



# 9th Africa Animal Welfare Conference

*Action 2025*

**Venue:**

**Hotel Franco,  
Yaoundé, Cameroon**

**July 28-30  
2025**

## **Programme**

**Theme: Strengthening Actions for Animal Welfare and  
Environment for a Sustainable Future and Resilient Planet**



[www.aawconference.org](http://www.aawconference.org)

# DAY 1

## Monday 28 July

**NOTE: Time is indicated as Cameroon Standard Time (GMT+1)**

### **Conference Moderators:**

Dr. Dennis Bahati  
Wachira Kariuki  
Christian Awantu

#### **OPENING SESSION:**

**9.00-11.00 A.M.**

**Moderator:**

**Tennyson Williams,**  
**Conference Committee Chair**

8.30-09.00 a.m

Arrival and registration of delegates  
(Conference Secretariat)

09.00-09.10 a.m

Preliminaries:

Moderators

09.10-09.40 a.m

#### **Welcome Remarks**

- **Josiah Ojwang**, Executive Director / CEO  
Africa Network for Animal Welfare
- **David Ombisi**, O-i-C, Civil Society Unit  
United Nations Environment Programme

9.40-10.10 a.m.

#### **Goodwill Messages**

- Animal Welfare Institute-**Susan Milward**, CEO
- UNDP Cameroon
- Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad-  
**Linda Edwards**, CEO
- Brooke East Africa-**Dr. Raphael Kinoti**, CEO  
and Regional Director
- World Federation for Animals--**James Yeates**,  
CEO
- GIZ- **Dr Kirstin Grosse**
- Directorate of Veterinary Services, Republic of  
Kenya-**Dr.Maryanne Mwimali**.
- World Organisation for Animal Health-Dr.  
**Karim Tounkara**, Regional Representative for  
Africa
- UN Food and Agriculture Organisation-**Dr Mo-**  
**hammed Shamsuddin**, Senior Animal Health  
and Production Officer

# DAY 1

## Monday 28 July

### OPENING SESSION:

10:00-10:05 am

**Arrival of the Minister of livestock fisheries and animal industries of the Republic of Cameroon (Chairperson of the Official Opening Ceremony) Singing of the National Anthem**

10:10-10:20 am

Welcome remark by the Mayor of the Town of Yaounde

10:10-10:20 am

Theme Exposition, **Dr. Elynn Njeri**, African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources, and **Wachira Kariuki**, Africa Network for Animal Welfare.

10.20-10.30 a.m

Special remarks by Conference Organizing Committee chair, **Tennyson Williams**, Director for Africa, World Animal Protection

10.30-10.40 am

Second African Climate Summit: Message from the Government of Ethiopia -**Dr. Zerubabel Tefera**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia

10.30 -11.00 am

**Keynote Address and Official Opening:**  
**Hon. Dr. Taiga**, Minister of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries Republic of Cameroon.

11.00 -11.30 am

**Group Photo**  
**Tea/Coffee Break**

# DAY 1

## Monday 28 July

### SESSION 1: Climate Change and Animal Welfare

11.30-1.00 PM

**Session Moderator: Dan Oduor, STAWISHA Africa.**

11.30-11.45 am

**Presentation 1:** Nexus of Climate Change and Animal Welfare **Dr Kiming Ignatius Ngala**, University of Bamenda

11.45-12.00 pm

**Presentation 2:** The Impact of Climate Change and Natural Disasters on Animals During Transport in Africa: A Case for Emergency Animal Welfare, **Abdul-Rahman Safian**, West African Centre for the Protection of Animal Welfare (WACPAW), Ghana

12.00 -12.15 pm

**Presentation 3:** Just Transition to Equitable, Humane and Sustainable Systems **Dr Beryl Okumu**, World Animal Protection

12.15-12.30 pm

**Presentation 4:** The role of donkeys in supporting community resilience to drought in Kenya and Ethiopia, **Dr. David Obiero Oduori**, Maasai Mara University

12.30-01.00 pm

**Q and A**

1.00-2.00 pm

**Lunch**

# DAY 1

## Monday 28 July

### SESSION 2: Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems

2.00-3.30 P.M.

Session Moderator: **Samuel Theuri**,  
**Brooke East Africa.**

2.00-2.15 pm

**Presentation 1:** Echoes of the Ancestors: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge for Africa's Sustainable Future, **Tozie Zokufa**, CAAWO, South Africa

2.15-2.30 pm

**Presentation 2:** Presentation 2: The ordeal of donkeys in Cameroon: A Zoom into the northern regions, **Christian Awantu**, International Organization for Animal Protection (OIPA) Cameroon

2.30 -2.45 pm

**Presentation 3:** Progress of cage free chicken farming campaigns in Africa, **Aurelia Adhiambo**, Africa Lead, Open Wing Alliance

2.45 - 3.00 pm

**Presentation 4:** Innovating for impact: New frontiers in advancing farmed fish welfare in Africa, **Wasseem Emam**, Ethical Seafood Research, UK

3.00 - 3.15 pm

Sustainable culling of farm animals, **Douglas Wolhuter**, NSPCA, South Africa.

3.15-3.30 pm

**Q and A**

3.30-4.00 pm

**Tea/Coffee Break**

# DAY 1

## Monday 28 July

### **SESSION 3: Beyond Instinct: Rethinking Animal Sentience Across Species**

**4.00-5.00 PM**

#### **Panel Discussion**

**Session Moderator/Panel Chair: Josphat Ngonyo**

4.00-5.00 pm

#### **Panelists:**

1. **Susan Milward** – AWI - USA
2. **Patita Mkamunu** – Community Representative
3. **Philip Lymbery** – Compassion In World Farming
4. **Raphael Kinoti** - CEO Brooke EA
5. **Zerubabel Tefera**; DG Min of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia

**END OF DAY ONE**

# DAY 2

## Tuesday 29 July

### SESSION 4:

#### United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

09.00 AM-1.00 P.M.

Session Moderator: **Isaiah Otieno**

9.00-9.45 a.m.

Preparations towards UNEA-7 and the Role of Major Groups and Stakeholders **David Ombisi**, UNEP.

9.45-10.30 am

Opportunities for Major groups to Engage at UNEP and UNEA, **Isaiah Otieno**, UNEP

10.30-11.00 a.m.

UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Accreditation Process, **Edwike Nyauncho** and Peter **Kirongothi**, UNEP

11.00-11.30 am

**Tea/Coffee Break**

11.30-1.00 p.m.

Outcomes of the Regional Consultative Meeting of Africa and further preparation of African Major Groups towards UNEA-7 – **David Munene**, Regional Facilitator, UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders

**Q and A**

1.00-2.00 pm

**Lunch**

### SESSION 5A:

#### UNEP meeting with Civil society

2.00-3.30 P.M

Session Moderator: **Isaiah Otieno**

# DAY 2

## Tuesday 29 July

### SESSION 5B

### Community-Based Conservation and Innovations

2.00-3.30 P.M.

Session Moderator: Mr Linus Ngha Beng Kwokom,  
Community Youth Arts Center

2.00-2.15 pm

**Presentation 1:** Human Animal Co-existence: Case Study of Kasigau Ranch in Kenya, **Agnes Haloni, Isaac Maina and Dr Dennis Bahati**, Africa Network for Animal Welfare.

2.15-2.30 pm

**Presentation 2:** The Socioeconomic Importance of Working Animals in Central Ethiopia

**Dr Hanna Zewdu**, Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad

2.30-2.45 pm

**Presentation 3:** The use of animals in Research, Testing and Education: A Case study of the use of animals in Research, Testing and Education in Africa, **Craig Redmond**, LUSH Prize Organisation.

2.45-3.00 pm

**Presentation 4:** Population estimate and migratory route of Mt. Cameroon elephants, **Anya Dabite**, University of Buea

3.00-3.15 pm

**Presentation 5:** Integrating Animal Welfare into Agricultural and Veterinary Education: A Rural Development Imperative for Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute, **Dr. Nandipha Toyota Ndudane**

3.15-3.30 pm

**Presentation 6:** Assessing the impact of animal welfare clubs on club members and local communities in Kenya, **Eunice Robai and Dr. Brenda Oliwa-Okumu** Africa Network for Animal Welfare

3.30-4.00 pm

**Q and A**  
**Tea/Coffee Break**



# DAY 2

## Tuesday 29 July

### SESSION 6:

#### Legislative and Policy Frameworks

4.30-5.30 PM

**Rose Mary Semnyong Épse Nyuyki:**  
Chief of Service, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries Animals Industries.

4.30-4.45 pm

**Presentation 1:** Plastics Pollution and Animal Welfare in Zimbabwe, **Linda Masudze, LL.M.**, Center for Animal Law Studies.

4.45-5.00 pm

**Presentation 2:** Consumptive utilization and lack of adequate legislation: A case of Tigers in South Africa, **Dr Bryce Marock**, NSPCA, South Africa

5:00-5:15 pm

**Presentation 4:** Examining policy and decision-making frameworks for protection of working animals during disasters in low and middle-income countries. **Franklin Ogwankwa** and **Gemma Carder**, Brooke Action for Working Horses and Donkeys

5.15-5.30 pm

**Q and A**

8:00 -10:00 pm

**Welcome Dinner at The Hilton Hotel, Yaounde, Cameroon**

**END OF DAY TWO**

# DAY 3

## Wednesday 30 July

### SESSION 7: African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

**08.30-10.30 A.M.**

**Session Moderator : Dr Huyam Salih – Director, AU-IBAR**

08.30-08.45 a.m Status of Animal Welfare in Africa; **Dr. Elynn Njeri**, AU-IBAR

8:45 -09:00 am Advancing Animal Welfare in Africa: Pathways to Sustainable and Inclusive Livestock Transformation, **Prof Cheikh Ly**

09:15 -09:30 am The Regional Strategy **Dr Hassane Adakal**  
ECOWAS

09 :30 – 09 :45 am The Regional Strategy **Dr. Dereje Wajkira**  
IGAD/ICPALD

09 :45 –10 :00 am The Pan African strategy for the preservation, welfare and sustainable utilization of donkeys  
**Dr. Camille Laure Nguekeng**, AU-IBAR

10 :00– 10 :30 am Country Presentation on AW: Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Egypt, Tunisia, Cameroon and Zambia

10:30-11.00am **Plenary session**

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

# DAY 3

## Wednesday 30 July

### SESSION 8:

**African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH**

**11.00 A.M.-01.00 P.M.**

11.00-11.30  
a.m.

The African Union Digital One Health Platform; Game Changer **Dr. Mary Mbole-Kariuki**, AU-IBAR

11.30 a.m.-12.00  
p.m.

One Health Analytics Showcasing concrete use cases in Africa

**Mr Mamadou Djigo**, Session Lead: One Health Analytics Program/ GIZ

### SESSION 9:

**African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)**

**12.00 -1.00 PM.**

#### **Panel Discussion**

**Session Moderator/Panel Chair: Dr Mary Mbole-Kariuki**

#### **Topic:**

A Digital One Health promoting One Welfare in Africa

#### **Panellists:**

1. Prof.James Wabacha(AU-IBAR)
2. Dr Kirstin Grosse (GIZ)
3. Mr Hamza Zbidi (Private Sector)
4. Dr Mathew Muturi (ZDU-Kenya)
5. Dr Julius Chulu (Ministry of Agriculture, Malawi)
6. Elisabeth Dibongue (Cameroon)
7. Dr Afework Kasa (IGAD)
8. Dr.Maryanne Mwimali-Directorate of Veterinary Services- Kenya

# DAY 3

## Wednesday 30 July

### SESSION 10:

#### Conclusion and Way Forward

2.00-4.00 PM

**Session Moderator : Dr Huyam Salih – Director, AU-IBAR**

2.00-2.20 pm

Conference Resolutions: **Dr Dennis Bahati** and **Wachira Kariuki**

2.20-2.30 pm

Vote of Thanks-**Prof. James Nkansah Obrempong**

2.30-3.00 pm

Official Closing Ceremony: Government of Cameroon

3.00-4.00 pm

**Tea/Coffee**

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

**TITLE:** **Innovating for impact: New frontiers in advancing farmed fish welfare in Africa**

**Wasseem Emam,**  
Ethical Seafood Research

**Abstract:**

Fish welfare is gaining traction across Africa as aquaculture expands to meet growing demand for affordable protein. Building on our previous contributions, this year's presentation will explore innovative approaches we are testing to make fish welfare improvements more practical, scalable and relevant to African contexts. From digital tools for farmers to low-cost welfare assessments and participatory training methods, we are working to embed welfare thinking in everyday farm practices — without creating extra burdens for producers. The talk will highlight real-world examples, share early lessons from the field and open a conversation on what “progress” in fish welfare could look like for Africa's diverse aquaculture systems.

**TITLE:**

**Accreditation**

**Peter Kirongothi**  
UNEP

**Abstract:**

This presentation offers a comprehensive overview of the UNEP civil society/NGO accreditation process, designed to empower organizations to meaningfully engage with global environmental governance. It outlines the value of UNEP accreditation, including the ability to participate in agenda-setting and policy-making processes at meetings such as the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR). The presentation details the step-by-step procedure for applying for accreditation via the UNEP online portal, the required documentation, and important deadlines. It also highlights key engagement opportunities for accredited organizations, such as stakeholder consultations, regional preparatory meetings, and participation in side-events at UNEA.

In addition, the presentation addresses best practices for effective stakeholder engagement, guidelines on communication with UNEP, and the appropriate use of the UN and UNEP name and logo. The session aims to demystify the accreditation process and strengthen civil society's role in shaping environmental policy and multilateral processes.

**TITLE:****Echoes of the Ancestors: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge for Africa's Sustainable Future**

**Tozie Zokufa**  
CAAWO, South Africa

**Abstract:**

Africa's landscapes hold millennia of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (IEK), a vital resource often sidelined in conventional approaches to environmental and animal welfare challenges. This abstract challenges that oversight, proposing a transformative fusion of ancestral wisdom and contemporary science to build a resilient future for the continent.

This session moves beyond mere acknowledgement to showcase the practical, scalable applications of IEK. We will explore concrete examples: how traditional pastoralist grazing strategies inform climate-resilient agriculture, how sophisticated tracking skills enhance modern conservation and anti-poaching efforts, and how ethnoveterinary knowledge offers novel solutions for animal health management.

Through compelling case studies, we demonstrate indigenous communities successfully leading ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, and animal well-being initiatives. We will analyse the tangible socio-economic benefits of empowering these communities and fostering genuine partnerships between their deep ecological understanding and 21st-century tools.

This is not nostalgia but a pragmatic strategy. We will discuss frameworks for equitable knowledge co-creation that respect cultural integrity and amplify Indigenous voices. We argue that integrating IEK, honed by generations, is essential—not just relevant—for navigating climate change, biodiversity loss, and the ethical stewardship of animal populations. Join us to dismantle disciplinary silos and actively weave ancestral wisdom into the fabric of Africa's sustainable development.

## The Impact of Climate Change and Natural Disasters on Animals During Transport in Africa: A Case for Emergency Animal Welfare

**Abdul-Rahman Safian**  
(WACPAW), Ghana

### **Abstract:**

Climate change and natural disasters have significantly disrupted animal transport systems in Africa, exposing livestock, wildlife, and companion animals to unprecedented risks. Rising temperatures and extreme weather events, such as droughts and flash floods, have weakened transport infrastructure, delayed movement, and increased mortality rates during transit (Kaiser & Barstow, 2022). Heat stress, dehydration, and injuries from overcrowding or prolonged journeys remain major concerns, particularly in regions where transport networks are underdeveloped (Turner & Schlecht, 2019). Inadequate enforcement of welfare policies further exacerbates these issues (Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO], 2023). Despite the severity of these challenges, African nations have yet to implement comprehensive strategies that integrate climate adaptation into animal transport policies. Many transport systems lack cooling measures, emergency veterinary services, and contingency plans for extreme weather events (Turner & Schlecht, 2019). Additionally, the absence of real-time monitoring technologies for temperature and humidity inside transport vehicles further endangers animals in transit (Johnson, 2018). A more proactive approach is required to ensure the welfare of transported animals, particularly in climate-sensitive regions. Strengthening regulatory frameworks, investing in climate-resilient transport infrastructure, and enhancing veterinary oversight during transit are essential steps toward mitigating risks (Grossi et al., 2019). It is suggested that measures such as improved vehicle designs, scheduled rest stops, and mandatory hydration protocols can significantly reduce mortality rates and transport stress (Bhatt et al., 2021). However, lack of funding, awareness, and policy enforcement continues to hinder the adoption of these measures in many African countries (Grossi et al., 2019). This study seeks to assess the current state of animal transport in the face of climate change and natural disasters, identify critical gaps in policy and practice, and recommend practical interventions tailored to Africa's unique challenges. Through an analysis of transport regulations, case studies from high-risk regions, and stakeholder consultations, the study findings will provide evidence-based solutions to improve transport conditions and emergency preparedness in the Africa's evolving climate landscape.

## TITLE:

## Aperçu du Bien-être animal en Mauritanie : cas des ânes

**Dia Mamadou Lamine**

Consultant international indépendant.

BP 3447 Nouakchott, Mauritanie

Email : mldsb@hotmail.com

**Résumé**

Selon l'OMSA, le bien-être animal est un sujet complexe aux facettes multiples. Ces cinq piliers sont notamment l'absence de faim et de soif, l'absence de peur et de détresse, l'absence de stress physique ou thermique, l'absence de douleur, de lésions et de maladie, la liberté d'expression d'un comportement normal de son espèce grâce à un environnement adapté. Dans le contexte des ânes en Mauritanie, nous parlerons de bientraitance qui se limite souvent aux soins de base (soins vétérinaires, nourriture, eau, abri), sans garantir le bien-être émotionnel ou comportemental.

En Mauritanie, selon les résultats officiels du Recensement général de l'élevage, l'effectif des ânes est de 562 996 têtes. Depuis quelques années, des troupeaux entiers d'âne sont devenus sauvages ; Ces ânes jouent un rôle très important en Mauritanie : ils sont indispensables pour l'approvisionnement d'eau pour pallier le manque d'infrastructures hydrauliques, transport de marchandises et des personnes ainsi que le ramassage d'ordures. Leur rôle dans l'agriculture (labour, transport des récoltes) fait d'eux des acteurs clés des économies rurales. Hélas, ils vivent dans des conditions extrêmes : manque de nourriture et de soins vétérinaires et surmenage. Toujours surchargés, blessés ou malades, ils subissent des coups de gros bâtons et de mauvais traitements de la part des charretiers. Beaucoup sont abandonnés lorsqu'ils deviennent inutiles. Mourant de faim et errant, ils sont victimes d'accidents mortels par des voitures.

Pour pallier à cette situation, des ONGs interviennent dans la bientraitance des ces ânes. La SPANA offre des



## TITLE:

soins vétérinaires gratuits. Elle est présente à Nouakchott avec des antennes à l'intérieur du pays et possède des cliniques mobiles et des locaux pour refuge. Son travail reconnu lui a valu la médaille de la Légion d'honneur du président de la République puis, en 2021, la dénomination de la Rue SPANA-Road à El Mina. Sauver l'animal est une association ancrée dans la lutte contre la souffrance des animaux en Mauritanie. Ces cibles sont l'âne mal traité ayant des plaies non soignées, des chiens et des chats errants vecteurs de la rage citadine et rurale. La Société Nationale pour la Défense des Animaux est une association qui grâce à une clinique mobile effectuée par un vétérinaire, se rend sur le terrain une à deux fois par semaine suivant les moyens octroyés pour visiter des charretiers et des ânes abandonnés pour leur apporter des soins appropriés. L'association autrichienne Respektiere intervient très activement à travers un vétérinaire pris en charge pour parcourir la capitale pour offrir des soins vétérinaires gratuit itinérants.

Mots clés : Mauritanie, ânes, maltraitance, soins vétérinaires

### Plastics Pollution and Animal Welfare in Zimbabwe

**LINDA MASUDZE**

Center for Animal Law Studies.

Due to its status as landlocked country, Zimbabwe's terrestrial animals face threats such as alteration of micro environments, habitat destruction, fragmented food chains, death by ingestion of plastic among other issues. In the limited water bodies found in Zimbabwe such as wetlands, rivers, lakes and dams, the marine population is likewise being affected by the ingestion of plastics and plastic pollution waste dumped in the water bodies. Plastic debris can block or pierce digestive tracts of animals or cause strangulation leading to their deaths. Humans are at risk of food chain contamination through ingestion of meat from animals who have ingested microplastics, placing them at risk of developing diseases like cancer. The One Health Concept recognizes the interconnectedness of human, animal and environmental health, yet there is currently no focus in Zimbabwe on the impact of plastics pollution on animals. Linda will be implementing a project to bring awareness to Zimbabwean communities on the effects of plastic pollution on animals. The project will also result in the publication of a policy brief that will be presented to policy makers and legislators.

**TITLE:****Conservation and Community Coexistence in Kasigau Ranch, Kenya – The Role of ANAW****Isaac Maina and Agnes Haloni**

Africa Network for Animal Welfare

**Abstract:**

Kasigau Ranch, a 52,000-acre community-owned conservancy in Southeastern Kenya, sits strategically between Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks and adjacent to other ranches. As a vital wildlife corridor within the Tsavo Conservation Area, it enables the migration and genetic exchange of key species, including elephants, giraffes, lions, and numerous herbivores. The ranch is also home to local communities whose livelihoods depend on livestock rearing and limited agricultural practices.

This landscape is rich in biodiversity but faces mounting conservation challenges. Human-wildlife conflict is a persistent issue, particularly during prolonged droughts when elephants seek water in human settlements, leading to crop destruction, property damage, and dangerous encounters. Poaching and the illegal bushmeat trade continue to threaten wildlife, especially smaller species such as dik-diks and bush pigs, often caught in snares. Environmental degradation through charcoal burning, illegal mining, wildfires, and land encroachment further stresses both the ecosystem and local communities.

To address these interconnected threats, the Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) has been actively engaged in Kasigau through a multifaceted community-based conservation approach. Key interventions include the removal of wildlife snares through regular desnaring patrols, support for community wildlife scouts, and provision of field equipment such as camping gear to enhance patrolling efficiency. ANAW also champions alternative livelihoods by supporting women's basket weaving by marketing their baskets, providing income sources that reduce reliance on bushmeat hunting.

These efforts have contributed to measurable progress,

including a reduction in bushmeat poaching and improved documentation of human–wildlife conflict incidents, enabling more targeted mitigation strategies. Local ownership of conservation has also grown, with communities increasingly engaged in protecting their natural resources.

While notable gains have been made, the long-term success of conservation in Kasigau Ranch depends on sustained support and collaboration. Going forward, there is a need to expand livelihood alternatives, particularly for youth, to invest in water access projects to reduce competition between wildlife and communities, fencing and other deterrent measures to curb wildlife from community farm lands. Enhanced training for scouts, integration of technology such as camera traps and GPS mapping, and stronger partnerships with government agencies and donors will be essential.

To ensure the continuity and scaling of this initiative, ANAW seeks increased financial and technical support from conservation partners, policymakers, and international stakeholders. Funding is required for ranger operations, community sensitization programs, infrastructure development (including water pans and watchtowers), and capacity building for women and youth groups. Only through such comprehensive and inclusive investment can Kasigau Ranch continue to thrive as both a haven for wildlife and a resilient home for its communities.

## Integrating Animal Welfare into Agricultural and Veterinary Education: A Rural Development Imperative for Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute

**Dr. Ndudane, N.T**

Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute, A1 Thurston Street, College Drive, Tsolo, 5170

### **Abstract:**

Animal welfare is increasingly recognized as a foundational component of sustainable livestock production, public health, food security, and ethical agricultural practice. For institutions like the Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute (TARDI) — a critical training ground for animal health technicians and extension officers who serve predominantly rural and smallholder farming communities — the integration of animal welfare into the education curriculum is both urgent and transformative.

This paper explores the imperative for embedding animal welfare principles in agricultural and veterinary training at TARDI. It underscores how such integration enhances graduate competence in supporting smallholder farmers, aligns with national and international standards such as the OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) guidelines, and contributes to broader societal goals, including improved rural livelihoods, responsible animal stewardship, and a resilient agricultural sector.

Special attention is given to stakeholder engagement, highlighting the need for collaboration with key institutions such as the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC), the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA), the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA), the South African Association for Animal Health Technicians (SAAAHT), the Universities' Ethics Committees, the national Department of Agriculture (DoA), and leading non-governmental organizations including the Humane World for Animals, the Animal Anti-Cruelty League (AACL), Four Paws South Africa, and the Humane Education Trust. These entities offer technical expertise, policy alignment, and educational resources essential for shaping ethical, humane, and

locally responsive training content.

The paper proposes a curriculum integration model that includes theoretical and practical components on animal behavior, humane handling, ethical decision-making, and legal compliance. It also outlines steps to build educator capacity and to align work-integrated learning placements with institutions that uphold high animal welfare standards. By incorporating animal welfare education, TARDI strengthens its mandate of producing competent, compassionate, and ethically grounded graduates who are well-prepared to serve in both the public and private sectors, contributing meaningfully to rural development and responsible animal care across South Africa.

**TITLE:****Consumptive utilization and lack of adequate legislation: A case of Tigers in South Africa- Douglas**

**Douglas Wolhuter**  
NSPCA, South Africa

**Abstract:**

This presentation examines the challenges of consumptive utilization and legislative gaps concerning tiger conservation in South Africa. Currently, South African legislation predominantly protects indigenous species, with limited provisions for exotic animals. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) applies only to species crossing international borders, while the Animals Protection Act 71 of 1962 offers comprehensive coverage for both indigenous and exotic species within South Africa. This raises critical questions about whether existing laws sufficiently safeguard CITES Appendix I species, such as tigers and derivatives. We explore the adequacy of these legal frameworks and highlight the implications of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004, which explicitly excludes non-indigenous animals, potentially compromising their welfare. Our analysis underscores the need for legislative reassessment to ensure effective protection for these vulnerable species.

**TITLE:****Replacing the use of animals in scientific research, testing and education across Africa****Craig Redmond,****Lush Prize, Manchester, United Kingdom****Abstract:**

Research by the Lush Prize has found that across the continent of Africa little information is available on the use of animals in research, testing and education: no country appears to collate official data on the number of animals used, and none has implemented legislation specifically relating to animal use in scientific research.

There also appears to be few ethical reviews, guidelines or animal care committees overseeing animal use.

Much animal research takes place at universities, with key areas being related to animal farming and associated diseases, and plant extracts for medicinal use, despite the unreliability of animal-based research.

Animal protection organisations exist in virtually every African country, and while none work solely on the topic of animal research, there is a network of outreach and training programmes, some within schools and universities, that could be adapted to include the issue of replacement of animal research and experiments. A few small organisations are already doing this in Tanzania, Ghana and Zimbabwe, as well as past initiatives in Kenya and the annual Africa Animal Welfare Conference.

In several countries there is some use of alternative approaches, such as in-silico (computer-based) and in-vitro methods, but these are often used as preliminary work to animal studies, rather than to fully replace them. These non-animal New Approach Methodologies should be promoted as superior to, and a complete replacement of, animal research.

As a continent of 54 independent states with differing languages and cultures, and extremely varied access to resources such as reliable internet provision or access to replacement models for students, a different approach is required for each country, honouring sovereignty and ensuring approaches are culturally relevant. We should see these as exciting opportunities to improve both scientific research and animal protection.



**TITLE:****Sustainable culling of farm animals**

**Dr Bryce Marock**  
NSPCA, South Africa.

**Abstract:**

South African producers like those in most countries in the world have not developed systems to adequately euthanize large numbers of animals for emergency purposes, at least not methods that could be considered humane. In the case of poultry, due to the size of the farming operations, animals are essentially left to die with only attempts to quicken the process by removing management components like ventilation, causing heat stroke.

There are methods to carry out mass euthanasia on these farms that house hundreds of thousands of birds, but they cannot be employed within a day or even a week. The necessary machinery and gases need to be arranged beforehand, after the best method is selected for the specific farm. The logistics for the culling method need to be arranged with several stakeholders, so that in the event of an outbreak, the tools required can be assembled or delivered within a day, maximum two. Trying to source equipment to carry out whole house gassing, whole house foaming or even manual culling has proven to be disastrous when unprepared. This issue has been highlighted in the United States, China and many other countries of the world.

There has been some success in South Africa, though we continue to investigate ventilation shutdown, the use of pesticides and a host of other cruel methods as we alerted to them being secretly used.  
systems.

**TITLE:****Population estimates and migratory route of mt Cameroon elephant****Anya Dabite**

University of Buea

**Abstract:**

Mount Cameroon, the towering sentinel of West and Central Africa, harbors one of the continent's richest biodiversity hotspots. Yet, the forest elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) and s that roam its slopes remain elusive shadows, their populations and movements shrouded in uncertainty. The study seeks to (1) estimate the population sizes of forest elephants and s through individual identification; (2) determine their movement, ranging, and distribution patterns across the park; and (3) assess the influence of abiotic, biotic, and anthropogenic factors on their population dynamics and spatial behavior.

This study pioneers a non-invasive approach to unravel their mysteries, employing capture-recapture modeling of camera trap data collected across multiple seasons and sites within Mount Cameroon National Park. By individually identifying animals through unique markings and applying spatially explicit capture-recapture (SECR) models, the research estimates population sizes and maps movement patterns with unprecedented precision. Initial SECR modeling, calibrated with carefully selected starting parameters (detection probability ( $g_0$ ) at 0.5, movement scale ( $\sigma$ ) at 50,000 meters, and density ( $D$ ) at 0.03) yielded promising density estimates of approximately 2.1 animals per  $\text{km}^2$ , higher than anticipated.

This study integrated environmental and anthropogenic covariates to better understand factors influencing detection probability ( $g_0$ ) of forest elephants on Mount Cameroon. Detection probability was highest in mixed primary forest habitats ( $\beta = +7.68$ ) and areas with taller trees ( $\beta = +51.62$ ), while it decreased with elevation ( $\beta = -0.95$ ), grassland and medium forest habitats ( $\beta = -0.44$  and  $-0.52$ ), and increased animal density ( $\beta = -4.82$ ). Population density ( $D$ ) showed a positive relationship with elevation ( $\beta = +0.005$ ). These findings highlight the importance of habitat structure and topography in shaping species detectability and distribution. Incorporating these covariates improved model precision and provides critical insight for targeted conservation efforts.



**TITLE:**

**Animal Sentience – Beyond Instinct: Rethinking Animal  
Sentience across Species – Panel Discussion  
Josphat Ngonyo**

**Abstract:**

This interactive session begins with a short video presentation showcasing happy animals in their natural environments. Five audience members will be invited to describe, in one word, what they feel or perceive from the video, eliciting emotional and intuitive responses that reflect public sentiment and personal connections to animals.

Following this, a panel of experts will guide the audience through a deeper exploration of animal sentience by addressing the following key questions:

1. What is the common public perspective about animal sentience?
2. What does science and current research say about the correct perspective on animal sentience?
3. How can we foster public understanding through knowledge dissemination, skill development, and attitude transformation?
4. What role do legislation and cultural or religious beliefs play in advancing the recognition of animal sentience?
5. What is the policy implications on Animal Sentience
6. How respect for Animal Sentience can advance Sustainable Development goals

This session aims to bridge emotional awareness with scientific understanding, while exploring advocacy strategies that influence policy and societal change for the recognition and protection of animals.

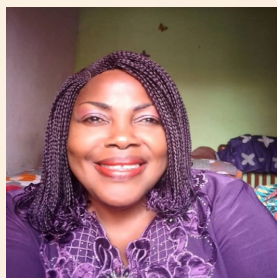
**TITLE:****A Digital One Health promoting One Welfare in Africa****Prof. James Wabacha****Animal Health Expert, AU-IBAR**

Prof. James Wabacha is a Kenyan veterinarian and continental animal health expert currently serving the role of an animal health expert at AU-IBAR, an African Union Institution mandated to lead and coordinate the development and utilization of animal resources in the continent to ensure

that animal resources contribute to food and nutrition security and prosperity of African People.

James has over three decades of experience in animal health with 15 years dedicated to continental, regional and national animal health programming, promoting initiatives, policies, strategies and programmes to integrate animal health, Animal Welfare and One Health in sustainable animal resources development in Africa. He has played a pivotal role in promoting major continental frameworks, including the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA), the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa, and the Animal Health Strategy for Africa.

James is also the Secretary of the International Scientific Council on Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISC-TRC) a key platform that promotes information sharing on Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis research and control making him a key player to the emerging Pan-African Donkey Strategy and other transformative efforts in animal health and welfare in Africa.

**TITLE:****The Pan African strategy for the preservation, welfare and sustainable utilization of donkeys****Dr. Camille Laure Nguekeng****Donkey Expert**

Dr. Camille Laure Nguekeng is a Cameroonian agronomic engineer and renowned donkey expert with over two decades of experience in animal production, veterinary sciences, and genetic improvement. She holds a Ph.D. in Biotechnology, specializing in the genetic diversity of donkeys in the Sudano- Sahelian zone of Cameroon. Currently serving as Head of the Animal Seeds and Zoo-Genetic Resources Service at the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINEPIA), she leads national efforts in genetic resource conservation and sustainable livestock development. Dr. Nguekeng is a key contributor to the development of the Pan-African Donkey Strategy, bringing her technical knowledge and field experience to shape continental policies and safeguard donkey populations. Her pioneering research highlights the socio-economic importance of donkeys in rural communities, their role in ecological sustainability, and the urgent need to address threats such as illegal skin trade. She is also committed to grassroots engagement, capacity building, and integrating traditional knowledge with scientific innovation to enhance the resilience and welfare of working animals across Africa. Her commitment to sustainable methods and her love for donkeys make her a key figure in her field, encouraging future generations to value these precious animals

## Plastics Pollution and Animal Welfare in Zimbabwe

**Linda Masudze – LLM**

**Centre for Animal Law Studies**



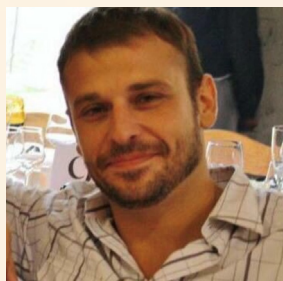
Linda is a lawyer who discovered Animal law during the early years of law school at the University of Zimbabwe. In 2017, she began volunteering at the university's student chapter founded by Speak Out for Animals. Upon graduation and admission as a legal practitioner, Linda was actively involved in fighting for Animal rights in her country and abroad. In 2018, she participated at the Global Youth Biodiversity Network workshop in Kenya where represented her country's environmental

interests whilst exchanging ideas with other like-minded young people around the globe.

In 2019, Linda was a delegate at CITES COP18 among other young environmentalists who were fighting against wildlife trafficking and illegal wildlife trade. She has worked with various courts across Zimbabwe monitoring animal law cases, assisting the National Prosecution Authority and developing content in that area. Linda was appointed as the Legal Officer for the Environmental Management Agency of Zimbabwe (EMA). The latter is the statutory body responsible for ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources and protection of the environment, the prevention of pollution and environmental degradation, and the preparation of Environmental Plans for the management and protection of the environment.

As of 2023 till date, she is an alumni of the Charles R Policy Fellowship hosted by UNEP and Africa Wildlife Foundation (Kenya). In the latter program, Linda has been trained on multi environmental agreements and negotiator skills and as a result had the opportunity to participate in the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN 2023) in Ethiopia. In 2024, she was accepted into the Land Youth Negotiations Program for the United Nations Conventions on Combating Desertification (UNCCCD) and will participate as a youth negotiator at the UNCCD COP 16 in Saudi Arabia. Her interests are in biodiversity law (Environment and Animal Law), policy negotiations on MEAs, human rights and corporate law. She is also interested in contributing towards sustainable development goals. Linda has also been awarded the Global Ambassadors Award under Lewis and Clark and her project will focus on producing a policy brief on plastic pollution and its effect on animals in Zimbabwe.

## TITLE:

**Sustainable culling of farm animals  
Dr Bryce Marock**

Dr Bryce Marock qualified from the University of Pretoria, with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science in 2011. He spent 2 and a half years in private practice, thereafter, taking a position at the National Council of SPCAs in South Africa. As a NGO, it is unique in that it has legislative authority that was confirmed

by Constitutional Court in 2016 to be the authoritative voice for animal welfare in South Africa. It has the power to police and privately prosecute animal cruelty offences. He has been attached to this environment, largely dealing with animal cruelty forensics, and providing expertise in animal welfare science.

He has given in person evidence in magisterial courts on eight occasions, with many more affidavits filed resulting in convictions where his evidence was accepted or where the matters are still pending. He has given evidence in regional courts on two occasions, with more affidavits filed resulting in convictions and where matters are pending. He has also provided evidence for the High Court of South Africa once, being cited in the judgement. He has been invited to speak at the Africa Animal welfare conference on welfare matters related to livestock. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (2019), Accra, Ghana (2021) and Gaborone, Botswana (2022).

He has presented at the South African Veterinary Association's annual congress and the World Veterinary Association's Congress on matters pertaining to animal welfare.

He is an ad-hoc member of the South African Veterinary Association's Animal Ethics and Welfare committee, the NSPCAs representative to the National Animal Health Forum, and for the International Coalition for Animal Welfare (ICFAW), the unified NGO welfare body represented at the WOAHP.



## TITLE:

**Human Animal Co-existence: Case Study of Kasigau Ranch in Kenya.****Isaac Maina****Africa network for Animal Welfare**

Isaac Maina is an accomplished Project Manager with over 20 years of experience working in non-governmental organizations focused on animal welfare, environmental conservation, and sustainable development. His expertise includes project planning, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), capacity building, and emergency response, where he has consistently delivered

practical solutions to complex challenges.

Isaac's career in wildlife conservation began as an elephant keeper, before transitioning to de-snaring operations and conservation education. Notably, he participated in Kenya's first formal de-snaring patrol, which laid the foundation for full-time operations across many organizations. Throughout his career, Isaac has led over 100 de-snaring missions, resulting in the removal of 70,000 snares, the rescue of more than 300 animals, and the arrest of over 70 poachers. His hands-on field experience is further enhanced by patrol training from the British Army and first aid certification from the Kenya Red Cross Society.

Beyond fieldwork, Isaac is deeply involved in conservation education. He has trained and mentored numerous professionals and contributed to curriculum development and outreach programs aimed at promoting environmental awareness. His dedication was recognized with the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund Hero Award in 2008.

Isaac's academic background complements his practical expertise. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Technology Education from Moi University and a Master's in Project Planning and Management from the University of Nairobi. Currently pursuing a PhD in Project Management, he blends academic insights with field experience to drive successful, sustainable projects.

Isaac has also contributed to animal rescue during disasters and served as an Honorary Warden for the Kenya Wildlife Service for 10 years, supporting wildlife protection and policy advocacy. His unwavering commitment to conservation, animal welfare, and community development continues to inspire his contributions to the sector.

## TITLE:

**A Rural Development Imperative for Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute**

**Dr. Nandipha Toyota Ndudane**

**South African Veterinary Council**



Dr. Nandipha Ndudane is the President of the South African Veterinary Council, serving her second term with a strong track record in governance, policy, and strategic leadership.

As President of the South African Veterinary Council, Dr. Ndudane has been a driving force in advancing animal welfare and ethical standards within the veterinary profession. She has spearheaded transformative initiatives, including the successful advocacy for the inclusion of veterinarians and veterinary nurses on South Africa's critical skills list—recognising their essential role in public health and animal care. Under her leadership, the Council is busy promulgating a new qualification for Animal Welfare Assistants, a strategic move aimed at embedding animal welfare and ethics into both educational frameworks and professional practice. These efforts underscore her commitment to humane handling and the elevation of animal welfare as a national priority.

She holds degrees in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (Medunsa), Animal Science (UFH), and a Master's in Veterinary Science from Utrecht University. Her career spans academia, government, and international veterinary affairs, including roles with the World Veterinary Association, World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). She also serves as a non-executive director on the boards of Cape Wools South Africa and Ntinga OR Tambo SOC, contributing her expertise in governance and agricultural development.

Currently, she serves as Principal of the Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute, focusing on food security, producer support, and rural development. A passionate advocate for veterinary education and community health, Dr. Ndudane is also a proud mother of four.

## TITLE:

## Echoes of the Ancestors: Integrating Indigenous Knowledge for Africa's Sustainable Future

### Tozie Zokufa

Coalition of African Animal Welfare Organisations (CAAWO)

Tozie Zokufa is a distinguished South African advocate for animal welfare and food safety. With a career spanning over two decades in the public and private sectors, he currently serves as the Executive Director of the Coalition of African Animal Welfare Organisations (CAAWO), establishing him as a key figure in promoting ethical farming and sustainable food systems across Africa.

Zokufa's career began at the foundational level, where he spent nine years as a meat inspector for the International Meat Quality Assurance Services (IMQAS) and the national department of agriculture. He later applied his expertise as a Veterinary Public Health practitioner for the Western Cape provincial department of agriculture. He has been a consultant and keynote speaker for twelve years, sharing his knowledge with various organisations, including faith-based and grassroots communities, locally and internationally. His work has taken him to the European Union Parliament, the UK, the USA, and numerous African countries.

In his leadership capacity, Zokufa is an active member of the African Union's Africa Platform for Animal Welfare and serves on the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) and Soil for Life boards. He is the former Chairperson of the Pan African Animal Welfare Alliance (PAAWA) and previously led the Animal Welfare Portfolio for the South African Veterinary Council.

His key achievements include launching initiatives like "Meat Free Mondays" and pioneering "Green Mondays." He has led significant baseline research in East Africa with the African Union, published research on climate change mitigation through dietary choices, and established A Greener World's certification programs in South Africa.

Zokufa's vision is to foster "a continent that respects all animals, providing them with care and compassion in policy and practice" and to unite animal welfare organisations to build capacity for collective advocacy.





## TITLE:

**Consumptive utilization and lack of adequate legislation: A case of Tigers in South Africa****Douglas Wolhuter**  
SPCA

Douglas Wolhuter is a dedicated professional with over two decades of experience in the animal welfare sector. Beginning his journey as a volunteer at a local SPCA, he qualified as an Inspector in 2005, advancing to Senior Inspector in 2010, and most recently achieving the position of National Chief In-

spector in 2024. He is the current manager of the NSPCA's Wildlife Protection Unit.

Throughout his career, Douglas has been an influential voice in wildlife and animal welfare issues. He has presented before the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee for the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment on critical topics such as lion farming, game reserves, and poaching. He has also chaired the Captive Lion Welfare Committee and has appeared on various television programs, including three appearances on Carte Blanche, as well as segments on ENCA, SABC, and Al Jazeera, addressing wildlife welfare matters.

Currently, Douglas serves on two Wildlife Well-being Task Teams under the Wildlife Well-Being Forum, an initiative established by the Minister of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. He is actively involved in negotiations to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the DFFE to enhance compliance and enforcement efforts.

In addition to his advocacy work, Douglas has shared his expertise at the Africa Animal Welfare Conference (virtually, 2022) and has lectured postgraduate students at the University of South Africa (UNISA) on the interconnected values of conservation and animal welfare. He has also provided testimony in Magisterial Court proceedings on multiple occasions, underscoring his commitment to justice and animal protection.

## TITLE:

**One Health Analytics Showcasing concrete use cases in Africa****Dia Mamadou Lamine**

Né le 13 mars 1957

Nationalité mauritanienne



Dr Dia Mamadou Lamine Chercheur vétérinaire spécialisé en parasitologie, santé animale et pastoralisme

Dr Mamadou Lamine est un vétérinaire-chercheur expérimenté, Maître de recherches en maladies parasitaires (CAMES, 2003), titulaire d'un doctorat universitaire (1996) et d'un diplôme d'aménagement pastoral intégré. Fort de près de 40 ans d'expérience, il a occupé divers postes techniques et de direction en santé animale, recherche vétérinaire et développement pastoral en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Il a notamment dirigé le Centre National d'Élevage et de Recherches Vétérinaires (CNERV) en Mauritanie, travaillé comme Maître de recherche au CIRDES (Burkina Faso), et récemment coordonné le projet régional COMATAO au sein du Centre Régional de Santé Animale de la CEDEAO, axé sur la prévention des maladies animales transfrontalières.

Expert reconnu en maladies parasitaires, trypanosomoses animales, entomologie médicale et zoonoses telles que la Fièvre de la Vallée du Rift et la grippe aviaire, il a également formé des auxiliaires vétérinaires, contribué à la création de structures de soins pour les animaux de travail, et promu l'utilisation rationnelle des trypanocides en Afrique.

Son expertise s'étend également au pastoralisme, à la production animale, à la biosécurité en laboratoire et au diagnostic vétérinaire. Il a collaboré avec des institutions telles que AU-IBAR, l'OIE, le REDISSE et l'ISTOM (France), et a contribué à la rédaction de stratégies régionales et de documents techniques de référence.

Auteur principal ou co-auteur de plus de 40 publications sci-

## TITLE:

entifiques et techniques, Dr [Nom] a présenté plus de 45 communications dans des congrès internationaux. Il parle couramment le français, a une bonne maîtrise de l'anglais et de l'arabe, et a reçu plusieurs distinctions pour son engagement scientifique, dont la Médaille d'honneur 1ère Classe (Mauritanie, 2010) et le Prix IFS/DANIDA.

**The use of animals in Research, Testing and Education: A Case study of the use of animals in Research, Testing and Education in Africa**

**CRAIG REDMOND**

Craig Redmond, Lush Prize,



Craig Redmond is a member of the team coordinating the Lush Prize, a global prize fund supporting the complete replacement of animal use in research and testing. This role includes research and communications. Craig has a background as a researcher and campaigner with animal

protection NGOs, as well as a photojournalist and videographer specializing in social justice issues.

**Dr Vessaly Kallo**  
Country Presentations

Dr Vessaly KALLO, est Vétérinaire spécialisé en Santé Publique Vétérinaire, épidémiologie et la mise en œuvre de l'approche One Health. Il est nanti d'un Diplôme d'Etat de Doctorat en Médecine Vétérinaire et d'un Master en Santé Publique Vétérinaire obtenus à L'EISMV de

Dakar. Il a en outre obtenu, un CES en épidémiologie à l'Ecole Vétérinaire de Maison Alfort à Paris et un Diplôme d'Etude Supérieur sur l'approche One Health à l'IAV de Rabat.

Il totalise 21 ans d'expérience professionnel au sein de l'Administration Publique National précisément dans les Services Vétérinaires où il a participé et coordonné la lutte contre les zoonoses et les épidémies animales (Rage, Grippe Aviaire, Peste Porcine, Fièvre Hémorragique Virale du lapin) et la gestion de crises sanitaires telle que les Toxi Infections Alimentaires Collectives.

Depuis Août 2021, il est le Directeur des Services Vétérinaires de Côte d'Ivoire. Il est également le Délégué Permanent de la Côte d'Ivoire auprès de l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé Animale (OMSA). Il est le Président du Groupe Consultatif Régional d'Experts de la CEDEAO pour la lutte contre la fièvre aphteuse et du Groupe Technique de Travail Santé Animale de la Plate-forme Une Seule Santé en Côte d'Ivoire.

Il a en outre été Coordinateur National du Projet Régional de Recherche sur le Poids de la Rage en Côte d'Ivoire de 2016 à 2018, et Secrétaire Général du Conseil National de l'Ordre des Vétérinaires de Côte d'Ivoire de 2012 à 2019.

Il a partagé son expertise de consultant dans le domaine de la Santé Publique Vétérinaire, pour le compte de plusieurs Institutions Nationales et Internationales comme le FIRCA, la FAO, l'OMS, le Programme EDES de l'UE,

## TITLE:

Eco Alliance, et l'USAID, dans différents Pays (la Guinée, le Cameroun et la Côte d'Ivoire).

Il intervient également dans le Cours International pour la Bonne Gouvernance des Services Vétérinaires de l'ENSV de Lyon en France.

Il a à son actif plusieurs articles scientifiques et professionnels qui ont porté sur la lutte contre les Zoonoses, les Services Vétérinaires et la Sécurité Sanitaire des Denrées Animales et d'Origine Animale.

Il est Officier dans l'Ordre du Mérite de la Fonction Publique.

### **African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)**

#### **DR. HIVER BOUSSINI**

**Senior Animal Health Officer , AU-IBAR**



Dr. Hiver Boussini, a National from Burkina Faso, has a BSc in Biology and Biochemistry, Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and a master's in biotechnology concentration in Microbiology and Biochemistry. He has a certificate of specialization in Epidemiology and sanitary emergency interventions and laboratory diagnosis. He has worked for over 28 years' experience in animal resource development and animal health related issues and over 17 years at the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) as Animal Health Officer.

From September 2018 to December 2019 Dr. Hiver joined FAO-ECTAD as Country Team Leader in Nigeria before coming back to serve again AU-IBAR as Senior Animal Health Officer in charge of Animal Health Policies, strategies programs and projects development and implementation as well as One Health Approach and animal welfare. Currently Dr. Boussini is the Coordinator of Animal Health Unit, Team Leader PPR eradication in Africa, Animal welfare and One Health including zoonotic diseases.

## TITLE:

**Human Animal Co-existence: Case Study of Kasigau Ranch in Kenya.****Agnes Haloni****Africa Network for Animal Welfare**

Ms. Agnes Haloni is a young Kenyan based Human animal Co-existence officer based at Africa Network for Animal Welfare. She graduated from Kenyatta University in 2016 and has amassed experience working with communities bordering wildlife conservation areas. She has worked in commu-

nity based conservation projects within the Tsavo landscape areas in Taita/ Taveta County and some other parts of South Coast of Kenya since 2019. By working closely with local communities, government agencies, conservation organizations and other stakeholders the focus has been to reduce negative interactions, promote biodiversity conservation and support livelihoods.

She plays a multifaceted role at the intersection of conservation, social welfare and sustainable development. Operating in ecologically sensitive regions where human-wildlife conflict is prevalent, she is tasked with developing and implementing strategies that promote peaceful coexistence between local communities and wildlife, while simultaneously addressing the socio-economic needs of the people.

She has worked in supporting community led groups that conduct awareness and education initiatives aimed at reducing negative human-animal interactions through behavior change, traditional knowledge integration, and the use of non-lethal deterrent methods.

Her work also involves supporting community development initiatives that enhance local resilience and provide alternatives to environmentally harmful practices. These include livelihood diversification and access to education.



**TITLE:****Beyond Instinct: Rethinking Animal Sentience Across Species****Josphat Ngonyo****Member States Liaison Consultant**

Josphat Ngonyo (MBA Hons) is the Founder and former Executive Director for Africa Network for Animal Welfare. He is also the founder and former Executive Director for Youth for Conservation. He occupies the role as Board Member for the World Federation for Animals, the Biodiversity

and Biosafety Kenya Organization and The Riverine Nature Reserve. He was an Honorary Warden with the Kenya Wildlife Service. He is a Member of the Global Task Force for Farm Animal Welfare and Trade and Member of the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organizations (FAO) Gateway to Farm Animal Welfare Education Board. He was appointed and spearheaded the Kenya National Steering Committee for Wildlife Conservation and Management Policy and Legislation Review. Currently, he takes on roles as a Member States Liaison Consultant and Ambassador of ANAW.

## TITLE:

**Assessing the impact of animal welfare clubs on club members and local communities in Kenya****Dr. Brenda Oliwa-Okumu****Africa Network for Animal Welfare**

Dr. Brenda is the Research and Planning Director at ANAW. She

holds a doctorate in Educational Psychology from Kenyatta University. She has over ten years' experience in the education and development sector with a recent focus on enhancing education opportunities for vulnerable populations. Brenda coordinates the Africa Conservation Education

Fund (ACEF), ANAW's education initiative that is dedicated to the provision of financial scholarships for needy students from communities that border wildlife areas whilst also supporting physical infrastructure in poorly resourced local schools. Her work has covered designing curricula that integrates psychological principles to enhance empathy towards animals, while encouraging responsible stewardship of the environment. Her current research interest is on how educational interventions can shift attitudes toward wildlife conservation while fostering pro-environmental behavior. Through her work, she aims to cultivate a generation of informed, compassionate advocates for animal welfare and environmental sustainability.

**Assessing the impact of animal welfare clubs on club members and local communities in Kenya****Eunice Robai Makunda****Africa Network for Animal Welfare**

Eunice is the Capacity building, Education and Awareness manager at Africa Network for Animal Welfare. She leads strategy and comprehensive campaign that advance animal welfare education goals. This is achieved while conducting animal welfare clubs and

community education that address systematic issues in animal welfare. She is committed to empowering others to learn, grow, act and achieve their potential for the common good. She designs campaign and activities that increase as well as change behaviours and attitudes in animal welfare.



## TITLE:

**Beyond Instinct: Rethinking Animal Sentience Across Species****Philip Lymbery**Global Chief Executive Officer  
Compassion in World Farming International,

Philip Lymbery is Global Chief Executive of Compassion in World Farming International, the leading farm animal welfare environmental organisation operating in more than 40 countries worldwide.

He is Visiting Professor at the University of Winchester, President of Eurogroup for Animals,

the apex federation of more than 100 leading animal welfare societies in Europe and beyond. He is also a founding Board member of the World Federation for Animals.

In 2021, Philip had an ambassadorial role with the United Nations as a 'Champion' for the UN Food Systems Summit and was co-lead of the Summit's Sustainable Livestock Solutions Cluster. In 2024, he was appointed by EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen to represent animal welfare at the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture.

Most recently, at the invitation of UN Deputy Secretary General Amina J Mohammed, Philip has become a member of the newly established UN Advisory Board on Food Systems.

Philip is a dedicated animal advocate, naturalist, photographer and award-winning author. His critically acclaimed books, *Farmageddon: The true cost of cheap meat*, and *Dead Zone: Where the wild things were*, were the first mainstream books to show the impact of factory farming on the climate, nature and pandemic emergencies facing humanity. His third book, *Sixty Harvests Left: How to reach a nature-friendly future* was published by Bloomsbury in August 2022.

## TITLE:

## African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

### Dr. Huyam Salih

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



Dr. Huyam Salih possesses a distinguished Ph.D. in Veterinary Epidemiology, and Master's Degree in Tropical Animal Health. She has professional record spanning over two decades, spearheaded numerous in the domains of livestock development, disease prevention, and animal health interventions at national, regional and global level.

Dr. Salih has made significant contributions in various areas include:

- Risk assessment and early warning for Trans-boundary animal diseases
- Expanding livestock value chains, ensuring the linkage to small holder Producers
- Ensuring compliance with international sanitary measures
- Strengthen capacities for antimicrobial resistance's Monitoring and Evaluation, and supporting monitoring of Global Action plan on AMR (GAP) and FAO AMR Action Plan.

Additionally, Dr. Salih has played a pivotal role in championing the adoption of a One Health approach and facilitating extensive collaboration among various sectors to effectively tackle the pressing issues of Anti-microbial Resistance and zoonotic diseases.

## TITLE:

**Status of Animal Welfare in Africa****Dr Elynn Njeri****Animal Welfare Expert, AU-IBAR**

Dr. Elynn Njeri is an animal welfare expert with a strong foundation in veterinary medicine, having graduated in 2020. She is currently pursuing a master's in wildlife health and management, reflecting on her ongoing commitment to expanding her expertise in the field.

Dr. Njeri is deeply passionate about animals and is dedicated to increasing awareness and knowledge about their care, as well as addressing the various issues that affect them.

Her professional journey includes significant experience with the Africa Network for Animal Welfare, where she has engaged in advocacy and the sensitization of good animal welfare practices. Dr. Njeri has expertise in wildlife interventions, particularly in response to human-wildlife conflict-inflicted injuries and has been instrumental in promoting and coordinating clinical care and disease control for both domestic and wild animals. Her work is characterized by a deep commitment to improving the well-being of animals across diverse environments.

**TITLE:**

**Advancing Animal Welfare in Africa: Pathways to Sustainable and Inclusive Livestock Transformation**

**Prof. Cheikh Ly**  
Country Presentations



Prof. Cheikh Ly is veterinarian and agricultural economist and has been working in academia, research and development in animal production, veterinary sciences, livestock economics and policies, and capacity development. He has been full tenure professor of the Inter-States

School of Veterinary Medicine and Science (EISMV) at Dakar University and then Director General of the International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC). He has also worked as regional animal health and production officer at the Regional Office for Africa of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). He provides consulting services in livestock development and policies to national and international organisations. He served as member of the Board of Trustees of the International Livestock Research Institute and of The Brooke Hospital for Animals, UK and East Africa. He is also member of the Board of Directors of the GALVmed (Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines) and co-chair of the Panel for Partnership and Financing of the Global Forum for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) set jointly by of the FAO and the World Organisation for Animal health (WOAH). He is Honorary President of the Council of the Senegalese Veterinary Doctors Association, member of the National Academy of Sciences and Technics of Senegal and its Agriculture Sciences Section and also participating in its

**TITLE:****UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Accreditation Process****Peter Kirongothi****Programmes Support Assistant, UNEP**

Peter Kirongothi is a Programme Support Assistant with the Civil Society Unit at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), where he supports stakeholder engagement in global environmental governance processes, including the UN En-

vironment Assembly (UNEA). Peter is a trained International Relations professional, with specialized knowledge in Development Studies.

Peter's work focuses on facilitating the meaningful participation of Major Groups and Stakeholders (MGS), supporting accreditation processes, managing communications and digital engagement, and contributing to event coordination and capacity-building efforts. His experience includes working with the Mastercard Foundation, AIESEC, and grassroots organizations in both Kenya and Rwanda, as well as producing research on sustainability, energy access, and community development.

## TITLE:

## A Digital One Health promoting One Welfare in Africa

## Hamza Zbidi

CEO and founder of Speedykom GmbH



Hamza Zbidi is CEO and founder of Speedykom GmbH, based in Erlangen Germany with presences in Tunisia, Uganda and Malawi. For more than fifteen years he has designed sovereign, open-source Digital Public Infrastructure that strengthens health, social protec-

tion and climate resilience in Africa while keeping data under national control and enabling secure cross-border exchange.

With the African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources he co-created the Digital One Health Platform, which fuses human, animal and environmental data to power early-warning and rapid response. Similar distributed architecture supported regional disease surveillance and advanced artificial-intelligence vectorborn diseases forecasts developed with the European Space Agency, IGAD and GIZ.

Beyond health, Hamza directs programmes for digital identity, energy data hubs and health-insurance enrolment that expand coverage without compromising privacy. He advises the AU-EU GovStack initiative on reference building blocks for early warning, workflow orchestration and trusted data exchange, and has guided finance ministries on investment-monitoring systems secured by tamper-evident ledgers.

A committed advocate of digital and data sovereignty, Hamza ensures every solution can be run locally, audited transparently and forked without licence fees. Capacity-building, open standards and community governance are embedded from the outset.

Hamza is a Tunisian-German computer engineer fluent in Arabic, French, English and German. Under his leadership Speedykom supports projects in more than



# SPEAKERS BIO

## TITLE:

twenty-five countries across Africa, the Middle East and Europe. He is now fostering an open-source community that links Digital Public Infrastructure, climate action and One Welfare, turning research pilots into operational services that improve livelihoods and protect ecosystems.

He looks forward to sharing these experiences at the 9th Africa Animal Welfare Conference panel on “A Digital One Health promoting One Welfare in Africa.”

## UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Accreditation Process

### Edwike Nyauncho UNEP



Edwike Nyauncho is an Information Systems professional with a solid background in IT support, full-stack development, and systems optimization. She currently serves at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), where she contributes to advancing global environmental governance

by supporting participant registration systems for UNEP held meetings and process, civil society engagement, accreditation process, and strategic communications for Major Groups and Stakeholders accredited to UNEP.

Edwike holds a bachelor's degree in Microprocessor Technology and Instrumentation from the University of Nairobi (Class of 2018) and is currently pursuing a master's degree in computing and information systems at Strathmore University.

With a strong foundation in software engineering, IT administration, digital content management, and user-focused technical support, Edwike is passionate about leveraging technology to enhance efficiency, promote inclusivity, and drive impact—particularly within mission-driven and sustainability-focused initiatives. Edwike brings a unique blend of innovation, precision, and purpose to every project she undertakes, making her a valuable contributor to the evolving landscape of digital transformation.



## TITLE:

**Beyond Instinct: Rethinking Animal Sentience Across Species****Dr. Raphael Kinoti**

CEO, Brooke East Africa



Dr. Raphael Kinoti is a veterinary Surgeon, a community worker, and an organizational development practitioner with over 25 years of veterinary work and leading organizations. Raphael is currently the CEO at Brooke East Africa, an animal welfare organization.

Brooke Global works in 20 countries around the world.

Prior to working with Brooke East Africa, Raphael worked in various positions in national and international organizations in the areas of Livestock development, animal welfare, community transformation, biodiversity conservation and peace building and conflict transformation.

Raphael holds a master's degree in Organizational Development and a bachelor's degree in Veterinary Medicine.

**Beyond Instinct: Rethinking Animal Sentience Across Species****Dr Beryl Okumu**

Campaign Mobilization Monitoring and Reporting Officer at World Animal Protection Africa.



Dr Beryl Okumu is an accomplished veterinary surgeon with a BVM from the University of Nairobi and a postgraduate degree in Health Informatics from George Brown College, she advocates for animal welfare and

sustainable food systems. As a Campaign Mobilization Officer at World Animal Protection Africa, she combines expertise in advocacy, project management, and stakeholder engagement.

## TITLE:

## TITLE:

## The Socioeconomic Importance of Working Animals in Central Ethiopia

### Dr Hanna Zewdu

Veterinarian and Project Leader for The SPANA Project At The



Dr Hanna Zewdu is a veterinarian, researcher, and project leader at the Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad (SPANAs), working in partnership with Addis Ababa University, College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture (CVMA), Ethiopia. With over two decades

of experience in the field of animal health and welfare, Dr. Hanna has led and contributed to more than six peer-reviewed research publications in reputable international journals. Her work has focused on the health and welfare of working animals, integrating scientific evidence with community-based interventions. In addition to her academic contributions, Dr. Hanna has played a central role in organizing and delivering extensive community training programs aimed at translating research findings into practical, context-specific solutions. These efforts have significantly contributed to improving animal welfare practices among working animal owners and stakeholders in Ethiopia. At this conference, Dr. Hanna will present findings from her recent study titled “The Socioeconomic Importance of Working Animals in Central Ethiopia.” The research highlights the critical role of working animals in supporting livelihoods and rural economies and aims to inform policymakers and development actors on the urgent need to recognize and prioritize their welfare in national and regional agendas.

## TITLE:

**Preparations towards UNEA-7 and the Role of Major Groups and****Mr. David Ombisi****Programme Management Officer - UNEP**

Mr. David Ombisi is a Programme Management Officer and currently the Officer-in-Charge of the Civil Society Unit, Governance Affairs Office, UNEP. He has over 19 years' experience on issues related to

environmental governance, policy and strategy development, environmental impact assessment, health and environment linkages, solid waste management and environmental education.

Between 2011 and 2023, Mr. Ombisi was the Coordinator of the Secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in UNEP's Regional Office for Africa (ROA). He has over the years worked with African Ministers in charge of the Environment to promote regional cooperation in addressing environmental issues, advancing African interests on environment and sustainable development, setting environmental agenda in Africa, developing relevant regional frameworks/ mechanisms, as well as deliberating and crafting common positions on important issues for the region.

In addition to that, he was worked with African member states to ensure their active engagement in the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) process, and other relevant UNEP activities. He has previously supported the One UN pilots in Africa, Common Country Assessments/United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (CCA/UNDAFs) and other common country programming processes. He has also previously worked towards strengthening the engagement of the African Civil Society Organizations and major groups in the work of UNEP through organization of regional civil society meetings.

**TITLE:**

**Outcomes of the Regional Consultative Meeting of Africa and further preparation of African Major Groups towards UNEA-7**

**David Munene**

**Regional Facilitator, Major Groups & Stakeholders Accredited to the UNEP**



David N. Munene is the Regional Facilitator of the UNEP Major Groups & Stakeholders, Africa (UNEP MGS, Africa) – a role he assumed upon election in August 2022 and a reelection in December 2024. He is Programs Manager at the Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa (CYNESA) and Board Chair of the Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute (SAFCEI). A Computer Scientist by training, David's engagement in multilateral environmental diplomacy commenced in 2013 anchored in the strength of African Civil Society Organizations and, particularly, Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs). He has consulted for UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to support the joint UNEP-UNITAR training program on the topics of Negotiation Skills and Techniques, Drafting Skills and Multilateral Conference Diplomacy, as well as Capacity Building through Peer Learning for UNEA member states. He was lead author of, "Amplifying the Voices of Young People of Faith in Kenya in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework's Discourse," and environment content for the Jesuit "Living Magis" app. David has been co-convenor of the last four Regional Consultative Meetings of the UNEP MGS, Africa where he has managed to institute systems that have ensured growth in quantity and quality (diversity of expertise, sub-regional representation, gender, and CSOs) year-after-year since 2022.

**TITLE:****Opportunities for Major groups to Engage at UNEP and UNEA****Mr. Isaiah Otieno****Associate Programme Management Officer, UNEP**

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.

## TITLE:

**Human Animal Co-existence: Case Study of Kasigau Ranch in Kenya.****Dr Dennis Bahati****Program Manager at Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW)**

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.



# SPEAKERS BIO

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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