

WOAH Observatory

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

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World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



- **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”



Gather data and insights regarding the implementation of WOAH standards

Identify areas where the implementation of WOAH standards falls short and provide recommendations and calls for action

Disseminate information, while preserving confidentiality

Overarching goal: Improve effectiveness and use of WOAH standards

Monitoring report

Existing datasets are used

A wide range of standards are reviewed

A high-level assessment of the level of implementation of these standards is performed

The main deliverables are published every 5 years

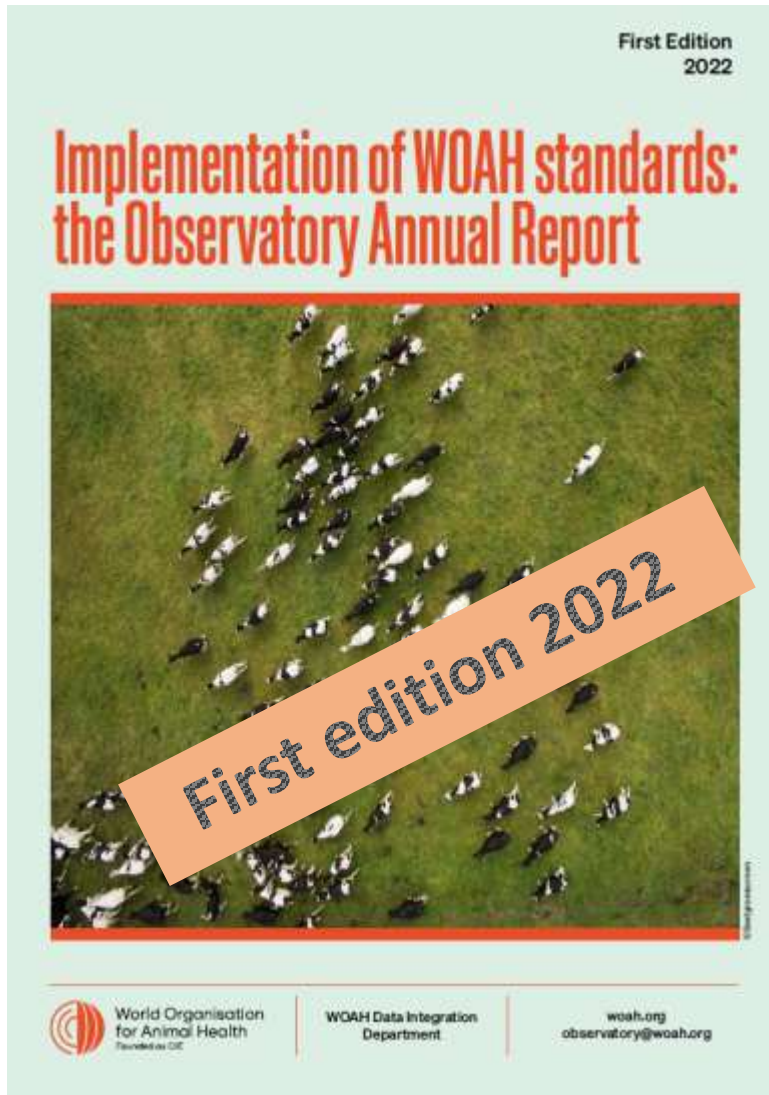
Thematic studies

New, ad hoc data is collected

A small set of standards on a specific topic of interest is reviewed

The barriers and/or success factors to the implementation of these standards are assessed

Deliverables are published at least once a year



12 sections about the following topics:

01. Governance and Performance of Veterinary Services
02. Veterinary Services' workforce and resources
03. World Trade Organization (WTO) notifications
04. Disease detection, surveillance and diagnosis
05. Transparency of Veterinary Services
06. Self-declarations of animal health status
07. Movement control inside countries/territories and precautions at borders
08. Zoning and compartmentalisation
09. Emergency preparedness
10. Antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance
11. Implementation of the One Health approach
12. Animal Welfare

[Observatory Annual Report](#)

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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 revision of the WOAAH standards related to animal welfare, gaining insights on the current state of play would help informed decision-making

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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.

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Methods

- Phase 1: A survey targeting the Veterinary Services of WOAAH Members to assess the level of implementation of WOAAH standards related to animal welfare during transport
- Phase 2: 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;

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.



Phase 1- Approach for data collection

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- Survey open from 15 November to 31 December 2023
- 1 online questionnaire in 3 languages
- Target respondents: National Welfare Focal Points (NAWFP) of all WOAAH Members

Importance of animal transport
in/from the country
For transport by land and Sea

Presence and characteristics of
a regulatory framework related
to animal welfare during
transport

Presence and characteristics of
a mechanism to enforce these
requirements

Final questions and general
information

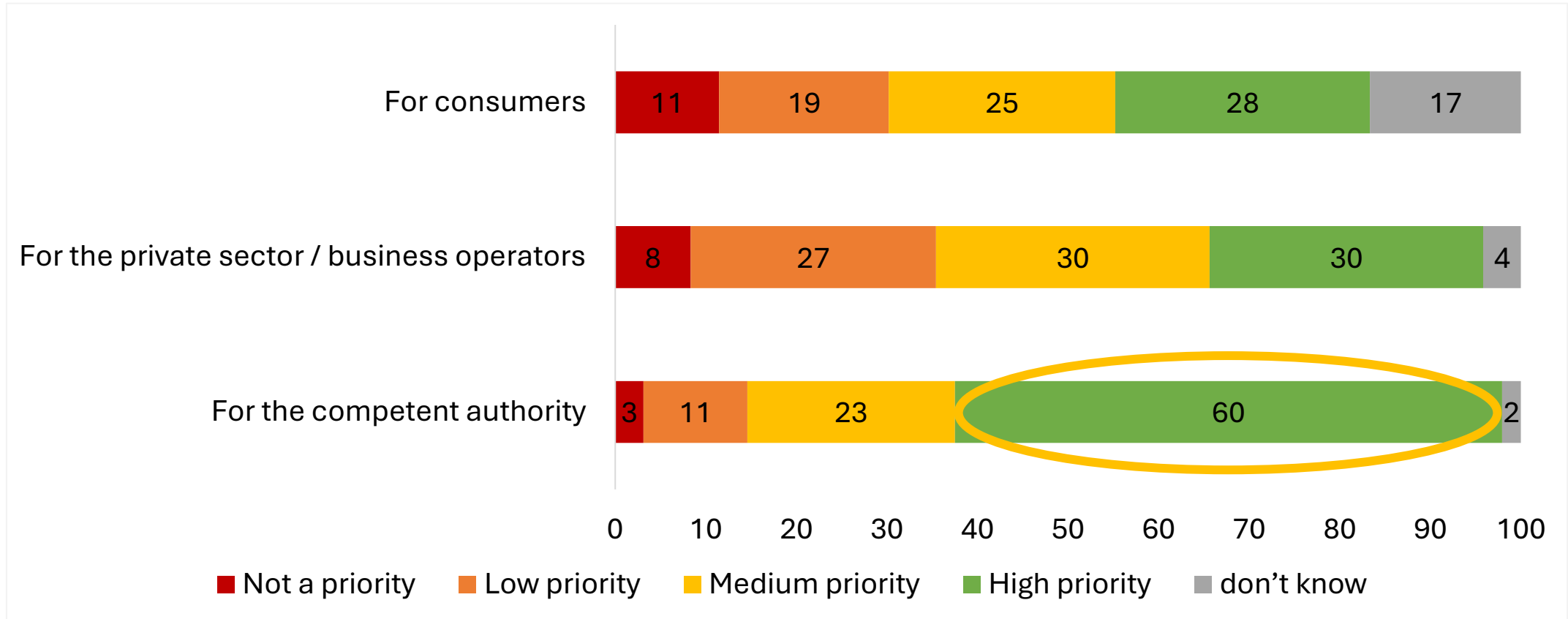


Phase 1- Response rate

Response rates: 96 Members (52%) completed the questionnaire

Region	Number	Percentage
Africa (<i>n</i> = 53 Members)	21	40%
Americas (<i>n</i> = 32 Members)	16	50%
Asia-Pacific (<i>n</i> = 34 Members)	23	68%
Europe (<i>n</i> = 52 Members)	30	58%
Middle East (<i>n</i> = 12 Members)	6	50%
Total (<i>n</i> = 183 Members)	96	52%

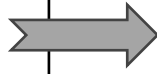
Q43: To what extent is animal welfare during transport by land and sea a priority topic in your country?



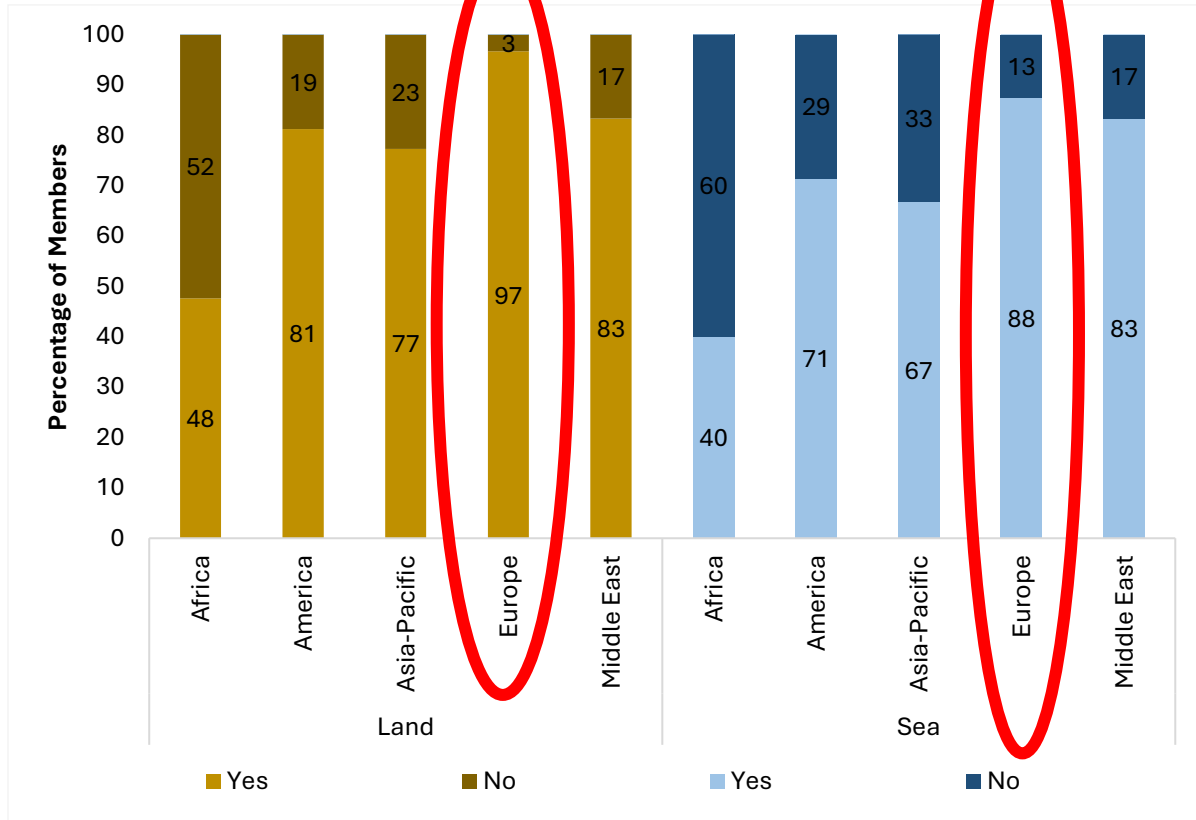


Presence of regulatory framework – by Regions and by Species

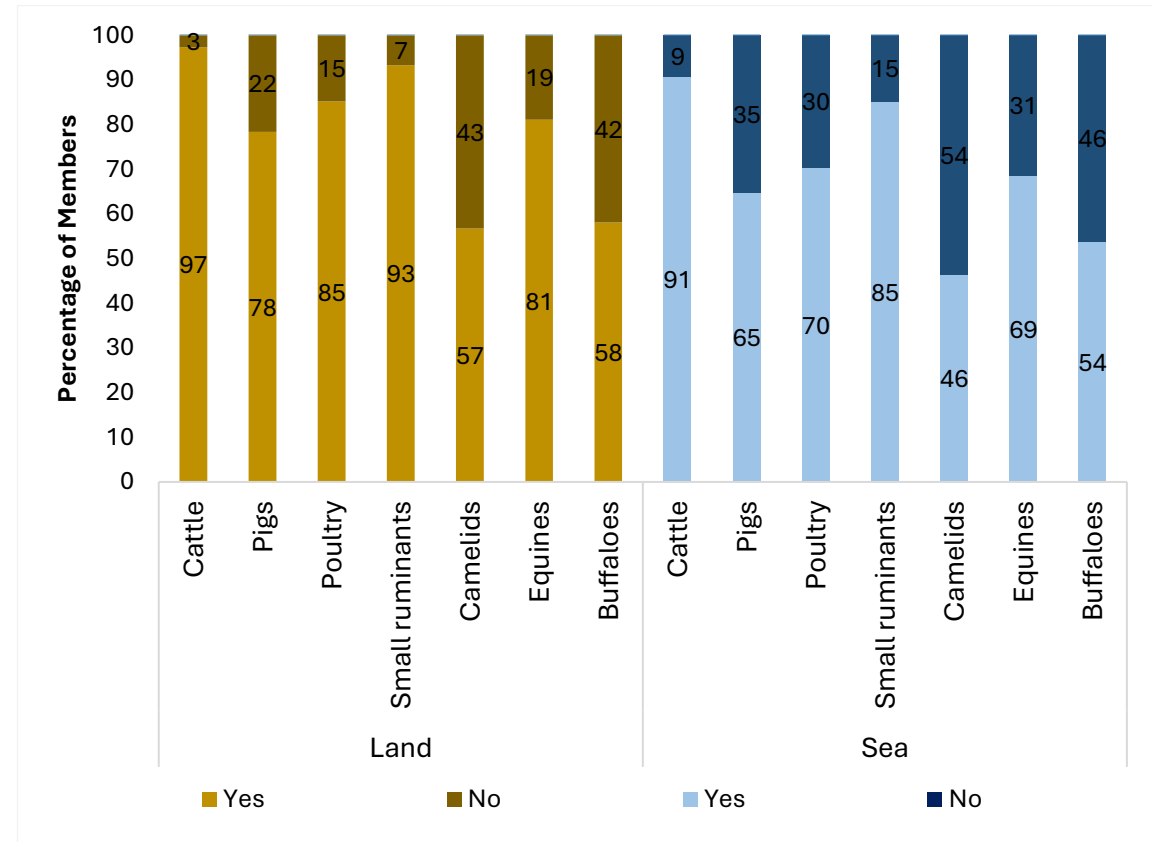
Presence of a regulatory framework covering animal welfare during transport



Land: 78%
Sea: 70%
of respondents



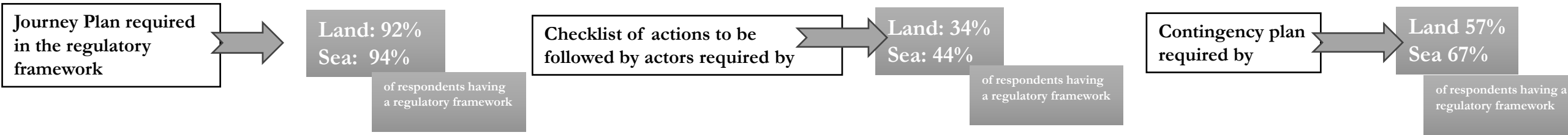
Presence of a regulatory framework by regions



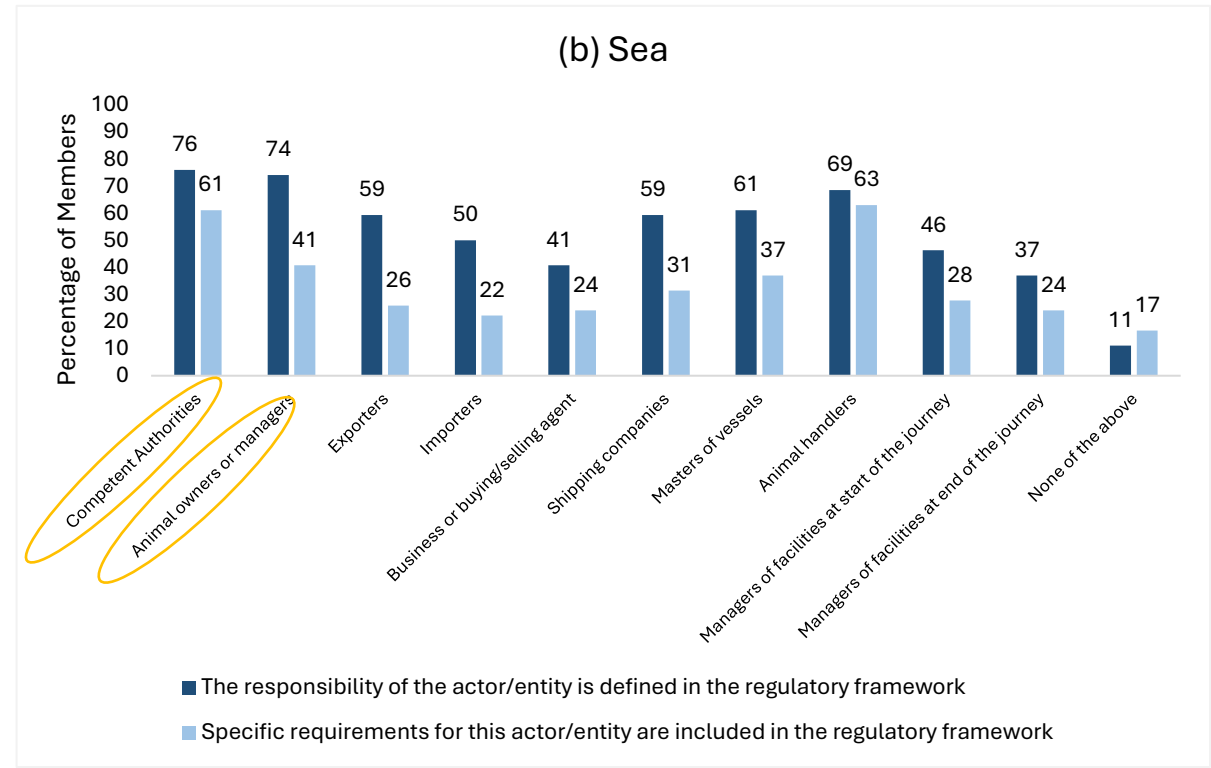
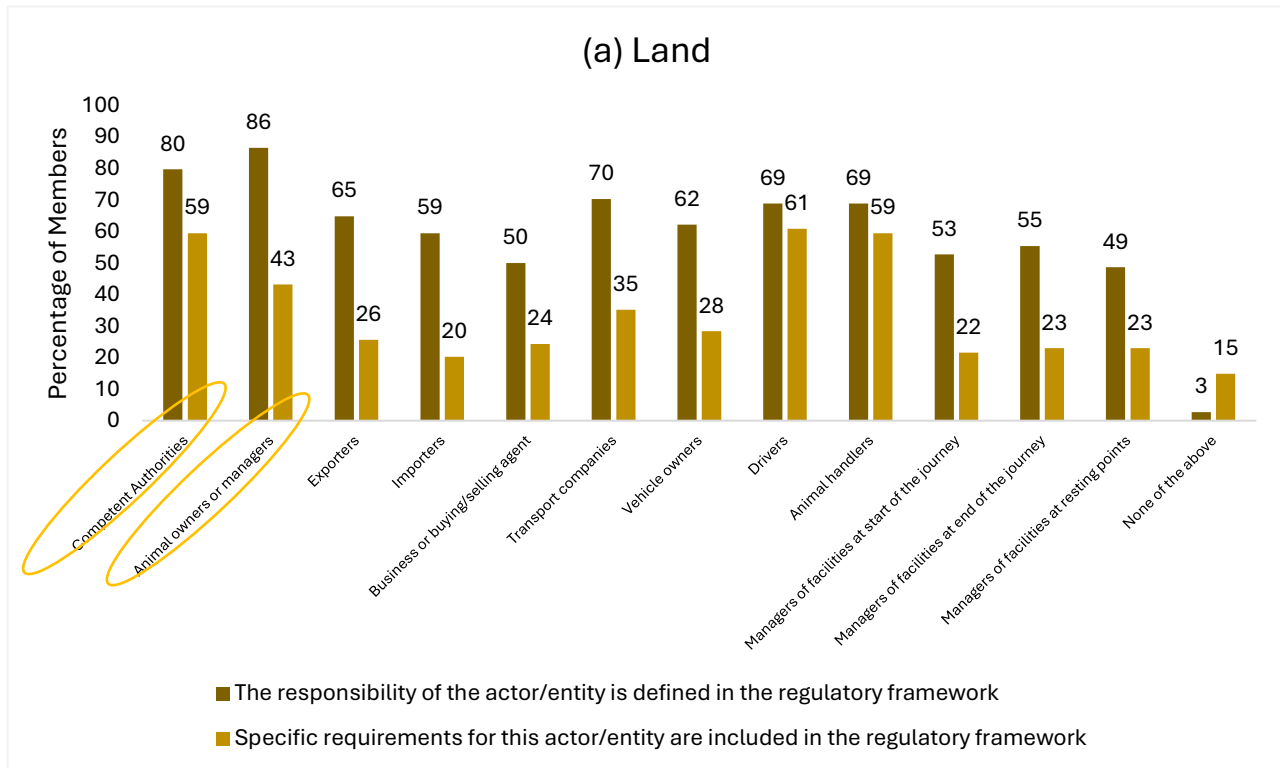
Species covered by a regulatory framework developed by Members



Main requirements of the Terrestrial Code are not always included in regulatory frameworks

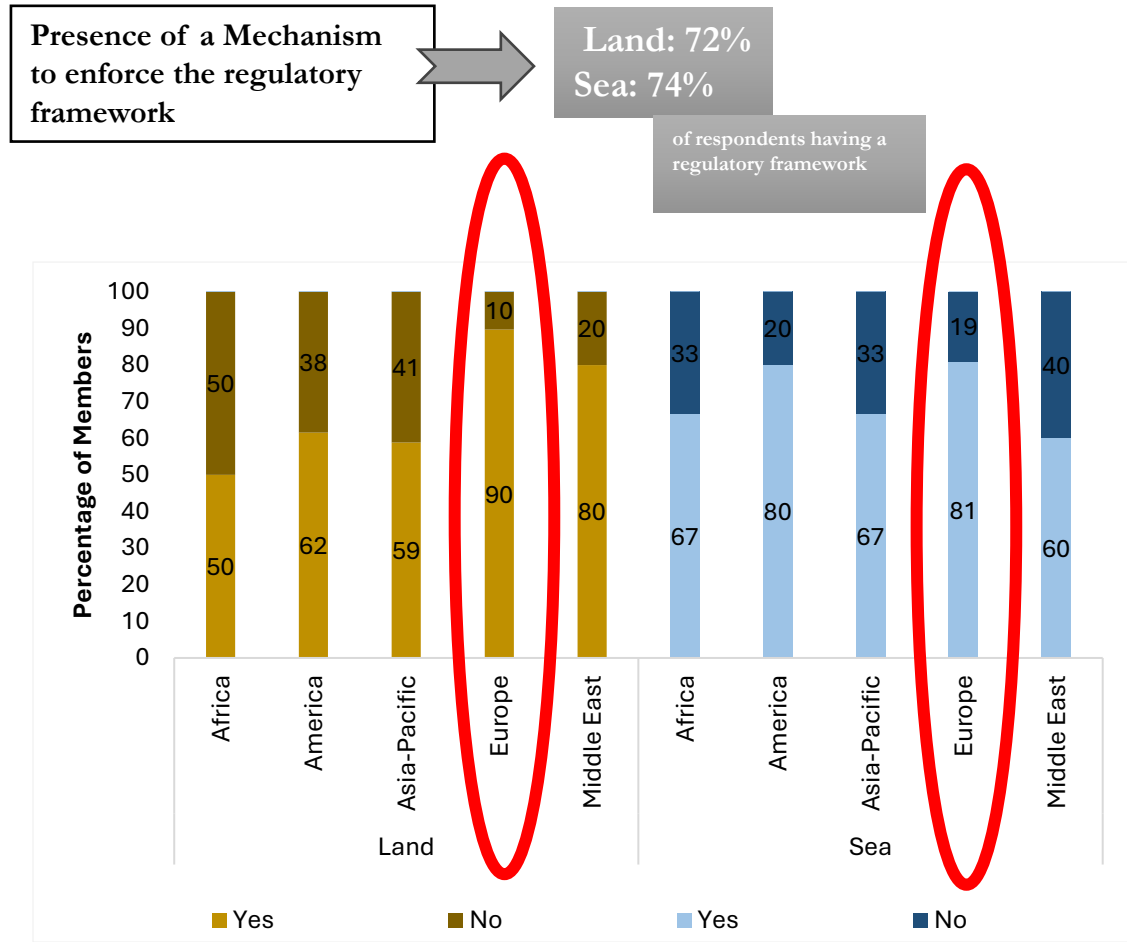


Responsibility of actors/entity and specific requirements for this actor/entity

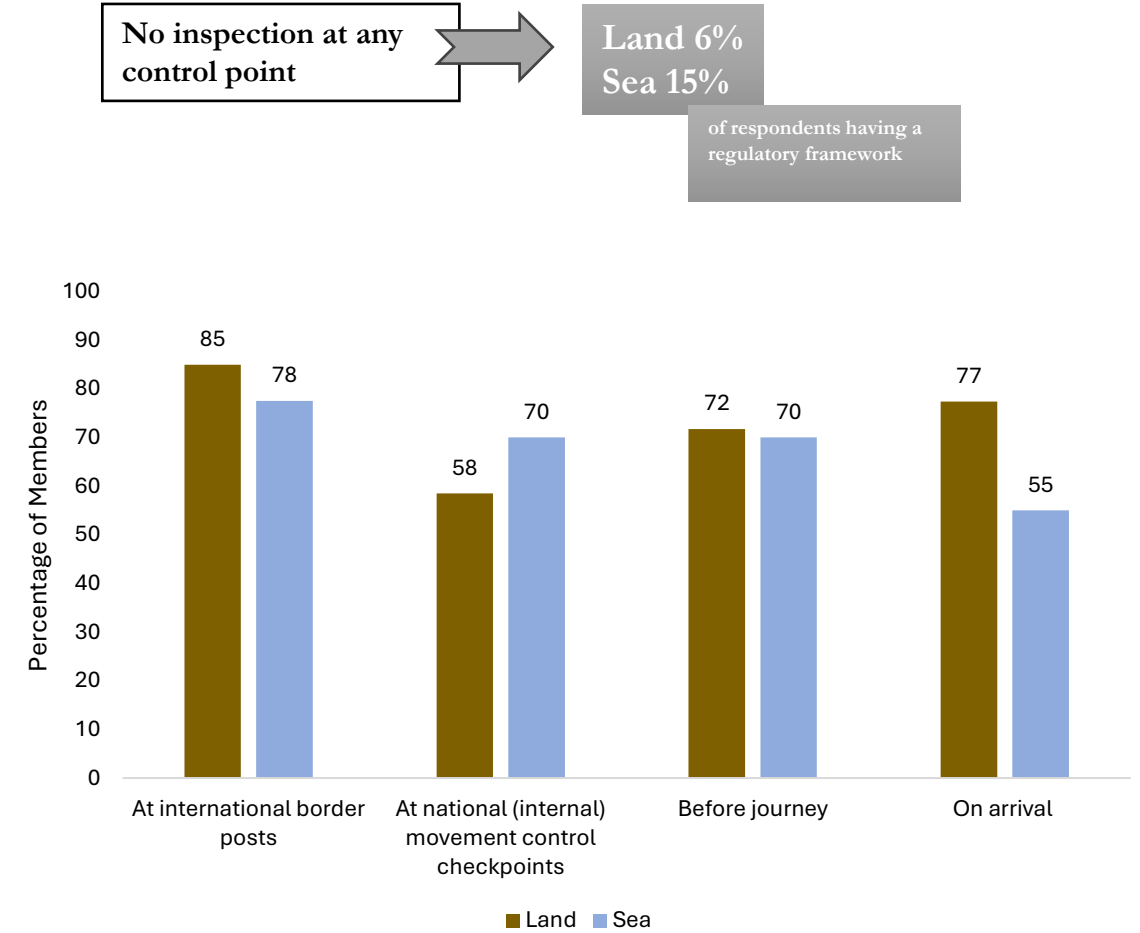




Mechanism to enforce the regulatory framework by Veterinary services



Presence of a mechanism to enforce regulatory shown by region

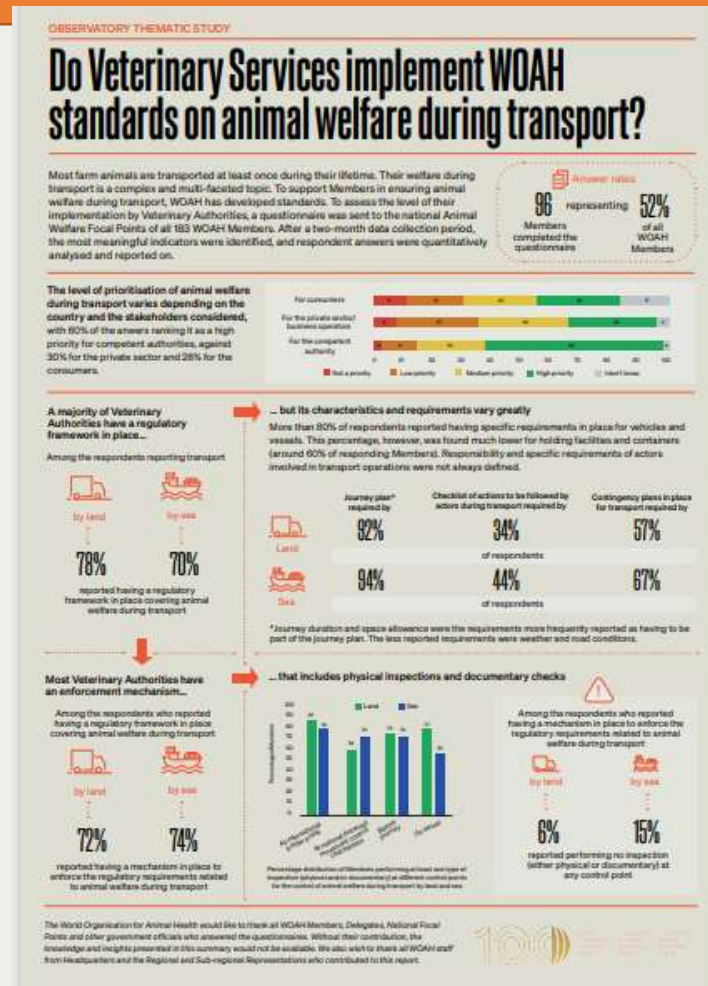


Members performing at least one type of inspection at different control points for the control of animal welfare

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[Executive summary](#) Part 1

Published in July 2024





- explore the barriers to the uptake of animal welfare standards during transport as well as the success factors with Veterinary Services of WOAHI Members; focus on specific articles of the Chapters 7.2. and 7.3
- Conduct of the focus groups / interviews with different profiles of members in 2025
- 72% of respondents agreed to share their experience on that topic on a one-to-one interview or a focus group



Thank you for
your attention