LINKING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND ANIMAL WELFARE: SOUTH AFRICA

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ESTIMATED LIVESTOCK NUMBERS IN THE RSA
(FEBRUARY 2019)

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<th>CATTLE</th>
<th>SHEEP</th>
<th>GOATS</th>
<th>PIGS</th>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>12.75 M</td>
<td>22.5 M</td>
<td>5.5M</td>
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Livestock production in South Africa is a fundamental element of socio-economic development and a significant contributor to food security and good quality protein.

70% of agricultural land in South Africa can only be utilized by livestock (including game).

Livestock products contribute 27% of the consumer food basket.

Real gross value of animal products accounted for 48% of the total agricultural income. The gross income generated by animal products was R100.2 billion.

- R22.4 billion (cattle and calves),
- R40.7 billion (poultry meat for 2013),
- R10.7 billion (eggs in 2013),
- R13.6 billion from milk and
- R2.6 billion from wool.
- R4.5 billion pork industry.
- R10.5 billion biltong hunting industry
ANIMAL PRODUCTION TO 2025 IN SOUTH AFRICA

From 2019 to 2025, the growth in the consumption of

- 47% in chicken meat
- 33% in eggs
- 27%. In beef
- 16% in sheep
- 41% Pork
- 13% in liquid milk products (including pasteurised milk, UHT milk, yoghurt and buttermilk)
- 45% in concentrated products (+/- 129,00 ton) (including cheese, butter, milk powders and condensed milk) make up the balance.
THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF SOUTH AFRICANS;
AND ACT’S GOVERNING ANIMAL WELFARE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTION

According to section 27(1) (b) of the Constitution, “everyone has the right to have access to sufficient food and water among others” and “the state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realizesation of these rights”. The state guarantees the right to sufficient healthy food of animal origin through various policies, strategies and Acts
- Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No 35 of 1984)
- Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act 40 of 2000), as amended,
- Veterinary and Para-veterinary Professions Act, 1982, (Act No of 1982), as amended
- Animal Protection Act, 1962 (Act No. 71 of 1962)
- Performing Animals Protection Act, 1935, (Act No. 24 of 1935)
- National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004
OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES OF ANIMAL WELFARE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In order to demonstrating the link between Animal Welfare and the attainment of sustainable development in South Africa, one needs to

• entrench the role of communities in achieving responsible use of animals,
• improving animal welfare and
• support environmental conservation
• with the emphasis on sustainable animal and aquaculture production systems,

In line with these objective, several policies and strategies were developed. These include

• Animal improvement,
• Animal welfare,
• Aquaculture,
• Game farming,
• Range and forage;

all these policies are aligned to the Livestock Development Strategy (LDS).
AIMS OF ANIMAL WELFARE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The aim of the policies and the strategy is to make sure that the livestock industry performs at its optimum capacity, with emphasis on

• **Animal Welfare**,  
• **Providing support** to emerging farmers to be able to participate in the mainstream activities (e.g. marketing, value-add etc.), through introduction of programs such as the  
  • Kaonafatso ya Dikgomo (Cattle Improvement),  
  • Provincial Aquaculture,  
  • Milk Recording, and  
  • Livestock and Poultry support within rural development nodes.  
  • CCS (Compulsory Community Service),  
  • Goat Productivity  
  • Improvement and the Development of Feedlot/Grasslot facilities within the rural development nodes, which links to the AsgiSA (Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa).
COMMERCIAL VERSES RURAL FARMING

- Animal welfare and its influence on animal production are major considerations on commercial farming enterprises.
- In the rural areas, where food insecurity and poverty are prevalent, the welfare of animals receives low priority due to:
  - Traditional customs and beliefs,
  - Lack of knowledge in animal handling
  - Sub standard handling facilities.
  - Draught power
  - Traditional ceremonies
VETERINARY STRATEGY

The veterinary strategy covers the health and **welfare** of all terrestrial and aquatic animals in South Africa kept for

- Conservation,
- Entertainment,
- Education,
- Food,
- Farming,
- Recreation and
- Companionship.

It includes wild animals and animals used in research, as well as, national and international trade and transit of animals and animal products where there is a risk of disease transmission to other animals or to humans and **welfare infringements**
The implementation of the plans developing from this strategy encompasses the entire country,

- the veterinary profession,
- food chain business operators dealing with animals and their products,
- animal health and production industries,
- animal interest groups,
- researchers and teachers in the veterinary and related fields,
- government bodies,
- veterinary pharmaceutical and feed manufacturers and distributors,
- sport and recreational organisations using animals,
- educational facilities, consumers, travellers and general public
- including animal owners and producers,
PILLARS OF THE VETERINARY STRATEGIC PLAN

Strengthening competencies for animal welfare
To improve animal welfare legislation and standards and ensure that animal keepers fulfil their responsibilities
OTHER ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN ANIMAL WELFARE

Major role-players

**NSPCA** whose objectives are
- To prevent cruelty, Promote kindness,
- Alleviate the suffering of animals thus
- Serving and protecting ALL animals,
- Uplift animal welfare and to
- ensure that the protection they have under South African law is upheld and respected.

**LWCC** (Livestock Coordinating Committee) who promote the
- responsible,
- humane and
- compassionate use and treatment of livestock in every phase of the production process, thus ensuring sustainable livestock production goes a long way in ensuring the objectives of Linking Sustainable Development Goals and Animal Welfare.
THANK YOU