

# IMPROVING ANIMAL WELFARE IN EUROPE

by empowering Veterinary Services to take actions



# 2017 Newsletter



Dr B. Van Goethem  
EC/DG SANTE

I am honoured to introduce this newsletter, which presents the results achieved by the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe in 2017 and its activities planned for 2018. Animal welfare is of great importance for the European Union (EU). The EU actively supports the OIE standard setting process and is a major donor in order to support the implementation of OIE standards globally and particularly in Europe.

The European Commission is a member of the Steering Group of the OIE Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe. It has achieved remarkable results in 2017, in particular concerning animal welfare during transport and at slaughter, as well as on stray dog population control. New priority areas are envisaged in the second Action Plan including animals in disasters and working equids. We look forward to continuing supporting the OIE in its European activities with even closer cooperation, as to raise animal welfare standards in the Region.

This can only be achieved with the active commitment of all of us and I am sure that we will all contribute to make Europe a model for the rest of the world.

RECAP

01

### Launching of the OIE Platform

Adoption of the modus operandi and governance

### First Action Plan YEARS 1, 2 and 3

Implementation and monitoring of 20 activities

### Adoption of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan

by the Regional Commission for Europe at the 85<sup>th</sup> OIE General Session

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan YEAR 3

and completion of the second Action Plan – to be assessed

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

**Fleesensee 25<sup>th</sup> Conference**  
Support for a regional mechanism to improve AW

**Adoption of the First Action Plan**  
by the Regional Commission for Europe at the 82<sup>th</sup> OIE General Session

**Completion of the First Action Plan**  
100% activities were implemented in a cost effective manner

**2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan YEARS 1, 2 and 3**  
Implementation and monitoring of more than 30 activities

TOP NEWS

02

## • ADOPTION OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ACTION PLAN

After the successful completion of the first Action Plan end of 2016, Member Countries in Europe have reiterated their confidence in the OIE Platform by unanimously adopting its 2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan during the 85<sup>th</sup> OIE General Session in May 2017. This 2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan, covering 2017-2019 was prepared in close consultation with Member Countries and stakeholders.

It provides full continuity while incorporating two new topics (the welfare of working equids and disaster management) to reflect ongoing work and the socio-cultural situation in Europe, especially in the context of climate change.

Download the 2<sup>nd</sup> Action Plan



## • IRELAND COMMITS SIGNIFICANT FUNDING

Ireland has confirmed a contribution of **75 K€** per year for four years to support the second Platform Action Plan. Ireland is an active supporter of the Platform since its first steps, as a member of the Steering Group.

OIE appreciated the contributions pledged by the Platform donors. See our list of donors

# LIST OF ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN 2017



**TRANSPORT**  
3 ToT Workshops for Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine



**WORKING EQUIDS**  
1 Awareness day for West Eurasia countries



**GOVERNANCE**  
2 Steering Group + 1 stakeholder meetings  
Website redesigned



**STRAY DOG**  
Regional Roadmap for West Eurasia – 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop to monitor progress



**SLAUGHTER**  
1 ToT Workshop for Balkan countries

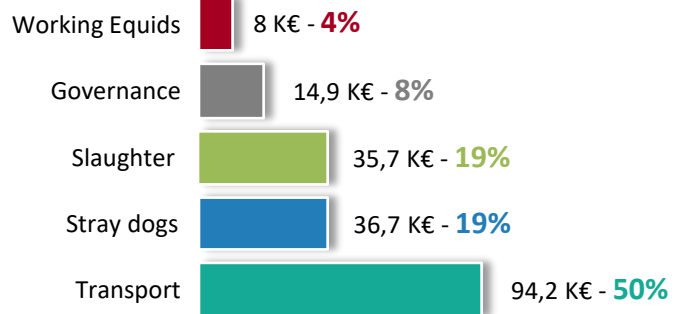


**DISASTER MANAGEMENT**  
First workshop under preparation



- 29 experts trained on long distance transport (West Eurasia)
- 13 experts trained on slaughter (Balkans)
- Cascading activities to take place in the areas of legislation/initial and continuing veterinary education / business operators information
- Establishment of expert networks in transport and in slaughter
- Stray dog Roadmap in West Eurasia on track (target: 2030)
- Awareness raised on working equids in West Eurasia

In total, **190 K€** were disbursed for the implementation of activities planned in Year 1 under the 2nd Action Plan (2017). Half of the funds (50%) were disbursed for long distance transport activities, a topic that had not been addressed in the first Action Plan. The European Commission, Germany, Ireland, Switzerland, Italy, RSPCA and the International Coalition for the welfare of Working Equids have provided financial support to these activities through the OIE World Animal Health and Welfare Fund.



Distribution of funds per topic in 2017

## 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (FIRST SEMESTER)

Check the whole calendar

Transport	Transport	Governance	Stray dogs	Disaster Mngt	Working equids
<b>13-15</b> March	<b>25-27</b> April	<b>3-4</b> May	<b>13-15</b> June	<b>tbc</b> September	<b>1-31</b> Jan-Dec
<b>REGIONAL SEMINAR</b> to raise country awareness on long distance transport for 8 countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Moldova)	<b>WHOLE JOURNEY SCENARIO SEMINAR</b> to enhance the cooperation of national competent authorities on live animal trade' (Poland)	<b>10<sup>TH</sup> SG MEETING</b> to report and plan on the delivery of the Second Action Plan (Germany)	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING of the ROADMAP BALKANS</b> to review progress of the Roadmap (Serbia)	<b>FIRST WORKSHOP</b> Pilot event to enhance Balkan countries preparedness for natural disasters (flooding scenario) [Italy, tbc]	<b>AWARENESS CAMPAIGN</b> Preparation phase for West Eurasia countries

Other key activities for 2018 include webinars to animate the newly established expert networks and the preparation of a self-assessment tool on slaughter.

The new website of the OIE Platform is currently being finalized and will be fully operational in 2018. It comprises a public access and private access for the Platform Steering Group Members and OIE Focal Points on animal welfare. <http://rpawe.oie.int>

