



**Second OIE regional Workshop
on Stray Dog population management
for Balkan countries (SDB2)**
Tirana / Albania – 14-16 June 2016

**Country Report on National Stray Dogs situation
Report from Republic of Croatia**

Andrea Mihaljević, DVM
Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate
Ministry of Agriculture



I. Understanding country situation

- What is the current situation with regards to stray dogs in your country?
The source of stray dogs are still owned and abandoned dogs
- What progress have been achieved since June 2014 to assess the situation?

The Animal Protection Act, OG 135/2006 and 37/2013 is highly in accordance with OIE recommendations as we speak **we work on change** of the Act to improve him, also we wrote new Ordinance regarding the condition is shelters and we expect that it will be published soon.

- What are the remaining challenges to assess the situation?

After the „New“ Animal Protection Act will be issued, we expect that situation will be more solved in particular issues regarding „stray“ dogs

Before we did not have good cooperation with local and government units

I. Understanding country situation

- What are the proposed next steps?
- Establishing of coordination working groups of local and regional government units consist of: representatives from county, shelter, non governmental organisation, Croatian Veterinary Chamber and Regional Veterinary office – will be responsible to prevent /solve the problems on their territory

II. Control measures

- What is the current situation with regards to strategy / programme (s) for the control of stray dogs in your country?

In 2010 OIE Stray Dog population control standards were published on Ministry of Agriculture website, link:

<http://www.veterinarstvo.hr/UserDocImages//dobrobitZivotinja/Program%20kontrola%20populacije%20pasa%20lutačica%20u%20Republici%20Hrvatskoj,%202010..pdf>

- dog identification and registration: Veterinary Act, Art. 47 – vaccination against rabies and other preventive measures against zoonotic diseases:
- Animal Protection Act, Veterinary Act, EU legislation – control of dog movement (national and international)
- municipality: Animal protection Act, art. 58 (4)/Decisions – muzzle, leash, areas dedicated to free dogs movement (City of Zagreb – Decision on the manner of keeping companion animals and the manner of handling lost and abandoned animals, OG 21/2008 and 6/2012)
- control of dangerous dogs: Animal Protection Act, Art. 48, Ordinance on the control of dangerous dogs, OG, 117/2008
- regulations on the dog breeding and sale of dogs: Animal Protection Act, Art. 49, Ordinance on laying down conditions to be met by breeders of pets intended for sale OG, 56/2009

II. Control measures

- What progress have been achieved since June 2014 to control stray dogs?
- In 20. November 2015 we organised a meeting with all municipalities, the aim of this meeting was to provide information on proposals for amendments to the Animal Protection Act and, with the suggestions and comments of representatives of local government units, a regulation that will improve the welfare of abandoned animals and ensure the quality of regulations.
Also at the meeting we presented the legal framework of the European Union as well as the effects of the world organization for animal health (OIE).
- In addition, this CA is involved in the work RAWC network (Regional Animal Welfare Center), which is based in the Croatian Veterinary Institute and the members countries of the region, namely Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia. In its program of work, and because of the problems in the region, RAWC also includes recommendations for managing the population of stray dogs, and works on the same issue with the OIE.

II. Control measures

What are the remaining challenges to control stray dogs?

To continue with good cooperation with local and regional government units

- OIE Campaign for control of stray dogs in Balcan regions
 - more involvement of local and regional government
 - to rise the public awareness about responsibility to the animals

What are the proposed next steps to control stray dogs?

- to continue to rise the public awareness
- changes of the animal protection Act
- better implementation of legislation

III. Monitoring and evaluation

If you have a stray dog strategy / programme (s) / activities in place,

- Do you monitor and evaluate them?

Datas are collected from shelters and other stakeholders

- What progress have been achieved since June 2014 to monitor and evaluate them? -
- What are the remaining challenges to monitor and evaluate them? -
- What are the proposed next steps to monitor and evaluate them?

IV. Rabies dimension

- How has the rabies situation evolved in your country since 2014 (in dogs; in wildlife; in humans)?

Since 2014 we did not have any rabies case.

- Do you have rabies control programme(s) in place in your country?

Dogs are vaccinated every year and since 2011 we perform oral vaccination of foxes, and our plan is to do it till 2018

- Are you aware of the Global framework for the elimination of dog mediated rabies adopted in December 2015?

We are aware of it. It is not applicable for HR.

IV. Conclusions and future needs

- Overall, do you consider that your country is in compliance with OIE standard on Stray Dog population control in terms of:
 - **Assessing the situation**
 - **Controlling the situation**
 - Monitoring the situation -
- Do you need external aid to address the weakness(es) with stray dogs in your country? Yes but with the help of OIE and all stakeholders involved with specific problems with stray dogs the number of stray dogs will be balanced
- Do you have any comment on the national Report prepared by OIE and IZSAM? Old data



Thank you for your attention!