World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

Dog population estimation and DMP programs monitoring tools

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University of Zagreb, Croatia

Fourth regional workshop on Dog Population Management for West Eurasia countries (SDWE4)

Tbilisi, Georgia, 26th – 28th September 2023

Overall strategy of RAWC

- to bridge over the gap between Academia and Policy makers in the region and to help them in the implementation of regional and international best practices in the field of Animal Welfare.

RAWC prioritize activities in the following areas

- Training of business operators and stakeholders (slaughter, pigs, broilers and transport) – coordination and dissemination of information and resources;
- Welfare of the animals at the time of slaughter;
- Experimental animals – implementation and training;
- **Companion animals population management and dog population management** – develop a regional approach and share best practice;
- Raising farmer awareness and engaging with small scale farmers to establish an effective and targeted regional approach and to explore new business models;

Companion animals population management - DPM

Shelter Quality

- Active participation of four regional experts on Shelter Quality project activities.

Be his hero!

- Launched in 8 Coutries of the region (Albania, Bosnia&Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Bulgaria, Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro). RAWC collaborated with WOAH on translation, printing and distribution of the materials, and a little bit more.

Training of trainers on ICAM dog population management indicators

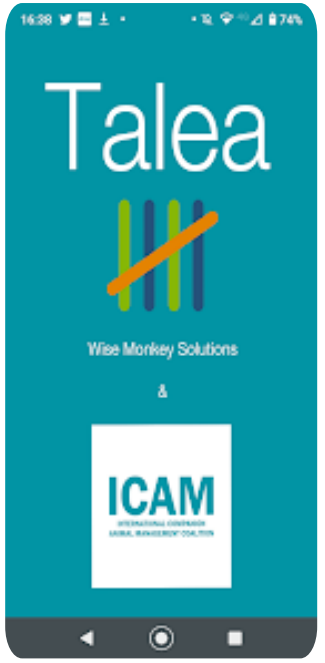
- Still in progress – 17 trainers trained so far.
- North Macedonia (5), Serbia (3), Kosovo (3), Montenegro (2), Croatia (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1) and Slovenia (1).
- **New ToT workshop will be held in November 2023 in Bar, Montenegro.**

Three main reasons for surveying the roaming population:

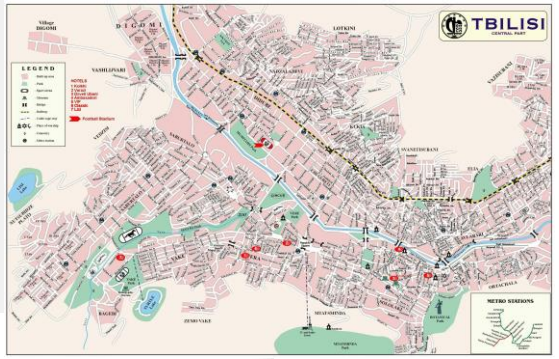
- To **assess the need** for intervention,
- To **plan** an intervention,
- To **evaluate** the intervention.

There are several possibilities on how to estimate and monitor dog populations:

- Before mobile applications
- ICAM Talea app
- WVS rabies app



Before Talea



- or how it was done without all in one mobile apps, just some ordinary (digital) tools.

Paper city map + computer + mobile phone

Before the streets…

- **<u>Route identification:</u>**

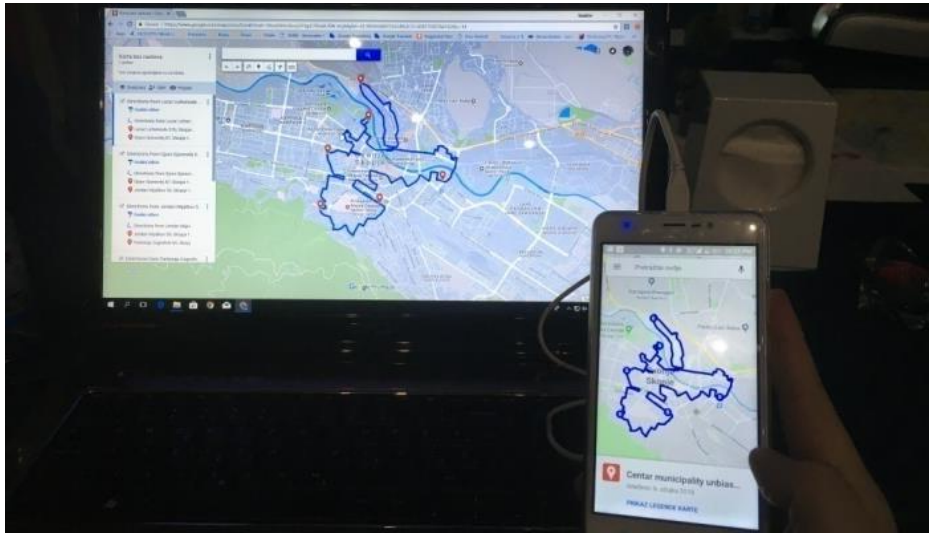
- **Unbiased** (randomly selected streets)
  - Should be planned by somebody who does not know andythign about the abovementioned hot spots.

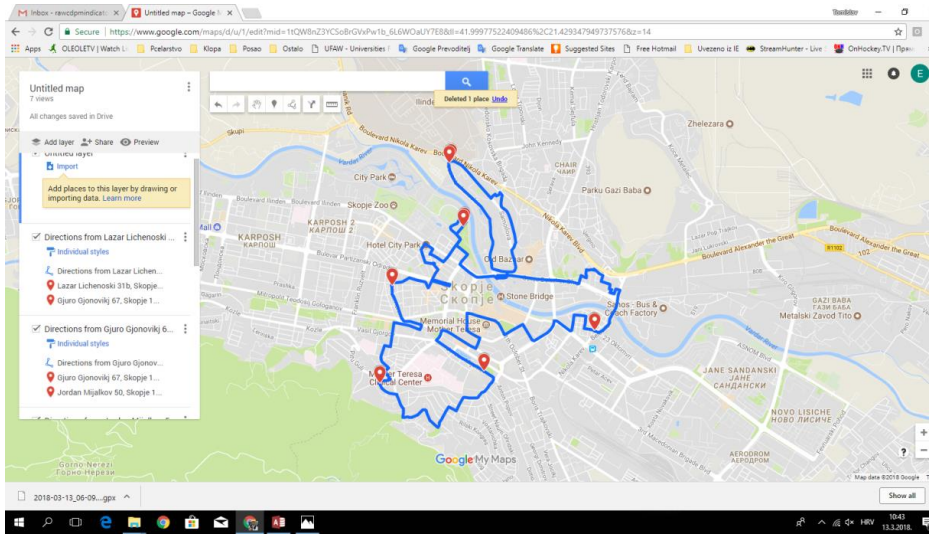
- **Hot spots** (route with most dogs)
  - Should be planned by somebody who knows where and when dogs are there.

Digitalisation

- After the route identification, and due to the accuracy of the each next repetition it was needed to transfer the route to the GPS tracking program.

- **In our case – Google Maps**





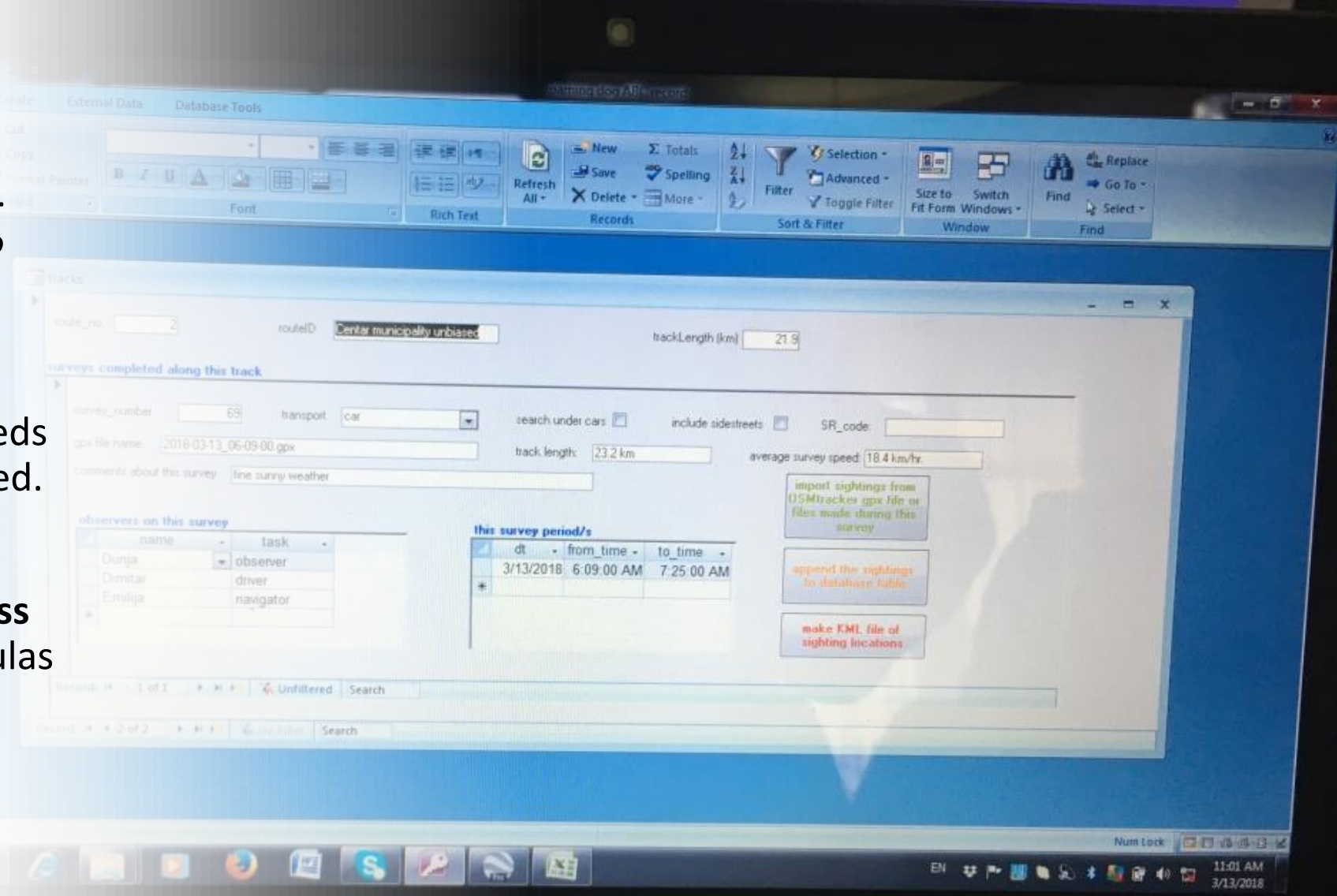
Survey

- For dog counting keep in mind that you have to go on the streets before the morning rush starts, because if you go later it will be harder to spot the dogs.

- Dogs in Skopje, beeing Balkan dogs, were mostly sleeping at that time.

Data processing

- After the collection, data needs to be evaluated and processed.
- In our case – **Microsoft Access form**, with preordered formulas for calculation.



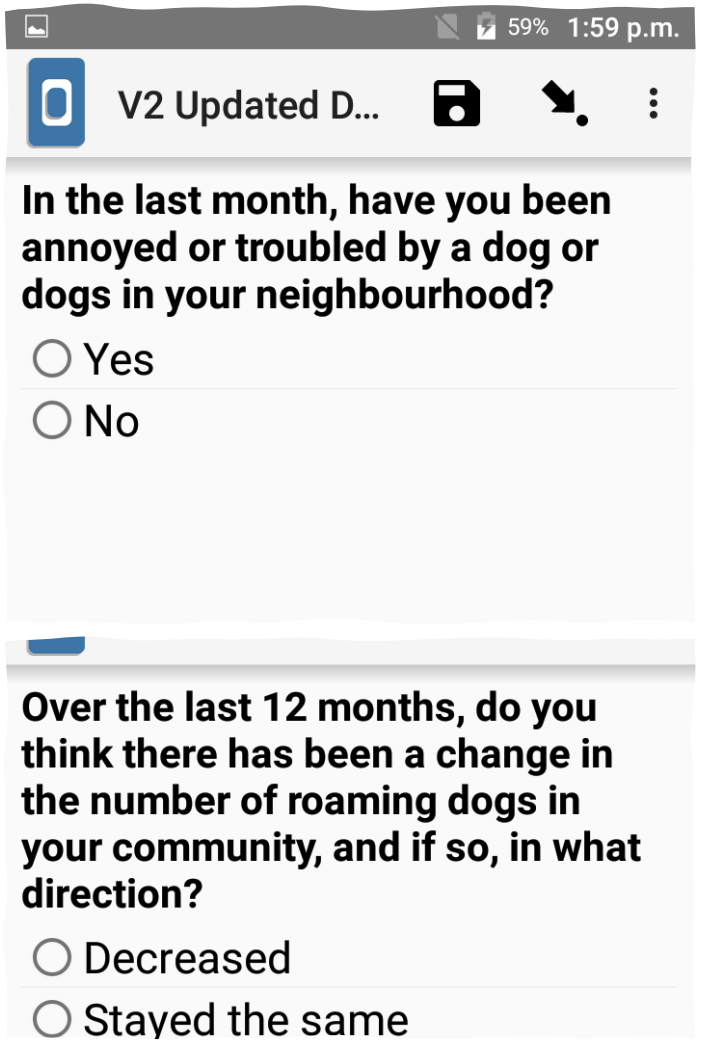
Next step – face to face interviews

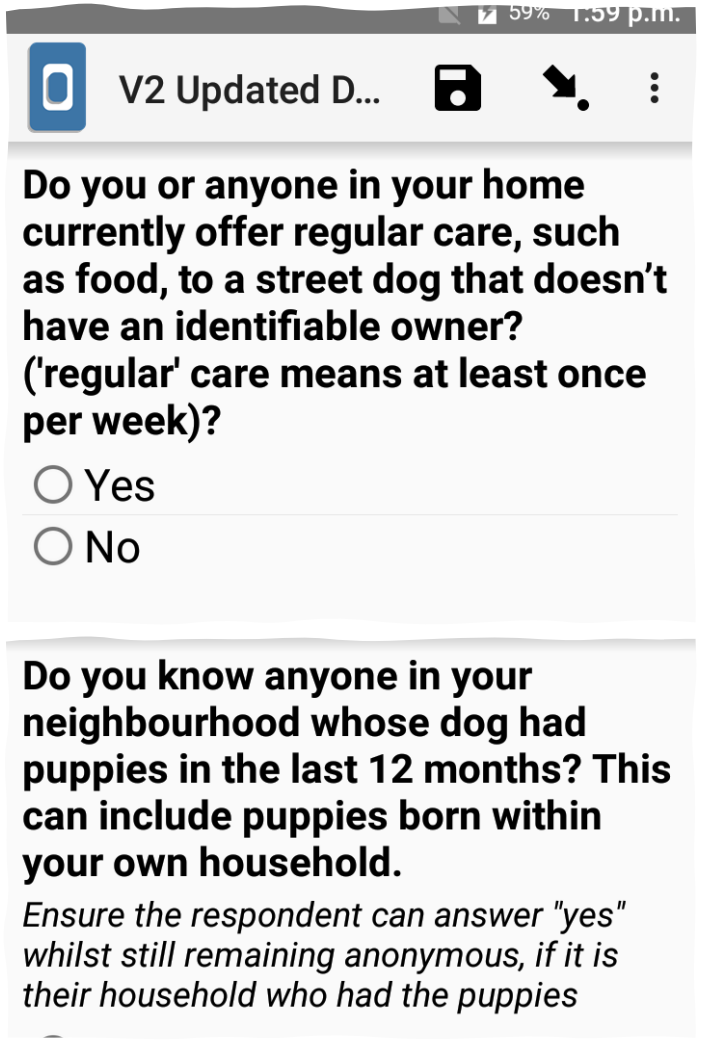
KoBo Collect

Free program for questionnaire survey.

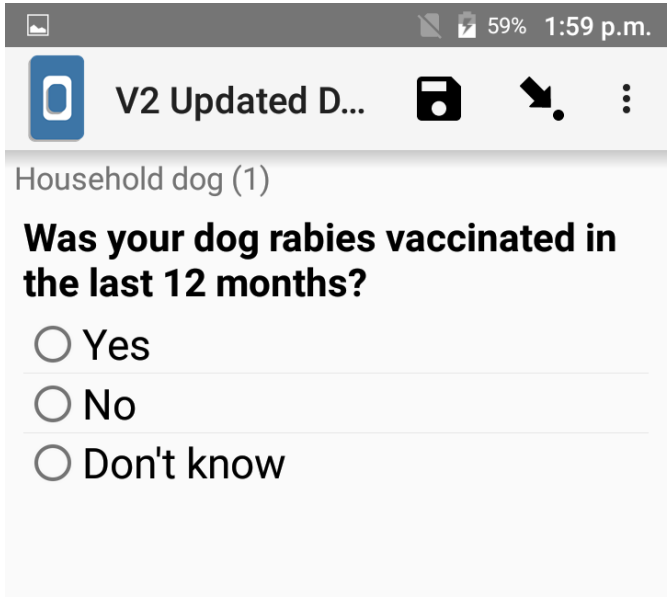
Easy to question development, easy to use with a very proactive customer support.

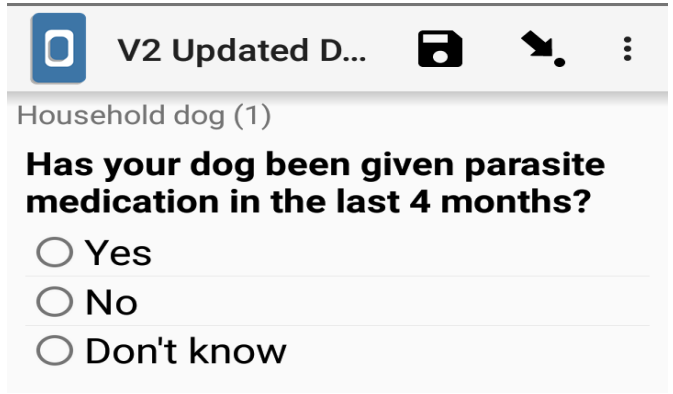
General questions





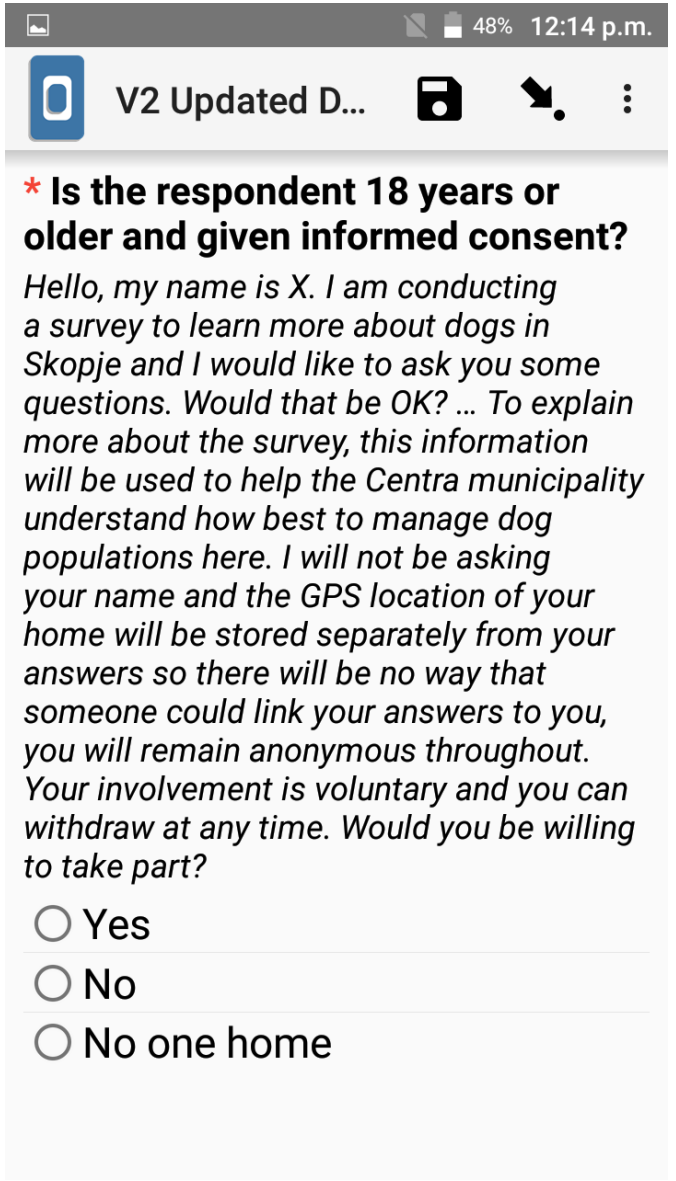
Dog identification and health





Do not forget – ethics!

- The data we collect, the way in which we collect or use it may cause harm
- Harms may be direct or contingent
- Immediately evident or only apparent in the future
- Graded in severity – mild/moderate/severe



Data processing and results

- Face to face interviews gives us very good look at what is going on in specific area.
- What are the people toughs, and what mindset is on the streets.

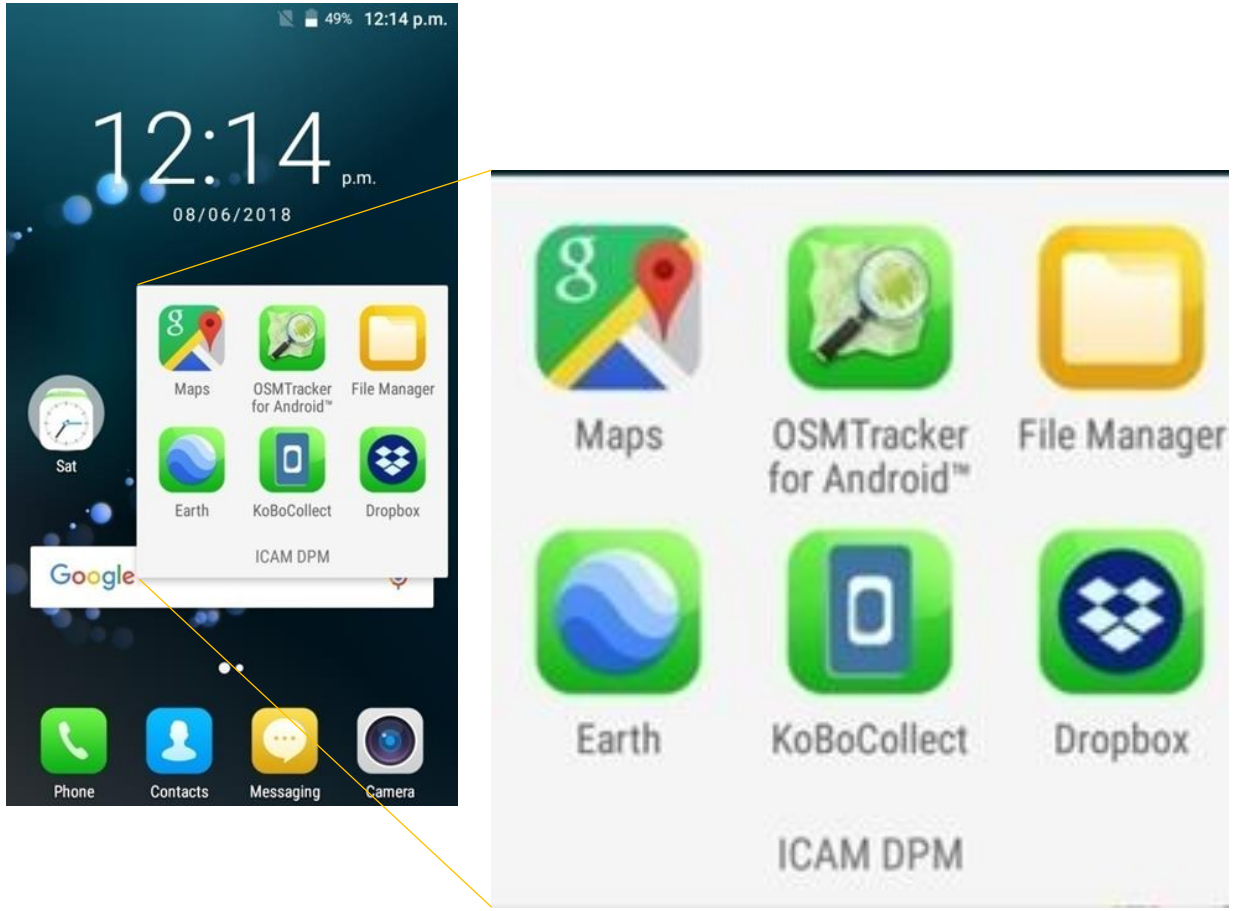
On the field

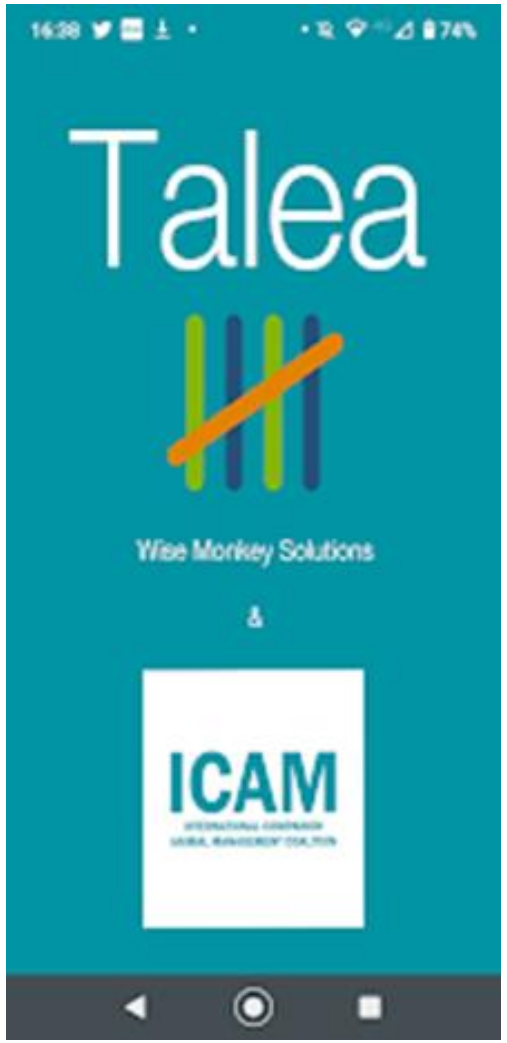
- When entering properties, backyards or appartments, keep in mind:

- **IF IT'S WIERD – LEAVE**.

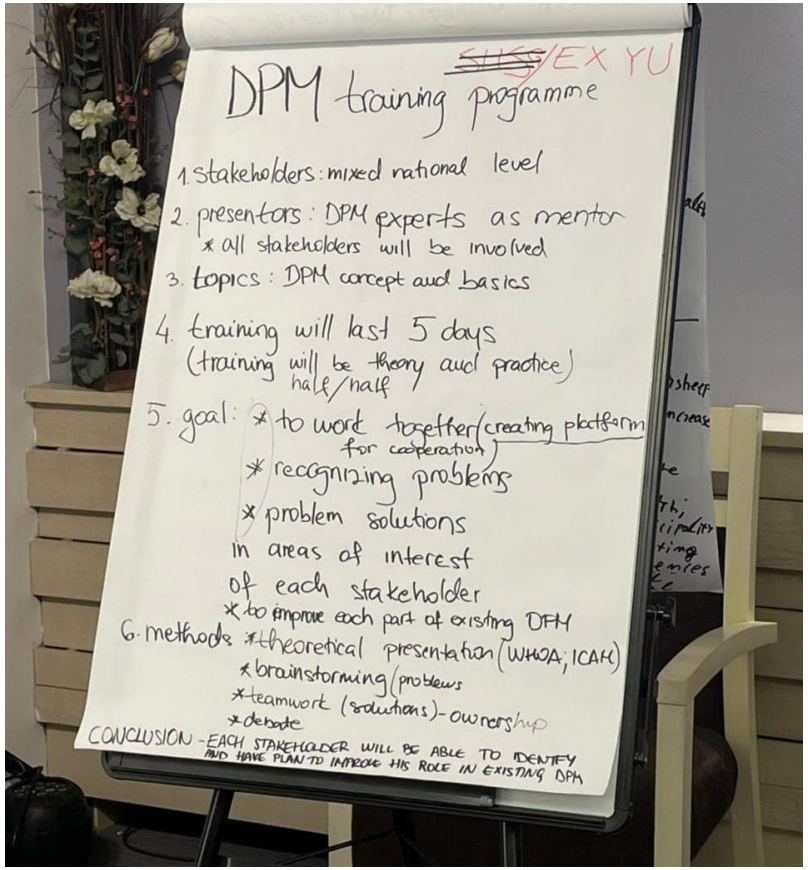
How that looked on the phone

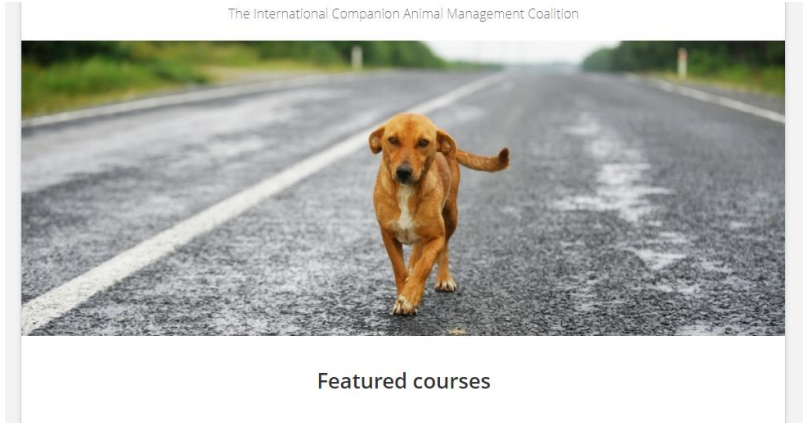
- A lot of various programs and applications which were not always in complience with one another.

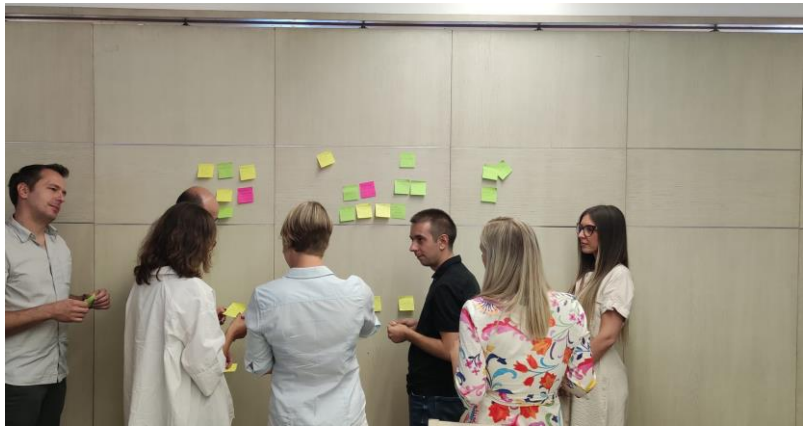




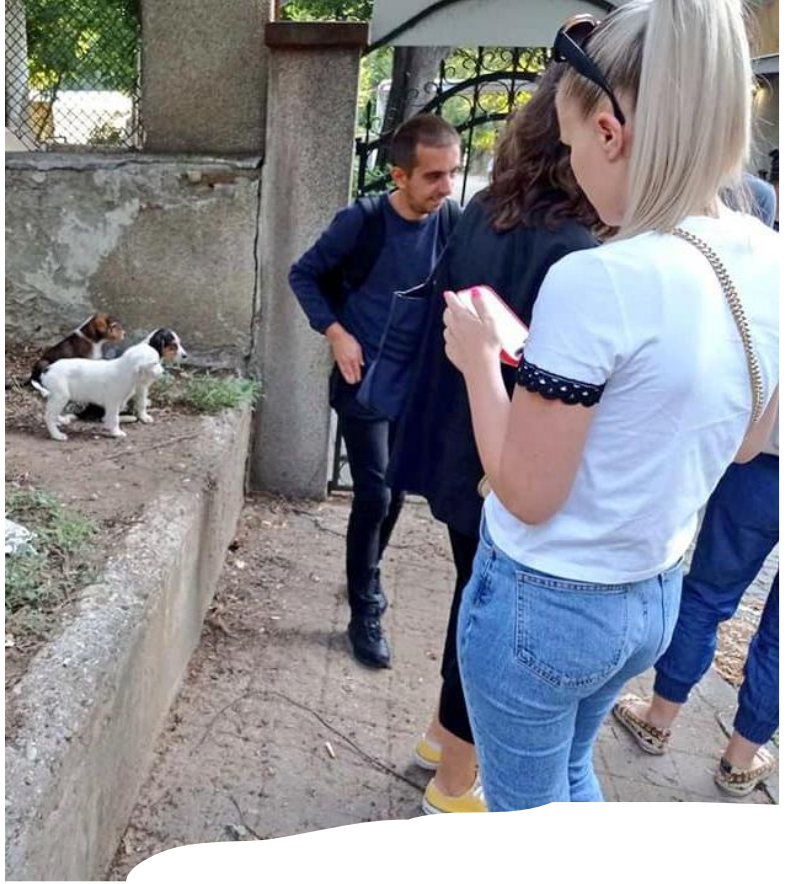
Talea app







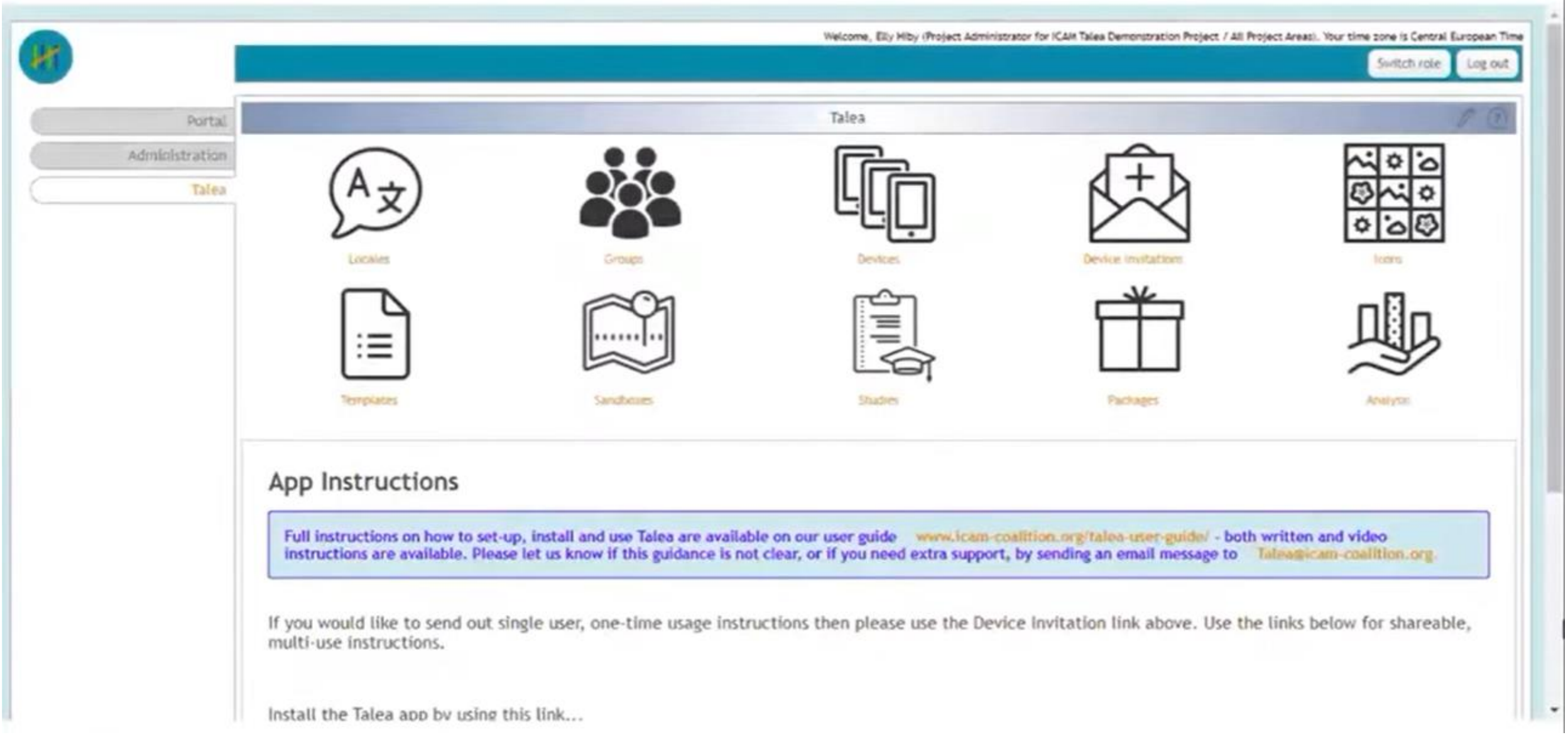
The training comprised theoretical courses, practical workshops as well as E-learning modules using an online platform and TALEA.



It also included daily population monitoring on the streets and surveying the general public regarding the roaming dog problem

Preparing Staff for the First Day: Planning and Training for Success

- Planning ahead is essential for any successful project. Training staff on the first day ensures that everyone is on the same page and knows what their responsibilities are.
- First coordinator must be trained or go trough the app and make routes and users ID s and after train also all the users who are going to conduct the survey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Packages
Analytics
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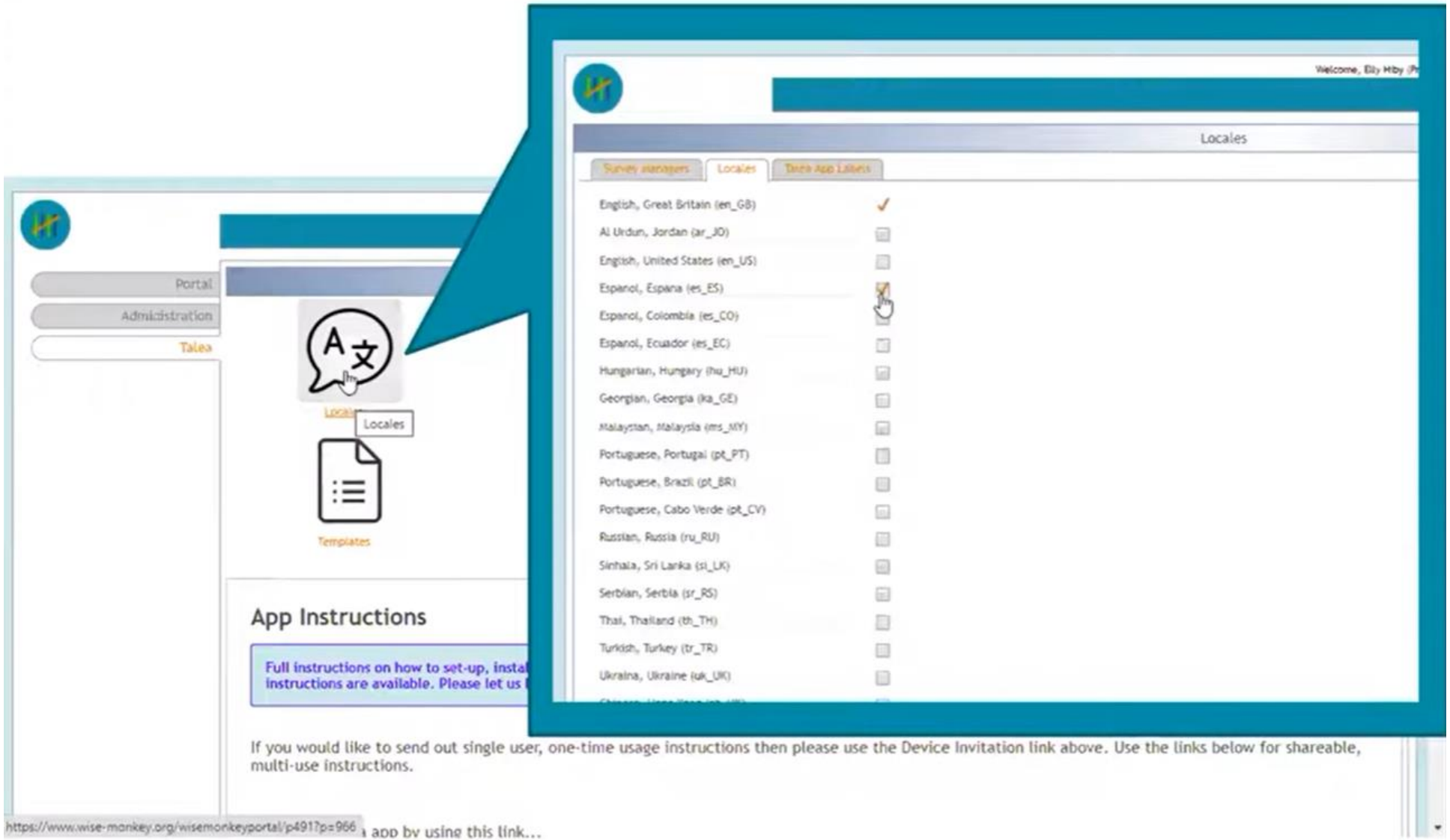
Install the Talea app by using this link...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https://www.wise-monkey.org/wisemonkeyportal/p491?p=966
Locales
Survey managers
Locales
Tales App Labels
English, Great Britain (en_GB)
Al Urdun, Jordan (ar_JO)
English, United States (en_US)
Espanol, Espana (es_ES)
Espanol, Colombia (es_CO)
Espanol, Ecuador (es_EC)
Hungarian, Hungary (hu_HU)
Georgian, Georgia (ka_GE)
Malaysian, Malaysia (ms_MY)
Portuguese, Portugal (pt_PT)
Portuguese, Brazil (pt_BR)
Portuguese, Cabo Verde (pt_CV)
Russian, Russia (ru_RU)
Sinhala, Sri Lanka (si_LK)
Serbian, Serbia (sr_RS)
Thai, Thailand (th_TH)
Turkish, Turkey (tr_TR)
Ukraina, Ukraine (uk_UK)

How does it work?

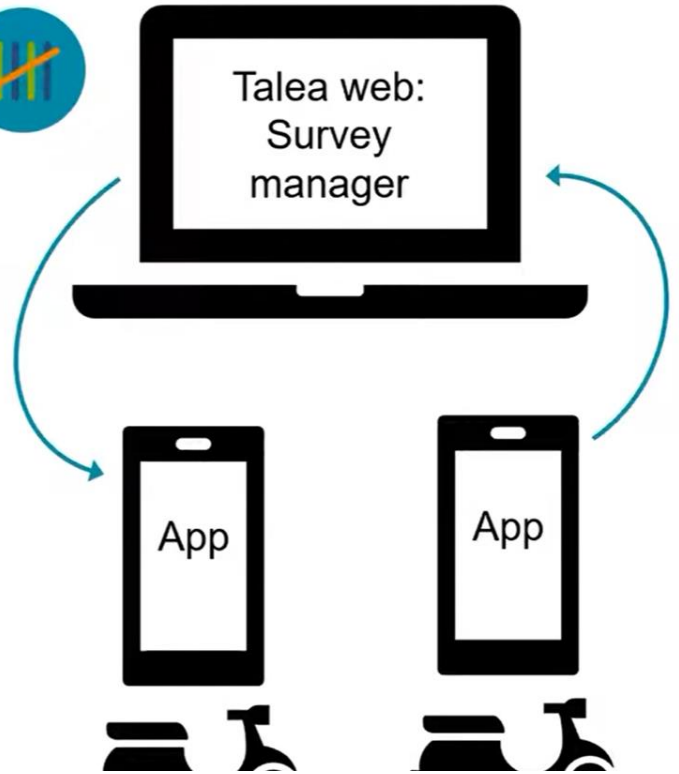
Talea web and app

- Flexible
  - Templates: library, amend or create
  - Sandboxes:
    - » Routes or polygons
    - » Sighting location = observer location, or indicate animal location on map

ICAM

Talea web and app

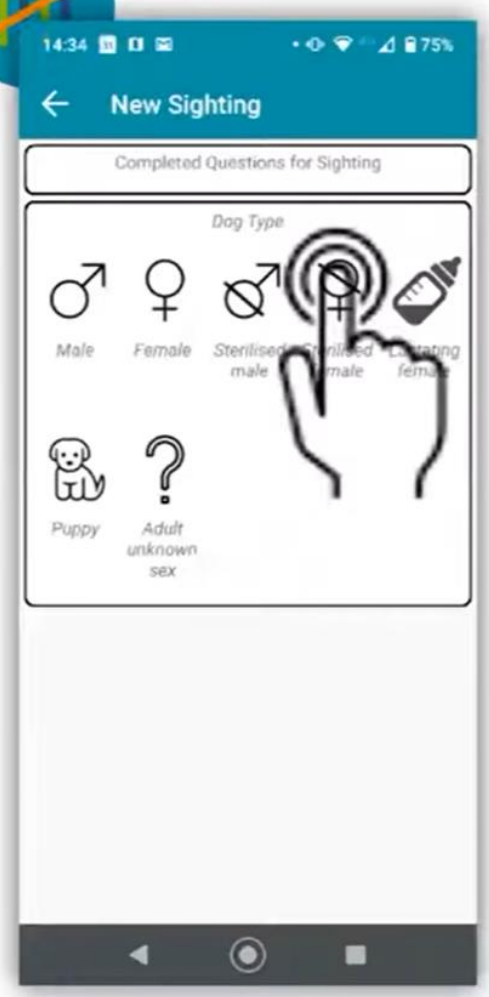
- Website manager sends out ‘packages’ of surveys to the app and receives the data sent by the app
- App helps you navigate along the route and record observations of roaming dogs



ICAM

Talea web and app

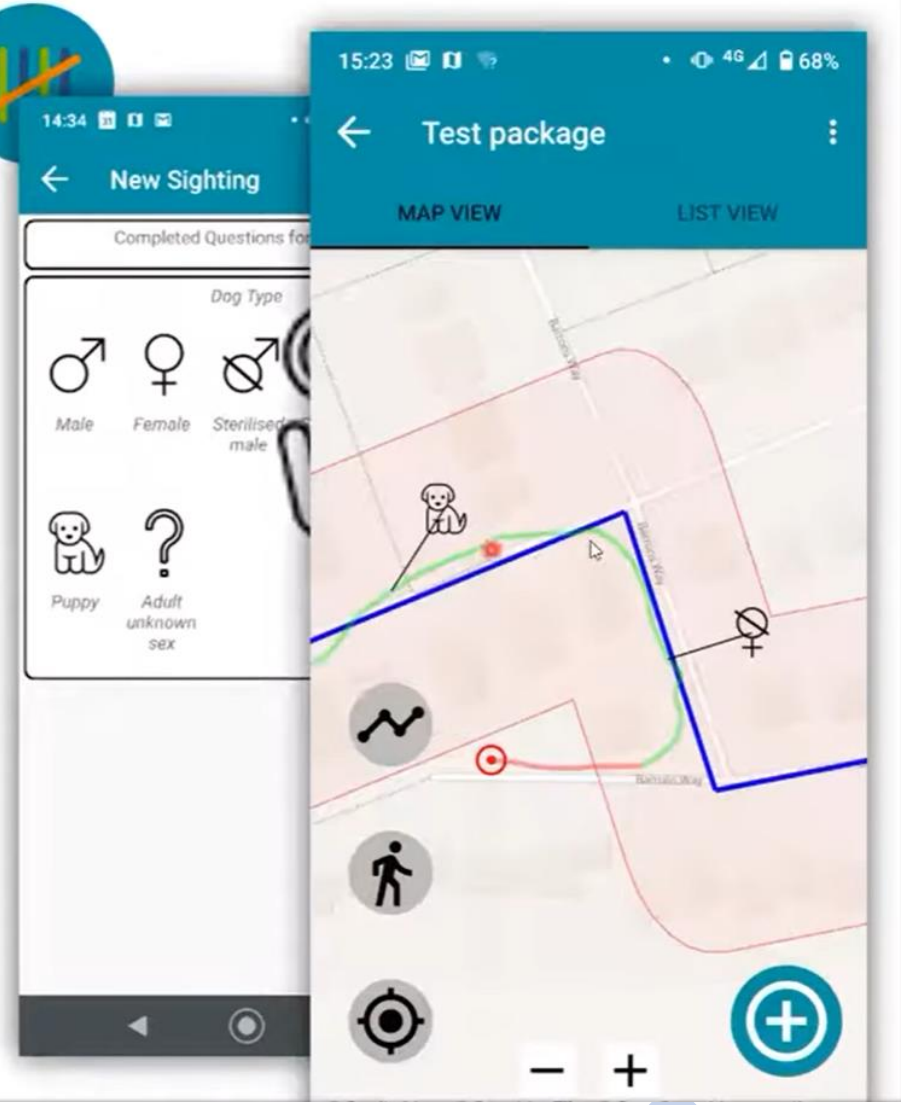
- Easy
  - Icons
  - Single tap



ICAM
INTERNATIONAL COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT COALITION

Talea web and app

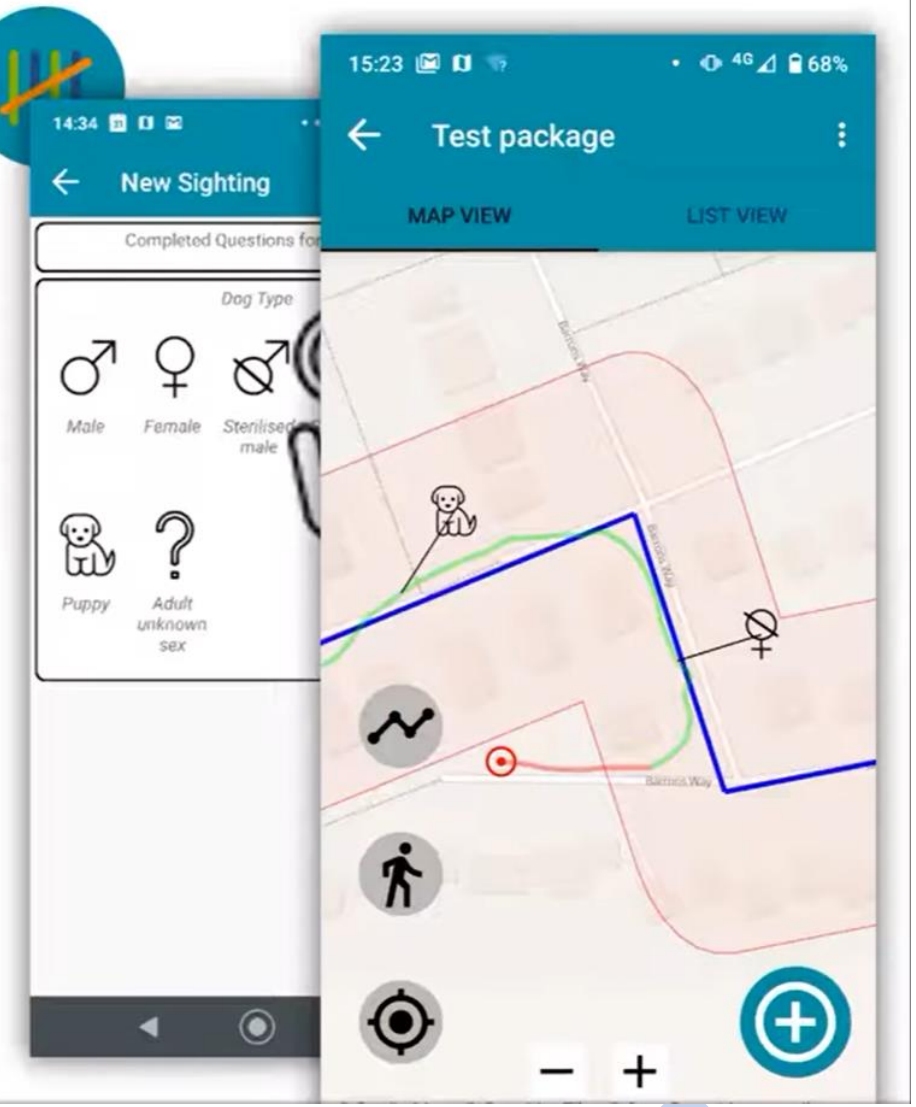
- Easy
  - Icons
  - Single tap
  - Edit and delete
  - Navigation and ‘off route’ indication



ICAM
INTERNATIONAL COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT COALITION

Talea web and app

- Easy
  - Icons
  - Single tap
  - Edit and delete
  - Navigation and ‘off route’ indication
  - Any language
- Android only, not iOS



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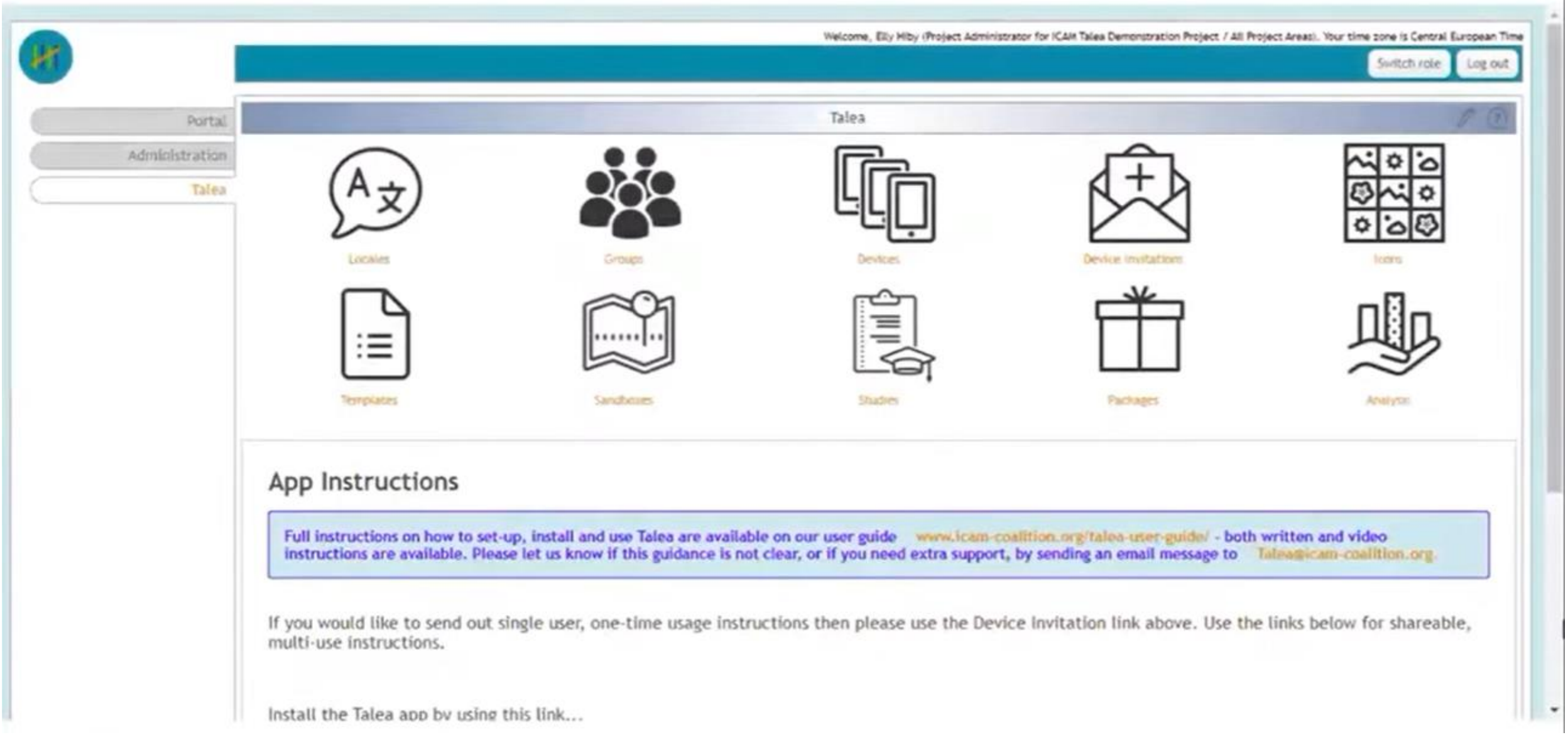
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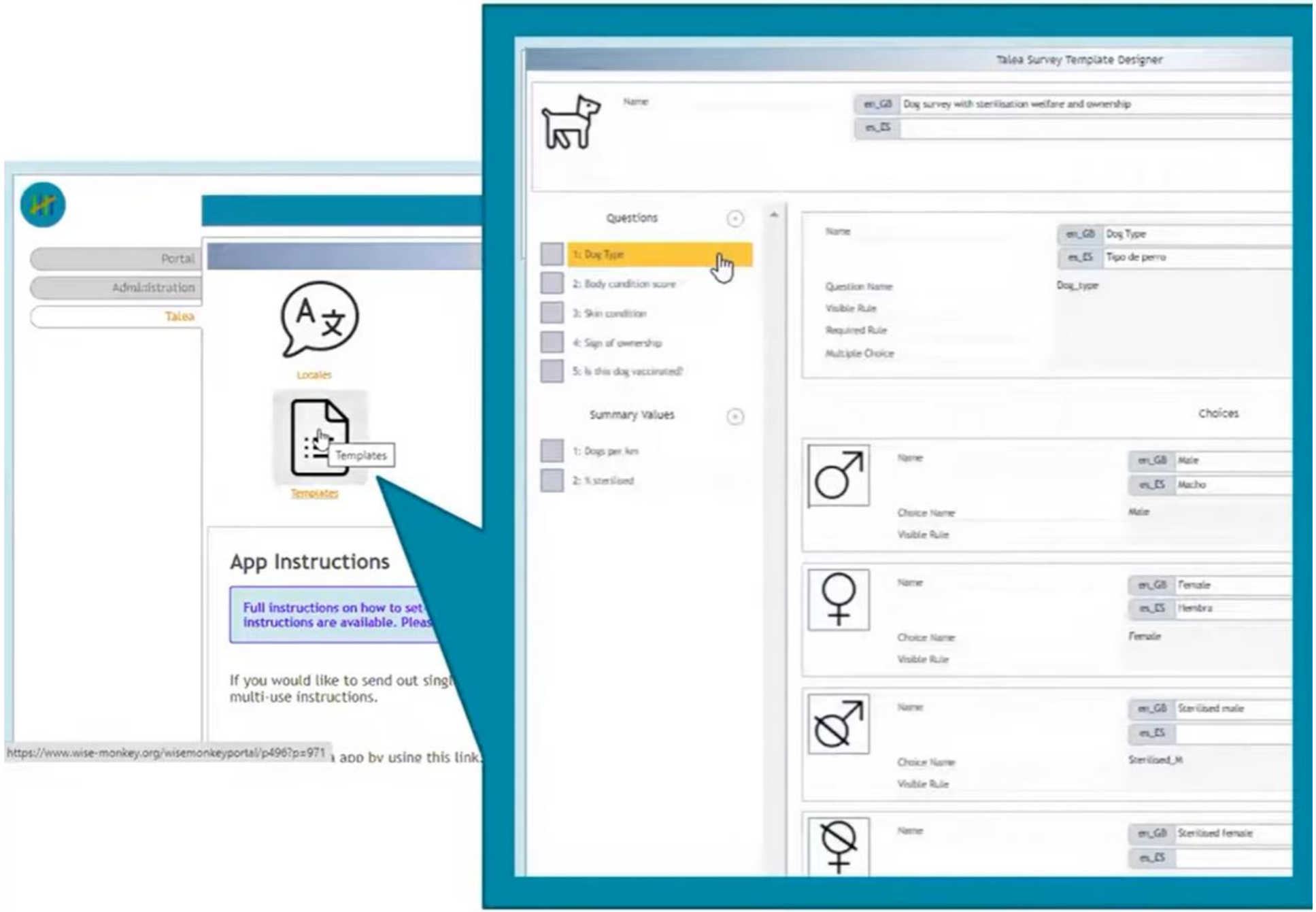
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multi-use instructions.
https://www.wise-monkey.org/wisemonkeyportal/p496?p=971
Talea Survey Template Designer
Name
en_GB
Dog survey with sterilisation welfare and ownership
en_ES
Questions
1: Dog Type
2: Body condition score
3: Skin condition
4: Sign of ownership
5: Is this dog vaccinated?
Summary Values
1: Dogs per km
2: % sterilised
Name
en_GB
Dog Type
en_ES
Tipo de perro
Question Name
Dog_type
Visible Rule
Required Rule
Multiple Choice
Choices
Name
en_GB
Male
en_ES
Macho
Choice Name
Male
Visible Rule
Name
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Female
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Hembra
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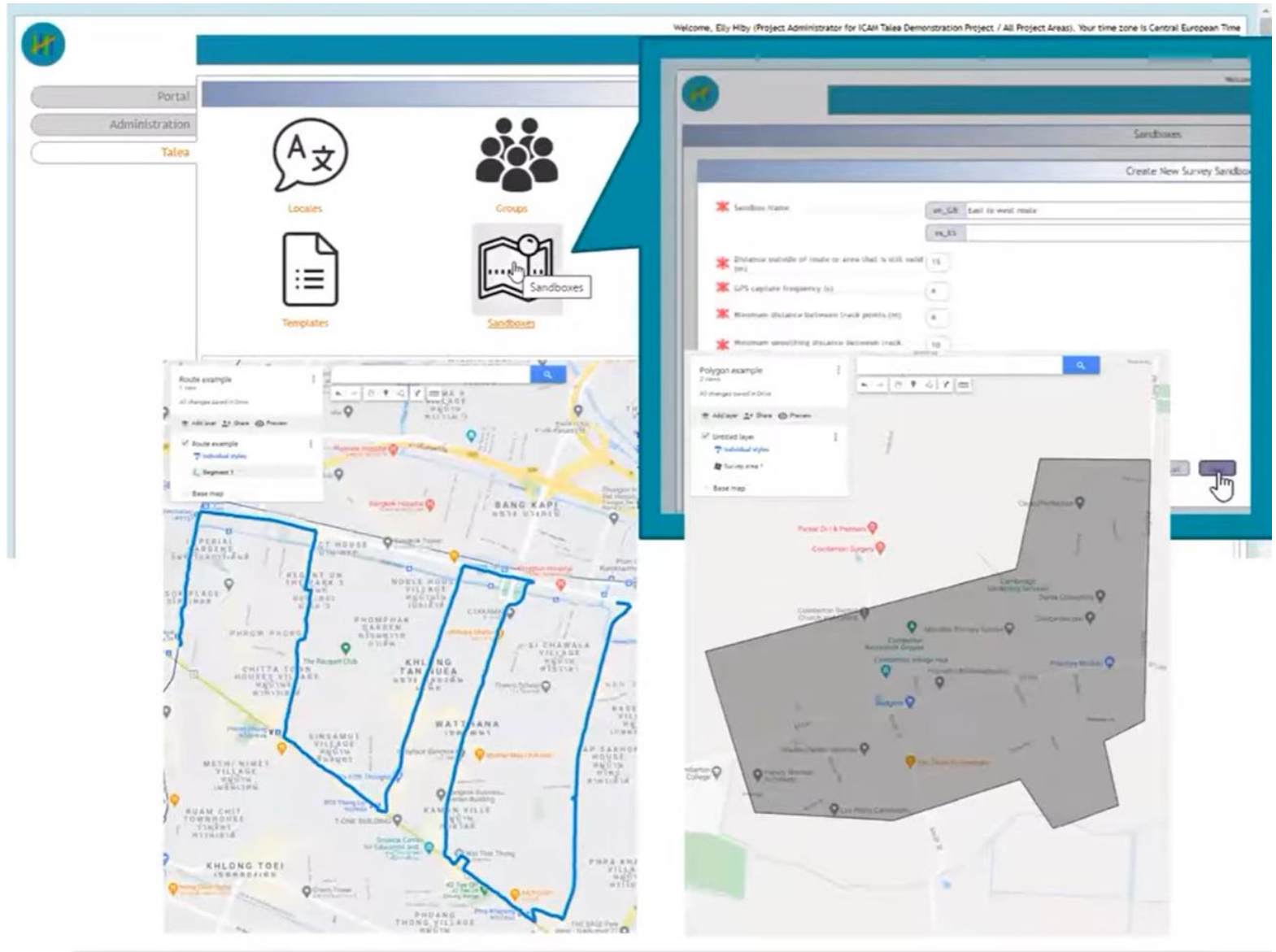
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Create New Survey Sandbox
Route example
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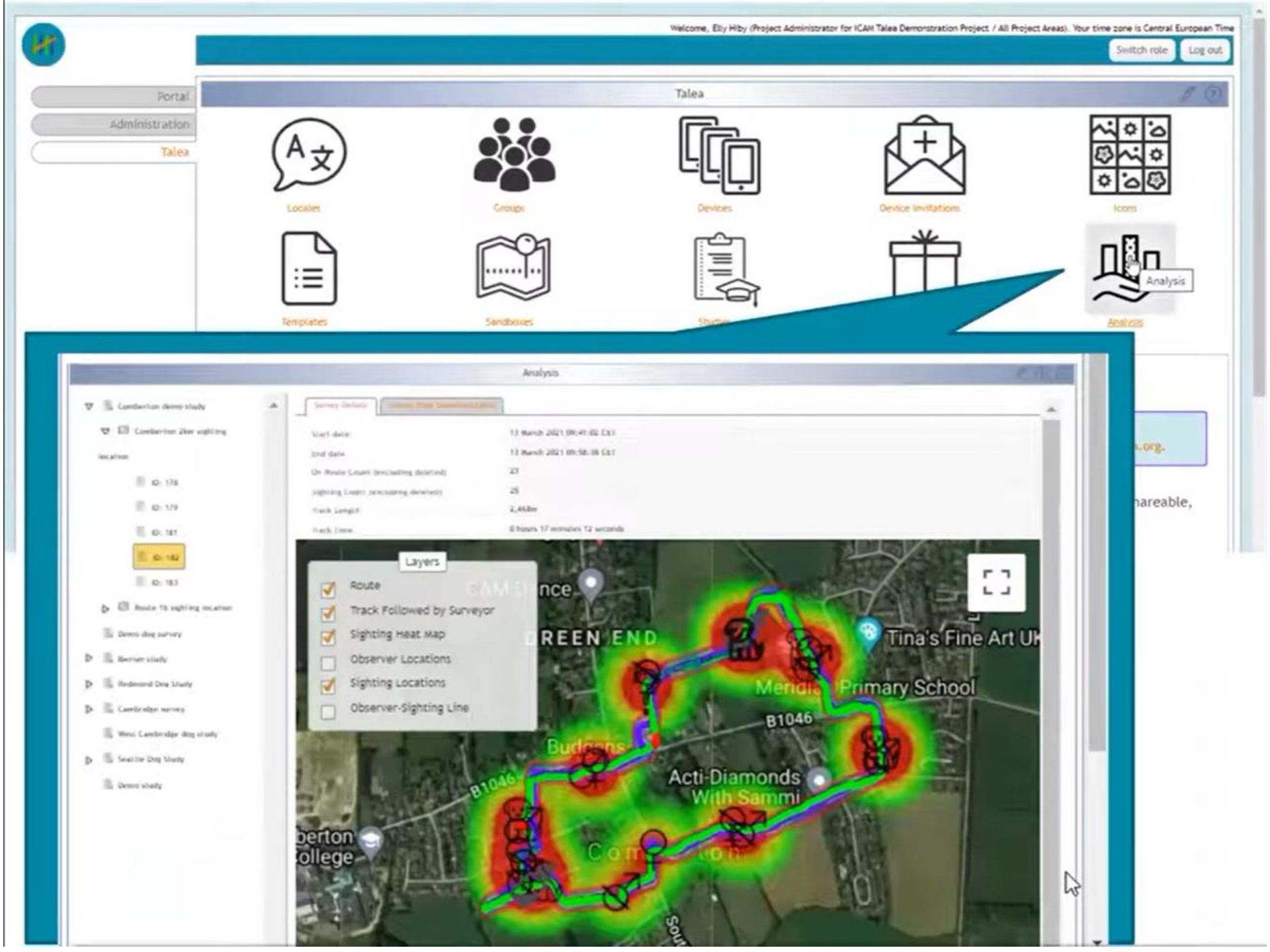
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Sighting Heat Map
Observer Locations
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Observer-Sighting Line
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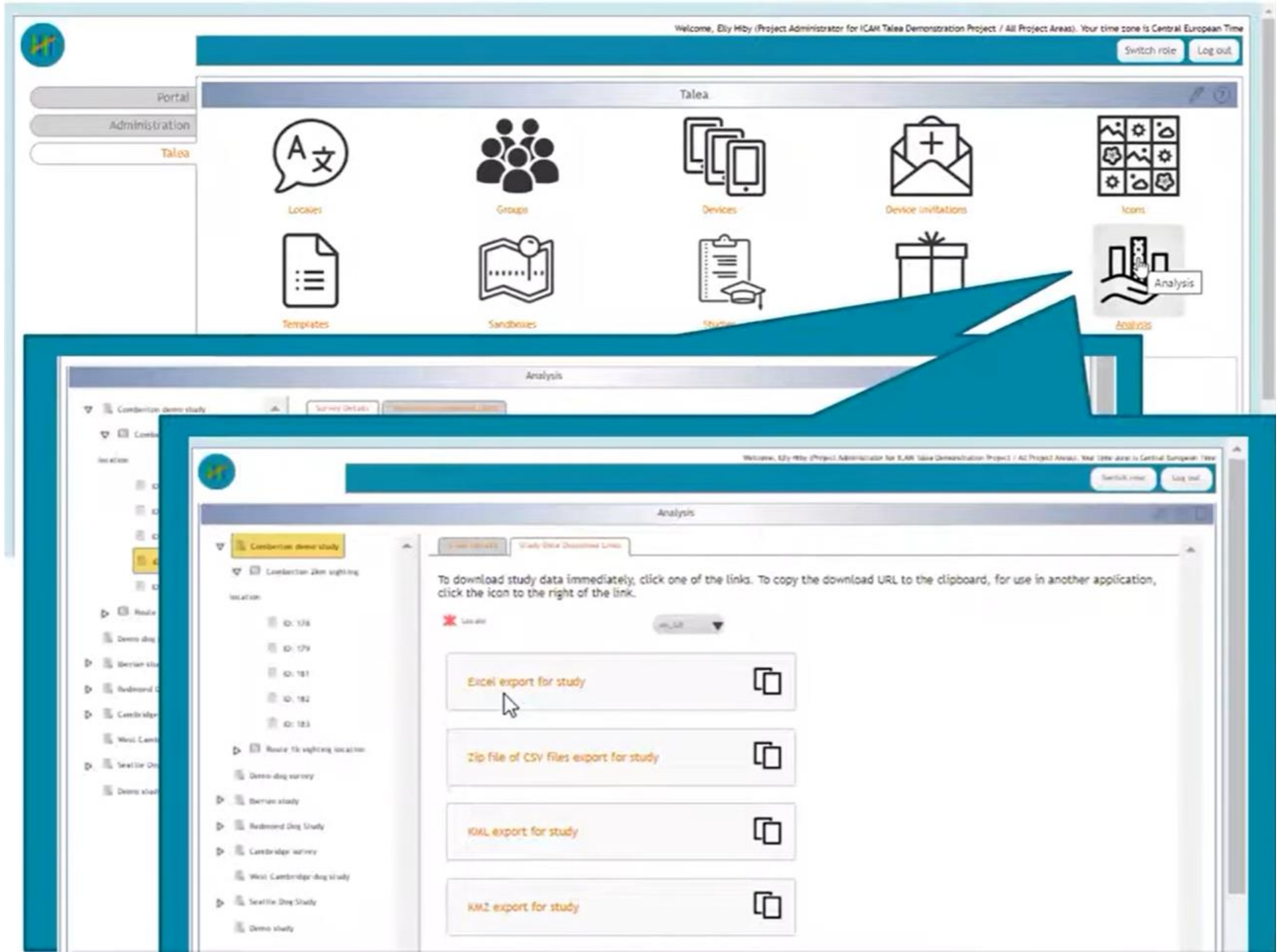
Budgens
Acti-Diamonds
With Sammi
B1046
College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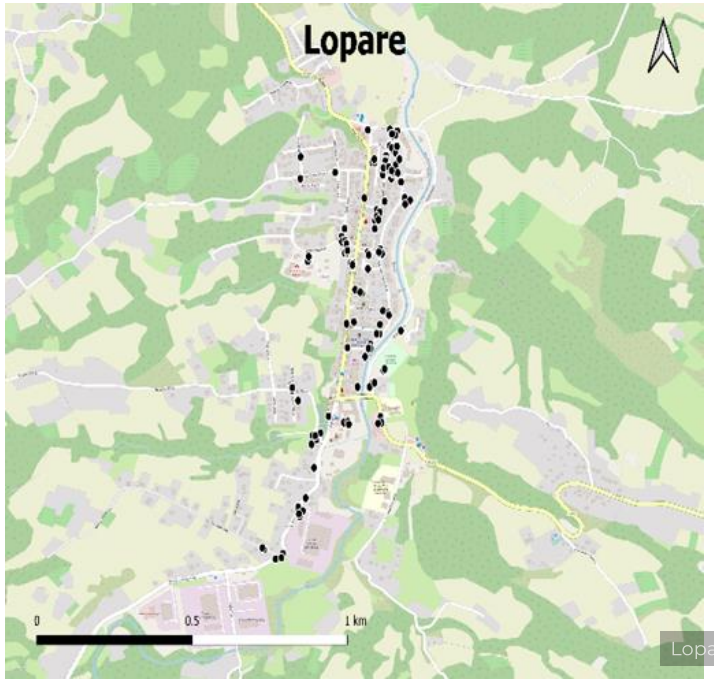
To download study data immediately, click one of the links. To copy the download URL to the clipboard, for use in another application, click the icon to the right of the link.
Excel export for study
Zip file of CSV files export for study
KML export for study
KMZ export for study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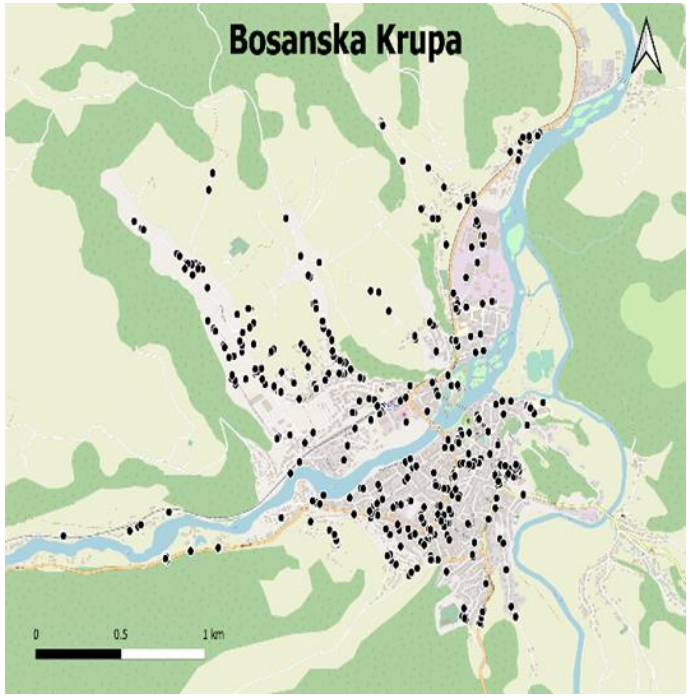
Lopare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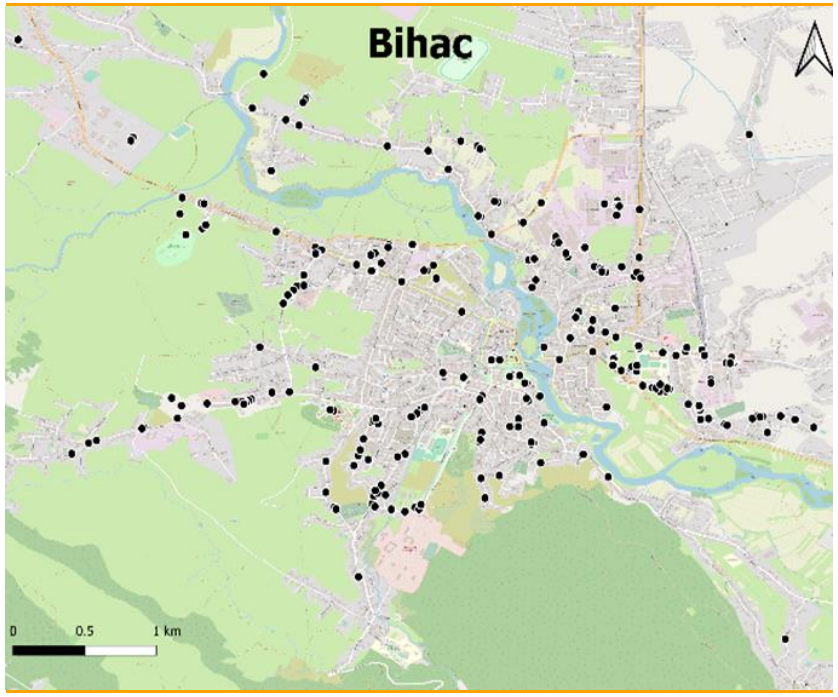
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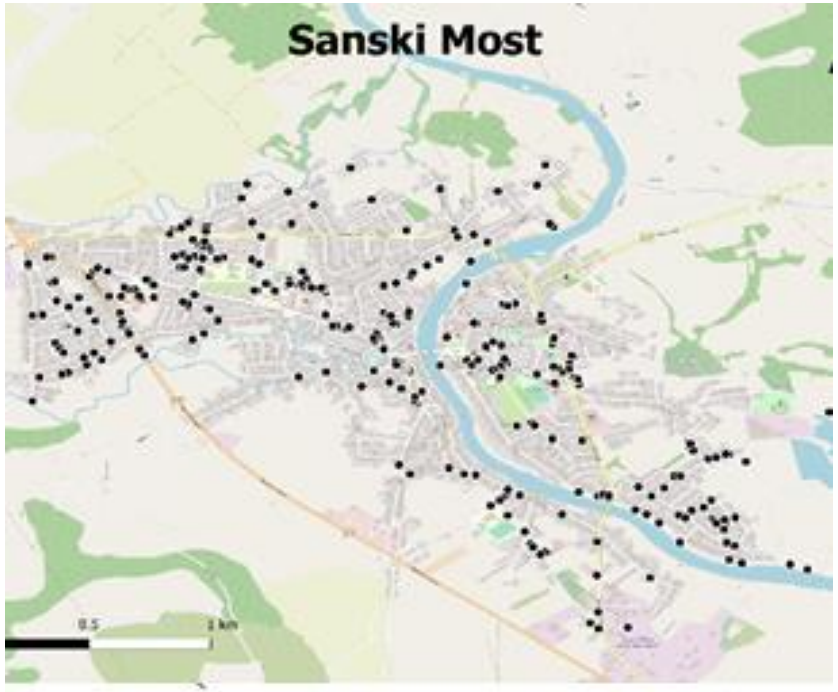
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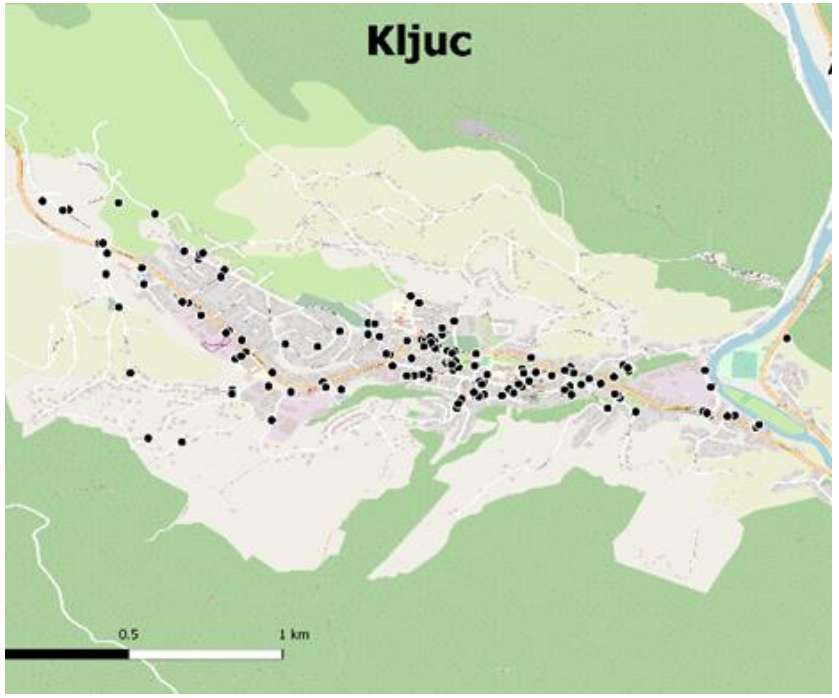
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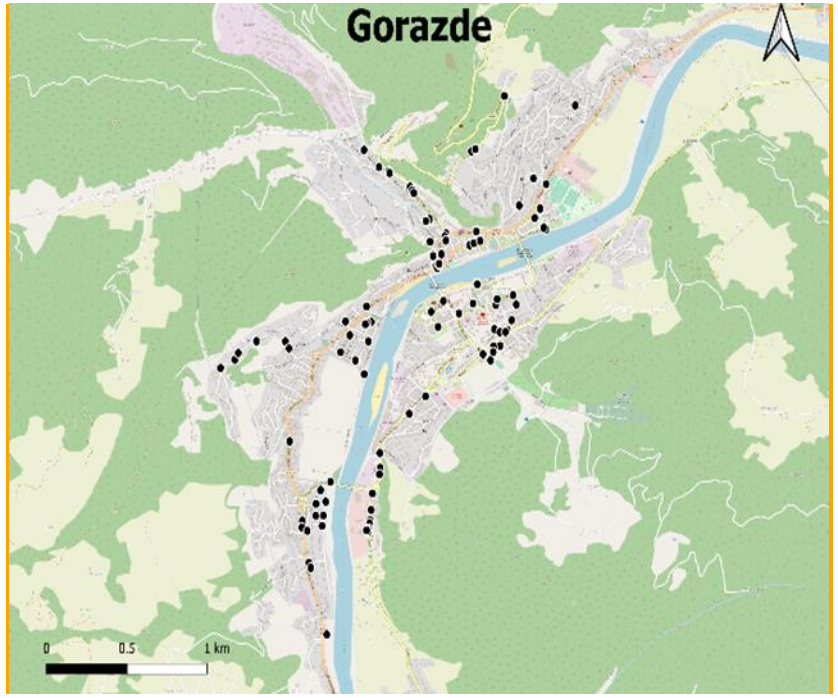
Gorazde
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Timeline of survey

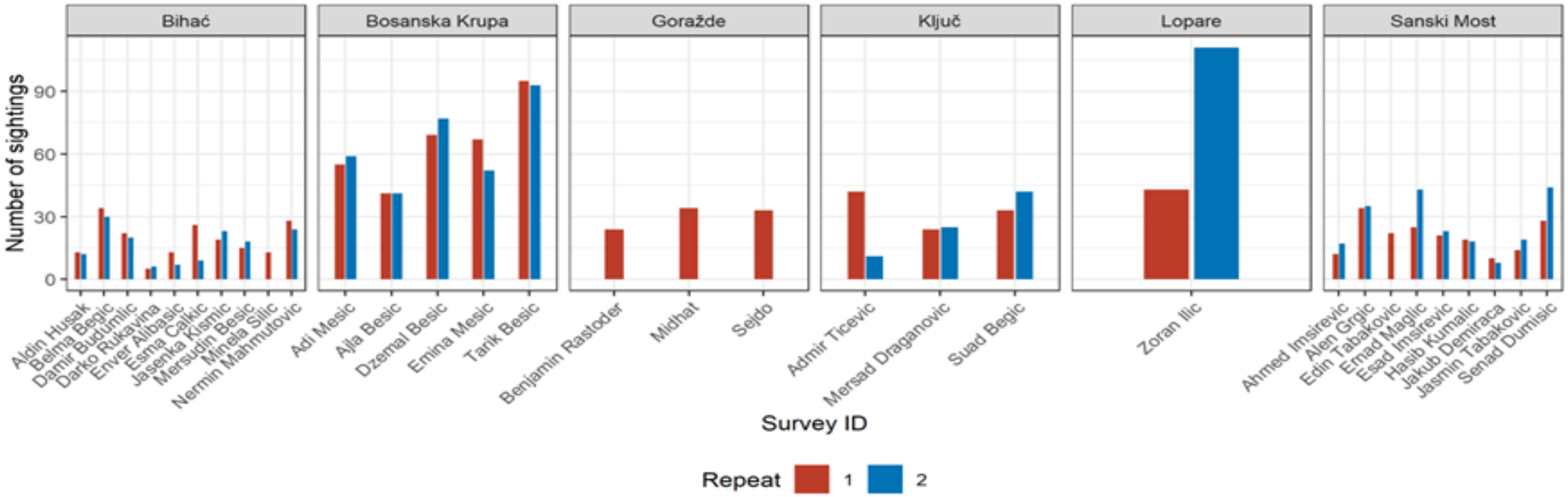
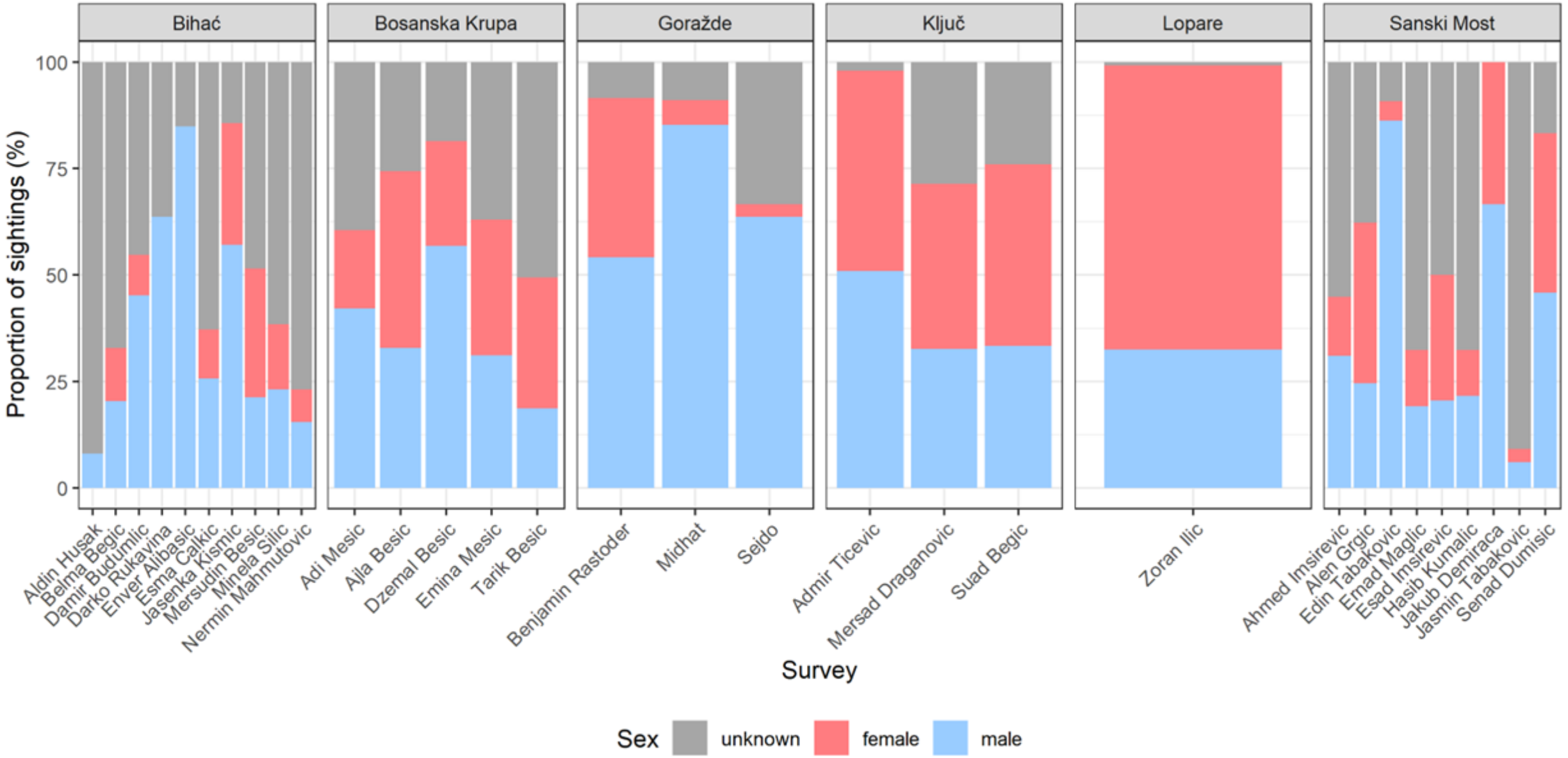


Figure 2 – Dog sightings per survey, by municipality and user. Most surveys were repeated as indicated by a red (first survey) and blue (second survey) bars.

Charting Data from the app that were entered in forms



“**Measuring** outcomes is the key to **maximizing** them.”

Why is it important?

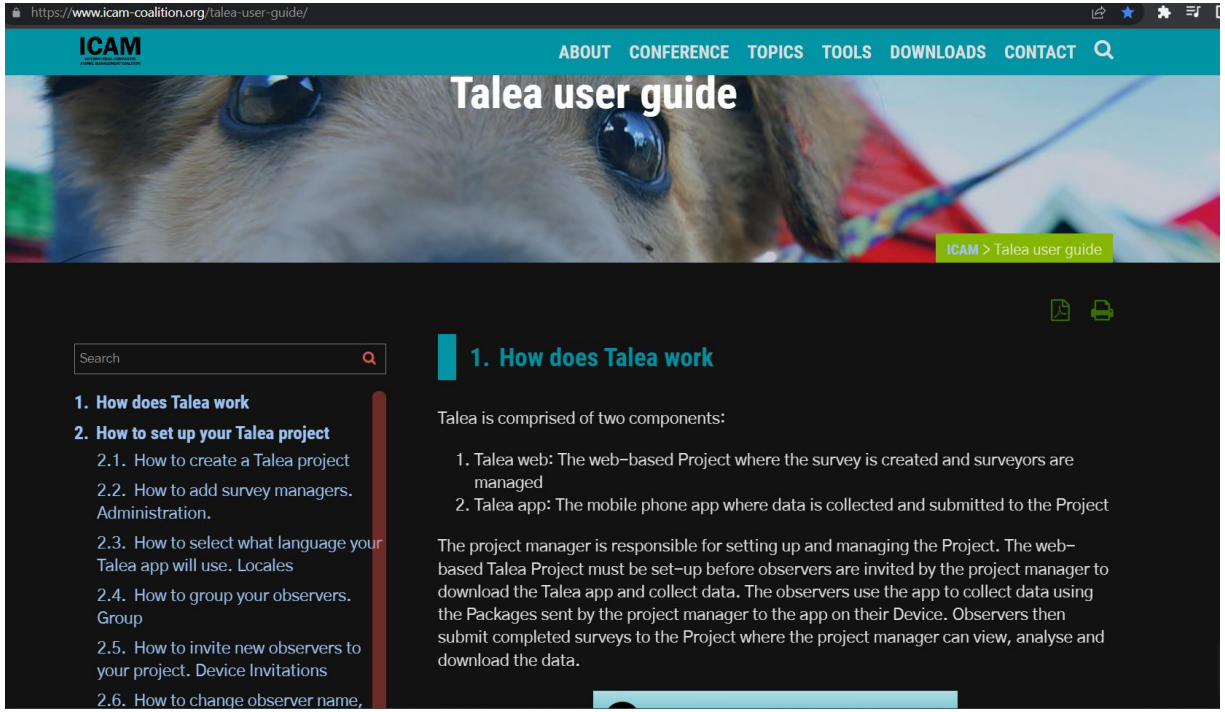
- To inform the public, people from municipalities, and all interested stakeholders of the impacts of the intervention,

- To compare interventions and their relative impacts, and plan future ones,

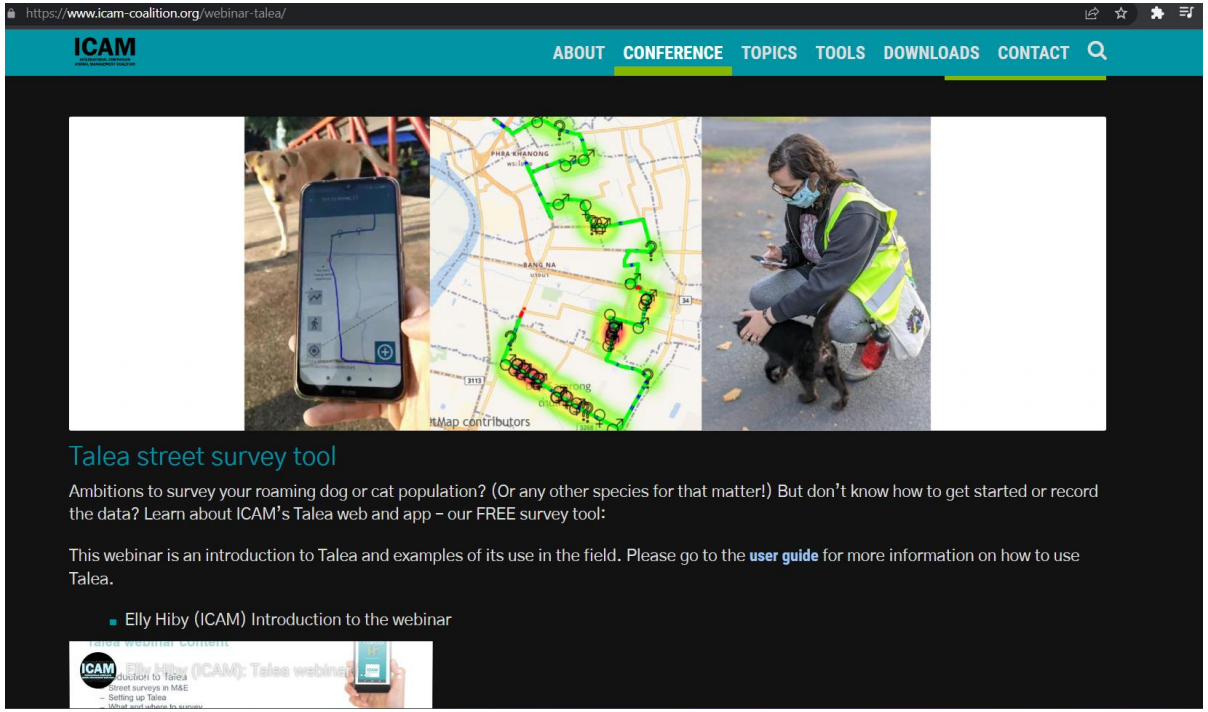
- This tool is available as Thalea app, but there are other similar - each is user friendly and can provide a good tool for DPM

Useful links

https://www.icam-coalition.org/talea-user-guide/



https://www.icam-coalition.org/webinar-talea/



Take care of dogs and animals!

Thank you!