



**An Overview of the Animal Protection Index
- A ranking of countries on account of their
Animal Welfare Legislations & Policies**

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Presented for WAP by

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We were known as **WSPA**
(World Society for the
Protection of Animals)



The interaction by diverse organisms within natural systems have enabled evolution to happen – a disruption of the natural balance is a catastrophic threat to future generations – PROTECT ANIMALS

**Let the King sing his song
In the Wildernesses of Africa!
Let him run free and wild
In the wildernesses of Africa
Let the music from his majestic
lungs
Thrill the hearts of every animal
Large and small
In the wildernesses of Africa
O yes! Let the King of the jungle
sing his song
In the wildernesses of Africa!**



*Photo by © Richard Smith -
Alamy stock photos
Poem by M Mbaka*



API Tool [by WAP] & its Purpose

- Assess a country against 10 indicators re AW Policy & Legislation api.worldanimalprotection.org
- Foundation to protect AW is policy & legislation
- Applied on 50 OIE MS, 9 in Africa; selected from FAO Statistics (2012) - largest producers of beef, poultry, pork, sheep, goat, milk & eggs
- Consultative with MS CVOs; many of the CVOs engaged positively – API criteria based on OIE stds
- Not to name-and-shame countries but rather **inspire** them to improve their AW legislation based on **current AW science that guides OIE standard setting**
- NOT a tool to judge /lecture Developing Countries on Western Standards – WAP in 14 countries globally

Justification & Rationale



- Policies & Legislations that protect animals, protect people [Fse, Fsa, PH, Livelihoods, Environment, etc.]
- Govt formulates enabling Policies, from which it develops the Legislations which guide the minimum stds to follow in service delivery
- We invest in supporting govts to develop pro-AW policies & legislations – **API is an enabler**
- The **API provides a tool** for stakeholders **to leverage** on to influence govts to improve AW & to measure improvements in Policy & Legislation
- API assesses presence of Policies & Legislations, not enforcement



Goals of the API

1. Recognition of animal sentience and prohibition of animal suffering
2. Presence of animal protection policy & legislation
3. Establishment of supportive government bodies; i.e. whether the policy or legislation includes a structure of relevant enforcement mechanisms
4. Support for international AW standards

According to AUIBAR [2018], 18 AU MSs have no legislation to establish VSBs -> little or no regulation of Vets & VPPs; Vet regulation a basic requirement for the control of AW

Objectives of the API



1. To be a guide to assist governments globally to improve AW policy & legislation
2. To be a free advocacy tool for all – WAP's country offices, our partners, NGOs, academics and supporters – so that anyone can use the API to champion for better AW standards from govts
3. To raise awareness about the importance of protecting animals



Trends since API of 2014: Successes:

Improvements in AW - Sentience increasingly acknowledged in legislation [Chile, China, Columbia, Ethiopia, France, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Russia, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay]

- Recognition of sentience underpins animal protection provisions; e.g. increasing **bans** on abuse, e.g. entertainment (e.g. circuses) & testing for cosmetics

- Increase in countries awarded a grade C or above for their protection of animals used in science - Poland, Netherlands, Germany, France, Austria, Sweden and Denmark - who scored a grade A



Concerns – by March 2020

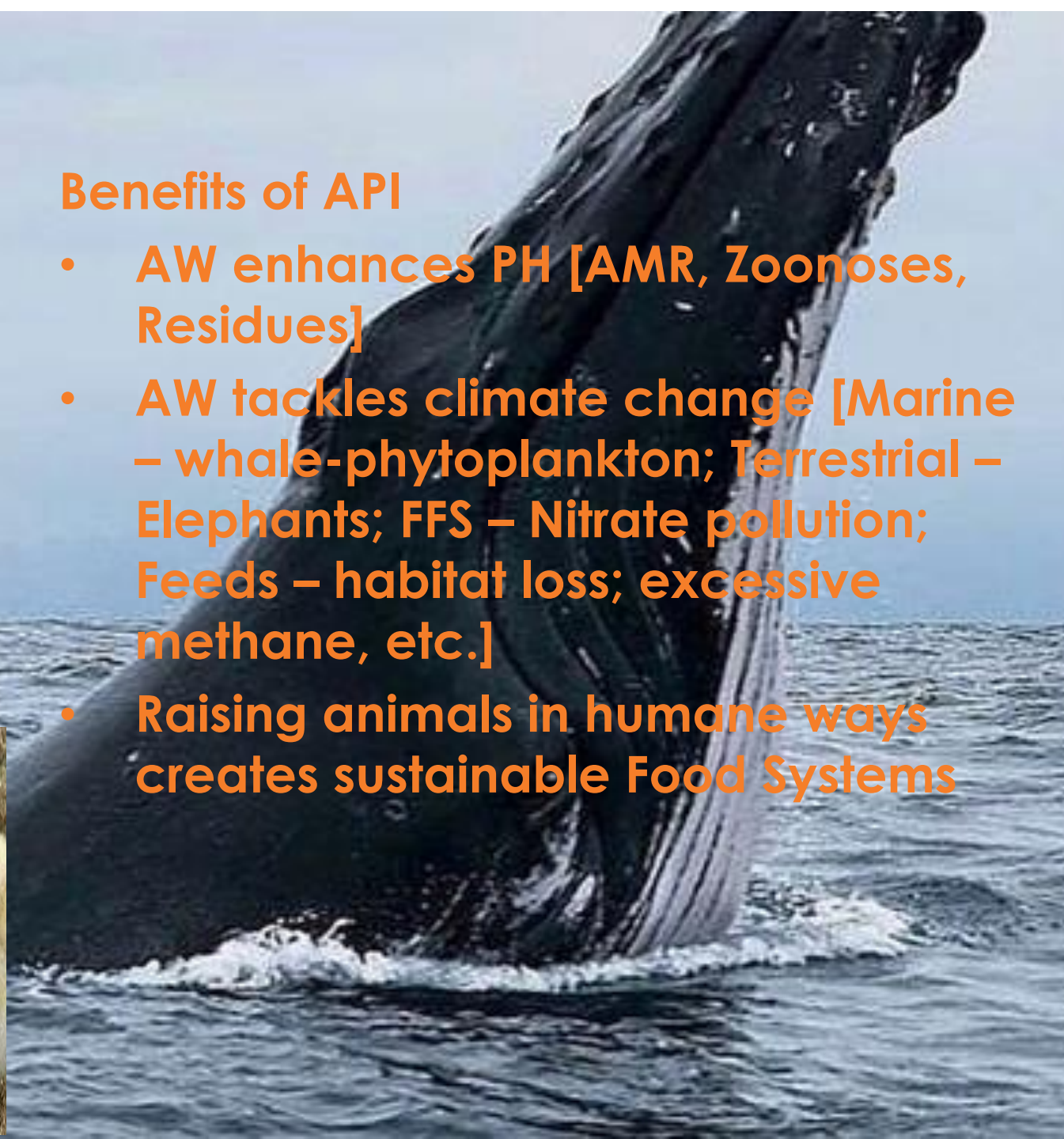
Worrying trends where millions of animals are at risk:


- Only 10 countries have fully implemented or exceeded OIE AW standards despite all assessed countries being members of the OIE
- **OIE AW stds are minimum acceptable stds**
- No country has issued an explicit ban on the culling of stray animal populations



Benefits of API

- AW enhances PH [AMR, Zoonoses, Residues]
- AW tackles climate change [Marine – whale-phytoplankton; Terrestrial – Elephants; FFS – Nitrate pollution; Feeds – habitat loss; excessive methane, etc.]
- Raising animals in humane ways creates sustainable Food Systems



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- The image shows a large-scale industrial pig farming facility. The top half of the image captures a wide perspective of a long, brightly lit aisle with a high, arched ceiling supported by a complex metal truss system. Numerous rows of pig pens stretch into the distance, with many pigs visible. The bottom half of the image provides a closer view of the pens, showing rows of pink piglets huddled together in their cages. The overall atmosphere is one of a highly organized and densely populated agricultural environment.
- Africa urgently needs policies and legislations on FFS - High stocking densities - chronic stress, highly selected strains for rapid growth rate albeit highly susceptible to disease, rapid spread of pathogens [public health risks]; Habitat loss for feed

The global trade of wild animals is cruel and puts our health and the world economy at risk from pandemics like COVID-19. Join us in calling on African Governments to support and champion a global ban on the wildlife trade.

- **Act now** Africa urgently needs policies and legislations that can stop illegal WT [possible??] - moving infected animals through commercial trade routes
- Meanwhile - AU MS may need to ban wildlife trade is a bid to combat illegal WT
- A Global Ban a better option for Africa??
- The WHO and most infectious disease experts agree that the origins of future human pandemics are likely to be zoonotic, with wildlife as the primary source
- WT can be a driver of zoonotics across borders

Conclusions & Call to Action



- All assessed AU MS are members of the OIE and therefore they are encouraged to ensure that they implement the recommendations for legislations to implement the AW standards
- While the OIE AW standards are reviewed and updated as AW science develops, we urge countries to recognize them as the **minimum** standard to achieve, and therefore to strive to exceed them

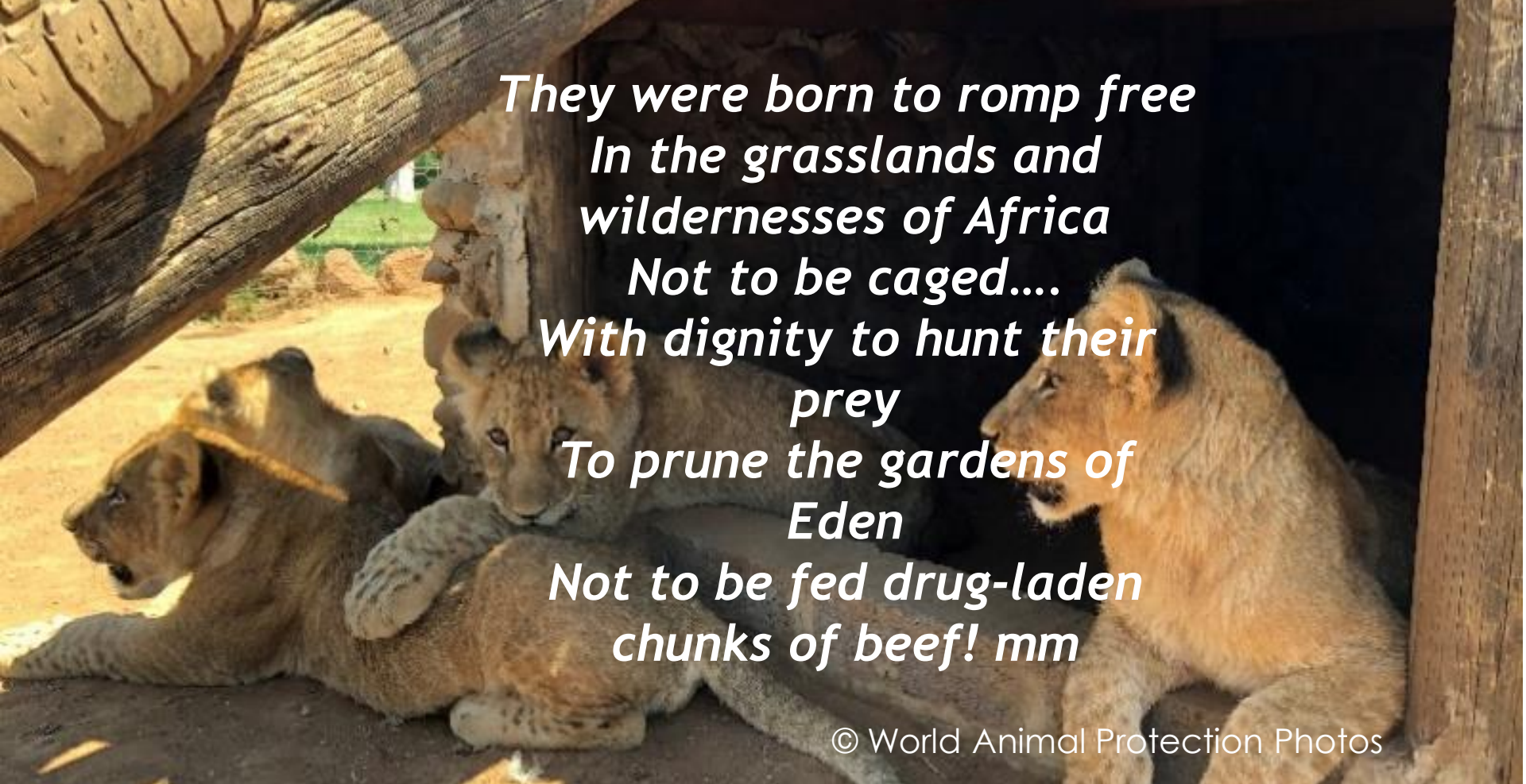
It is noteworthy that since Africa is not industrialized, its agrarian economy needs high AW for sustainable development, and for that reason, the AUC, through AUIBAR developed AWSA

Call to Action on the API in Africa



- We encourage Governments in Africa to use the API to identify where improvements can be made to protect animals
- We encourage all governments in Africa, and other stakeholders, to partner with WAP in the process of improving AW Policy and Legislation in the continent
- We encourage the APAW at the AUIBAR, and other stakeholders in Africa, to use the API in their championing for the implementation of the AWSA

This is not the wilderness, and it cannot provide adequate welfare

A photograph of three lion cubs sitting in a wooden enclosure. The cubs are light brown and appear to be resting. The enclosure is made of dark wood, and the background shows a dirt ground and some greenery. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*They were born to romp free
In the grasslands and
wildernesses of Africa
Not to be caged....
With dignity to hunt their
prey
To prune the gardens of
Eden
Not to be fed drug-laden
chunks of beef! mm*

© World Animal Protection Photos

Stress- immunosuppression -> Pathogens -> transmission rates faster for animals in confinement

“Africa has an urgent need to develop & implement regional & national POLICIES, strategies and LEGISLATIONS on Zoonosis to avert/mitigate future epidemics/pandemics.”

Prof A Elsawalhy, Director AUIBAR



A young boy with a shaved head, wearing a blue jacket with a green collar, is smiling and holding a small, light brown and white dog. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a dirt path. The text "Thank you!" is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

Thank you!