



Title:

WORKING ANIMALS: CLIMATE CHANGE and PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES in achieving the SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Suggested date and time:

- Tuesday 7th of July 2020
- Time 12:00 to 13:30pm (EDT - New York time)

Partners:

- Mission of the Republic of Senegal to the United Nations
- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
- The Donkey Sanctuary/World Horse Welfare

Speakers:

- **H.E. Ambassador Abdoulaye Barro, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Mission of the Republic of Senegal to the UN**
- **Daniela Battaglia, Animal Production Officer, Animal Production and Health Division, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)**
- **Dr. Rebecca Doyle, Senior Lecturer at Animal Welfare Science Centre University of Melbourne**
- **Ian Cawsey, Director of Policy, Advocacy and Campaigns, The Donkey Sanctuary**
- **Chair: Roly Owers, CEO, World Horse Welfare**

Respondents:

- **Bonnie Wyper, President & Founder, Thinking Animals United**
- **Dr Aileen Pypers, Director and consulting veterinarian, Pets at Play Inc.**

Purpose:

Presenting the contribution of working animals towards tackling Climate Change-related crises and preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases.

Context:

Background - Environmental-related crises have grown quickly and prominently over the past few years. Air and water pollution, biodiversity loss, deforestation, accelerated sea level rise and harsh heatwaves are just some of the disastrous effects of climate change. Alongside such issues, we have recently experience a marked increase in the occurrence and dissemination of zoonotic diseases (infectious illnesses transmissible from animals to humans), mainly caused by environmental, demographic and social changes.

The role of Working Animals in sustainable development - Many of the world's most urgent Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be achieved by cost-effective and simple solutions that benefit some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in society... and working animals can help. With climate change and a rapid spread of diseases impacting on the livelihoods of many, working animals can play a critical role in countries affected the most. They provide a significant contribution towards the delivery of development targets such as ensuring access to education, mitigating the effects of climate change and strengthening community resilience, tackling gender inequalities, allowing water safety and quality and facilitating interlinkages between the SDGs.

Impact summary - When considering sustainable transformation at scale and pace, investment in otherwise atypical capacity building measures can empower people at all levels to participate in and effect greater change.

Countries and VNRs: The current reporting frame of reference does not contain any language regarding the contribution of working animals in delivering the targets of the SDGs. Suggested reporting areas that include specific reference to working animals would highlight successes as well as gaps that might be filled in the next period up to the mid-term review of the SDGs:

- Countries benefit from expanded wording to report against when preparing their voluntary national reviews and are able showcase additional progress in implementing the SDGs.
- Countries with healthy working animals benefit from a more sustainable approach to agriculture in terms of energy and cost efficiency and lower ecological disturbance.

Interlinkages between SDGs: Although previously considered as siloed issues and approached as such, there is a growing awareness of global interconnectivity and the positive impact that can be achieved by facilitating shared knowledge, collaborative activity and strengthened policy.

- Working animals represent a prime example of the positive impact affordable and easy interventions have on achieving sustainable development objectives while fostering cumulative beneficial effects between targets of many of the SDGs: no poverty, zero hunger, health, gender equality, water, clean energy, decent work, sustainable communities, climate action, and partnerships.

Communities:

- Communities benefit from healthier animals which prevent the development and dissemination of zoonosis.
- Communities enjoy boosted economic capacity: as a system of transport, working animals are integral to the production process, bringing resources and supporting trade, ensuring that product can reach marketplaces and offering a wider range of opportunity for work-based and social engagement.
- Communities are able to participate in saving schemes; such schemes are particularly important for those who are unable to access more formal bank or insurance programmes, which provide a safety net against unforeseen shock.
- Communities are ensured regular access to essential resources such as water and medical supplies.



- Communities benefit from a significant reduction in gender gaps as, thanks to working animals, women are empowered to gain a degree of independence and financial resilience, improving their social standing and saving time and energy on labour tasks.
- Communities are efficiently supported by healthy working animals in restoring income and productivity after a disaster

Working animals' health and welfare:

Working animals benefit from better welfare derived from higher recognition of the role they play in improving the livelihoods of people.

Format:

Panel of speakers delivering their speeches and presentations followed by Q&A session with audience

Agenda and suggested timings:

Opening remark (5 min)	Chair
Presentation (40 min)	Presentations and speeches
Interactive discussion (30 min)	Q&A with audience
Closing remarks (5 min)	Chair

Platform:

Zoom

Contacts:



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Speakers and respondents Biographies:



Daniela Battaglia

Daniela Battaglia is Animal Production Officer at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Food and Feed Safety Specialist at the United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency. She is the coordinator of the FAO Livestock Technical Network and responsible for the Organization programme of work on animal welfare. She is also a member of the FAO Working Group on Antimicrobial Resistance and Focal Point for the use of antimicrobials in animal production and feeding. Daniela, holds an M.Sc. in Agricultural Science and another in Tropical Animal Health and Production. Before joining the FAO in 2001, Daniela has worked for nine years for the European Commission and has been based in in several countries: Belgium, UK, Peru, Suriname, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Israel and Tunisia.



Dr. Rebecca Doyle

Dr. Rebecca Doyle is a senior lecturer and researcher in animal welfare at the University of Melbourne and a contributing scientist at the International Livestock Research Institute. Rebecca studies animal welfare in diverse contexts, with current projects in Pakistan, Australia and Ethiopia. She also leads the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock's Animal Welfare Action Network, which focuses on how livestock production can impact the SDGs, and how improved animal care and welfare contributes to this.



Ian Cawsey

Ian is the Director of Advocacy & Campaigns at The Donkey Sanctuary and is the Chair of the International Coalition for Working Equids (ICWE) bringing together and sharing expertise with external partners on working donkeys, horses and mules.

He is an experienced international advocate for animals working with stakeholders across the world to articulate how well cared for working animals are crucial in many parts of the world to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in mitigating climate change and in building resilient communities.

Formerly, Ian was the Director of Policy & External Affairs at World Animal Protection and was a UK Member of Parliament between 1997-2010 during which time he served as a Minister in Tony Blair's government as well as chairing the UK Parliament's animal welfare group.



Roly Owers

Roly is a qualified veterinary surgeon and has been Chief Executive of the charity World Horse Welfare since 2008. He graduated from Cambridge University in 1992 and acquired his Masters degree in Nutrition from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1997. His previous veterinary roles included the Blue Cross and Royal Army Veterinary Corps.

Roly plays an active role in much of World Horse Welfare's work supporting the horse-human partnership across four continents, and regularly travels to the charity's programmes in Africa, Asia and Latin America. He leads the charity's work with veterinary universities and NGO networks, the UK government, the EU, OIE, the FAO and the United Nations. He also advises the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) and the British Horseracing Authority on horse welfare. Roly is currently Treasurer of the British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA), Chairman of the UK Equine Disease Coalition, a Director of the British Horse Council and a Board member of the European Horse Network.



Bonnie Wyper

Founder of Thinking Animals United, Bonnie is an entrepreneur with a number of careers. Among them, she has designed in the Paris couture, directed the Rhode Island State Arts Council, managed art galleries in New York and Newport, RI, and developed the Office of Cultural Affairs for Newport, RI. She also worked at the Chiat Day and William Esty Advertising agencies in New York, directed advertising for Art in America Magazine, and was Director of PR & Advertising for Steuban.

In the early '90s she founded and published WhatNext?! Intelligence for Your Future, a monthly newsletter devoted to new technology and how it was changing our lives, and later founded Net.Content, Inc., which developed content for the Internet. Currently, she is Executive Director of Thinking Animals, Inc. (www.thinkinganimalsunited.org) which produces the series, Exploring Animal Minds in Manhattan, and the Rethinking Animals Summits. She is the founder of the Animal Issues Thematic Cluster at the United Nations, a part of the Major Group system. She attended L'Ecole de la Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne, the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), and Hunter College where she received an Advanced Certificate in the Psychology of Animal Behavior & Conservation. She is a member of the Explorer's Club and the Century Association in New York City.



Dr Aileen Pypers

Aileen Pypers is a veterinarian (University of Pretoria) and worked as a state veterinarian before switching to a career in veterinary behaviour medicine. Her behaviour consultancy, Pets at Play, receives referrals from veterinarians and behaviourists throughout South Africa.

Aileen has a PGDip: Higher Education (Stellenbosch University) and is currently pursuing a Masters in International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law (Edinburgh University).

Aileen has served on committees covering animal behaviour, ethics and welfare for the South African Veterinary Association. She currently serves on the Management Committee of the Cart Horse Protection Association and is an Associate of the Credence Institute.

Aileen lives in the Cape Winelands with her husband and a variety of animals, sings in a choir, dances lindy hop and crochets in her spare time.