OIE International framework for outcome-based measures used to assess animal welfare

"ICAR-IDF WEBINAR ON FRAMEWORKS FOR ANIMAL WELFARE ASSESSMENT AND MEETING STAKEHOLDER NEEDS"

24 February 2021
An international technical and science-based Organisation

- **1924**: Creation of the Office International des Épizooties (OIE)
- **1945**: Creation of the United Nations
- **2003**: New preferred name: World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

**1** Headquarters in Paris (France)

**5** Regional Representations

**8** Sub-regional Representations
Animal welfare has been identified as a strategic priority for the OIE since 2001, under the mandate granted by all Members.

Resolution n°XIV from the 70th OIE GS, 26 - 31 /05/2002
OIE GLOBAL ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY

VISION

A world where the welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced, in ways that complement the pursuit of animal health, human well-being, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability.

https://www.oie.int/fr/bien-être-animal/le-bien-être-animal-dun-coup-doeil/
https://www.oie.int/es/bienestar-animal/el-bienestar-animal-de-un-vistazo/
OIE GLOBAL ANIMAL WELFARE STRATEGY STRATEGIC PILLARS

1. DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS
2. CAPACITY BUILDING AND EDUCATION
3. IMPLEMENTATION OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS AND POLICIES
4. COMMUNICATION WITH GOVERNMENTS, ORGANISATIONS AND THE PUBLIC
CHALLENGES FOR OIE

• The complexity of AW implementation, which includes important scientific, ethical, cultural, religious, economic and political dimensions.

• Need to address AW Standards on a global basis.
OIE STANDARD - SEETING PROCESS

DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS
Terrestrial Animal Health Code: Section 7
(http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/)

- Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare (2003)
- Slaughter of animals for human consumption (2005/2020*)
- Killing of animals for disease control purposes (2005/2020*)
- Control of stray dog populations (2009)
- Use of animals in research and education (2010)
- Welfare of Working Equids (2016)
EVOLUTION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OIE AW STANDARDS

INPUT
- Resources available (Resource-based measures)
- Management practices (Management-based measures)

Animal factors

OUTCOME
- Described/specified in terms of the animals’ state (Animal-based measures)
  - Indicate the animal’s welfare (welfare indicator)

Hazards and Risk factors

Consequences
Article 7.1.4

- Use of animal-based measures
- Define whenever possible explicit target and threshold.
- Management and design-based measures (Inputs) may be used when welfare outcome is clearly linked to a welfare outcome.
CHAPTER 7.11. ANIMAL WELFARE AND DAIRY CATTLE PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

7 articles

• Definition,
• Scope,
• Commercial dairy cattle production systems,
• Criteria (or measurables) for the welfare of dairy cattle,
• Recommendations
• Recommendations on system design and management including physical environment and,
• Recommendations on animal management practice.
1. Behaviour
2. Morbidity rates
3. Mortality and culling rates
4. Changes in body weight, body condition and milk yield
5. Reproductive efficiency
6. Physical appearance
7. Handling response
8. Complications from common procedures

Could indicate animal welfare problems

Low conception rates, high abortion rates, metritis...Indicators of animal health and welfare status
1. Biosecurity and animal health
2. Nutrition
3. Social environment
4. Space allowance
5. Protection from predators
6. Genetic selection
7. Artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis and embryo transfer
8. Dam and sire selection and calving management
9. Newborn calves
10. Cow-calf separation and weaning
11. Rearing of replacement stock
12. Milking management
13. Painful husbandry procedures
14. Inspection and handling
15. Personnel training
16. Disaster management
17. Humane killing

Outcome-based measurables: handling responses; morbidity rate; mortality rate; behaviour; reproductive efficiency; changes in weight and body condition; changes in milk yield.

All people responsible for dairy cattle should be competent in accordance with their responsibilities and should understand cattle husbandry, animal handling, milking routines, reproductive management techniques, behaviour, biosecurity, signs of disease, and indicators of poor animal welfare such as stress, pain and discomfort, and their alleviation. Competence may be gained through formal training or practical experience.
• **equivalent outcomes based on performance criteria**, rather than **identical systems based on design** criteria, be the basis for comparison of animal welfare standards and recommendations,

• whenever possible, define explicit targets or thresholds that should be met for animal-based measures,

• resource-based measures and management-based measures may be used and should be defined on the basis of science and expert experience.

• outcomes can be measured using data from establishments, transport or slaughterhouses/abattoirs. Competent Authorities should collect all data relevant for the users to set target and threshold values, and

• if outcomes are unsatisfactory, it should be considered what changes to resources or management are necessary to improve outcomes.
COLLABORATION BETWEEN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PARTNERS

Technical Specification ISO TS 34700, Animal welfare management - General requirements and guidance for organizations in the food supply chain.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS AND POLICIES

IDF Guide to good animal welfare in Dairy production 2.0,

SSAFE Animal welfare Symposium

Organization Mondiale de la Santé Animale

World Organisation for Animal Health
Third OIE AW Global Forum
“Animal welfare and the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals”.

26, 28 April and 4 May 2021
(virtual meeting)
Thank you for your attention.

Gracias por su atención

Merci beaucoup pour votre attention.