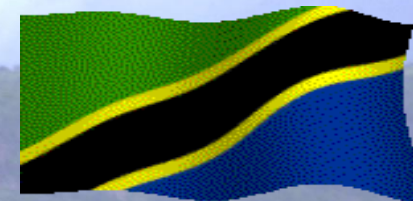


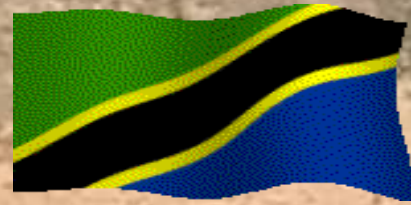


MINISTRY OF LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES



An overview of animal welfare in Tanzania

Presenter: Dr. BENEZETH LUTEKE MALINDA
DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES TANZANIA

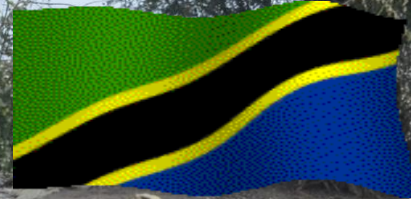


This presentation provides an overview of the status of animal welfare in Tanzania. Specifically,

- ☐ Where we came from,
- ☐ Where we are,
- ☐ Public-private partnerships,
- ☐ Future direction,
- ☐ Call to action.



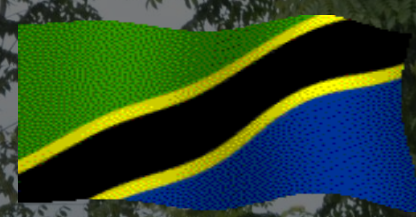
INTRODUCTION



- ❑ Animal welfare refers to the well-being of animals: their health, comfort, nutrition, safety, ability to express natural behaviors, and freedom from suffering.
- ❑ Animal welfare is increasingly recognized as an integral part of agricultural development in Tanzania, food systems, public health, and community livelihoods.
- ❑ Donkey welfare is challenged by growing Donkey Hide Trade (DHT) which poses ethical, ecological, and economic concerns.



Where We Came From



- ❑ Historically, animals were viewed mainly as work tools and food sources, with limited concern for their welfare.
- ❑ Public awareness on animal rights and welfare was extremely low.
- ❑ Weak institutional frameworks and lack of enforcement of existing laws.
- ❑ The rise of the DHT in 2016 exposed the vulnerability of donkeys, leading to mass slaughter and decline in donkey populations.
- ❑ Many communities, especially women and youth, suffered the consequences as donkeys are essential for daily livelihood tasks.

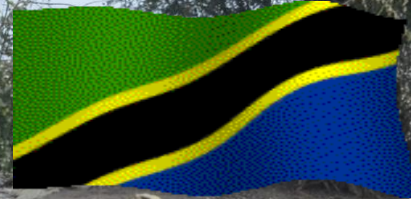


Where We Are Now

- ❑ Increased **political will**, advocacy and awareness across various regions in Tanzania. Interministerial cooperation.
- ❑ Local governments are now actively enforcing by laws on animal welfare.
- ❑ Collaborations have emerged between civil society organizations and communities.
- ❑ Donkeys are now recognized as important assets for sustainable livelihoods, with growing emphasis on humane treatment.
- ❑ Communities are mobilized to report abuse, and local leaders are participating in protection campaigns.



Tanzania's Progress



- ❑ Tanzania has hosted the First Pan-African Donkey Conference in 2022.
- ❑ Government has imposed a ban on commercial donkey slaughter and export of donkey skin and hives.
- ❑ Donkey Day is commemorated nationally to raise visibility and advocate for policy inclusion
- ❑ Policy review to exclude donkey among food animals



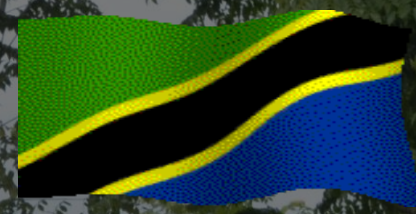
Public- Private Partnerships



- ❑ NGOs like INADES-Formation Tanzania and Arusha Society for Protection of Animals have partnered with private veterinarians and media houses to improve animal care.
- ❑ Private sector stakeholders are supporting public awareness initiatives, radio programs, and educational materials.
- ❑ Local agro-input businesses and veterinary suppliers are increasingly engaging in responsible practices aligned with animal welfare.
- ❑ Technology companies are contributing to the development of mobile tools for monitoring welfare conditions and reporting violations.



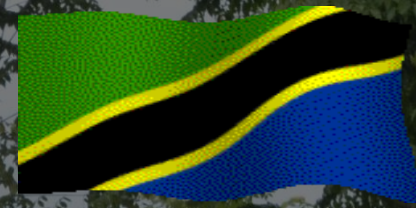
Public–Private Sector Collaboration



- ❑ Partnerships with NGOs and civil society have expanded through:
 - Mobile veterinary outreach programs and educational campaigns at community level
 - Joint research initiatives on donkey issues
 - Support for local donkey protection initiatives
- ❑ Joint advocacy efforts driving policy formulation and implementation.



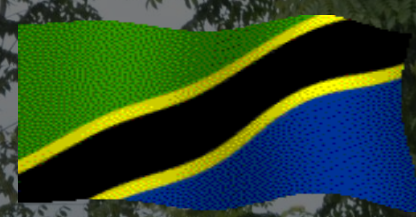
Private Sector Contributions



- ❑ Technical and financial support in training community animal health workers.
- ❑ Co-hosting of forums and policy dialogues on humane treatment of working animals.
- ❑ Piloting innovative solutions such as mobile clinics, animal welfare tracking apps, and safe shelters.
- ❑ Providing logistical and educational support for school and community outreach programs.



The Way Forward



❑ Donkeys must be fully integrated into:

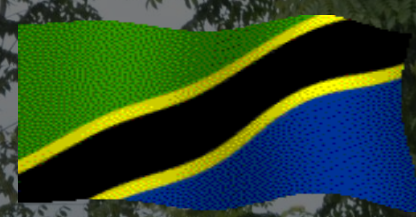
- Donkeys should be included in livestock production programs such as vaccination, productivity and health care
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies
- Climate adaptation programs

❑ Legal and policy frameworks must be updated and enforced.

❑ More investment is needed in research, service delivery, and education.



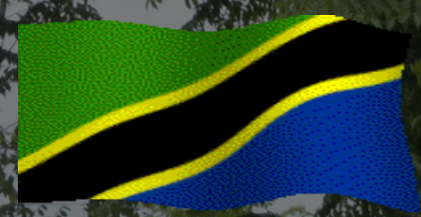
The Way Forward



- ❑ To formulate a National Animal Health and Welfare Strategy in the country.
- ❑ Integrate animal welfare into broader climate resilience and sustainable agriculture programs.
- ❑ Institutionalize welfare curricula in training colleges and extension systems.
- ❑ Develop digital platforms for community education, surveillance, and response.
- ❑ Engage regional bodies like IGAD and AUIBAR in the harmonization of cross-border policies.



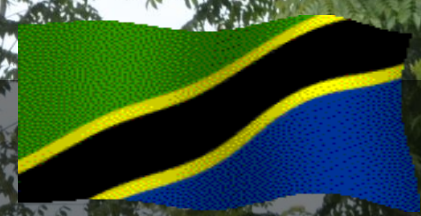
Call to Action



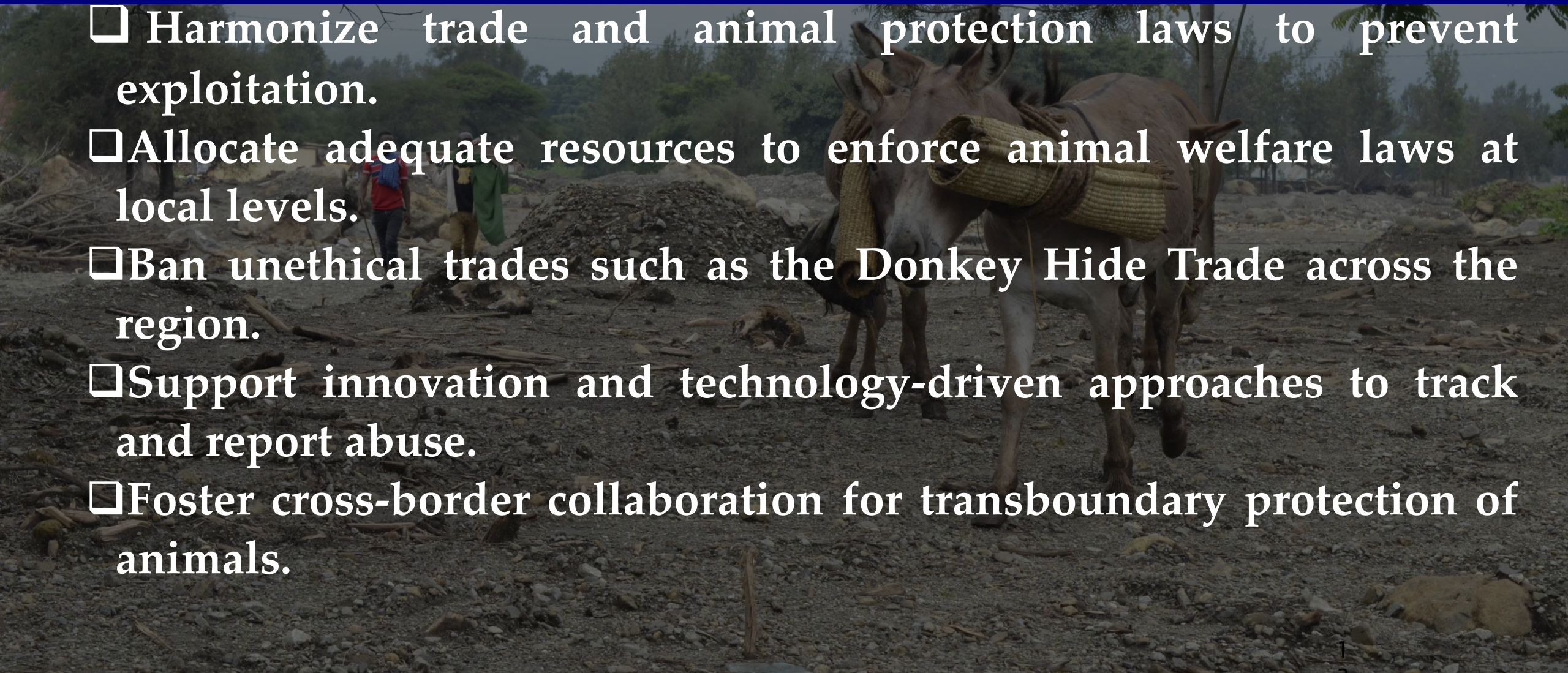
- ❑ African governments must turn policy into practice.
- ❑ The private sector must support welfare-focused initiatives.
- ❑ Regional cooperation is of crucial importance to the protection of donkeys across borders.
- ❑ Let's act now—donkeys are essential to sustainable development.



Call to Action

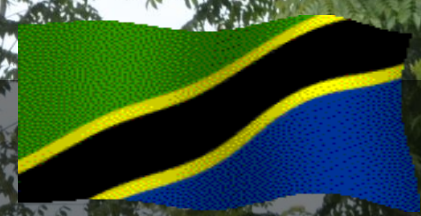


- ☐ Harmonize trade and animal protection laws to prevent exploitation.
- ☐ Allocate adequate resources to enforce animal welfare laws at local levels.
- ☐ Ban unethical trades such as the Donkey Hide Trade across the region.
- ☐ Support innovation and technology-driven approaches to track and report abuse.
- ☐ Foster cross-border collaboration for transboundary protection of animals.





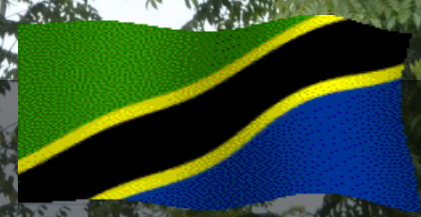
Call to Action



- ❑ Private sector to invest in humane infrastructure such as shaded rest stations, water points, and mobile health units.
- ❑ Promote ethical sourcing and fair-trade practices in livestock value chains.
- ❑ Partner with other entities to roll out welfare education programs in hard-to-reach areas.
- ❑ Sponsor research and development of alternatives to inhumane practices.
- ❑ Champion animal welfare as a component of corporate social responsibility.



Conclusion



- ❑ Animal welfare is essential for sustainable development and human dignity.
- ❑ Tanzania has made important strides, but collaborations and coordinated effort is still required.
- ❑ Partnerships and accountability across government, private sector, and civil society are key.
- ❑ Let us unite to protect animals, strengthen livelihoods, and build a more compassionate society.



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

