



COMPELLING CASE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE IN AFRICA

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BACKGROUND ON **ANIMAL WELFARE**

- ❖ Evolving definition and practices of Animal Welfare
- ❖ The Five Freedoms of Animals
- ❖ One Health, One Welfare

REPORT JUSTIFICATION

- ❖ The trends of Animal Welfare in Africa
- ❖ The role of AU-IBAR, the CC-AWA and the implementation of the AWSA
- ❖ The need for a **Compelling Case on Animal Welfare in Africa**

STUDY METHODOLOGY & PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Literature Review

- ❖ Research papers from peer-reviewed journals
- ❖ Grey literature (FAO, OIE, UNEP, IGAD, SADC, ISO, WTO)

Survey Questionnaire

- ❖ 20% response rate from 55 country-level AW focal persons
- ❖ 91% male respondents
- ❖ 82% from anglophone countries

KIIs

- ❖ Representatives of African RECs (50% response rate)
- ❖ 6 AW professionals across 2 AW organizations

DATA ANALYSIS

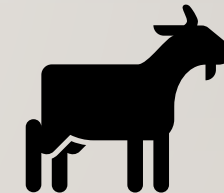
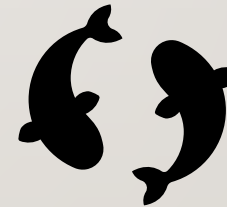
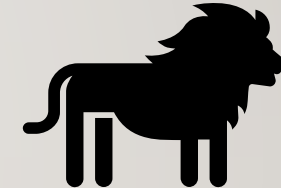
- ❖ Quantitative – Microsoft Excel; Qualitative – Content Analysis

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

General Status Of *Animal Welfare* In Africa

POOR **ANIMAL WELFARE** PRACTICES

- ❖ Poor transport, slaughter
- ❖ Poor handling, mutilation, and use of animals
- ❖ Inadequate provision of food and water
- ❖ Restriction of movement and natural behaviors
- ❖ Poor quality veterinary services
- ❖ Poor antimicrobial stewardship
- ❖ Administration of unnatural additives



KNOWLEDGE & STATUS OF **ANIMAL WELFARE** IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

36%

of country-level AW focal persons do not understand the meaning and impact of Animal Welfare

64%

of countries do not have Animal Welfare policies

0%

of countries with Animal Welfare policies are implementing their policies at sub-national levels

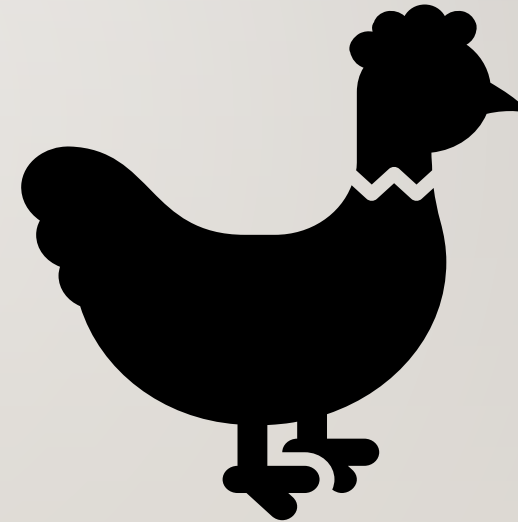
RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Impact of **Animal Welfare** – The Compelling Case

IMPACTS OF ANIMAL WELFARE

ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY

- ❖ AW positively impacts animals; less stress, lesser incidence of injuries
- ❖ Maintain good metabolic processes and thus enhances productivity
- ❖ Enhances immunity, thus improves resistance to diseases, and reduce use of antibiotics and incidence of AMR



IMPACTS OF ANIMAL WELFARE

HUMAN HEALTH

- ❖ Healthier animal conditions, reduces the risk of zoonotic infections and transmission to humans (75% of all infectious diseases)
- ❖ Enhanced mutually beneficial co-existence
- ❖ Supports human mental health and social well-being



IMPACTS OF ANIMAL WELFARE

FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY

- ❖ Maintains the health qualities of meat and other animal by-products
- ❖ Retains nutritional content and reduces rate of spoilage
- ❖ Products of stressed animals produced under poor welfare conditions have inferior nutritional quality, and spoil faster



IMPACTS OF ANIMAL WELFARE

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

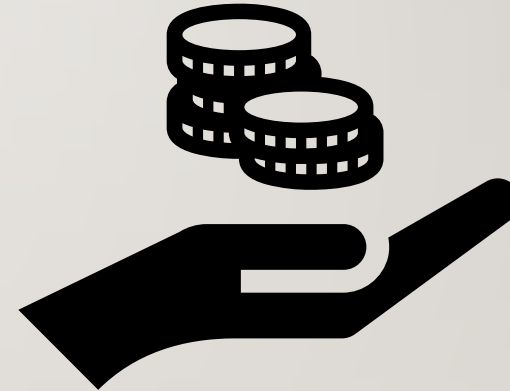
- ❖ Improved AW requires alternative production systems to factory farming
- ❖ Thus it reduces contribution of animal waste to greenhouse gas into the environment
- ❖ Minimizes land degradation and maintains ecosystem sustainability
- ❖ Increased reliance on factory farming and intensive production compromises environmental sustainability and increases the risk of climate change – need for consideration and inclusion of alternative proteins to meet growing food and protein demands sustainably



IMPACTS OF ANIMAL WELFARE

SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ Meet emerging and growing consumer demands
- ❖ Improves access to local and international trade
(alignment with WTO and WWOAH welfare guidelines)
- ❖ Increase contribution to country GDP
- ❖ Improves sustainable livelihood
- ❖ Reduce budgetary burden on animal health – medicines and antibiotics used to treat ill animals from poor welfare conditions



NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF POOR **ANIMAL WELFARE**

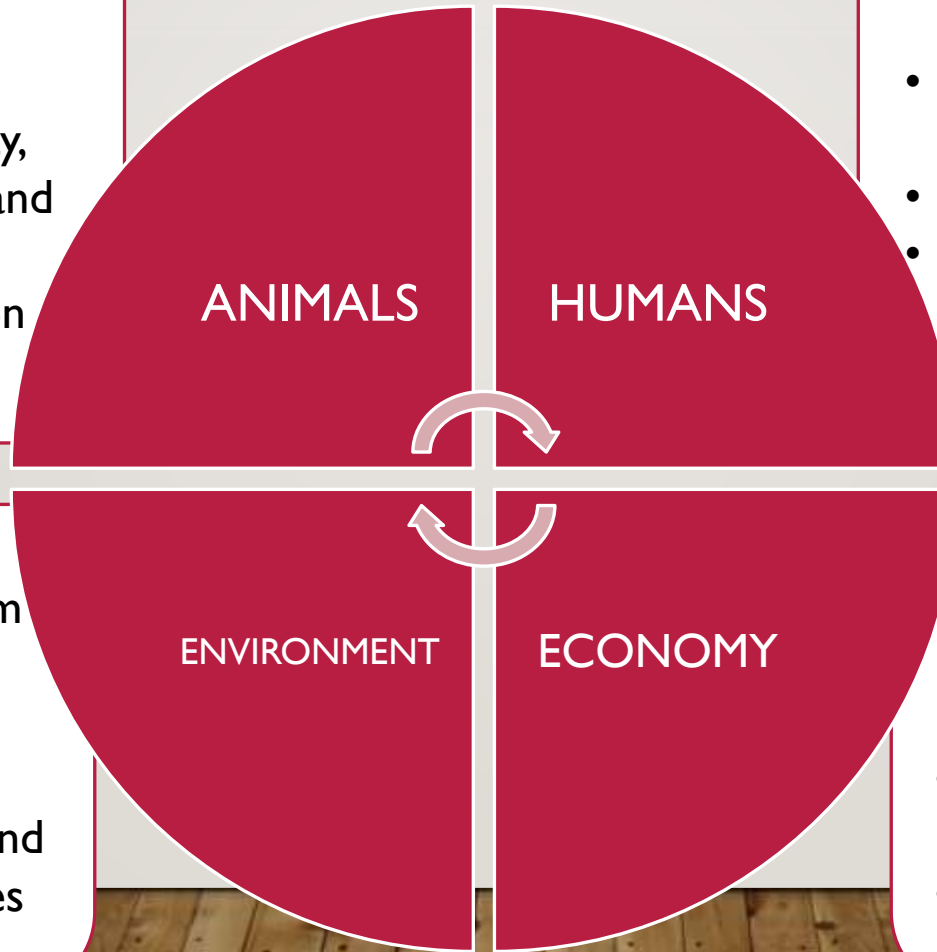
ONE HEALTH, ONE WELFARE

- Stressed animals,
- Poor health, disease vulnerability,
- Illness and poor productivity,
- Purchase and use of drugs and antibiotics,
- Increased cost of production and resources

- Increased risk of zoonoses transmission, AMR transmission,
- Poor quality and hygiene of meat and food products,
- Poor human health, AMR,
- Purchase and use of drugs and antibiotics,
- Increased cost of treatment

- Land degradation, ecosystem breakdown
- Climate change,
- Increased cost of resources to combat climate change and poor sustainability outcomes

- Loss of income, revenue and GDP from not meeting emerging trade rules and consumer demands,
- Increased budgetary burden on poor animal health,
- Waste of scarce resources



GAPS AND CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING ANIMAL WELFARE

- ❖ Poor knowledge and awareness
- ❖ Inadequate policy establishment and implementation
- ❖ Poor prioritization of AW in national agenda, leading to poor funding and resource mobilization
- ❖ Insecurity and political crisis
- ❖ Inadequate AW personnel and poor technical capacity of existing personnel
- ❖ Inadequate intersectoral collaboration

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

AU-IBAR/CC-AWA

- ❖ Improve resource mobilization
- ❖ Train and build the capacity of AW focal persons
- ❖ Harmonize institutional governance of AW
- ❖ Support awareness and advocacy

PARLIAMENTARIANS, CVOs, ADVOCATES

- ❖ Promote public awareness and education at all levels
- ❖ Mobilize in-country resources and budgetary allocations for AW
- ❖ Establish and implement AW policies, systems and frameworks at all levels
- ❖ Increase and improve AW workforce
- ❖ Support and systemize inter-sectoral collaborations for AW

CONCLUSION AND CALL TO ACTION

The **evidence** that **animal welfare** impacts several aspects of public health and socioeconomic development presents an opportunity and **URGENT** need for coordinated **continental-wide multi-level inter-sectoral Stakeholder Action**

THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING

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