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WOAH (funded as OIE)
Platform on animal
welfare for Europe

5th Regional workshop on Dog Population Management for Balkans countries (SDB5)

4-6 July 2023, Tuhelj, Croatia

Meeting Report

Summary:

The fifth WOAHA Regional Workshop on Stray Dog population management (SDB5) was organized in Tuhelj, Croatia from the 4th to the 6th of July 2023.

Ten Balkan countries were represented by experts and officials working at central level on the implementation of the WOAHA TAHC Chapter 7.7 on Dog Population Management (DPM) and in charge of policy and coordination with other stakeholders at regional and local level.

As part of the workshop preparatory activities, WOAHA Members representatives were requested to conduct their second self-assessment using the new Self-Assessment and Monitoring System for Dog Population Management system (SAM4DPM).

Results were presented during the workshop to highlight the latest accomplishments toward the objective to achieve the common Vision of becoming fully compliant with Chapter 7.7. by 2025.

At the end of the event, the participants unanimously committed:

- ✓ To utilize the new SAM4DPM system for conducting the next self-assessment rounds autonomously;
- ✓ To make use of the pool of DPM managers in the Balkans, to expand the range of training and capacity building opportunities;
- ✓ To progress in the implementation of their Roadmaps.

The SDB5 was also an opportunity to take stock of the situation on the level of involvement in the Global Strategic Plan to Prevent Human Deaths from Dog-Transmitted Rabies by 2030 (Zero by 2030 strategic plan).

Based on the information collected during the event, the Platform Secretariat will refine the proposal of the fourth action plan (2024-2026) to be consistent with the WOAHA members, donors, and partners' expectations.

The event was organized with the support of the Regional Animal Welfare Centre and co-funded by the European Commission, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Dogs Trust, and the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

1. Introduction

The fifth WOAHA Regional Workshop on Dog Population Management (SDB5) was organized in the frame of the Dog Population Management (DPM) roadmap for the Balkan countries from the 4th to the 6th of July 2023 in Thuelj, Croatia. The detailed agenda of the meeting is available in Annex I.

A total of 35 participants attended, including representatives of Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo¹, Serbia, Romania, Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Greece, along with speakers and observers from 7 organizations. Most of the countries were represented by officials working at central level on the implementation of the WOAHA Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter 7.7 on dog population management or appointed by other Competent Authorities at regional and local level. Detailed list of participants is available in the Annex II

The main objective of the SDB5 was to assist the Balkan countries in achieving full compliance with WOAHA standard on dog population management by 2025 and progressing with the activities laid down in the third Action Plan of the Platform (2021-2023), in line with specific country needs and sub-regional priorities. In continuity with the previous workshops, the event was anticipated by a self-assessment round completed by using the new SAM4DPM system (SAM Tool 2.0). The SAM4DPM system was presented the Balkan countries representatives on June the 19th, 2023 in preparation to the SDB5.

Countries' representatives presented the results of this first self-assessment round conducted by using the new SAM4DPM system. In addition, participants gained thorough understanding on specific topics included in the meeting agenda, in particular:

- ✓ The WOAHA Platform for Animal Welfare in Europe next Action Plan 2024-2026;
- ✓ The "One – Health" approach of the WOAHA TAHC Chapter 7.7;
- ✓ The societal dimension of Dog Population Management;
- ✓ The Regional Animal Welfare Centre (RAWC)'s potential role in assisting the Balkan countries, based on existing regional expertise.

The event was characterized by an open and constructive discussion on the latest achievements at national, regional, and local level, without losing sight of the remaining gaps to be filled, to become fully compliant with WOAHA Chapter 7.7. by 2025. The importance of permanent long-term collaboration between Veterinary Services, Competent Authorities, stakeholders and civil society and the need to progress in a common and coordinated direction were also discussed.

Participants were still optimistic about meeting their own objectives, provided the continuous support from WOAHA and its partners.

More information about previous and future activities of the WOAHA Roadmap for Balkan countries are available at the WOAHA Platform website.

¹ References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)

Main outcomes

1

Participants gained a thorough understanding of the state of progress of the 2021-2023 WOAHA Platform Action Plan's initiatives, along with the objectives of the proposed fourth Action Plan (2024-2026) initiatives. The new WOAHA TAHC Chapter 7.7 recommendations, and the role of the Regional Animal Welfare Center (RAWC) in contributing to the implementation of the individual Roadmaps, were also recalled;

2

Participants took stock of the regional situation towards the agreed Vision (compliance with Chapter 7.7 by 2025) and the challenges faced since the SDB4, by **using the new new SAM4DPM system** developed in collaboration between the Platform Secretariat and the IZS-Teramo;

3

Attendants **agreed that the Vision (compliance with Chapter 7.7 by 2025) remains achievable**, although considerable efforts are still needed to fully implement the WOAHA standards, mainly in relation to the need for (1) strengthening the capacity of Veterinary Services (VS) to develop and adopt National Action plans aiming at creating an enabling environment for DPM programmes development and implementation (2) improving the technical know-how of the personnel carrying out DPM programs' activities at municipal/local level.

4

Attendants improved their understanding on the challenges and benefits in implementing **National Action plans** and regional/local **DPM programmes**;

5

The feedback received from the SDB5 participants indicated that they:

1. Acknowledged the efforts to **maintain and reinforce the interactions between the Platform members and stakeholders**;
2. Expressed their **interest in the topics discussed and appreciated the quality of the technical contributions** to the event;
3. Found meeting useful to **identify possible (corrective) actions to improve DPM programs** implemented at national and local level;
4. Remain committed to **support the progression of national Roadmaps** in the Balkans.

Next steps

The following steps were agreed:

1

[Countries] - **To use the new SAM4DPM system for conducting the next self-assessment rounds** in full autonomy, in order to monitor the progression of their Roadmaps over time and according to their needs;

2

[Countries] - To make use of the **pool of DPM managers' in the Balkans, to expand the range of training and capacity building opportunities** aiming at improving (1) the professional skills and capacities of the Veterinary Services² involved in the development and implementation of National Action plans and DPM programmes (2) the technical know-how of the personnel carrying out carrying out DPM activities at Municipal/local level;

3

[Countries] – **To progress in the implementation of their Roadmaps** with the support of the Platform Secretariat, the WOAAH Network of CCs on Animal Welfare, RAWC, other sub-regional Academic bodies/Institutions and local/international NGOs;

4

[WOAH] To **report the outcomes of the SDB5 workshop** to the WOAAH General Director and to the Steering Group of the WOAAH Platform on AW for Europe;

5

[WOAH] **To organize the SDB6 Workshop in 2024** (provided funding is available), to support Balkan Countries in the implementation of their national Roadmaps and to monitor the progressive implementation of the TAHC Chapter 7.7 on DPM.

² NGOs are encompassed within the definition of Veterinary Services which “means the governmental and non-governmental organizations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations.

DAY 1

WOAH Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe - T. Grudnik (WOAH),

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

The WOAHP Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe was established in 2013, to raise awareness and understanding of animal welfare in the European region and to advance with the implementation of the WOAHP standards on animal welfare. The Platform addresses the management of dog populations, and the control of free-roaming dogs as a priority topic since 2014. To date, eleven Balkan and eight West Eurasian countries agreed on a shared vision: to reach full compliance, respectively by 2025 and 2030, with the WOAHP Terrestrial Animal Health Code (TAHC) Chapter 7.7 on dog population management. On this occasion, country representatives reiterated their willing to seek for the fully implementation of the WOAHP TACH Chap. 7.7 standards and periodically use the new SAM Tool 2.0, in order to monitor and self-assess their progress over time. In parallel, eight Eurasian countries representatives have been involved in three consecutive workshops. The platform will continue to empower Veterinary Services to take action on animal welfare in compliance with WOAHP standards and build the 2024-2026 Action Plan by considering the important achievements of the ongoing Action Plan and the results of a forthcoming external evaluation.

The new TACH Chapter 7.7 - P. Dalla Villa (WOAH)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

Dr. Dalla Villa's contribution was meant to draw the audience attention to the most significant changes of the new TAHC Chapter 7.7 on Dog Population Management (DPM). The new Chapter were adopted at the 89th General Session in 2022, with the scope of keeping the focus on animal welfare whilst addressing public health and security risks posed by the dog populations. The text of the new Chap. 7.7 was updated in line with current scientific information, the term "stray" has been replaced with "free-roaming dog" and the concept of a National Action Plan was finally introduced as a firm foundation on which the Competent Authority (normally the Veterinary Authority) can create an accountable, sustainable and enabling environment for the development and implementation of evidence-based Dog Population Management programmes. The process of population assessment, planning, monitoring and evaluation to ensure well designed and adapted evidence based DPM programmes remains essential. The new standards reflect the WOAHP commitment to ZeroBy30 and are strongly oriented to address DPM from a One-Health perspective. The Chapter assign a key role to the civil society, and in particular to the local NGOs, that should strive for a permanent, constructive, and fair collaboration with the Competent Authorities at the national, regional, or local level. Understanding the importance of each of these recommendations and the need to educate dog owners on responsible dog ownership remain essential.

Plenary lecture "Human dimensions of dog population management" - Prof. J.A. Serpell (School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, USA)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

According to Professor Serpell, while there many tried and tested practical approaches to dog population management (DPM), they are unlikely to be successful in the long-term without also understanding and addressing the societal and human factors that contribute to the problems posed by uncontrolled, free-roaming dogs (FRDs). Global statistics suggest that levels of dog ownership tend to be highest in predominantly rural nations and regions where dogs are traditionally kept outdoors and unrestrained. In Europe, national levels of dog ownership are also positively correlated with levels of home ownership, probably due to landlord restrictions on dogs in rented housing. Individual and local community attitudes to dogs also play major roles in determining the numbers of dogs in any given area; their care and welfare; the risks they pose to people, and the overall value assigned to them. Local demographics, culture, individual experience, and canine behaviour contribute to people's attitudes to FRDs, and their likely acceptance of - or resistance to - different DPM strategies.

Presentation of the SAM 2.0 project - Dr S. D'Albenzio (IZS-Teramo)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

Dr Silvia D'Albenzio outlined the main actions taken in the frame of a three-year Services Agreement signed between the WOAHP and the IZS-Teramo, with the objective to upgrade the SAM Tool 1.0 and to develop a new web-based self-assessment and monitoring platform (SAM Tool 2.0), aiming at assisting the Balkan countries in reaching the full compliance with the WOAHP standards on DPM by 2025. Such a dynamic data collection IT tool allows to bridge the past and the future progresses on DPM at country and regional level and to compare progressive achievements to short, medium, and long-term objectives. It will provide a strong support to the process of building and implementing

sustainable strategies for dog population management and stray dog control in the Region. This key step will allow the WOAHA Platform to strengthen the support provided to the Veterinary Services to achieve the strongest animal welfare and public health impacts of a systematic Chap. 7.7 implementation in the region.

Follow up to the training on the use of the SAM Tool 2.0 - Dr L. Possenti (IZS-Teramo)

The SAM4DPM Project Leader Dr Luigi Possenti showed the system landing page, and recalled the various functions assigned to the automated system. Attendants had the opportunity to familiarize with the new system, which automatizes the self-assessment process, allows live-time and user-friendly analysis of the information, and helps countries to analyse their own data independently, in line with the revised TAHC Chapter 7.7 recommendations. The Platform secretariat will be granted to operate as Platform Administrator (PA) and figure out preselected scenarios showing the progressive level of implementation of TACH Chapter 7.7 on dog population management and Chapter 8.14 on infection with rabies virus at country, multi-country, or multi-regional level. The SAM4DPM can be also easily tailored for implementation in other regional or sub regional contexts and it will enhance the opportunities to work with local and international partners/stakeholders in a comprehensive and cohesive manner. To date, all participating Countries appointed a reference person and accessed the system. However, not all of them were able to provide a full picture of the national scenario, as the regional/local data have still to be transmitted by the regional/local Competent Authorities.

Results of the 4th self-assessment and remaining gaps to achieve “the Vision”.

Participants were updated by the countries' representatives about the progress towards the full implementation of the WOAHA standards based on the result of the 4th self-assessment round of the SAM4DPM System conducted with the assistance of the IZS-Teramo IT experts. According to the “Multi country report” generated by the SAM4DPM System and the additional information provided by the country representatives, only 4 Balkan countries have fully completed their 4th self-assessment (Bulgaria, Serbia, North Macedonia, Montenegro). Croatia and Kosovo entered the system but were only able to provide partial information at national level whilst Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, and Greece were not in the position to load any data. Turkey did not participate in the workshop.

(links to countries presentation: [Albania](#), [Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Croatia](#), [Greece](#), [Kosovo*](#), [Montenegro](#), [North Macedonia](#), [Romania](#), [Serbia](#))

Reported progress since the last meeting (SDB4) held in 2021:

- ✓ Five out of six of the responding countries identify owned dogs or abandoned animals as the main source of free-roaming animals, followed by loss of abandoned animals, whose presence is still considered a problem and poses public health and security risks (mainly due to dog bites, noise, fecal pollution, and attacks to wildlife).
- ✓ Half of the country remove free-roaming dogs from the territory and the majority have catch neuter vaccination return (CNVR) programmes in place. 6 out of 11 Countries have been able to estimate the number of owned dogs but only two of them had the means to measure the consistence of the free-roaming sub-population. Only one country periodically estimates the number of free-roaming dogs.
- ✓ To this end, Albania, Bulgaria, and Montenegro have their own National Action Plan in place, Serbia has also already developed its own, still to be adopted. Only two countries are coordinated with other actions plans (I.e., related to zoonotic diseases control). Veterinary Authorities are the DPM competent authorities in all the responding countries.
- ✓ All countries have the necessary regulatory framework in support of the establishment of DPM programmes, and in five of them the local authorities hold the responsibility for the enforcement of dog-ownership regulatory measures. Five out of six countries have DPM programmes in place.
- ✓ No country records the number of bites due to free-roaming dogs and only two countries have data on compensation costs paid for injuries to humans. Only two countries subsidize the costs for the prevention and control of diseases, treatment of illness and injuries well as the euthanasia of “at risk” dogs that do not have reliable access to basic veterinary care.
- ✓ The level of resources remains insufficient mainly in relation to the availability of qualified operators, technical tools, and infrastructures. Competent Authorities have currently enforced minimum standards for dog housing premises in all countries and facilitate access to veterinary care.
- ✓ Environmental control is in place in four countries, and it is done by protecting rubbish dumps and slaughterhouses from free-roaming dogs' incursions.
- ✓ The euthanasia of healthy dogs is legally permitted in only two countries, but no data are available about the number of free-roaming dogs euthanized per year. Over the last 3 years, two countries observed an increase in the number of free-roaming dogs and only one of them experienced a decrease.

As for the rabies section:

- ✓ All countries declared to have a disease surveillance system in place and early detection programs in accordance with TAHC Chap. 1.4 standards. Regulatory measures for the prevention of rabies are also present and consistent with Chapter 8.14, including for the importation of animals.
- ✓ Only five countries declared to know the number of rabies cases, with wildlife species playing a key role in the local epidemiology. Most of the countries declare to know the number of rabies cases in humans, but no data related to the sources of information and the number of both dog mediated and non-mediated human cases are reported, with reference to the last 5 years. Only one country indicates the number of humans receiving Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) on an annual basis, with a steady decline over the last five years.
- ✓ Three countries also declare to have other dog-mediated zoonoses in their territories (I.e., Leishmaniosis and Echinococcosis).
- ✓ Over the last five years, it has been observed a progressive decline in the number of vaccinated dogs.
- ✓ The level of coordination between human and animal health services in rabies prevention and control varies from informal coordination on a case-by-case situation to a well-structured and regular synergy.

Despite the evolution perceived, persistent weak points for national control strategies are identified as the (i) absence of a national DPM strategy (ii) scarcity of investments in public awareness and educational programs for responsible owners (iii) shortness in human, technical and financial resources at local/municipal level (iv) lack of essential training and educational opportunities for municipal operators involved in the DPM programmes (v) lack of understanding of animal welfare principles and a weak attitude towards responsible ownership, especially in rural areas (vi) no interest in developing DPM programmes (vii) need for additional shelters and financial subsidies for voluntary sterilisation or mass sterilization campaigns. During the panel discussions, participants also pointed out (iii) poor communication and coordination between national and local authorities (iv) limited collaboration with NGOs and other stakeholders.

DAY 2

Plenary lecture – “Effective policy change to achieve One Health goals” - M. Vucinic (University of Belgrade)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

According to Professor Vucinic, dog population management (DPM) is strictly linked to the concept of "One Health". This applies to all three pillars of the "One Health" concept: human health, animal health and environmental health. In Balkan countries, the two most common strategies used for DPM are the CNR strategy and the housing of free-roaming dogs in shelters. In addition, the institution of responsible dog ownership and dog adoption is promoted. Both strategies have their health and environmental advantages and disadvantages in relation to the "One Health" concept. Numerous data on these advantages and disadvantages can be found in scientific literature, grey databases, and newspaper articles. Nowadays, unsanitary, and unhygienic dog shelters can be characterized as generators of environmental problems. Physical and mental occupational diseases of shelter workers and dog catchers are also problems that can be solved from a "One Health" perspective. The export of dogs from Balkan shelters to the countries of the European Union poses a risk for the introduction of exotic pathogens into those countries. All this is a reason to improve the "One Health" approach to DPM in the Balkans.

Specific Country needs raised at the SDB4 and expected targeted support in between workshops - P. Dalla Villa (WOAH)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

During the 4th WOAHA Regional Workshop on Dog Population Management for Balkan countries (SDB4) held in November 2021, participants acknowledged considerable progress in the roadmap's development. However, they also identified persistent weak points related to (i) the absence of a National Action Plans/specific national strategies (ii) scarce investments in public awareness and educational programs for responsible owners (iii) poor communication and coordination between national and local authorities (iv) limited collaboration with NGOs and other stakeholders (vi) shortness in human, technical and financial resources (vii) lack of essential training and educational opportunities for operators involved in stray dog control activities. Considering the achievements of the 3rd Action Plan and the work still to be done, it is opportune to give continuity to a series of actions in the 4th Action Plan, in order to achieve the full implementation of the Chp-7.7 standards by 2025. However, since a slowdown in activity has been experienced during

the Covid sanitary crisis, it might be considered the opportunity to extend this deadline to 2026 and allow to complete this pathway with 2 additional workshops in to be held in 2024 and 2026. To better support this process, it is also planned to have regular thematic meetings on specific issues highlighted during the workshops or identified with the SAM4DPM self-assessment's rounds.

The Zagreb community experience on DPM, Croatia - Tatjana Zajec (DVM, Dumovec shelter manager)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

The shelter for abandoned animals of City of Zagreb exists since January 2001 and it is located at Dumovec, on the eastern edge of the city. All adoptable dogs are microchipped and vaccinated against rabies and common infectious diseases, only the adults are spayed or neutered. When adopting a puppy, the new owner gets free spaying or neutering voucher, to be used when the puppy is 5-6 months old (or later in case of larger breeds). Upon adoption, the new owner signs an adoption contract with the shelter. Dogs are trained and prepared for adoption; resocialization programs help dangerous dogs pass the socialization test. The shelter also deals with the rescue and assistance of dogs abandoned by irresponsible owners, as well as cats and other species of stray animals that are endangered by wondering in public spaces (wild and exotic species). Together with the Zagreb City Office for Reconstruction, Development, Physical Planning, Construction, Utility Services and Transport, the shelter has established a protocol for collaboration between the police, firefighters, 112 emergency call centre and its Info centre. Neglected and abused animals are also assisted in cooperation with the veterinary inspectors of the Zagreb municipality. The smuggling of dogs from the countries of the region and other cities in Croatia is a major concern and rehoming remains the main goal for the Dumovec shelter staff.

United Nation Development Programme experience on Dog Population Management in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Mrs Elzemina Bojicic (Project Coordinator for Humane Community Development)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

The United Nations Development Program BiH (UNDP) and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) have collaborated to address the issue of an oversized free-roaming dog population in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). This problem has had adverse effects on human security and health, as well as the welfare of the dogs themselves. The approach developed by IFAW and adopted by UNDP BiH is known as Humane Community Development (HCD). This concept involves engaging representatives from all groups within the communities who have an interest in dogs, even if they have conflicting views. The objective is to facilitate a joint understanding of the problem and encourage them to work together in developing a shared vision for their community. The aim is to create a feasible plan for managing the local dog populations effectively. For the initiative to succeed, it is crucial for the involved groups to recognize that human behaviour is the key aspect that needs to be changed. It requires the engagement and collaboration of multiple stakeholders over the long term.

Visit to the "Shelter for abandoned animals" in Dumovec (Zagreb) - Tatjana Zajec (DVM, shelter manager)

The Zagreb City shelter exists since January 2001, and it was built for housing and assisting unwanted/abandoned dogs and cats in urban area. To date the shelter has the capacity of 210 dogs and hosts a small number of cats, a new section is being built to accommodate more animals.

DAY 3

RAWC DPM network support to the Platform members - A. Hammond Seaman (RSPCA)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

The Western Balkan Veterinary Network (wbvn.net) – was established in 2008 as a unique platform for the advancement of animal welfare in the Western Balkan, with the aim to encourage the development and adoption of best practices on animal welfare amongst veterinary professionals. The Regional Animal Welfare Center (RAWC) was later founded in 2012 by the RSPCA (Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) to further facilitate a closer collaboration between key stakeholders in several Western Balkans countries (Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Rep. of North

Macedonia, and Kosovo). RAWC currently works with a wide range of bodies and institutions to actively share knowledge and expertise related to the implementation of animal welfare international standards, national/local legislative measures, and best practices. Special attention is given to the development of knowledge management strategies tailored to the local needs and challenges, and to the implementation of legislation on the protection of livestock and companion animals.

Free roaming dog estimation tools - the TALEA app - Tomislav Mikuš, Andreas Chaidousis, Anida Dinarević (RAWC)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

The need for continuous control of the number of free-roaming dogs is one of the essential tasks in every sustainable dog population management plan. During the last couple of years, there has been a significant update in the development of digital tools which can help us in achieving this task. Present past, present, and future digital tools were described with a special emphasis on the Talea app. The Talea app was developed by the ICAM (International Companion Animal Management) coalition and at this point is one of the most objective, easy-to-use tools and is available for free usage. The use of these tools, ways of application and management of the collected data, dog counting, additional programs for street surveys of public opinion were also described. Public opinion is also an important part of the development of the dog population management plan, as without the support of the public even the best dog population management plans will not be achieved. The authors presented the ways of question development, how to survey and point out the need to combine these methods, in order to achieve sustainable DPM programmes.

Closing remarks – Next steps - All participants / Moderator – T. Grudnik (WOAH)

[\(link to presentation\)](#)

Dr. Grudnik closed the meeting and highlighted the main persistent weak points for national control strategies, namely (i) the absence of a National Action Plan/national control strategy ; (ii) scarcity of investments in public awareness and educational programs for responsible owners; (iii) poor communication and coordination between national and local authorities; (iv) limited and sometimes conflictual collaboration with NGOs and other stakeholders; (vi) shortness in human, technical and financial resources; (vii) lack of essential training and educational opportunities for operators involved in DPM activities.

He also recalled the outcomes of the poll session aiming at identifying the priority topics to be proposed for the organization of thematic flash meetings. According to the participants, “One-Health” approach to DPM; Dog Responsible Ownership promotion and education (school programs); Dog shelter staff training & prevention of occupational and mental health; illegal dog trade/smuggling and uncontrolled transboundary movements; DPM monitoring and impact indicators deserve more attention as well as, to a lesser extent, shelter management (zoonotic diseases surveillance, dog behaviour/dangerous dogs, environmental impact); National Action Plan development and implementation; community based/Dog Population Management programs development and implementation; breeders control; free-roaming dog estimations techniques and waste management were indicated as relevant to a lesser extent.

On behalf of the Platform Secretariat, he finally expressed gratitude to all participants, speakers and RAWC, RSPCA and Dogs Trust representatives for their engagement during the workshop and in preparation for the event.

List of annexes

Annex 1 – Agenda

Annex 2 – List of participants

Annex 1 – Agenda

2. DAY 1: 4th July 2023

09:00 – 09:15	Registration and welcoming of participants	
Session 1: Opening		
09:15 – 09:30	Welcome address	Croatia WOAHA Delegate (TBC)
09:25 - 09: 30	Agenda overview	P. Dalla Villa (WOAH)
09:30 - 09:45	WOAH Platform for Animal Welfare in Europe	T. Grudnik (WOAH)
9:45 - 10:00	The new TACH Chap. 7.7	P. Dalla Villa (WOAH)
10:00 – 10:45	Plenary lecture - “Human dimensions of dog population management”	Prof. J. Serpell - University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 — 11:15	Presentation of the SAM 2.0 project	S. D’Albenzio (IZS – Teramo)
11:15 – 12:00	Follow up to the training on the use of the SAM Tool 2.0	L. Possenti (IZS – Teramo)
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 — 14:00	ROUND 1 - Results of the 4th self-assessment and remaining gaps to achieve “the Vision” (12/15 mins per Country)	Country representatives - Moderator (WOAH)
14:00 — 15:00	ROUND 2 - Results of the 4th self-assessment and remaining gaps to achieve “the Vision” (12/15 mins per Country)	Country representatives - Moderator (WOAH)
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee break	
15:15 — 16:00	Q/A Session on the use of the SAM Tool 2.0	IT Expert (IZS – Teramo)
16:00 – 17:00	Group discussion	
17:00	Closing remarks	
19:00	Dinner	

DAY 2: 5th July 2023

09:30	Openings	
09:30 — 10:00	Plenary lecture – “Effective policy change to achieve One Health goals”	Prof. M. Vucinic – University of Belgrade
10:00 — 10:45	United Nation Development Programme experience on Dog Population Management in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mrs Elzemina Bojicic (Project Coordinator for Humane Community Development)
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00– 11:30	Specific Country needs raised at the SDB4 and expected targeted support in between workshops	All participants - Moderator (WOAH)
11:30– 12:00	The Zagreb community experience on DPM – Croatia	Tatjana Zajec (DVM, shelter manager)
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 18:00	Visit to the “Shelter for abandoned animals” in Dumovec (Zagreb)	Tatjana Zajec (DVM, shelter manager)
19:00	Dinner	

DAY 3: 6th July 2023

09:30 - 11:00	RAWC DPM network support to the Platform members	A. Hammond (RSPCA)
	Free-roaming dog estimation tools; the Talea APP	T. Mikus (RAWC)
11:00 - 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 - 11:30		
11:30 - 12:00	Closing remarks – Next steps	
12:30	Lunch and departures	