

# IZS

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WOAH Collaborating Centre  
for animal welfare

Reference Centre  World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE



# WOAH collaborating centre – a twinning possibilities and a case study

Regional Animal Welfare Centre Workshop  
27-28 October 2022, Tuhelj, Croatia

Daniela Morelli



# Why the WOAHA Twinning Programme

*The WOAHA Laboratory Twinning Programme aims to build capacity and expertise in WOAHA Members that meets the need for a global approach to the subject of interest (animal welfare in this case study)*

*Twinning aims to create a more even geographical distribution of expertise and to improve compliance with WOAHA Standards worldwide.*

*The expertise and the capacity provided through the Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres is located mainly in developed countries*

*Capacity and expertise needs **to be extended** to developing and in-transition countries so that they can become self-sufficient*



# Why the WOAH Twinning Programme

The WOAH Laboratory Twinning Programme principal objectives are:

- to improve compliance with WOAH Standards;
- to create more WOAH Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres in geographic areas that are currently under-represented;
- to strengthen global and regional scientific networks;
- to achieve a better balance in the global distribution of high-level laboratory/centre expertise

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## Regional benefits of the Twinning

*In terms of capacity and access to expertise, Twinning should provide regional benefits*

- Possibility to involve staff belonging to laboratories within the Candidate Laboratory's country **or region**
- The benefits from the Twinning project should be **sustainable**, remain long after the project has closed and lead to the maintenance and **further development of expertise in the region**



## Why Animal Welfare?

- In May 2012 the Resolution No 22 was approved by the World Assembly of WOAH delegates reiterating the **mandate of the WOAH in improving animal health and welfare worldwide** whilst recognizing that animal welfare is a complex issue with important scientific, ethical, cultural and economic dimensions
- In May 2017, all WOAH Member Countries adopted the first **Global Animal Welfare Strategy**, focusing on the development of international standards on animal welfare, supporting Member Countries in the implementation of these standards. This will be done by continuing to promote the use of **twinning**



## Why Animal Welfare?

- The **link between animal welfare – animal health – food safety** is part of a sustainable integrated system in supporting veterinary public health
- Farm animal welfare have the potential to **reduce on-farm risks** by improving productivity as well as food safety leading to **economic benefit**
- Chronic stress and reduced animal welfare could make **animals more prone to infectious diseases including zoonoses**



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## Why Animal Welfare?

- The WOAHA encourages identifying “twinning” opportunities in accordance with WOAHA policy and that further applications to be recognized as Collaborating Centres for animal welfare by the WOAHA be assessed.



- The proposal for IZSAM – ENMV twinning has been first presented and discussed with the representatives of the UMA countries (Algeria, Morocco, Lybia, Mauritania) during the **second ERFAN workshop** event, focusing on "Strengthening scientific cooperation between Africa and Italy through the networking of technical capacities" and held in **Tunis** in November 2019.

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## TW Strategic Objective

- *Improve the technical knowledge and skills of ENMV in the field of animal welfare, and support it in the process that will eventually lead to acquire the status of WOAH Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare*
- **Duration:** 36 months
- **Budget:** EUR 75,340
- **Start Date:** 16th June 2020 (due to COVID 19, 16th January 2021)
- **Completion Date:** 15th June 2023 (due to COVID 19, we will ask for 6- 12 months extension)



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## Intended outcome, objectives

- **Technical knowledge and skills** of ENMV staff, DGSV staff and delegates from UMA countries (Algeria, Morocco, Lybia, Mauritania) will be improved
- The improved competence of the staff will strongly support the development of **new/revised animal welfare legislation in Tunisia** and **strategic actions in the UMA Region**
- The staff will be trained on WOA<sup>H</sup> animal welfare standards and they will acquire the capacity to implement them to improve animal welfare at farm level, during transport and slaughter, and within the context of stray dog population control programs.
- **Networking in the UMA Region** will be improved between ENMV and other organizations to provide and develop the appropriated expertise at regional level



## How objectives has been or will be met

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been necessary to carry out remote activities, particularly during the Year 1 of the project
- An introductory online course on general animal welfare principles focusing the OIE Standards was delivered online in November 2021 (Year 1)
- In order to address properly training activities, after the kick-off meeting (February 2022) a SWOT analysis has been implemented.
- As soon as the pandemic allowed it, a **preliminary assessment** was carried out by 2 IZSAM experts in Tunisia (May 2022), were the results of the SWOT were confirmed and assessed on the field
- From the Year 2, a delegation of North African experts has begin travelling to Italy for a **blended learning experience** made of two key-phases based on the WOAHS Standards and also relevant EU legislation concerning:
  - a) animal welfare during transport (October 2022), at slaughter (November 2022) and during the killing of animals for disease control purposes (scheduled for May or June 2023)
  - b) dog population management and stray dog control (Scheduled for October 2023)



# How objectives has been or will be met

- The trained staff, guided, assisted and supported by the IZSAM, will be asked **draft/review the national Animal Welfare Law.**
- A **working group** was created and a first meeting was held in May 2022. New online meetings are scheduled for November-December 2022, including collaboration with a EU funded Twinning on animal health and welfare started on September 2022





## Permanent Training System for AW

- Establish a web-based platform for assessing and monitoring the learning needs
- Prepare training programmes in the areas of animal welfare at farm, slaughter and during transport by land and stray dog population control
- Test and assess the effectiveness of the different training programmes at national and neighbouring countries' level
- Monitor the impact of the proposed capacity building strategy



# Impact assessment

As a final step, IZSAM will assess the impact of this Twinning

**Three workshops/meetings** will be held at ENMV to show the achievements by the Candidate Institute:

- A **workshop** to finalize a proposal for new legislation on AW in Tunisia
- A **North African meeting** to strengthen the network on AW
- A **final meeting** to resume the results

A final assessment report will be produced by the Parent Institute

*Monitoring will be carried out on regular basis, to ensure that the project achieves its objectives in the set period*

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# Work Plan

## Year 1



- Kick-off meeting and Preliminary assessment
- Training need analysis
- Online course on animal welfare principles

## Years 1, 2 & 3



- Draft and review of the animal welfare legislation/
- design of a permanent capacity building system in AW in the UMA Region

## Years 2 & 3



- Training periods at IZSAM on animal welfare during transport, slaughtering, killing in emergencies

## Year 3



- Training periods at ENMV on stray dog population control
- Workshop at ENMV to finalise the proposal for a new AW legislation
- North African Meeting on AW at ENMV
- Final meeting and assessment at ENMV



## Parent Institute staff (Animal Welfare)



**Nicola D'Alterio, DVM  
(Director General):**

**Daniela Morelli, DVM  
(Reference person of the WOAH  
CC for Animal Welfare):**



**Luigi Iannetti, DVM  
(Parent Institute twinning  
coordinator,  
Expert of the WOAH CC  
for Animal Welfare):**

- AW at slaughter
- Links between AW  
and food safety



**Michele Podaliri Vulpiani,  
DVM  
(Head of the Animal  
Welfare Unit):**

- Stray dog population  
control
- AW general principles
- Lab animals welfare



**Francesco Cerasoli,  
DVM  
(Expert of the WOAH CC  
for Animal Welfare):**

- AW during transport



## Parent Institute staff (Training & Project Management)



**Silvia D'Albenzio**  
Reference person of the  
WOAH CC for Veterinary  
Training and Capacity  
Building



**Chiara Albanello**  
Senior Trainer



**Ombretta Pediconi**  
Senior Trainer



**Merinda Piersanti**  
Senior Trainer



**Francesca Pompei**  
Senior Trainer



**Annalisa Falconi**  
Assistant  
of the Pedagogical  
Team



**Daniela Ciavarelli**  
Administrative  
Officer





## Candidate Institute staff involved



Abdelfettah Ettriqui  
Director General  
ENMV



Hajer Kilani  
Deputy Director  
Communication and drafting legislation



Ouajdi Souilem  
Physiology and animal welfare  
Coordinator



## AW at Farm and Transport



Imène Ben Salem  
Zootechnics  
**AW at Farm**



Asma Lazghab  
Regional Inspector  
**AW at Transport**

Kamel Barhoumi  
Physiology and Therapeutics  
**AW at Transport**



## Animal Welfare at Slaughter



Samia Zrelli  
Food Hygiene



Keiriddine Makhoul  
Regional Inspector

## Killing of animals for disease control purposes



Salah Hammami  
Virology and  
microbiology



Wafa Hammouda  
Aniaml Health Director



Héli Haj Ammar  
Deputy Director ADC

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## Stray dog population control

Imen Ouertani  
Contagious diseases



Asma Louati  
Physiology and Therapeutics



Emna Brour  
Sanitary Veterinarian



M. Ali Bennouri  
Sanitary Veterinarian



Rokaya Khorchani  
Regional Inspector

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

