



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Agriculture
and Animal Resources



7TH AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE -Action 2023

Programme and Book of Abstracts

Theme: Navigating the delicate balance of animal welfare, climate change and development: concerted actions towards a healthy and sustainable environment.

25-27 September 2023

Sainte Famille Hotel

Kigali – Rwanda



NOTE: The time indicated here is Rwanda Time (UTC+2)

Day 1: Monday September 25, 2023

OPENING SESSION

Conference Moderator: Josiah Ojwang and Jean Claude Masengesho

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8.00-08.30 a.m. **Arrival and registration of delegates** Conference Secretariat

08.30-08.45 a.m.

Preliminaries

Moderators

08.45-09-00 am.

Conference Overview and Theme Exposition:

Wachira Kariuki,
Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW)

Welcome Remarks by Conference Co-hosting Partners

9.00 -09.20 am

Prof. James Nkansah Obrempong

Board Chair,
Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW)

Dr Huyam Ahmed Mohammed Elamin Salih

Director, African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

Ulf Bjornholm

Chief, Civil Society Unit,
United Nations Environment Programme

Goodwill Messages

09.20-09.40 a.m.

Marianne Steele

CEO, The Donkey Sanctuary

Wolf Gordon Clifton

Executive Director, Animal People

Emmanuel Ngumbi

African Fund for Endangered Wildlife(AFEW) - Giraffe Centre

Dr Samuel Wakhusama

Regional Representative for Eastern and Horn of Africa, World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

09.40-09.55 a.m. An International Outlook on Climate Change, Animal Welfare and Sustainable Development

Debbie Tripley

Global Director of Campaigns and Policy Advocacy, Compassion in World Farming

09.55-10.00 am Special remarks by Conference Organizing Committee Chair,

Tennyson Williams

Director for Africa, World Animal Protection

10.00-10.30 a.m. **Keynote Address and Official Opening:**

Dr Olivier Kamana,

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Republic of Rwanda

10.30-11.00 a.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

(Group photo)

SESSION 1: Farm and working animals.

Session Moderator: Dr Solomon Onyango, Country Director, The Donkey Sanctuary-Kenya

11.00-11.15 a.m. Presentation 1: Cage Free Campaigns in Africa

Aurelia Adhiambo

Open Wing Alliance

11.15-11.30 a.m. Presentation 2: The Global Donkey Skin Trade: its impacts in Africa and a Call to Action to support a Pan African 15-year moratorium on the trade,

Dr Otieno Mtula,

Africa Campaigns Manager, The Donkey Sanctuary

11.30.-11.45a.m. Presentation 3: Case Study of WTG-ANAW Community Focused Donkey Welfare Project in Kenya,

Dr Dennis Bahati,

Programmes Manager, ANAW

11.45 a.m.-12.00 p.m. Presentation 4: Donkeys: Case study of past, present and future use in Africa,

Dr Bojia Duguma,

Country Representative, Donkey Sanctuary Ethiopia

12.15-1.00 p.m. Presentation 5: Livestock Animals, Environment and Sustainable Development in Rwanda,

Dr Fabrice Ndayisenga,

Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB)

SESSION 2 : Welfare of animals in disasters

Session Moderator: Tennyson Williams, Director for Africa,
World Animal Protection
2.00-3.00 p.m.

2.00-2.15 p.m. Presentation 1: Welfare of animals in disasters in Africa,

Dr Judy Kimaru,
Director, Action for Protection of Animals Africa (APAA)

2.15-2.30 p.m. Presentation 2: Enhancing Livestock dependent communities' preparedness to challenges of climate change,

Dr Raphael Kinoti,
CEO, Brooke EA

2.30-2.45 p.m. Presentation 3: Animal welfare challenges and opportunities during disaster situations in Africa,

Dr Laurien Ntamugabumwe,
Rwanda Council of Veterinary Doctors (RCVD)

2.45-3.00 p.m. **Q and A**

SESSION 3: Implementation status on UNEA's Animal Welfare, Environment and Sustainable Development Nexus Resolution.

Session Moderator: Isaiah Otieno, Senior Information Technology Assistant,
UNEP

3.00-4.00 p.m.

3.00-3.20 p.m. Presentation 1,

Dr Abdelkader Bensada,
UNEP

3.20-3.40 p.m. Presentation 2

Dr Rebeca Garcia Pinillos
UNEP

3.40-4.00 p.m. **Discussion/Q and A**

Country Representative, Donkey Sanctuary Ethiopia

4.00-4.30 p.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

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SESSION 4: Faith based perspectives on animal welfare and environmental conservation.

Session Moderator: Dr Mary Agutu, Chief Executive Officer,
Kenya Veterinary Board

4.30-5.45 p.m.

4.30-4.45 p.m. Presentation 1: A general outlook on faith-based perspectives on animal welfare:

Joyce D' Silva

4.45-5.00 p.m. Presentation 2: Religious perspectives on environment preservation in Africa:

Prof. Beatrice Okyere-Manu

University of Kwa Zulu-Natal, South Africa

5.00-5.20 p.m. Presentation 4 (Joint presentation): How NGOs can responsibly partner with religious communities to promote peaceful coexistence with the natural world and non-human animals,

Prof. Janet Rumfelt

Regis University

Dr Katherine Baxter

CEO ANAW-USA

Dr M.D Kinoti

Regis University

Q and A

*******END OF DAY ONE*******

Day 2: Tuesday September 26, 2023

SESSION 5 : United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Session Moderator: Isaiah Otieno, Senior Information Technology Assistant, UNEP

09.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.

09.00-09.30 a.m. Introduction to UNEP

Ulf Bjornholm - UNEP

09.30-10.00 a.m. Opportunities for MGS to engage

Isaiah Otieno

Senior Information Technology Assistant, UNEP

10.00-10.30 a.m. **Q and A**

10.30-11.00 a.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:00 – 11:30 am The Sixth session of United Nations Environment Assembly

Ulf Bjornholm

UNEP

11.30-1.00 p.m. African Major Groups' outcomes of 19 session of AMCEN and preparations for UNEA 6

David Munene

UNEP

1.00-2.00 p.m. **Lunch**

SESSION 6: Emerging trends in education and research

Session Moderator: Dr Mwenda Mbaka, Animal Welfare Expert, AU-IBAR

2.00-3.30 p.m.

2.00-2.15 p.m. Presentation 1: Bridging the Teaching Gap: Making Animal Welfare Education Accessible with Holistic Teaching Materials,

Carolin Breitenbach

WTS

2.15-2.30 p.m. Presentation 2: Implementing better training for veterinarians: Resources and strategies

Nick Jukes

Coordinator - InterNICHE

PROGRAMME

2.30-2.45 p.m. Presentation 3: Findings from the 2021-2022 survey to determine the institutional preparedness of African countries to eliminate rabies by 2030,
Dr Kavosa Mudoga
Action for the Protection of Animals in Africa (APAA)

2.45-3.00 p.m. Presentation 4: Revolutionizing Animal Welfare Education in Rwanda: A transformative journey for animal wellbeing,
Dr Emmanuel Irimaso
University of Rwanda, School of Veterinary Medicine

2.30-2.45 p.m. Presentation 3: Animal welfare challenges and opportunities during disaster situations in Africa,
Dr Laurien Ntamugabumwe,
Rwanda Council of Veterinary Doctors (RCVD)

3.00-3.30 p.m. **Q and A**

3.30-4.00 p.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

SESSION 7: Climate Change and animal welfare

Session Moderator: Dr Patrick Muinde, World Animal Protection

4.00-5.00 p.m.

4.00-4.15 p.m. Presentation 1: Animal wellbeing and climate change
Esther Afolaranmi
Fair Start Movement
Dr Carter Dillard
University of Denver

4.15-4.30 p.m. Presentation 2: Reducing meat consumption-options for Africa
Dr Victor Yamo
World Animal Protection

4.30-4.45 p.m. Presentation 3: A call to stopping factory farming to mitigate Climate Change and ensure animal welfare,
Prof. Charles Ssekyewa
St. Lawrence University, Uganda

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4.45-5.00 p.m. Presentation 4: One Acre Fund (Tubura) Alternative Protein Project,
Jean Paul Gisa
One Acre Fund Rwanda

3.30-4.00 p.m. **Health / Screen Break**

Panel discussion: Diet Change for People, Animals, and the Environment

Panel Moderator: Debbie Tripley, Global Director of Campaigns and Policy Advocacy, Compassion in World Farming

5.10-6.10 p.m.

Panelists:

Monica Chen Factory Farming Awareness Coalition

Dr Victor Yamo World Animal Protection

Zeeshan Ali Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine

Prof. Charles Ssekya St. Lawrence University

Jean Paul Gisa One Acre Fund Rwanda

Taylor Quinn Tailored Food

*******END OF DAY TWO*******

7.00 – 9.00 p.m. **Vegan Dinner**

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SESSION 8 : Wildlife and Environmental Conservation

Session Moderator: Dr Tony Mudakikwa Wildlife Veterinarian

8.30-10.00 a.m.

08.30-08.45 a.m. Presentation 1: Promoting responsible dog ownership around Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda-preventing

Dr Gaspard Nzayisenga

Gorilla Doctors

08.45-09.00 a.m. Presentation 2: Mountain Gorilla health and Conservation: The work of Gorilla Doctors in Rwanda,

Dr Julius Nziza

Country Director, Doctors, Rwanda

2.30-2.45 p.m. Presentation 3: Welfare of Aquatic Animals

Wasseem Emam

Ethical Seafood Research

2.45-3.00 p.m. **Q and A**

10.30-11.00 a.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

3.00-3.20 p.m. 100 Years of SPANA and our new strategy

Dr Linda Evans

Director of Global Animal Welfare, SPANA

SESSION 9A: UNEP Meeting with Civil Society Organizations

Session Moderator: Isaiah Otieno, Senior Information Technology Assistant, UNEP

11.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.

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SESSION 9B : AU-IBAR: Coordination, Harmonization, and Scaling of Africa's Interventions in the delicate balance of Animal Welfare, Climate Change and Development

Session Moderator: Prof. James Wabacha

11.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.

11.00-11.15 a.m. Re-energizing the APAW: Building Momentum towards the Implementation of AWSA

Dr Hiver Boussini

AU-IBAR

11.15-11.30 a.m. The RAFFS Project: AU-IBAR's response to the Triple Crises of Climate Change, Covid-19, and Conflict in Europe

Dr Sarah Ashanut Ossiya

11.30-11.45 a.m. The African Union OHDAA Project: Enhancing Data Management for sustainable evidence-based Animal, Human and Environmental Health Interventions,

Dr Mary-Mbole Kariuki

11.45-12.00 p.m. Aquatic Resources: An opportunity for Animal Nutrition Welfare in Africa, under Climate Change – Perspectives from AU-IBAR

Dr Nelly Isyagi

12.00-12.15 p.m. Navigating the Opportunities in the Nexus between Animal Welfare and Sustainable Animal Production in Africa,

Dr Mwenda Mbaka

12.15 -12.45 p.m. Panel Discussion: The Place for Animal Sourced Foods in Africa

12.45-1.00 p.m. **Discussion/Q and A**
Feed-back to the Panel Discussion

12.45-1.00 p.m. **Lunch**

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SESSION 10 : Conclusion and Way Forward

Session Chair: Moderator(s)

2.00-3.30 p.m.

2.00-2.15 p.m. Progress report on outcomes of Pan African Donkey Conference (PADCO),

Samuel Theuri
Brooke East Africa

2.15-2.45 p.m. Conference Resolutions:

Dr Dennis Bahati
Programmes Manager, ANAW

Feedback on Resolutions:

Wachira Kariuki,
ANAW

2.45-3.00 p.m. Vote of Thanks

Josphat Ngunyo
Conference Patron

3.00-3.30 p.m. Closing Ceremony:

PS Ministry of Environment, Republic of Rwanda

3.30-4.00 p.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

*******END OF CONFERENCE *******

SPEAKER ABSTRACTS

FINDINGS FROM THE AU-IBAR 2021-2022 SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE 'INSTITUTIONAL PREPAREDNESS OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO ELIMINATE RABIES BY 2030'

(This presentation is being given on behalf of the AU-IBAR who are the sole owner of this survey data with Permission form Dr Hiver Boussini – Animal Health Lead AU-IBAR, Hiver.Boussini@au-ibar.org)

Authors

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Objective

APAA carried out this study on behalf of the AU-IBAR between December 2021 and April 2022 starting with detailed literature review. The study used purposeful sampling to select respondents from government and partner organisations carrying out rabies programs in Africa. The study team administered an online questionnaire to 47 Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) and Chief Public Health Officers (CPHOs) country teams, and 16 senior staff drawn from partners supporting programs for rabies control and elimination in Africa namely: Regional Economic Communities (RECs), United Against Rabies (UAR), Wildlife authorities, NGOs, and the One-Health (OH) Network.

Findings

The survey found that majority (72%) of the African countries were in the early stages of beginning to develop their National Rabies Elimination (NRE) strategies and that Dog Population Management (DPM) was still a new concept to them.

Based on feedback from CVOs, the critical political decision makers in 20 out of the 55 countries, did not appreciate rabies as a disease or its economic impact, also that parliaments had not given sufficient attention to the legislation of zoonotic diseases and rabies eradication. Majority (62%) of the CVOs perceived that the current legal instruments in their countries did not adequately support rabies control or elimination, partner organizations were not familiar with the legal instruments to eliminate rabies in their countries of operation. The study found the following policy and legal inadequacies: a) lack of a rabies elimination strategic document; b) lack of specific laws on rabies control and c) outdated regulations. Nearly all the countries had weak enforcement practices of the laws to manage dog populations, and there was poor cross-border rabies surveillance.

The study also found that both technical and coordination of the One-Health partners (AU-IBAR, AU-CDC, WOAHA (formerly OIE), WHO, FAO and RECS) were weak

at the national, regional and continental levels. This was attributed to poor leadership, inadequate rabies vaccines, limited technical support, unreliable rabies data, lack of geo-referenced census of dogs, livestock, and wildlife and the absence of a rabies elimination strategy. Majority of the CVOs believed that both dog vaccinations and dog population management (DPM) are crucial in delivering rabies control in their countries. They appreciated that dog vaccinations alone cannot eliminate rabies. The CVOs reported that rabies in wildlife was indirectly managed through dog vaccination and dog population management in communities around wildlife zones. Surprisingly, 50% of NGOs supporting wildlife programs were not aware of the role of DPM in the control of rabies in wildlife.

The rabies programs undertaken were gender-blind and may be missing opportunities to tailor-make communication programs aligned to dog welfare, vulnerability to rabies, and access to dog bite treatment. The study found that over 60% of countries underfunded rabies elimination activities which impacted the efforts to control the disease. The CVOs cited the small number of technical staff in the veterinary directorates as a major constraint in rolling out the SARE process. Majority of the countries lacked trained and equipped veterinary emergency response teams for animal disasters and zoonotic disease outbreaks. They also identified funding as the critical bottleneck limiting the effectiveness of the SARE process and recruitment of veterinary technical staff and emergency response teams.

Conclusions

This survey found that the social and economic impact of rabies in Africa is grossly underestimated, and that the disease burden is borne largely by the poor. The study also confirmed that there is good understanding among the CVOs and OH partners in many countries, of the eradication initiative, with some appreciation of the urgency to implement the Rabies Eradication Strategy. However, the survey also found basic challenges that are hampering the development of the continental rabies eradication strategy.

The study concluded that there was need for a harmonized continental strategy for a well-coordinated and collaborative approach to address the challenges through interventions that enhance awareness, improve coordination between different agencies, build institutional capacity, and to mobilize resources to affect the strategy. In particular, intervention priorities can consider 11 key areas namely: a) developing continental and national rabies policies and regulations; b) Increasing awareness among political leaders, decision makers and communities on the socio-economic impact of rabies; c) improving coordination among one-health partners in each country; d) improving the regional and transboundary coordination between neighboring countries and economic blocks; e) upscaling the management of dog populations in more countries; f) increasing funding for zoonotic diseases without compromising other animal health programs; g) increasing vaccine production and distribution; h) enhancing capabilities for diagnosis and rabies testing; i) Conducting geo-referenced census for dogs, livestock and wild canine species to improve planning j) undertaking studies on dog population and epidemiology to design evidence-based programs; and k) ensuring gender and vulnerability data is included in surveillance and monitoring systems in order to develop projects that are not gender-blind.

Thematic area: Farm and Working Animals**Case Study of WTG-ANAW Community Focused Donkey Welfare Project in Kenya**

Dr Dennis K. Bahati

Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) and WTG

Corresponding author contact address: bahati@anaw.org

Introduction

The recent Kenya National Population and Housing Census (2019) gave the population of donkeys in Kenya at 1.1 million. With the opening of four slaughterhouses in the country from 2016 to 2020 and with a combined slaughter capacity of 1,260, donkey numbers plummeted in comparison to the previous census. This alludes that within a span of 10 years, Kenya lost an estimate of 700,000 donkeys. Grappled with diminishing supply, the abattoirs later turned to neighboring countries Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, and Ethiopia to quench the growing demand.

A rapid assessment of cross-border donkey movement between Kenya and Ethiopia was carried out by Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) in collaboration with WTG and the County Government of Marsabit with the aim of establishing the nature and structure of donkey movement and trade across the border (Kenya and Ethiopia). Specifically, the study was to assess the previous and current status of the donkey movement along the Kenya-Ethiopia border as well as the implication of the donkey skin trade on Marsabit County's donkey population. It also hoped to establish incidences of donkey theft, key trade routes used in the donkey movement, and most importantly, the opinion of border communities on donkey cross-border movement. To achieve this, personalized interviews were adopted for different groups such as key government officials, leaders of NGOs, village elders, and communities.

Findings

The study findings indicated that high movement of donkeys and theft was witnessed in 2017, 2018, and 2019 with the destination being the abattoirs. The findings also showed that informal and unofficial routes were more preferred in traversing donkeys along the border as compared to the official one-stop border post in Moyale town. This was ideal for livestock traders that wanted to evade high levies and taxes imposed by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA).

After the closure of abattoirs, the donkey population has increased and the movement is purely for transportation, with a high frequency of donkey movement along the Kenya -Ethiopia border noted with 93.48% of respondents. Finally, the respondents recommended that awareness and education campaigns were needed to emphasize the importance of upholding donkey welfare since overloading, overworking, poor donkey health, and malicious beating were key concerns in Moyale. They also urged the county and national governments to establish guidelines to govern cross-border movement to curtail donkey theft and enhance security.

Key Outcomes

1. Enlightened community demonstrated through increased vigilance and monitoring to curb the cross-border movement of donkeys in Kenya – Ethiopia border through the recruitment of Local Intelligence Networks.
2. Documentation of gap analysis & legal guidelines and standards relevant to donkey movement and trade between Kenya and Ethiopia
3. Policy and legislation, advocacy, and petitions at the county level.
4. Increased media involvement and coverage in the campaigns against the cross-border movement of donkeys, slaughter, and skin trade.

Donkey Welfare and Health Intervention in Moyale, Sub-County, Marsabit County Guided by recommendations from the rapid assessment, ANAW in partnership with WTG and the County Government of Marsabit currently are undertaking a donkey welfare and health program geared towards:

1. Enhancing the quality and accessibility of services directly affecting donkey welfare by increasing the access to quality health services and improving donkey services
2. Supporting the development of positive change in knowledge, attitudes, behavior, and practices of donkey owners and users in with consequent improvement of donkey welfare.
3. Sensitize and create awareness within the media on the cross-border donkey movement and trade and its effects on community livelihoods.

Key Word: Cross-border donkey movement, Declining donkey population, Donkey Welfare

Harmonizing Faith and Nature: An Ethical Exploration of Religious Perspective on Environmental Conservation

Abstract:

The relationship between religion and environmental preservation has increased interest and importance in recent years. This presentation delves into the diverse religious perspectives on environmental preservation and highlights the significant role that various faith traditions play in shaping attitudes and actions toward the environment. Drawing from the beliefs, teachings, historical practices, and contemporary relevance of major religions such as African Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam, this exploration underscores the common themes of stewardship, compassion, and interconnectedness that run through these faiths. While these religions offer a shared commitment to caring for the Earth, they also present unique nuances and challenges in addressing modern environmental crises. The abstract concludes by emphasizing the significance of recognizing and respecting these diverse religious perspectives in the global effort to safeguard our planet, advocating for interfaith dialogue and collaboration as vital components of a sustainable and harmonious future.

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Emerging Trends in Education and Research

The theme "Navigating the delicate balance of animal welfare, climate change, and development: concerted actions towards a healthy and sustainable environment," reflects the evolving landscape of animal welfare, its profound impact on development, and its intricate connection with our changing climate. The centrality of education and research, in this journey, cannot be over-stated. It underscores a fundamental shift in how the role of animals is perceived in societies and economies. It recognizes the need for a comprehensive examination of the well-being of animals and the broader context of environmental sustainability.

The AAWC has evolved into a pivotal continental forum, drawing together a diverse array of stakeholders united by a common goal: improving animal welfare. Over the past six conferences, discussions have highlighted the importance of robust animal welfare policies and legislation across the continent. The involvement of youth and women in environmental and animal welfare issues has been a resounding call to action. Sustainable production and consumption practices that consider both animal welfare and environmental preservation have been encouraged, and the interconnection of animal welfare, environmental health, and human well-being underscored.

The discussions have encompassed the AWSA and the APAW; initiatives guided by the AU-IBAR, which hold the promise of transforming how the welfare of animals and the environment across the continent are safeguarded. The session on "Emerging Trends in Education and Research," aims to explore how knowledge and innovation can drive positive change by interrogating the latest developments, breakthroughs, and educational strategies that are shaping the future of animal welfare and environmental conservation. The insights, and collaborations in this initiative will foster a deeper understanding of the evolving landscape of animal welfare, climate change, and development, for a healthier, more sustainable, and harmonious future for all living beings.

ABSTRACTS

Emerging Trends in Education and Research

Synopsis - Navigating the Opportunities in the Nexus between Animal Welfare and Sustainable Animal Production in Africa

Africa's reliance on animals as essential livelihood resources is undeniable, particularly within rural and peri-urban communities. Our lives are intricately woven with the well-being of animals, from the food we eat to the clothing we wear and the livelihoods we nurture. It is no longer tenable that discussions on development and socioeconomics would be remiss without the inclusion of animals and, significantly, animal welfare considerations.

Throughout the evolution of the African Animal Welfare Conference, we have witnessed a transformative journey where it has evolved into a premier continental forum, fostering dialogues on issues that are paramount to the well-being of animals, environmental conservation, and human health. It recognizes animals as sentient beings, highlighting the urgency of their welfare in the context of Sustainable Development Goals.

Key takeaways from our past conferences have emphasized the imperative of working collaboratively with governments and stakeholders to enhance animal welfare and its pivotal role in development and environmental sustainability. We have called for the elevation of animal welfare issues to the global stage through a resolution at the United Nations Environment Assembly. The need to address animal welfare through comprehensive policies and legislation across the continent remains a recurrent theme.

Moreover, we've recognized the critical roles of youth and women in advancing environmental and animal welfare causes, urging proactive engagement. Our commitment to partnerships with humanitarian agencies to improve animal welfare, especially in disaster or emergency situations, has remained steadfast. We have advocated for sustainable production and consumption practices that reflect our sensitivity to both animal welfare and environmental preservation.

With the UNEA Resolution 5/1 on the nexus between animal welfare and sustainable animal production, we should embrace modern technologies, innovative research, and educational initiatives, to navigate the opportunities in the nexus, to propel Africa towards a future where animal welfare is a cornerstone of our sustainable development.

KAJIADO COUNTY (KENYA) ONE HEALTH-RABIES PILOT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Abstract

Background:

In Kenya, the profile of zoonotic diseases has risen following implementation the WHO International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR) and more so after the establishment of a National One Health office (referred to as Zoonotic Disease Unit). Rabies is among the top five priority zoonotic diseases in Kenya. The rabies elimination strategy is to guide systematic reduction of the disease risk through sustained mass dog vaccinations, pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis in humans and public education. This scale up phase II pilot is based on activities in the National strategy planned in accordance with the Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination (SARE) for the country to move from an endemic state to a disease-free status. Successful implementation of this this scale up Phase II requires a multi-sectoral collaborative approach with involvement and support of many stakeholders.

Justification

Kajiado County Department of Health reports over 1000 dog bites annually. Confirmed rabid dog cases exceeds 50 annually as reported by department of Veterinary services. The county is at risk of rabies due to the fact that culturally the communities engage dogs to herd livestock which also interact with wildlife. Moreover, there is an increase in feral dogs in the peri urban areas which pose a major risk especially during the breeding season. This means that the two departments (Health & Vet) require to work together in terms of rabies surveillance in order to curb the rabies menace. The County one health committee required to be activated and a multisectoral approach needed to be employed across the County. The program implementation was supported and moderated by Dr Daniel Ksee who was the lead in the Makueni County Phase I pilot of the greater national program.

Objective

1. The objective was to let the County Government introduce a rabies pilot project that would implement the activities in the 6 pillars of the National rabies elimination strategy 2014, through the Veterinary Department facilitated by Action for protection of Animals Africa (APAA) and supported by World Animal Protection and AFAS Foundation.
2. The second objective was to use the project as a national lever in the upscaling of the national program.

Methods:

The first planning workshop involving officially the multisector participants who included the CEC and CO ministry of Agriculture, livestock, fisheries and Irrigation, DVS rep, CDVS, 6 Sub- County veterinary officers/ VPP's, 6 Sub- County MOHs/ Head nursing, 2 Civic Education 2 officers, 2 Coordination of National government officers, the head of Health services in the County, and 2 Education Officers. They

compiled draft 1 of the Rabies National strategy implementation workplan for Kajiado. The second planning workshop involving 35 multisector participants who included CDVS, 6 Sub- County veterinary officers,3 Veterinary Paraprofessionals, 6 Sub- County MOHs,3 sub- county nurses, 3 Sub County Education officers, 3 Sub County public health officers and 3 Coordination of National government officers (one District commissioner & 2 Chiefs), and two community leaders for a two days' workshop. They compiled the final draft of the Rabies National strategy implementation workplan for Kajiado.

Vaccination Drive was planned involving, 33 multisector participants from Kajiado North who included One CDVS, six Sub- County veterinary officers, One District commissioner, Five Chiefs, Two Representatives of the residents, Five Veterinary Paraprofessionals, Three Sub- County MOHs, three sub- county nurses, Three Sub County Education officers, Two Sub County public health officers and two community leaders for a One-day workshop. The survey, monitoring and evaluation planning and implementation was done in collaboration with the Washington State University/ CEMA team and the Kajiado CDVS Office.

Results

1. The final draft of the Rabies National strategy implementation workplan for Kajiado has been finalized and was given to the County official for last inputs and signatures to make it official.
2. A two-day Training of trainer's workshop with a total of 15 teachers and one head of Education department was held. They were trained on Animal Welfare, Dogs (behavior, feeding, housing, and health needs), trained on manual on 5 Keys on Rabies and Manual on Responsible dog ownership and dog bite management. Each teacher was given a set of training manual to use and share and did a first run of teaching the children.
3. A rabies vaccination drive in Kajiado North Subcounty that was carried out supported by a vaccination app, followed by a household survey whose report is finalized.

Conclusion:

This implementation process and outcomes highlighted the importance of designing your rabies program even at local level using the one health participatory approach. Enabled the goal of how the first level pilot counties will support the next step counties in designing and implementing their programs. It also provides the huge potentials mobile phones applications such as World Veterinary Service (WVS) have for coordination and monitoring of MDVs. The study brings up a huge opportunity for one health collaborative approaches and efforts necessary to encourage a scaleup on rabies vaccination, dog population and education programs and increase community awareness to strengthen and solidify delivery of rabies elimination and DPM programs.

UNEP - Abdelkader Bensada

The fifth session of the UNEA (UNEA-5) took place in a two-step approach, online on 22 - 23 February 2021, and the resumed in-person online and in Nairobi on 28 February – 2 March 2022 (UNEP, 2023). On the 2nd March 2022 UNEA members adopted a new Resolution on animal welfare-environment and sustainable development nexus (AWESDE Nexus). The AWESDE Nexus resolution seeks to identify linkages between animal welfare, environment, and sustainable development.

An overview with a road map for the implementation of the resolution will be presented

Introduction to UNEP, UIF Bjornholm, UNEP

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global authority on the environment.

UNEP’s mission is to inspire, inform, and enable nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

For over 50 years, UNEP has worked with governments, civil society, the private sector and UN entities to address humanity’s most pressing environmental challenges - from restoring the ozone layer to protecting the world’s seas and promoting a green, inclusive economy.

In this presentation, Participants will learn about the history, mandate and mission of UNEP, some of its main achievements in the last half century since its creation, and the important role of civil society in its work.

The Sixth session of United Nations Environment Assembly, UIF Bjornholm, UNEP

The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) is the world’s highest-level decision-making body for matters related to the environment, with a universal membership of all 193 Member States.

It sets the global environmental agenda, provides overarching policy guidance, and defines policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges. It undertakes policy review, dialogue and the exchange of experiences, sets the strategic guidance on the future direction of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), and fosters partnerships for achieving environmental goals and resource mobilization.

The UNEA is now preparing for its sixth session (UNEA-6) that will take place from 26 February to 1 March 2024 at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

Participants will hear an update on the status of preparations, including with regard to the theme, preparatory meetings and civil society engagement.

Abstract for African Animal Welfare Conference
Dr Linda Evans BVetMed MRCVS.

For 100 years, SPANA (The Society for the protection of Animals Abroad) has been the charity for the working animals of the world. We work where they work, to transform the lives of working donkeys, horses, mules, camels, elephants, oxen and other working animals that support low-income and often vulnerable communities across the world. While our work has grown and developed significantly since Kate and Nina Hosali founded our organisation in 1923, our focus remains on improving the welfare of working animals in need. As we move into our next 100 years, we will look towards the prevention of poor health and welfare by introducing prophylactic programmes of treatment and care; by continuing to train professionals to build capacity for accessible health care; by improving knowledge for owners of working animals; and by teaching children, youth and adults about caring for working animals and valuing their contribution to society.

The working animal is often ‘invisible’, but supports livelihoods, food security, transport, infrastructure and freedom for opportunities such as education. Working animals contribute to the national economy, as well as the community health and wellbeing.

The contribution to One Health and the challenges presented by this population of animals are explored, explaining the need for better surveillance and integration in national policy.

SPANAs mission to transform the lives of working animals in a world where animals, people and the environment are respected and thrive will lead us to examine the holistic picture of a world where the environment matters and is considered alongside the animals and people that inhabit it.

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Implementing better training for veterinarians: Resources and strategies**Nick Jukes, InterNICHE**

Education and training for veterinarians involves the acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes. Developments in technology, educational practice and ethics, including those within the profession of veterinary medicine, should be reflected within the education and training process both for students in their degrees and for clinicians in their continuing education. This can be achieved through considered curricular and course design, and a focus on teaching objectives and the required skill sets. The current transition with veterinary education from practical classes that do not involve animal experimentation nor the dissection of purpose-killed animals, towards humane, innovative methods, is helping to better meet standard teaching objectives and to meet additional ones. The 'alternatives' include firstly non-animal tools, and secondly ethical approaches that involve animals but cause zero harm. Humane tools populate the clinical and surgical skills labs that are increasingly being established at veterinary schools worldwide. These range from low to high fidelity, according to level and the skill set required; and from low to high cost, according to both economic potential and local creativity. Humane approaches include animal body donation programs and clinical learning opportunities within teaching hospitals. Together, their implementation can evidence a commitment to best practice and a recognition of the advantages of alternatives. Pedagogically these advantages include increased technical competence as well as enhanced critical thinking and emotional and ethical literacy. The impact of this curricular transformation is explored for students, educators, the animals, the veterinary profession, and society itself. Selected resources that can support such a transition are given, and a number of strategies for change are explored through the use of case studies.

Harmonizing Faith and Nature: An Ethical Exploration of Religious Perspective on Environmental Conservation

Abstract:

The relationship between religion and environmental preservation has increased interest and importance in recent years. This presentation delves into the diverse religious perspectives on environmental preservation and highlights the significant role that various faith traditions play in shaping attitudes and actions toward the environment. Drawing from the beliefs, teachings, historical practices, and contemporary relevance of major religions such as African Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam, this exploration underscores the common themes of stewardship, compassion, and interconnectedness that run through these faiths. While these religions offer a shared commitment to caring for the Earth, they also present unique nuances and challenges in addressing modern environmental crises. The abstract concludes by emphasizing the significance of recognizing and respecting these diverse religious perspectives in the global effort to safeguard our planet, advocating for interfaith dialogue and collaboration as vital components of a sustainable and harmonious future.

Title for the panel: “How NGOs Can Profitably Partner with Religious Communities to Promote Peaceful Co-Existence with the Natural World and Nonhuman Animals.”

Description:

Religious communities are an often overlooked but critically important partner in advocating and supporting harmony with the natural world. In 2010, the Pew Research Center released findings from a comprehensive study of religious affiliation in sub-Saharan Africa. Of 820 million people, approximately 234 million affiliated with Islam, and 470 million associated with Christianity. Significantly, the findings revealed that many of those committed to Islam and Christianity “continue to practice elements of traditional African religions.” The survey also noted that the number of Muslims and Christians across Africa was “roughly balanced, with 400 million to 500 million followers each.” While the population in sub-Saharan Africa is expected to increase to 1.9 billion by 2050, the Pew Research Center noted in 2015 that the percentage of Muslims and Christians will change modestly.

The large number of religious adherents and their prominence in civil society led the African Biodiversity Collaborative Group (ABCG) to encourage secular NGOs to “reach out to faith communities for dialogue and collaboration” to enhance “the capacity for value-based sustainability decisions that link nature and human well-being.”

Anthropocentrism, a worldview that privileges human beings over the natural environment and nonhuman animals, is repeatedly cited in literature as a key reason for environmental inaction. Because it is often associated with Western religious traditions and some indigenous African religions, it can be a barrier to collaboration between secular NGOs and religious communities.

This panel facilitates dialogue by discussing this worldview in Christianity, Islam, and select African religions and demonstrates that it need not hinder profitable partnerships that promote harmonious co-existence.

Opportunities for MGS to engage with UNEP and UNEA Process

The Civil Society Unit at UNEP is committed to partnering with Major Groups and Stakeholders in order to ensure transparency and inclusiveness in the intergovernmental decision-making process at UNEP. It has been mandated to engage with accredited civil society organizations such as not-for-profit organizations, networks, and associations in contrast to single businesses or individuals, who bring to the table, valuable research, and expertise and advocacy functions. These allies and partners to UNEP provide long-term, broad-based and essential support for UNEP’s mission and mandate.

The presentation will be on various opportunities that accredited organization to UNEP have in terms of engaging with UNEP and the UNEA process and other processes during the intercessional period such the regional consultative meetings, other UNEA outcome processes such Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for Observers from Intergovernmental Organizations

UNEP - Rebeca Garcia Pinillos

Following adoption of the new Resolution on animal welfare-environment and sustainable development nexus (AWESDE Nexus) UNEP commissioned a scoping study exploring the AWESDE Nexus. As part of the scoping study a call for information collating input from UNEP’s country permanent representatives and an interim literature review on the three core elements of the Nexus have been completed. This talk will present a high-level overview of key areas of the scoping study draft

UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders, Africa, Outcomes of the 19th Ordinary Session of the AMCEN and Preparations for UNEA 6

ABSTRACT

The UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders, Africa, comprise all Africa-based organizations under the nine UNEP major groups and stakeholder categories. At the time of writing this abstract, the UNEP MGS, Africa totaled to 222. This session will provide highlights of the engagement of the UNEP MGS, Africa ahead of and during the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, which was held from 14 to 18 August, 2023 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Spotlight focus shall be on the outcomes of the 2023 Regional Consultative Meeting of the UNEP MGS, Africa, which was held on 12 and 13 August, 2023 in Addis Ababa, the engagement of the UNEP MGS, Africa in the AMCEN processes and the outcomes thereof, and the preparations of ahead of the Sixth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 6) and the opportunities that exist to engage impactfully in the processes.

The RAFFS Project - Addressing Triple Crises for Sustainable Development

Dr. Sarah Ashanut Ossiya, Program Manager of the AU-IBAR's Resilient African Feeds and Fodder Systems Project, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, will present on "The RAFFS Project: AU-IBAR's Response to the Triple Crises of Climate Change, Covid-19, and Conflict in Europe" at the 7th African Animal Welfare Conference.

The Role of Feed and Fodder in Animal Welfare and Sustainable Development:

Dr. Ossiya will emphasize the crucial role of feed and fodder in animal welfare, environmental sustainability, and overall sustainable development. Feed represents a significant portion of animal production costs, making it central to livelihoods, income, and food security across Africa.

Impact of Triple Crises on Feed and Fodder Chains: The presentation will delve into how the triple crises - COVID-19, Climate Change shocks, and the Russia-Ukraine conflict - have disrupted feed and fodder systems in Africa. Livestock losses, eroded livelihoods, income disparities, and rising prices of nutritious livestock-sourced foods have been exacerbated.

Opportunities in the RAFFS Project: Dr. Ossiya will shed light on the RAFFS Project's objectives, which include strengthening evidence-based decision-making, upscaling viable approaches, and fostering partnerships. The project particularly emphasizes gender equality by ensuring women's meaningful participation in the feed and fodder sector.

Contribution to African Development: The RAFFS Project focuses on regions where livestock significantly contributes to livelihoods and economies. AU-IBAR's leadership in livestock development positions it to disseminate best practices, lessons learned, and policies for a resilient feed and fodder sub-sector.

Project Results: The RAFFS Project aims to:

- Establish a Knowledge and Analytical Ecosystem to enhance decision-making for increased investment in and to strengthen policy and institutional capacities to respond to and mitigate feed and fodder shortages,
- Support upscale of viable business models, partnerships, and interventions for coordinated action to address feed and fodder shortages in the short term
- Empower women in the feed and fodder and animal-sourced food supply chains.
- Reform policies, regulations, and institutions for a sustainable feed and fodder industry.

THE GLOBAL DONKEY SKIN TRADE: ITS IMPACTS IN AFRICA AND A CALL TO ACTION TO SUPPORT A PAN AFRICAN 15 YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE TRADE

The purpose of the presentation is to highlight the impacts of the global donkey skin trade in Africa (livelihoods-community impact, animal welfare, biosecurity and wildlife trade) and a call to action to support a 15 year Pan African moratorium on the donkey skin trade. This is in line with the resolutions and expert advice coming out of The Pan-African Donkey Conference (PADco) held in December 2022 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, that ended with the 'Dar es Salaam Declaration on Donkeys in Africa Now and in the Future' that among other pertinent calls, urges the African Union Commission (AUC) to propose to the African Union (AU) Committee of Heads of State to endorse the proposal of implementing a ban on donkey slaughter for skins and other donkey derived products, for export, for at least the next 15 years. . This presentation recognises the importance of the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa (AWSA) and its implementation mechanism the African Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW) for progressing animal welfare in the African continent.

Bridging the Teaching Gap: Making Animal Welfare Education accessible with holistic Teaching Materials

Carolin Breitenbach, WTS

Worldwide animal welfare is a topic of growing public interest and concern. Animal health professionals are key players in this development, advocating for animal welfare in daily practice, law enforcement and as experts in society. For this important task, veterinary students need to be equipped with profound knowledge, skills and a strong animal welfare awareness.

But while the WOAHA has named animal welfare as one of the core competencies of both veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals and included it into their curriculum recommendations, the topic is still often neglected in veterinary education. One of the reasons we struggle to encompass animal welfare in education is the lack of up-to-date teaching materials which have a holistic approach and focus on veterinarians in everyday work. Animal welfare is a cross-sectional subject influencing all areas of veterinary medicine and should be taught accordingly.

To support academic institutions to include animal welfare into their training WTS has developed comprehensive teaching modules focusing on applied animal welfare. These teaching materials align with WOAHA curriculum recommendations and are peer reviewed by experts in science, academia and practice from all over the world. Our presentation will introduce the teaching materials and demonstrate how they can enrich existing curricula by providing a holistic perspective on animal welfare.

A B S T R A C T S

How Ranking Companies can help to improve layer hen welfare in Africa; A Case Study of the First OWA Africa Ranking Report.

Abstract:

Corporate cage-free campaigns seek to shift corporate practices towards systems that improve animal welfare, employing a variety of strategies. These approaches have been effective; resulting in over 3000 global cage-free commitments (a number of which are from Africa), thus sparing billions of hens from cruel confinement. One of the most successful approaches to holding companies accountable has been the use of ranking reports, which rank companies that use eggs and egg products based on their cage-free egg status.

The OWA recently released the first Africa Ranking Report, which ranks companies that are operating in Africa based on their cage-free commitment status. Being the first kind of its report in the region, the report has tremendous opportunity to hold companies active and operating in Africa to account based on their animal welfare status. Join me for this presentation where I will speak more deeply on why ranking reports can be an important tool to hold companies accountable to animal welfare in Africa, and why this is important for the cage-free movement as a whole.

Aquatic Animal Welfare

Waseem Emam

Despite being farmed and wild-caught in such large numbers, aquatic animals are still largely neglected within the animal welfare space. Farmed fish suffer from high stocking densities, poor water quality and barren environments and those caught in the wild typically experience a painful and brutal end. Africa is home to a large number of aquatic animals and consumption of aquatic foods is on a rapidly increasing upward trajectory. It is important to take the welfare of these magnificent animals into consideration before intensification sets into the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Improved animal welfare both within the food sector and in the wild can usher in a more sustainable development of the continent's resources and a lower carbon footprint overall. With this in mind, Ethical Seafood Research is leading efforts to train African fish farmers and fishing communities on the importance of animal welfare for their business, their community and the environment.

ABSTRACT
DONKEYS; PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Presented by

Dr Bojia Duguma

Country Director, Ethiopia

The Donkey Sanctuary

The presentation aims to show case and inform on the crucial contribution of donkeys in human livelihood over the ages, the challenges the donkeys experience, the emerging threats and opportunities to donkey welfare and a call to action to support initiatives like Africa Animal Welfare Strategy, Regional Animal Welfare Strategies and National policies and legislations which are all geared towards safeguarding the donkeys to ensure that their continued contribution to human welfare and environmental welfare is secured now and in the future.

Topic: Welfare of Animal in Disasters in Africa**Abstract**

This paper explores the impact of disasters on animal welfare in Africa, emphasizing key concepts such as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and effective response strategies. It encompasses various animal emergencies, including disease outbreaks and disaster-induced scenarios. Moreover, the paper highlights the often-underreported repercussions of extreme weather events in Africa since 2022, with approximately 4,000 fatalities and 19 million people affected. The influence of climate change on health, food security, water availability, and development underscore the urgent need to bolster disaster resilience. For instance, Gabon's recurrent exposure to adverse weather conditions and political upheaval exemplifies the complexity of disaster vulnerability in the region. The narrative also delves into achievements and frameworks at regional levels, emphasizing concerted efforts to augment disaster resilience in Africa. The paper further examines the specific challenges the animal sector faces and corresponding solutions, such as prudent destocking strategies, community involvement, and governmental engagement. Additionally, it underscores the pivotal role of traditional knowledge in disaster management. This abstract outline critical focus areas for DRR initiatives in Africa, including specific disaster plans, institutional integration, veterinary response capacity, multi-sectoral collaboration, community-based training, local-level support, farm-level preparedness, indigenous knowledge incorporation, educational initiatives, insurance adoption, and targeted financial investment. These areas collectively enhance the resilience of Africa's animal resource sector to disasters, facilitating sustainable development and safeguarding livelihoods.

THE DAR-ES-SALAM DECLARATION ON DONKEYS IN AFRICAN NOW IN THE FUTURE

We, the Ministers in Charge of Livestock and Animal Production from Chad, Senegal and Tanzania and Representatives from Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire, CVOs, RECs, CSOs, Representatives of international organizations (FAO, WOA), Representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations, during the Pan African Donkey Conference convened by the Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and held in Dares-Salaam, Tanzania from 1-2 December 2022.

RECOGNIZING the socio-economic contribution of the donkey to livelihoods in Africa

DEEPLY concerned about the unsustainable development and utilization of the donkey in Africa

CONCERNED about the paucity of data to inform evidence-based policies, strategies, legislation and programs on the development and utilization of the donkey as a species

ALARMED at the inadequate inclusion of donkeys and other equids in the national animal resources development policies, strategies, programs, and investment plans Further ALARMED by the rapid decline in donkey population in Africa called by the demand for their skins for the production of ejiao

REQUEST the AUC, through AU-IBAR, to bring the resolution on donkeys and other equids' development, for inclusion in the continental (AU) and global development agenda (UN) to the next STC meeting in 2023

URGE the AU-MS to invest in increased awareness and the generation of compelling evidence about the socio-economic importance and contribution of donkeys to the GDP of AU Member States

URGE the African Union Member States, with support from the AU-IBAR, to develop policies, strategies, programs and legislations on donkey exploitation at national and regional levels for increased production and productivity

URGE the AUC to propose to the AU Committee of Heads of State to endorse the proposal of putting a moratorium on donkey slaughter for skins and other donkey related products, for export, for at least the next 15 years.

REQUEST The AU Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, RECs, and the AU Member States with support from the FAO, WOA, Animal Welfare Organizations, Development Agencies, and other stakeholders, to accelerate efforts to mobilize resources for a coordinated program on the development of the donkey and equids resources.

Dar-Es-Salam 2nd December 2022

A B S T R A C T S

Presentation 1: Promoting responsible dog ownership around Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda-preventing potential economic, conservation, public health and welfare consequences

Volcanoes National Park (VNP) is home to a number of species including two endangered primate species namely mountain gorillas and golden monkeys. While the population of mountain gorillas is slowly increasing, owing to the extreme conservation measures, this population remains fragile. On the other hand, the golden monkeys population is reported to be declining in the Virunga massif.

Feral and free ranging dogs have recently emerged as a threat to wildlife in VNP. Their presence in the park is a potential serious threat to wildlife, such as killing and chasing (stress) and the likelihood of disease transmission between wildlife and feral dogs.

Gorilla doctors and the park management have identified/observed that it is important to control the population of free roaming dogs inside the park for effective wildlife protection.

While it was initially believed that a population feral dogs living inside the park was the major source of danger to wildlife, our interventions have revealed that a population of owned free- roaming domestic dogs regularly access the park from the adjacent communities. In addition to that, the findings from a survey on dog ownership around VNP, indicated that due to the lack of veterinary services, dogs in this area are reproducing uncontrollably leading to unwanted puppies that are abandoned. Therefore , this population serves as a constant supply of the feral dogs population inside the VNP which in turn continues to pose threats to the wildlife population in this ecosystem.

It has become clear that the menace that is posed by feral and free roaming dogs in the VNP emanates from neighbouring communities largely because of lack of responsible dog ownership. Therefore, we aimed to redirect our interventions and tackle the problem from its source while at the same time engaging the local community.

Animal Well-being and Climate Change in Africa: Challenges and Strategies

Abstract:

This paper explores the intricate relationship between animal well-being and climate change in Africa. As the continent grapples with the dual challenges of climate change and the welfare of its diverse animal populations, it becomes imperative to analyze the impact of climate change on animals and discuss strategies for mitigating these effects. This paper highlights the vulnerability of African animals to climate change and underscores the significance of adopting sustainable practices to safeguard both animal welfare and the environment.

Introduction

Africa is home to an astonishing array of wildlife, with its diverse ecosystems supporting numerous species. However, the continent is also one of the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. This paper delves into the critical interplay between climate change and animal well-being in Africa, examining the consequences of climate change on animal populations and offering solutions for sustainable coexistence.

Approach:

- **Climate Restoration:** We prioritize climate restoration as a foundational element of our campaign. We advocate for climate justice and seek funding through loss and damage reparations to support projects that mitigate climate change.
- **Birth Equity:** Birth equity is at the heart of our mission. We advocate for birth equity as a fundamental human right and seek to empower women and children from underserved communities globally.
- **Humane Education:** What good is teaching children to care for animals if they are not born and raised in conditions likely to foster empathy, or prosocial behavior? Is it odd to teach children to care for animals, against a background of family policies that do nothing to ensure biodiversity and climate/habitat restoration?
- **True Animal Rights:** Animals lived experiences do and will depend on their relations with humans, relations that are first and largely defined as we create and rear humans. We urge a conception of animal rights that starts from this issue, rather than ignoring it.
- **Children's Savings Accounts:** To break the cycle of poverty, we promote the establishment of children's savings accounts, managed by well-identified financial institutions, which empower children and families to secure their future.
- **Agroforestry:** We support agroforestry initiatives to combat food insecurity and contribute to climate restoration by planting a million vegetables and fruits.
- **Food-Security Kitchen Gardens:** Our initiative includes the construction of clean, smart cooking facilities and the promotion of sustainable practices, such as using recycled plastic containers.
- **Family Planning:** We promote the concept of smaller or more ecocentric family sizes, advocating for informed family planning choices within communities. This is crucial to note: Because the impact of those in wealthy nations on the

environment is generally four times the impact of less wealthy nations, a primary policy focus of delay and smaller families is applied first to countries like the United States and the United Kingdom, as seen here: <https://fairstartmovement.org/tag/royal-family/>

Conclusion

The intertwining challenges of climate change and animal well-being in Africa demand concerted efforts from governments, organizations, and communities. To safeguard the continent's rich biodiversity and ensure the well-being of its animals, we must prioritize sustainable practices, conservation initiatives, and climate action. By doing so, we can foster a harmonious coexistence between humans and the diverse wildlife that makes Africa so unique.

A B S T R A C T S

Enhancing livestock dependant community preparedness to challenges of climate change

The Horn of Africa region has been faced with the worst drought in years. With five consecutive failed rainfall seasons, parts of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia have had reduced agricultural productivity, food, and water security. Livestock dependent communities have suffered great losses due to inadequate preparedness and support to sustain their livestock during the disasters.

The Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) provide the minimum standards for humanitarian emergencies that impact livestock. The guidelines provide communities, governments and NGOs with key principles which should be considered during humanitarian interventions to ensure livestock-based livelihoods are not lost. The LEGS interventions ensure good animal welfare through use of animal-based indicators which align with the five animal welfare domains; nutrition, health, environment, behaviour, and mental state.

Embracing the LEGS principles, Brooke East Africa has supported communities within Kenya and Somaliland during drought emergency response. However, noting the climate trends and frequency of disasters such as drought and floods, the organization has established a pillar on Livelihoods and Resilience within its Theory of Change.

Through this pillar, Brooke East Africa has supported capacity building of groups in Turkana, Tharaka Nithi and Baringo in Kenya to produce and preserve fodder as a community preparedness measure for disasters, like drought. This fodder is mainly fed to the group's livestock during dry spells. Surplus fodder is sold to other community members and serves as a source of income to the group which can then be channelled to veterinary care for the livestock or other group projects.

Over the trial period, beneficiaries have reported no loss of group livestock. Additionally, the groups have cumulatively harvested over 3,000 bales of hay some of which have been sold to community members for income. It is therefore possible for livestock dependant communities to be resilient to climate shocks when they are involved and adequately supported to do so.

SPEAKER BIOS

S P E A K E R B I O S



Tennyson J. C. Williams -
Director For Africa, World
Animal Protection

Tennyson J. C. Williams is currently the Director for Africa, World Animal Protection based in Nairobi, Kenya. In addition to his overall management and leadership responsibilities, he is also a member of the Global Senior Leadership Team.

As an international development specialist, with over Twenty-five years of experience with International Livestock Research Institute Nairobi, ActionAid International and World Animal Protection, Tennyson has held several senior management positions directing Africa-wide regional programmes.

Originally from Sierra Leone, he was the ActionAid Kenya Country Director responsible for directing programmes, and shaping the development of the organization in the country. Prior to that, he was ActionAid International Director for West and Central Africa, responsible for providing leadership and management support to nine countries in West and Central Africa, and promoting the causes targeted by ActionAid International.

Before that, he was Country Director for ActionAid in Sierra Leone focusing on poverty reduction and humanitarian interventions. While in Sierra Leone, Tennyson led the development process of the country strategy paper and contributed to the positioning of Sierra Leone's development agenda at national and international levels.

Tennyson was also involved in several research and consultancy projects and contributed to the design of civil society programmes, undertook evaluation of various programmes and served on the boards of ActionAid International UK and Open Society Initiative for West Africa.

Tennyson holds an MSC. in Zoology, BSC in Agriculture, Diploma in Epidemiology and control of Human Vector- Borne diseases and a certificate in Human Resources and Industrial Relations Management.



ULF BJORNHOLM -
Chief, Civil Society Unit,
United Nations Environment
Programme

Ulf Björnholm has served as Deputy Secretary of Governing Bodies and Deputy Director for the UNEP Governance Affairs Office since December 2017, and is responsible for UNEP's policy-making organs such as the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and for UNEP's engagement with major groups and stakeholders. He is also Head of the Governing Bodies Unit and Officer in Charge of the Civil Society Unit.

Ulf joined UNEP in April in 2014 as Head of the UNEP Brussels Office, responsible for promoting and facilitating partnership-building between UNEP and the EU institutions as well as EU stakeholders in Brussels. He was also member of the Heads of Agencies Team of the United Nations

Offices in Brussels, and he chaired the UN Brussels Policy Group on Sustainable Development and led efforts to green the UN House in Brussels.

Prior to joining UNEP, Ulf served in the European Commission, where he contributed to developing and negotiating a new clean air policy and legislation and represented the EU in international UN negotiations relating to air pollution.

A national of Sweden, Ulf has also held several positions as a representative and diplomat for the Swedish Government, both in Stockholm and abroad. In his role as a political advisor and negotiator on international environmental affairs for Sweden, he chaired and represented the EU at several UN/EU environmental negotiations during two EU Presidencies – in New York (2001) and in Brussels (2009). For almost 8 years he served as Environment and Climate Counsellor at the Swedish Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels. In early 2000, he was appointed Second Secretary at the Swedish UN Mission in New York, responsible for the preparations of Rio + 10 in Johannesburg where Sweden served as Vice Chair in the Bureau. During the period 1996-99 he was the Swedish National Focal Point for UNEP, attending several UNEP Governing Council and Bureau meetings. Before joining the Swedish Government, he worked for local municipalities and for a youth network under the Swedish UN Association to promote the implementation of the outcomes of the 1992 Rio conference and Agenda 21 in Sweden, and in 1995-96 he represented Swedish youth before the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in New York.

S P E A K E R B I O S



Dr Iriraso Emmanuel -
University of Rwanda

Dr Iriraso Emmanuel is Assistant Lecturer and Head of department of veterinary medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Rwanda.

Iriraso has a solid professional experience as a trainer and implementor of One Health (OH) approach where he has been involved in training both pre-service and in service health professionals. He then acquired additional One Health experiences in leadership working as Rwanda National One Health coordinator supporting the Secretariat of Rwanda One Health Steering committee now One Health Multi-Sectoral Coordination Mechanism (OH-MCM).

Iriraso has a diverse academic background combining Veterinary medicine and One Health,

Among the subject that he teaches includes Animal ethology, and companion animal medicine at the school of Veterinary Medicine.

His research interests focus on, antimicrobial resistance at Animal, Human and environmental, disease surveillance, Environmental Toxicology in One health Lens and Zoonotic diseases.



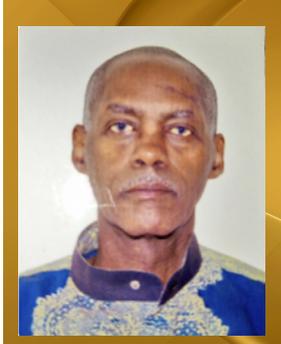
Wasseem Emam

Wasseem Emam is an aquatic ecologist with over 14 years of varied international experience across the seafood sector. He holds advanced degrees in applied aquatic ecology and is close to completing a doctorate in the welfare of farmed Nile tilapia at the University of Stirling in the UK. In 2021, he founded Ethical Seafood Research, a research organisation with the mission to fill knowledge gaps around animal welfare in the fishing and aquaculture sectors. Before this, Wasseem had worked on fisheries and aquaculture studies for a wide range of clients including the United Nations, the European Parliament, the UK and Canadian governments, the Aquaculture Stewardship Council and WWF with time spent across Europe, North America, Africa and the Middle East.



Mr. Isaiah Otieno -
Civil Society Unit-
Governance Affairs Office

Mr. Isaiah Otieno holds a master’s degree in information technology from Strathmore University and a bachelor’s degree in information system technology from United States International University (USIU). Isaiah have worked in the Information and Technology field for a period of 10 year before following his passion in environment and joining UNEP in 2014. At UNEP Isaiah has been the focal point for organization from the Africa region by ensuring that Major Groups and Stakeholders are engaged meaningful in the work of UN Environment’s Governing Bodies. Isaiah oversaw the signing of MOUs with a number of accredited organizations from Africa to enhance collaboration between UNEP and these organizations. Such MOU saw UNEP and Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) organize annual conference named Animal Welfare Conference. The first and the Second conference took place in Nairobi Kenya. The third conference took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia while the fourth conference that was to take place in Accra Ghana had to be held virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Isaiah has six years’ experience in the UN system, working with the civil society in the environmental advocacy sphere.



Dr. Mudakikwa Byara Antoine

Dr. Mudakikwa Byara Antoine, a revered retired Veterinarian, embodies an exceptional journey marked by steadfast dedication to wildlife and environmental conservation. With extensive service at Gorilla Doctors and RDB Tourism and Conservation, he emerged as a global influencer in animal welfare as the Focal Point of CITES and OIE. His roles on the boards of PASA, GRASP, and the African Elephant Coalition attest to his commitment to collaborative conservation. Dr. Antoine’s legacy encompasses groundbreaking initiatives including the Mountain Gorilla Skeleton Project and Saving the Crowned Crane Project, underscoring his commitment to safeguarding species. His hands-on contributions to reintroducing African lions and Rhinoceros in Rwanda underline his impact on rewilding. A co-architect of Rwanda’s inaugural One Health Strategic Plan, Dr. Antoine remains a consultant and valued Board Member of the Rwanda Wildlife Conservation Society. His pivotal involvement in the 7th Africa Animal Welfare Conference’s Wildlife and Environmental Conservation session reflects his dedication to sharing insights that drive change. Dr. Mudakikwa Byara Antoine’s narrative paints a picture of a visionary who, through tireless endeavors, has woven himself into the fabric of conservation history, inspiring action for a sustainable future

S P E A K E R B I O S



Monica Chen -
Director New Roots Institute

Monica Chen is the executive director of New Roots Institute, where she has overseen the development of a unique series of educational programs. New Roots educates high school and college students on the devastating impacts of factory farming and supports them as they become advocates for a just and sustainable food system. With the support of international organizations, New Roots is shifting attitudes and behavioral norms toward plant-centered menus.

Monica serves as an Advisor to Animal Defense Partnerships, the Animal and Vegan Advocacy Summit, and Scarlet Spark. A veteran teacher, she taught classroom environmental education to students at all grade levels and in residential settings. Monica earned her BA at UC Berkeley and her Master's in Education, with a focus on the environment, at the University of New Mexico.



Aurelia Adhiambo
Open Wing Alliance (OWA)

Aurelia Adhiambo is the Open Wing Alliance (OWA) Africa Coordinator at the Humane League. The Open Wing Alliance (OWA) is a global coalition of animal welfare organizations working together towards ending the abuse of chickens. Having 90+ members globally, the OWA targets companies asking them to make a public cage-free commitment, which is a public proclamation to support chicken welfare. In her capacity as the OWA Africa Coordinator, she supports the 23 OWA members from Africa through training, corporate campaigns, their OWA funded projects, and general support within the OWA. Aurelia is passionate about empowering African animal welfare organizations to work at their best capacity.”



Dr. Abdelkader - UNEP

Dr. Abdelkader is a Programme management officer for the land and biodiversity branch. He is responsible for UNEP's work on sustainable pastoralism and rangeland conservation. He is UNEP's focal point for UNEA5-Res1 Animal Welfare and sustainable development Nexus. He has a background in forestry with extensive experience in biodiversity conservation and protected areas management.

Abdelkader holds a PhD in forests ecology and conservation from University of Padova in Italy.

Abdelkader is a true blend of diverse culture and experiences coupled with a perfect polyglot (Arabic, French, English, Italian).

He brings almost 25 years' experience leading and advising on biodiversity conservations in particularly on drylands, protected area management and integrated forest conservation.

Before joining UNEP, Mr. Abdelkader Bensada served with UNOPS as the Regional Project Coordinator (2010-2015), where he managed a complex multi-donor project on sustainable management of endemic ruminant livestock in West Africa. He was also responsible for providing advice and guidance, reinforcing standards, and developing and delivering high-quality and impactful training on project management for junior managers and staff.



Dr. Rebeca Garcia Pinillos
- UNEP

Dr. Rebeca García Pinillos is a veterinarian qualified in the University of Zaragoza (Spain), PhD from the University of Reading (England) and a specialist in animal welfare, ethics and legislation recognized by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the European College of Animal Welfare and Behavioural Medicine.

She has worked in veterinary practice, as a government veterinary surgeon since 2001 and is past-president of the Association of Government Veterinary Surgeons in England. Rebeca has also worked as a volunteer with exotic animals and currently supports the UN Environment Programme as an international consultant. Rebeca is an internationally recognized lecturer and speaker in the field of animal welfare and One Welfare, educating and lecturing worldwide. She founded the non-profit social enterprise One Welfare CIC through which she has established a global presence of the One Welfare concept, supporting educational and research systems worldwide.

S P E A K E R B I O S



Beatrice Okyere-Manu -
University of KwaZulu-Natal

Beatrice Okyere-Manu is a Professor of Applied Ethics in the School of Religion, Philosophy, and Classics at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is Programme Director for Applied Ethics. Her research interests include Applied Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Ethics of Technology, and African Ethics. With a blend of practical experience in community involvement and theoretical scholarship on African ethics, Beatrice has authored several journal articles and book chapters in these areas. She was recognized with the Staff Excellence Award in 2018 for being among the top 10 supervisors and in 2019 for being among the top 30 Most Published Researchers in Humanities at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Her edited books include the following: *Intersecting African Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Western Knowledge Systems: Moral Convergence and Divergence* (2018), *African Values, Ethics, and Technology: Questions, Issues, and Approaches* (2021), and *Contemporary Development Ethics, an African perspective: Selected readings*, 2023.



Dr. Kavosa Mudoga, BVM (UON), MPH
Animals in Communities, Action
for Protection of Animals Africa

Dr. Kavosa Mudoga has over 26 years of experience having worked for various local and international organizations. she delivers 'humane dog population management' campaign which includes addressing rabies, dog population and related public health concerns based on the 'one health approach'. This is by working with governments, communities, consultative workshops, and partners like Zoonotic Disease Unit (Kenya) national rabies elimination coordination committee, AU-IBAR, WHO, OIE, FAO and Global Alliance for Rabies. Together with her partner and team at APAA we also work in the areas of Disaster Management, Wildlife (specific in the human, livestock, wildlife interphase) and areas of One Health.



Carter Dillard -

Carter Dillard worked previously as the Animal Legal Defense Fund Director of Litigation, during which time he helped quadruple the number cases the organization had filed and helped oversee its first undercover investigations. Prior to joining the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Carter served as an Honors Program attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice and as a legal advisor to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in the National Security Law Division. He also served as General Counsel of Animal Outlook, and Director of farmed animal litigation at the Humane Society of the United States.

He has taught on the faculties or held appointments at University of Oxford, Lewis and Clark Law School, Emory University School of Law, and Loyola University New Orleans, College of Law. Carter has been a peer reviewer for the journal *Bioethics*, his work has been published by Yale, Duke, and Northwestern universities, as well in several peer-reviewed journals, is often recommended reading on the competitive *Legal Theory Blog* and has been extensively cited. He currently serves as Advisor and Counsel, for the Stable Planet Alliance.

Carter has a B.A. from Boston College, a J.D., Order of the Coif and with honors, from Emory University, and an LL.M. from New York University where he wrote his thesis under Jeremy Waldron, later developed into a peer-reviewed book entitled *Justice as a Fair Start in Life*, which treats reliance on basic norms other than a just creation norm as a logical fallacy. Carter is the co-founder of the organization Fair Start Movement, which has developed such a just creation norm as a human rights-based, child-centric and “zero baseline” family planning model with an exponentially greater impact on sustainable development and animal protection than downstream alternatives. Carter has begun to implement a transition to child-centric “Fair Start” family planning, where future children are a specially protected class, both as a member of the Steering Committee of the Population Ethics and Policy Research Project, and as a visiting scholar of the Uehiro Center, both at the University of Oxford. Carter has been invited to speak at the UN World Civic Forum and dozens of other conferences, he has appeared on Fox Business News, and his work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Salon*, *The Hill*, *Washington Times*, and the *International Herald Tribune*.

S P E A K E R B I O S



Carolin Breitenbach - WTS

Carolin Breitenbach is a veterinarian with experience in veterinary practice, animal welfare education and international programme management. She is particularly passionate about improving animal welfare in education. As programme manager for WTS Vets United she has worked closely with lecturers at universities in various African countries in order to include animal welfare into the curriculum. With her global team she has recently developed comprehensive animal welfare teaching materials, which have been endorsed by institutions in Africa, Europe and Latin America.

JEAN PAUL GISA

Gisa Jean Paul is the Venture Studio Director at SRV, a subsidiary of One Acre Fund. For almost a decade with One Acre Fund, he has a track record of running impact businesses, including the most recent expansion of One Acre Fund's agroforestry program in Rwanda. An entrepreneur at heart, has founded successful startups and is currently pioneering a game-changing plant-based protein product as the flagship project of the studio model. This innovative venture is poised to revolutionize the food industry, offering sustainable, nutritious, and environmentally friendly protein alternatives. With a commitment to creating a healthier future, starting in Rwanda and with plans for broader scalability within One Acre Fund countries. Gisa is dedicated to supporting fellow entrepreneurs and is committed to creating a sustainable and transformative impact in the agricultural sector.



Nick Jukes - InterNICHE

Nick Jukes is Co-ordinator of InterNICHE, the International Network for Humane Education. Nick has been working internationally for over 30 years to enhance education and training in medicine, veterinary medicine and the life sciences through replacement of animal experiments and dissection. He co-authored the book from Guinea Pig to Computer Mouse (2nd ed.) (InterNICHE, 2003) and has published widely on alternatives. He has helped establish a range of international resources including libraries of alternatives and the website www.interniche.org, with its databases of alternatives and academic studies. Nick has co-organised conferences and exhibitions across the world and InterNICHE activity has led to widespread direct replacement. Current projects include a documentary film on humane innovations and a book of case studies. Nick, InterNICHE and its partners have won a number of awards for provision of resources, global networking and replacement work, including the Lush Prize for Training.



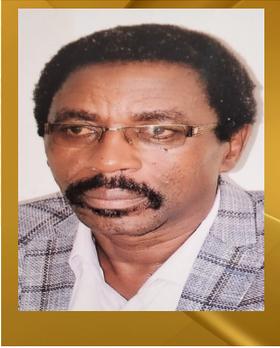
David Ngige Munene - UNEP

David is one of the two democratically elected Regional Facilitators for the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS), Africa, Programs Manager at the Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa (CYNESA) and sits at the Board of Directors of the Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute (SAFCEI). A computer scientist, David has been working with young people across Africa and beyond since 2013 to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and plastic pollution. He is a YALI (Young African Leaders Initiative) fellow and was the first president of the Kenya National Chapter for the Ecosystems-based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA). He has been involved in environmental policy and negotiations since 2014 including at the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), UNFCCC CoP, and the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN). Together with his co-regional facilitator, David organized and facilitated the 2022 and 2023 Regional Consultative Meetings (RCMs) of the UNEP MGS, Africa ahead of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Ordinary Sessions of the AMCEN in Dakar and Addis Ababa respectively. David was lead author for the CYNESA booklet, "Amplifying the Voices of Young People of Faith in Kenya in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework's Discourse," and authored environmental content for the Jesuit "Living Magis" app.



Dr. Calvin Solomon Onyango
Country Director, The Donkey
Sanctuary-Kenya

Dr Calvin Solomon Onyango Has served and still serve in many organisations in the capacity of an animal welfare champion with many years of experience in serving the needs of animals and linking good welfare state of animals to improved human welfare, environmental health and livelihood. Solomon has done alot of work in advocacy and research on matters to do with animal welfare and sustainable development. He has also done many presentations and lectures on the same at various conferences and universities. He currently serves in various capacity among them been The WOAH ANIMAL WELFARE FOCAL POINT FOR KENYA, Country Director for The Donkey Sanctuary Kenya office, member of Coordination Committee of the Africa Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW) among other roles and responsibilities in other national and international organisations.



Dr. Mwenda Mbaka -

Dr. M. Mbaka is a strong champion for the healing of the Planet. Mbaka is a dedicated conservationist and champion for Animal Welfare. He has been awarded an Environmental Conservation Award by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in the Machakos County of Kenya; and a Veterinarian of the Year Award, by the Kenya Veterinary Association.

Mbaka is a veterinarian with a post graduate degree in Veterinary Public Health. He has undertaken numerous consultancy services in Kenya and other countries within Africa, in the areas of Veterinary Public Health, Animal Welfare, and the formulation of Animal Resources Sector Policies. Mbaka taught Animal Health at the Chuka University in Kenya, where he was the Chairman of the Department of Animal Science during his tenure. He has also served as the Chairman of the Kenya Veterinary Board, and as the President of the Team of Experts to establish and operationalize the African Union's Association of African Veterinary Statutory Bodies, and as a member of the Technical Committee of the Kenya Wildlife Services' National Invasive House Crow Eradication Committee. He currently serves as the Animal Welfare Expert of the African Union Inter-Africa Bureau for Animal Resources [AU-IBAR]. Mbaka has also served as the Africa Region External Affairs Advisor to World Animal Protection - one of the leading animal welfare organizations globally; at the African Network for Animal Welfare – An Animal Welfare Organization with a Pan-African presence, where he served as an Animal Welfare Expert seconded to the AU-IBAR where he provided expertise during the formulation and promotion of the UNEA Resolution for the Nexus between Animal Welfare, the Environment and Sustainable Development; and for The Brooke – an International Organization championing for the welfare of working equids and working-equine-dependent communities, where he provided expertise during diverse studies on the welfare status of the donkey in Africa, as well as the preparation and conducting of the 2022 Pan-African donkey Conference in Dare salaam, Tanzania. He has been a member of the Technical Organizing Committee of the AAWC since 2018.

mwenda.mbaka@au-ibar.org / mwenda.mmbaka@gmail.com



Dr. Mary T. Agutu -
Ag. Chief Executive Officer
Kenya Veterinary Board

Dr. Mary T. Agutu is the Acting Chief Executive Officer (C.E.O) formerly Manager of Quality Assurance Department of the Board. She holds a Master's Degree in Medical Virology and a Bachelor's degree in Veterinary Medicine with 25years experience in field practice and capacity building of veterinary paraprofessionals. She joined the Board in 2014 as a Chief Examiner. She has during this period gained vast experience in the development of Continuous Professional Development framework and its implementation in Kenya.



Dr. Patrick Muinde -
World Animal Protection

Dr. Patrick Muinde is a Research Manager at World Animal Protection, an animal welfare organization envisioned in inspiring and moving the world to safeguard the welfare of animals. As a Research Manager, he collaborates with colleagues and institutions on a local, regional and global scale to provide credible evidence that informs delivery of evidence-based campaigns aimed at realizing the organization's vision of a world free of cruelty and suffering for animals.

Before joining World Animal Protection, Patrick spent six years at the International Livestock Research Institute where he worked on a variety of multidisciplinary research projects ranging from emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases, to mapping and understanding livestock value chains and associated food safety risks.

Dr. Patrick works with key stakeholders in wildlife and livestock to catalyze policy and socio-economic change that benefits animals, people and the planet, and believes that what is good for animals is good for the people and the world. Patrick envisions a world in which mankind recognizes the importance of high animal welfare in sustainable food systems and where wildlife is protected from all forms of cruel exploitation, for a healthy environment and climate-safe future

S P E A K E R B I O S



Dr Dennis Bahati -
Africa Network for Animal Welfare

Dr Dennis Bahati is a Program Manager at Africa Network for Animal Welfare and an accomplished Veterinarian and Programme, Research and Advocacy Specialist with over 9 years of experience in leading animal welfare and conservation initiatives. Adept in managing and executing projects spanning across Africa, with a strong commitment to the well-being of animals, wildlife conservation, and community engagement. He has been engaged in orchestrating multifaceted campaigns, conducting impactful research, and fostering collaborative partnerships to drive positive change. He possesses a deep understanding of the complexities of animal welfare and conservation issues in various African contexts, seeking opportunities to leverage expertise in program management, research, and community outreach to advance the cause of animal welfare and environmental conservation.

In addition to undertaking several animal welfare programs, Dr Bahati is currently engaged in Cage-Free Campaigns and Research in Africa focused on establishing the extent of adoption of caged farming in East, West and Southern Africa. This has been combined with assessing the gaps within the legal and policy frameworks governing the poultry industry as well as consumers' perception on chicken caged farming and its influence on their purchasing characteristics. Dr Bahati was involved in the planning and execution of the first Chicken Cage Free Conferences in East Africa that was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in May 2022 and in Accra, Ghana in April 2023 that highlighted on key recommendations to tackle caged farming in the regions as well as the whole continent.

With a high regard for life, Dr Bahati accentuates key sentiments of The Dalai Lama who believed that at the most fundamental level, our nature is compassionate, and that cooperation, not conflict, lies at the heart of the basic principles that govern our human existence. By living a way of life that expresses our basic goodness, we fulfill our humanity and give our actions dignity, worth, and meaning.

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Dr Linda Evans BVetMed
MRCVS - Director of Global
Animal Health. SPANA

Linda qualified as a vet in 1979 and worked in mixed practice for 18 years. She joined the State Veterinary Service and worked in various roles in government in the UK for 19 years; where she specialised in disease control and eradication, and in public health. Her work included advice on policy development, legislation, implementation and enforcement of policy, and she took a lead role during outbreaks of notifiable disease. She represented the UK on an EU Task Force, advising member countries on eradication of disease and she set up and worked collaboratively with stakeholder groups across all sectors in the UK.

Linda joined The Donkey Sanctuary in 2017 and formed the Veterinary Policy Advisory Services; increasing biosecurity awareness and understanding across the organisation and maintaining an overview of the global situation and risk of disease spread. She initiated and drove the project to investigate the biosecurity risks associated with the global trade in donkey skins.

Linda has worked with SPANA for 12 months and has introduced policies on zoonotic risk and responsible biosecurity as well as position statements on responsible use of anthelmintics and antimicrobials. She is working with the new strategy to transform welfare of working animals by looking towards prevention of conditions affecting quality of life and educating for human behaviour change towards working animals and their welfare. She is promoting the surveillance of this invisible population with a consideration to public health, people and the environment.



Dr. Katherine Baxter -
Africa Network for Animal
Welfare-USA

Dr. Katherine Baxter is the CEO of the Africa Network for Animal Welfare-USA, the sister organization of the Africa Network for Animal Welfare based in Kenya. She is also an adjunct professor at the University of Denver where she teaches courses that explore human-animal-environment relationships in a global context. Over the last decade she has worked in academia, government, and the nonprofit sector across the US, Scotland, Nepal, the Middle East, and Africa always endeavoring to create regenerative, multi-sectoral, and evidence-based solutions to complex social and environmental problems affecting both humans and other animals



Otieno Mtula -
The Donkey Sanctuary

Otieno Mtula has a doctorate degree in economics from the Phillips University Marburg/Lahn, Germany and over 30 years' work experience in the policy design and implementation/socio-economic development/animal welfare work environment in Africa at continental, regional and national levels. He is currently the Regional Campaigns and Advocacy Manager (Africa) at the Donkey Sanctuary. Prior to this he was the Policy, Research and External Affairs Manager (Africa) at World Animal Protection, where he was part of the team that supported the convening of the first Africa Animal Welfare Conference at the African Union/Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU IBAR) and was a member of the task force that developed the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa (AWSA) and its implementation mechanism, the African Platform for Animal Welfare (APAW). He was also a member of the technical committee that developed the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Regional Animal Welfare Strategy. He has also worked on policy issues at the African Union/Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU IBAR) supporting the establishment of platforms (policy hubs) and partnerships that enable the effective negotiation of equity driven policy changes and institutional reforms in the animal resources sector in Africa. Further highlights include working as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Livestock Policy Advisor for the FAO/IGAD Livestock Policy Initiative based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia where he provided policy advise and was responsible for the programme and activities of the project related to policy analysis and formulation, institutions, planning, political science, market access and service provision. A major milestone in this role was the signing of a "Regional Policy Framework on Animal Health in the Context of Trade and Vulnerability" (RPF) by Ministers responsible for Livestock in the IGAD member states. This was an agreement between IGAD member states on the management of their common challenges of animal disease, trade and poverty alleviation.

Dr. Sarah Ashanut Ossiya, Project Officer and Coordinator

Dr. Sarah Ashanut Ossiya, the Resilient African Feeds and Fodder Systems (RAFFS) Project Officer and Coordinator holds a PhD in Rangeland Ecology and Management from Texas A&M University, College Station, USA; an MSC in Tropical Agriculture from James Cook University, Queensland Australia where she specialised in Animal Nutrition and Pasture Agronomy; and a BSc Agriculture from Makerere University, Kampala Uganda, where she specialised in Animal Production.

Proudly the first woman to lead a Project at AU-IBAR, the recently ended Live2Africa Project (2016 – 2023), Dr. Ossiya brings a wealth of experience, expertise, knowledge and learning from a career spanning over 30 years in leadership positions, programme and strategy development, policy reform, investment promotion, project management, development communication and advocacy, research and development in the animal resources sector.

Dr. Ossiya is passionate about the possibilities that coordinated action through public-private partnerships and agribusiness can have in addressing the huge feed and fodder gaps to protect livestock based livelihoods and resilience, especially for pastoralists and small-holder dairy farmers, and to enhance animal productivity, youth and women employment, livestock-based incomes, and the economic contribution of the livestock sector to the African Union Member States' Gross Domestic Products. She believes that livestock sourced foods (dairy, eggs, and meat) are critical to achieving Africa's food security and nutrition targets and should be available and affordable to all; especially children, women of reproductive age, the elderly, and other vulnerable people. A robust feed and fodder sector in Africa has the potential to be a game changer in achieving this.

At AU-IBAR Dr. Ossiya also heads the Secretariat of the African Women in Animal Resources Farming and Agribusiness Network (AWARFA-N); and also, the Secretariat of the African Apiculture Platform, since her position as the Project Officer for the Apiculture Development of the AU-IBAR Bee Health Project (2013 – 2017). She is a Trustee of the Minority Rights Group International Africa Region which promotes the rights of indigenous minorities including pastoralists and hunter gatherers.

S P E A K E R B I O S



Gaspard Nzayisenga - DVM
Rwanda Mountain Gorilla
Veterinary Project/Gorilla
Doctors

Gaspard Nzayisenga, DVM Field Veterinarian, Rwanda Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project/Gorilla Doctors Gaspard is a Rwandan wildlife veterinarian. He joined Gorilla Doctors as field veterinarian in 2015 after his one-year internship with the organization. He received his veterinary degree from University of Rwanda and is currently completing an MSc degree at Makerere university (Uganda) in Wildlife Health and Management Prior to joining the Gorilla Doctors team, Gaspard briefly volunteered with WAG Rwanda, providing veterinary care to the rescued dogs. The time spent at WAG sparked his interest in animal welfare and inspired him to propose a project to humanely control free roaming and feral dogs in and around Volcanoes National Park, a project that is currently implemented in partnership with the park management



Dr. Judy Kimaru (BVM, MBA,
PhD)

Dr. Judy Kimaru (BVM, MBA, PhD) is a disaster risk reduction specialist and veterinarian with an extensive career spanning over 25 years. Her experience encompasses pivotal roles within prominent UN agencies (UNOCHA, FAO, WFP, UNDP) and NGOs. Dr. Kimaru's expertise lies in disaster risk management, food security, and animal welfare. Her contributions have spanned diverse regions, including Africa and Asia, where she has spearheaded initiatives ranging from food security and training to policy development and project execution.

Furthermore, as a Director at Action for Protection of Animals Africa (APAA), Dr. Kimaru continues to drive impactful change. She holds a PhD in Environmental Governance and Management from the University of Nairobi, augmenting her profound insights into environmental management for livestock food systems. Her academic accomplishments include a Masters in Business Administration, reflecting her multifaceted approach to addressing complex challenges.



Josphat Ngunyo

Mr. Josphat Ngunyo is a key player in animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation in Africa whose notable contribution to this field has been far-reaching through the different roles he has held in his career. He is currently the Executive Director for the Africa Network for Animal Welfare where he has served since June 2006.

Prior to this, Mr. Ngunyo served as Founder and Director for Youth for Conservation (2001 -2006) and was an employee of the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust for 4 1/2 years, where he coordinated air-rescues of elephant orphans and was also involved in administration and conservation education.

He holds varied positions in local and international platforms which include: a member of the Global Task Force for Farm Animal Welfare and Trade, member of the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Gateway to Farm Animal Welfare Editorial Board, member of Advisory Board of the US-based Life-Watch Group, member of the United Nations Department of Public Information/NGOs committee for Africa.

In July 2012, Mr. Ngunyo was appointed by the Government of Kenya to a Ministerial Task Force charged with the formulation of an animal welfare policy and the review of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (cap 360). He was also appointed as an advisor to Kenya Vision 2030 on environmental issues. Further, he was involved in the review of the wildlife conservation and management policy and legislation in 2007, through Government appointment as member of the National Steering Committee.

In August and October 2015 respectively, Josphat was granted a consultancy by the EU Commission, Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency for Sustained Technical Assistance Mission (STM) to conduct needs assessment for agriculture extension workers. Josphat, has trained on the management of not-for-profit organizations and has given talks on animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation through various forums held in over 15 countries worldwide. He won the prestigious Eastern Africa Environmental Leadership Award in 2003 and the Middle East Animal Welfare Award in 2007, in recognition of his dedication to animal welfare work. He holds a master degree in Leadership from Africa Leadership University.

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Wolf Gordon Clifton

Wolf Gordon Clifton is the Executive Director of Animal People, an animal protection NGO dedicated to improving the treatment of animals worldwide. He holds a B.A. in Religious Studies (Vanderbilt University, 2013), M.A. in Museology (University of Washington, 2015), and M.S. in Geological Sciences and Conservation Biology (Ohio University, 2021), informing his understanding of animal protection and sustainability in their spiritual, cultural, and scientific dimensions alike.



Dr. Bojia E. Duguma

Bojia E Duguma, Director of The Donkey Sanctuary operations in Ethiopia, is an epidemiologist who graduated from the University College of London. He has been providing strategic leadership in the development of equine welfare and equine veterinary education in Ethiopia for over two decades. He was granted a Special OIE Award, for demonstrating, the role of community education in sustainable equine welfare in Ethiopia. Dr. Bojia has developed a practical reputation in equine health and welfare training, research and advocacy. He also shares his experiences in the spectrum of academia providing lectures, advising students, and evaluating research papers as an external examiner. Dr. Bojia currently serves as the president of the Ethiopian Veterinary Association. He is also the international representative of AAWC in the Horn of Africa



Dr. Victor Yamo

Victor is a qualified Veterinary Surgeon and Food Systems expert trained at the University of Nairobi, Kenya; The Poultry Health Institute, Deventer, Holland and University of Free State, South Africa with over 30 years working experience in Veterinary services, Livestock Production Systems and Agribusiness having worked in various capacities for several regional and international organizations.

Since 2015, Victor has been at World Animal Protection where has been actively working with the intensive livestock production industry, governments, corporates, civil society, researchers, academia and the public in showing the nexus between animal welfare, public health, environmental degradation and climate change in order to drive the improvement of Farm Animal Welfare.



Joyce D'Silva

Joyce has an MA from Trinity College Dublin and two Honorary degrees from the universities of Winchester and Keele. Joyce taught in India and then became Head of Religious Education at a comprehensive school in England.

She has worked for Compassion in World Farming since 1985, including fourteen years as Chief Executive. Joyce played a key role in achieving the UK ban on sow stalls in the nineties and in getting recognition of animal sentience enshrined in the European Union Treaties.

Joyce has received an RSPCA Award for a “very important contribution in the field of animal welfare”. She has given evidence to the UK and New Zealand governments, the European Commission and the United Nations on issues ranging from genetic engineering and cloning of farm animals to meat reduction and regenerative agriculture. She has been vegan for 48 years.

Joyce co-edited, with Professor John Webster, the book *The Meat Crisis: Developing more sustainable and ethical production and consumption*, Earthscan, 2017.

In 2023 Joyce’s new book *Animal Welfare in World Religion: Teaching and Practice* was published by Routledge and has been very well reviewed.



Samuel M. Theuri

Samuel M. Theuri works at the Brooke East Africa as the Advocacy and Innovations Advisor having joined the equine welfare charity in 2016. Before this assignment, he served in different capacities at the Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) and at the Green Belt Movement (GBM), tree planting department. He is an outstanding scholar in environmental science, human resource development and a Master in Business Administration and Strategy, Public Policy, and Social Development. He is most proud to have been actively involved in the development and negotiation of OIE welfare of working equids Chapter 7.12, the Animal welfare strategy for Africa [AWSA], the leading to a resolution of the Nexus between animal welfare, environment, and sustainable development at the UNEA5.2 and a recognition of the contributions of working livestock to food security and nutrition by the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the Dar es Salam Declaration on donkeys now and in the future.

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Dr. Raphael Kinoti -
Director Brooke East Africa

With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Raphael Kinoti has worked extensively in the field of livestock production and veterinary medicine, animal welfare, biodiversity conservation, and environmental awareness, as well as peace building and conflict management, and community development with both national and international NGOs.

He has focused on the development of strategies to protect biodiversity and natural resources, with a specific emphasis on climate change resilience.

Additionally, He is an advocate for women's empowerment, sustainable farming, and youth empowerment, among other causes. Dr. Kinoti is an excellent communicator who has led multiple programs resulting in the development of capacity for thousands of women and youth. He is also a qualified expert on veterinary medicine and biodiversity conservation in remote areas.

Currently, he serves as the Regional Director at Brooke East Africa, an animal welfare NGO based in Kenya



Dr. Janet Rumfelt -
Regis University

Dr. Janet Rumfelt is a Professor of Religion and Associate Dean at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. In her teaching and research, she draws on religion and philosophy to deepen people's awareness of their integral connection with the natural environment and nonhuman animals and cultivate the "regenerative virtues" that encourage harmonious existence with the natural world. She is committed to nonprofit work and serves as the President of ANAW-USA and the founder of Running Wild, a foot race to support imperiled African wildlife. She is editing a volume on religion and endangered species entitled Religion and the Wild Things: Preserving Biodiversity in the Anthropocene and completing a co-written paper on "regenerative virtues."

S P E A K E R



Dr, M.D. Kinoti -
Regis University

Dr, M.D. Kinoti is a Professor of Leadership and management and Program Director of the Masters in Non-profit Management at Regis University, Denver - Colorado.

Kinoti holds several advanced degrees, including a Ph.D. in Intercultural Studies, an MA in Social Innovation and Development, and a Bachelor's in Sociology. He has over 25 years of professional experience in community and leadership development. Before coming to Regis, he worked with several International NGOs, including World Vision International in rural and urban community development in East Africa; with the United Methodist Church in youth and community development in Los Angeles; and with Lifewater International in Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) programs. He is a current Board member of several NGOs, including St. Anthony's Health Foundation and Lifewater International. Dr. Kinoti is a Rotarian and has been part of the Rotary International Cadre of Technical Experts for several years. See further details at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mdkinoti/>.

B I O



Esther Afolaranmi

Esther Afolaranmi is a law graduate, a humanitarian, an avid researcher and writer. She is also the founder of Golden Love and Hands of Hope Foundation, a registered NGO in Nigeria targeted at meeting the needs of the vulnerable and underprivileged section of the society.

She also assumes the role of Co-Executive Director at the Fairstart Movement.

Esther is passionate about social changes in Africa and the world at large. She enjoys being the voice of the voiceless.



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