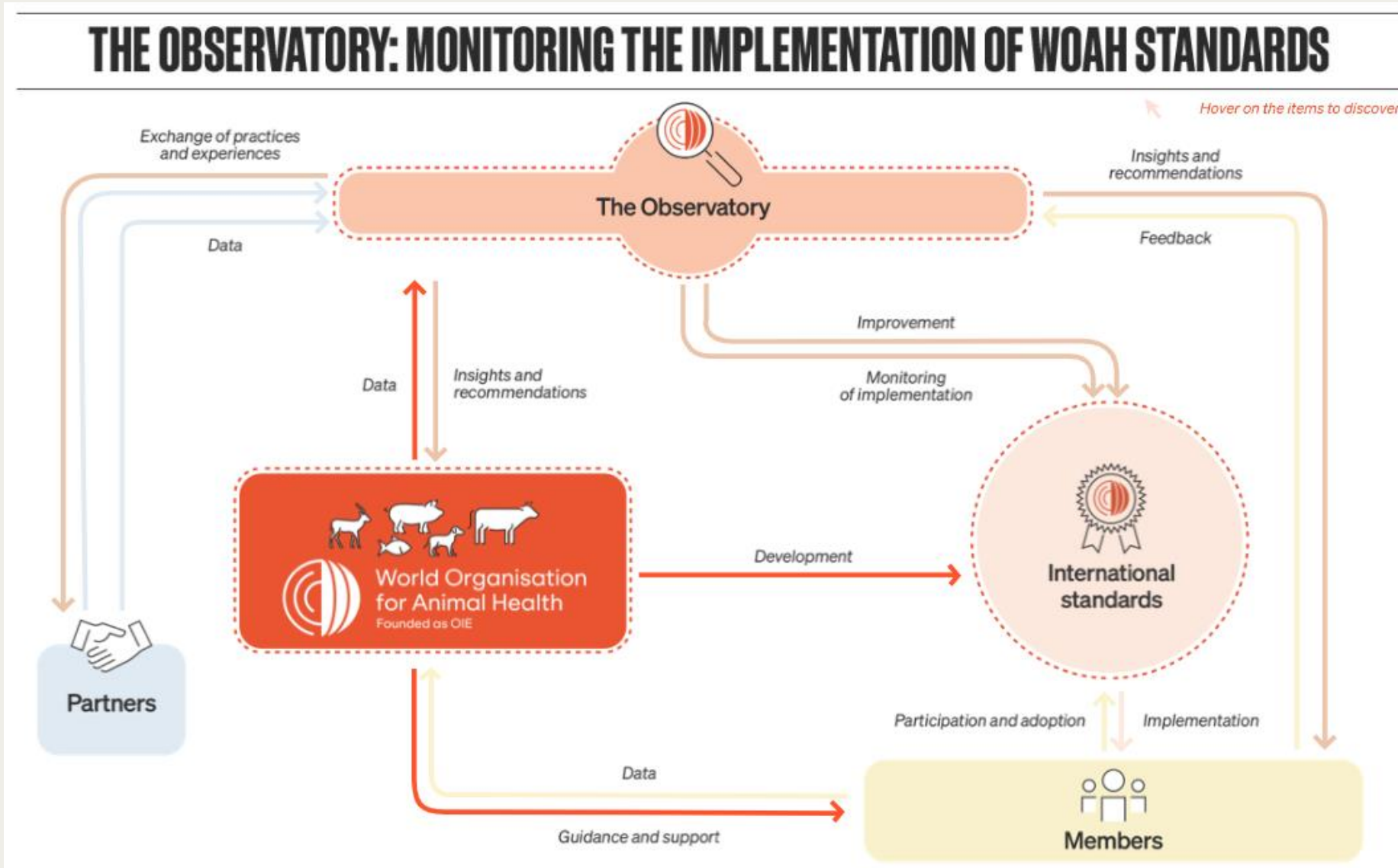
Members are encouraged to participate in the standard-setting process and eventually adopt the standards.

But do we know if and how Members implement standards once they are adopted?

The adoption of the **Resolution N°36** by the World Assembly of Delegates at the 2018 General Session.

The Assembly recommends that:

“The OIE develop an Observatory to monitor the implementation of its international standards, to increase transparency and to identify constraints and difficulties faced by Members”



What it is...



Review of the implementation of Standards at global/regional level



Data collection, analysis and visualisation (aggregated)



Contributing to the on-going improvement of:

In-house data collection, management, services...

Standard-setting process

Capacity building activities

Advocacy activities

What it is not...



**A mechanism to show individual countries' compliance
« *naming, blaming and shaming* »**



A mechanism to solve bilateral trade concerns

WOAH Observatory



Data portal

Observatory Annual Report 2022 | Key findings

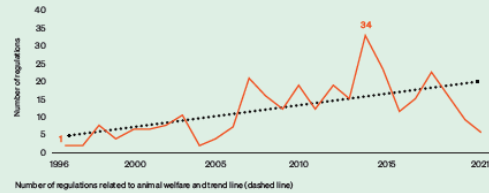
Animal welfare

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) develops international standards on animal welfare to support Members to improve how they handle terrestrial and aquatic animals on farm, during transport, slaughter, killing for disease control purposes, as well as in research and for specific topics such as dog population management. Through its Annual Report, the **Observatory** intends to assess the uptake of these standards.

An increasing number of national animal welfare regulations are being passed

336 regulations on animal welfare

originating from 58 Members were recorded between 1996 and 2021. More than 75% of them came from the European region.



Source: FAO legislative database (FAOLEX), 1996-2021

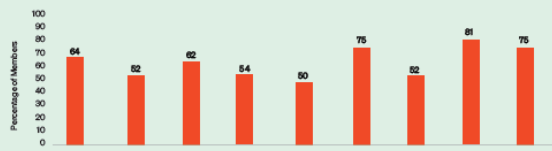
The implementation of standards on dog population management can be strengthened

70% of Members did not estimate the number of stray dogs according to surveys carried out in the European region and North Africa

68% of responding Members had dog population control programmes in place

69% of these programmes were monitored and evaluated

There is variability in the implementation of the different components of the standard on dog population management.



Percentage of Members implementing WOAH's recommendations related to stray dog management. Source: stray dog surveys from WOAH Animal Welfare Platform for Europe, 2019-2021. 13 participating Members from the European region and North Africa.

The capacity of Veterinary Services regarding animal welfare needs to be further improved

Based on recent Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) Pathway missions,

26% of Members have reached or exceeded the minimal capacity for the Critical Competency related to animal welfare

Source: PVS Evaluation or Follow-up missions for 43 Members, 2019-2021 - Analysis of the Level of Achievement for Critical Competency 3.3 from the 6th edition of the DGLD 2020

Recommendations

World Organisation for Animal Health

- Intensify efforts to collect animal welfare-related information to accurately assess Members' compliance with international standards.
- Understand the issues faced by Members when legislating and implementing animal welfare standards.
- Monitor Members' progress with Critical Competencies over time as an indicator of the impact of WOAH's support.

Members

- Address the issues that prevent the regulation and implementation of animal welfare standards.
- Establish and/or strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of dog population control programmes.

Access the full information here

Please consider the data limitations outlined in the full Annual Report when consulting this document.

2023 report about the monitoring of the level of implementation of WOAH standards

→ One chapter on animal welfare



Stray dog population

The Self-Assessment and Monitoring Tool (SAM Tool 1.0) is a useful instrument to ascertain the level of implementation of the Code articles related to stray dog control and dog population management at national levels.

There is a significant gap between the percentage of Members that estimate the number of owned dogs (80%) and those that estimate the number of stray dogs (30%).

Overall, nine Members (47% of those that participated in the survey) reported having a dog population control programme that was monitored and evaluated.

This exercise is not yet far reaching enough as, at the moment, it has only been launched in a reduced number of countries/territories. The findings from this questionnaire could lead to more general conclusions if it were further extended in Europe and rolled out to other WOAH regions.

80%

of Members estimate the number of owned dogs

30%

of Members estimate the number of stray dogs

Are there dog population control programmes in your country?

● Yes ● No

If yes, do you monitor and evaluate your national dog population control programme?

● Yes ● No

Percentage of Members that apply control measures on various issues

● Yes ● No ● N/A

Dog identification and registration	64%	32%
Reproductive control	52%	48%
Dog removal	62%	38%
Capture and return, rehoming or release	54%	38%
Environmental control	50%	50%
Dog movement control	75%	25%
Regulation on commercial dog dealers	52%	48%
Reducing dog bite incidence	81%	19%
Stray dog euthanasia	75%	25%

Percentage of Members that apply a regulatory framework on various issues

● Yes ● No ● N/A

Registration and identification	71%	29%
Vaccination	100%	
Veterinary procedures	91%	
Control of dog movement	71%	21%
Control of dangerous dogs	65%	30%
Regulation on dog breeding and sales	52%	43%
Environment controls	68%	32%

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Data portal



Thematic studies

Multi-annual process

Deep and focused analyses

Priority topics: disease- or topic-related standards

Animal welfare during transport by land and sea: level of implementation of WOAAH standards and challenges faced

Context

- Transport of live animals is a complex issue with potential high impact on animal welfare and for which societal concerns are growing
- In the context of the WOAAH Global Strategy on animal welfare and the planned revision of the WOAAH standards related to animal welfare, gaining insights on the current state of play would help inform decision-making

Animal welfare during transport by land and sea: level of implementation of WOAAH standards and challenges faced

Objectives

- Assess to what extent the standards related to transport of live animals are implemented in WOAAH Members;
- Seek for feedback on Members' overall experience with these standards (what factors facilitate their implementation versus what barriers prevent their implementation);
- Inform standard revision process of the Code commission.

Animal welfare during transport by land and sea: level of implementation of WOAAH standards and challenges faced

Methods

- A survey targeting the Veterinary Services of WOAAH Members to assess the level of implementation of WOAAH standards related to animal welfare during transport (sent to national Focal Points for Welfare);
- Interviews and/or focus groups to explore the barriers to the uptake of these standards as well as the success factors with Veterinary Services of WOAAH Members;
- In a second stage, a survey targeting the private sector, with a similar aim.

Animal welfare during transport by land and sea: level of implementation of WOAHP standards and challenges faced

Scope

- Transport by land and sea only;
- Species covered by Chapters 7.2. and 7.3, i.e. cattle, small ruminants, pigs, poultry , buffaloes, camelids;
- Global scale;
- Time frame: current situation.

Animal welfare during transport by land and sea: level of implementation of WOAAH standards and challenges faced

Timeline (VS only)

- September 2023: launch of the survey (announcement at the FP meeting)
- October 2023 to January 2024: analysis of the results and deliverables
- March to April 2024: conduct of the focus groups / interviews
- April to June 2024: analysis of the results and drafting of the deliverables



We need
your input!