

# 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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	CATTLE	SHEEP	GOATS	PIGS
TOTAL	12.75 M	22.5 M	5.5M	1.5M

# ANIMAL PRODUCTION ECONOMICS

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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),
- ❖ R13.6billion 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

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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

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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 realization 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)
- Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (Act No 62 of 1998)
- National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, 2004

# OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES OF ANIMAL WELFARE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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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

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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

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- 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

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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**

# VETERINARY STRATEGY

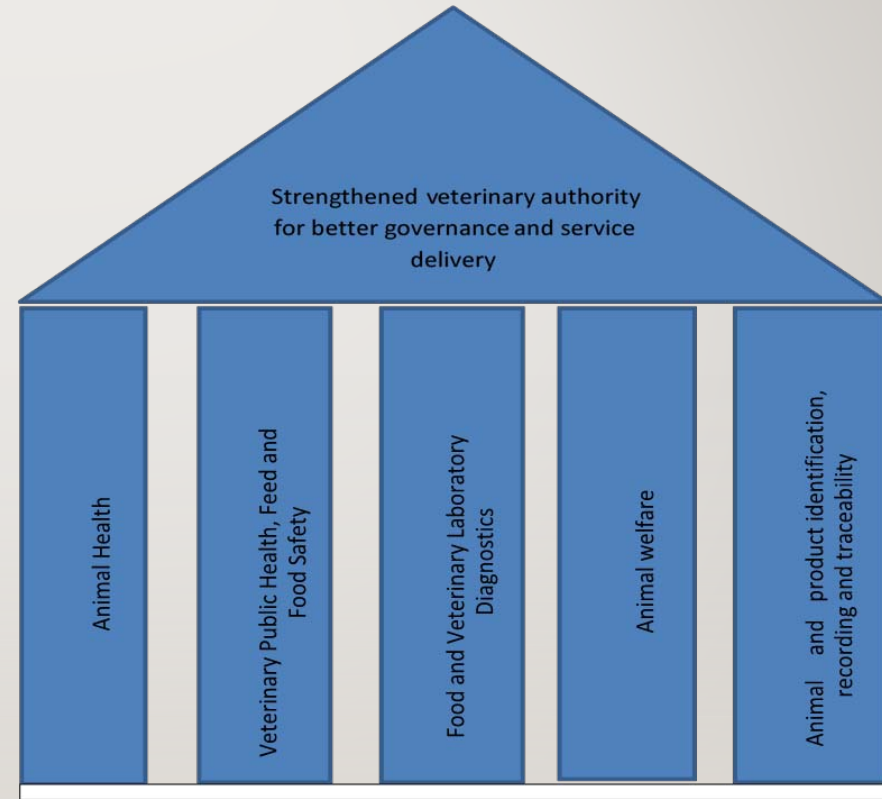
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**The implementation of the plans** developing from this strategy encompasses the entire country,

- 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

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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

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## 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

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