

ICAM Conference 2024, Day 3: Urban Development and government leadership, June 19th 2024

	Question	Answer	Answerer Name
Patrick Gerard, ICAM: Urban Prosperity: The DPM Advantage			
1	<p>Question 1) Did you look at the influence of animal wellbeing in cities on tourism? Question 2) Can you share specific statistics on the influence of animal welfare by the DPM strategy to KPIs which Mayors of the Cities are following? Question 3) Is there specific questionnaires / studies you conducted to prove the impact of DPM in Cities which are directed to the target group of City Mayors and could you share these?</p>	<p>Hi, thanks for your excellent questions. Just to reiterate what I said earlier, there's broad evidence that shows that cities with a strong brand appeal are more likely to attract and retain talented individuals and foreign investments; these are often captured in 'quality of life' indexes (Here's a paper that gives a bit of an overview: https://tinyurl.com/3zspt6p2). In terms of tourism, we know that tourists are becoming more aware and sensitive to animal welfare issues and this awareness can affect their travel choices, although this is most often covered from the perspective of wildlife (e.g., https://tinyurl.com/39s48emw). On both accounts, having more bespoke data that's directly related to the impact of free roaming companion animals on urban prosperity/ tourism would be beneficial.</p>	Patrick Gerard
2	<p>Nice presentation, Q: what is your strategy to convince the government officials when this is not among their priority agenda?</p>	<p>Hi, thanks for your question. To start, you must answer the question, 'why isn't this a priority for officials?'. To get the answer, focus on understanding their perspective. So, actively listening and asking clarifying questions. As you listen, try to acknowledge valid points in their argument and identify any common ground (hopefully, they'll respond in kind). Once you've answered the question of why it's not their priority (e.g., 'voters don't care'), you can begin to develop your campaign (e.g., you're going to show them that voters do care but organising in the community).</p>	Patrick Gerard
3	<p>What are examples of research projects that can be conducted together by veterinarians in the DPM field and urban development officials?</p>	<p>Consider the perspective of 'safe' cities – reduced dog bites are an important KPI – as Help in Suffering tracked here https://doi.org/10.1136/vr.101079 Also how this can be turned into money, again from Help in Suffering and discussed here with ICAM - https://www.icam-coalition.org/jaipur-abc-costs-greatly-outweighed-by-benefits/</p>	Elly Hiby
3	<p>What are examples of research projects that can be conducted together by veterinarians in the DPM field and urban development officials?</p>	<p>Why not invite city leaders to visit one of your projects? Show them your good work, discuss what data they would find useful, and how you might collaborate. Urban development professionals will likely be interested in how DPM improves public safety (reducing dog bites or traffic accidents) and improves public perceptions – do people feel better about their city when humane DPM is in place?</p>	Patrick Gerard
4	<p>Thanks for a great presentation! Could you share some examples of cities which have had successful DPM implementation - I am from India so any examples closer home would be great !</p>	<p>CNVR in Bangkok https://doi.org/10.3390/ani13111726 or Jaipur in India - from Help in Suffering and discussed here with ICAM - https://www.icam-coalition.org/jaipur-abc-costs-greatly-outweighed-by-benefits/ Also check Amit and Keren's presentation at our conference yesterday</p>	Elly Hiby
4	<p>Thanks for a great presentation! Could you share some examples of cities which have had successful DPM implementation - I am from India so any examples closer home would be great !</p>	<p>From Craig Rooney: Santana Khurana, the Soi Dog Foundation/Dogs Trust Worldwide programme in Greater Bangkok has had a measurable impact: https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/13/11/1726</p>	Elly Hiby

5	<p>What if we are not working within a democratic setting where we can advocate in the same way?</p>	<p>An important question. Advocacy will look different depending on your local circumstances, but at its most basic it's about having conversations. In non-democratic countries, advocacy requires a strategic and cautious approach due to the often restrictive political and social environments. But there are still things you can do: 1) quiet diplomacy: you can tack an 'inside track' approach, meet with officials and gently seek ti win them over to your cause. 2) Non-direct advocacy: you might be able to utilise art, music, literature, and theatre to subtly communicate advocacy messages; 3) Leveraging International Pressure: If you can't advocate internally, you can work with international bodies to apply pressure externally; 4) Social media: while you might need to take a subtle approach, you may still be able to use social media to aide your cause.</p>	Patrick Gerard
6	<p>Great presentation, thank you. Would you recommend the implementation of dogs and cats PM under urban development plans? any experience about that?</p>	<p>Urban development plans often focus strictly on the built environment, leaving little room for Dog or Cat Population Management because they're spatial plans, only. However, economic development and inward investment plans at all government levels might offer opportunities to include DPM/CPM references. Even simply the act of lobbying for such references can help city officials recognise DPM's role in economic prosperity. Before proposing this, assess the risks, such as the potential for officials to adopt inhumane methods. Also, in many countries, to gain approval for your development proposals, the planning system requires conditions (e.g., you can build the block of flats if you plant X trees or build a play park for children) – I wonder if investment in DPM could be framed as a 'planning gain' that urban planners ask developers to contribute towards?</p>	Patrick Gerard
7	<p>BRILLIANT presentation Patrick!!!! Very knowledgable and very helpful - I wish I could write faster!! lol.. A copy of everything you said and the slides would be fab!! If you have any further information / help / advice that would be much appreciated - as meeting up with government is what is planned next. Thank-you!</p>	<p>Thanks - that's kind of you to say. the video will be on the website later today! To compliment the presentation, here are some questions that can help you put together a advocacy plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you want? (Your objectives). Who can give it to you? (Who is your audience, who are the powerholders). What do you need them hear? (What is your message). Who do they need to hear it from? (What are your messengers). How can you get them to hear it? (how will you deliver your message, e.g., 1-1 meetings, petition, social media, protests). What tools do you have? (What are your resources – people, money, friends). What do you need to develop? (Where are there gaps in your resources – data collection, skills). How do you begin? (What are your first steps, e.g., a power structure analysis, a planning meeting). How do you tell if its working? (How you'll evaluate). 	Patrick Gerard
		<p>Also, I forgot to mention, ICAM will soon be launching 'ICAM conversations', where we'll bring partnets together to share and discuss, so we will be here to help you as you move into your next steps!</p>	Patrick Gerard

8	@Patrick: How do you make the case for DPM in low-income settings where human health and wellbeing is not being addressed? How do you make the case that DPM should be "Prioritized" and how do you convince leaders that this should be considered alongside human health?	Thank you for your questions. Many governments in low-income areas seek solutions for dog population management because it directly impacts human health, public safety, and citizen satisfaction. Citizens often request government action on DPM, even in low-income settings, so it's not just an issue for wealthier regions. By using advocacy tools, you can help citizens communicate directly with the government, ensuring they understand how DPM contributes to human health and wellbeing.	Patrick Gerard
Manuela Rowlings, Alesya Lischyshyna & Helen Wormser, FOUR PAWS International, FOUR PAWS Ukraine, & StrayCoCo			
1	During times of instability in countries, animal welfare is usually neglected. How has Ukraine strive to ensure the welfare of animals are protected?	Ukraine is currently still benefiting of previously existing good DPM structures as well as a general interest of the world and thus supporter willing to fund projects via NGOs. Unfortunately we are seeing a decline in these foreign investments this year.	Manuela Rowlings
2	Hi, could you explain on more on systematic killing by vets? This subject is crucial for my work in India.	Most of the time this were tenders by municipalities - and as we found syringes we think they used T61. So one of the changes we had to implement is to abolish the application of T61 in case euthanasia of sick and suffering dogs is needed and replace it by Pentobarbital that we use in Switzerland.	Helen Wormser
3	What will you advise we do here in Liberia to improve coordination among animal health worker (private VS Public).	Find a project with an objective that is a win-win for all involved parties. You might not have the same motivation behind the project e.g. NGOs fund to improve animal welfare, cities might want to focus on their human population, but reducing unwanted animals is always in the benefit of all actors.	Manuela Rowlings
4	I'm assuming that the private clinics who help with the sterilizations don't do it for free.	No, we pay per dog treatment, together with the Municipaliz that shares the costs with us.	Helen Wormser
Elena Dede, Dogs' Voice Greece: Population management during crisis response operations			
1	For our speaker from Greece ; that's an excellent comprehensive program. Do you have an average per animal cost for this. Send it would be quite expensive.	An average cost is 320\$ but depends on the number of the animals registered at the stations.	Elena Dede
2	Do you have a plan and process on how to set up a pop up center?	Yes, https://www.dogsvoice.gr/managed_images/DogsVoice_report_2023.pdf	Elena Dede
3	Thanks for a great presentation ! How did you build a foster network ? Is it a paid foster program?	No, they are always volunteers!	Elena Dede
4	Are there local regulations you need to get permits for to set up a pop up station?	Not at the moment and this is why we can proceed so fast with the process of setting one up	Elena Dede
5	Re - Pop-up shelters - are these spaces re-planned and what kind of spaces are they?	From Elena's comment in the chat: For those interested in our crisis response operations and pop-up shelter please read our 2023 report: https://www.dogsvoice.gr/managed_images/DogsVoice_report_2023.pdf	Elly Hiby
6	@Elena on the same topic, what is needed to set up these pop-up shelters, do you have a kit of materials (fences, poles etc.) or how does it work exactly?	From Elena's comment in the chat: For those interested in our crisis response operations and pop-up shelter please read our 2023 report: https://www.dogsvoice.gr/managed_images/DogsVoice_report_2023.pdf	Elly Hiby
Brunna Gabriela Gonçalves de Oliveira Ferreira & Vitor Gonçalves Teixeira, Universidade Federal do Paraná: PROVEIDA:			
1	@Brunna, do you have English language translations of the 2 animal welfare laws that you highlighted in your presentation	I couldn't find the translations... :(but I think it might be easy to translate on google	Brunna Ferreira

2	Are there any animal welfare concerns in Brasil?	We have some initiatives aimed at animal welfare in Brazil, mainly in the academic field... but in practice we still face some difficulties. Vitor Teixeira, my partner, works in an animal welfare laboratory.	Brunna Ferreira
3	If yes, how did you manage them?	We have legislation in Brazil in relation to various animal welfare issues, both federal, state and municipal, and also related to animals used in experimentation, but we always realize that there is a lot of room for improvement. In addition, there are study groups at some universities concerned with animal welfare issues. The one I'm part of is the Animal Welfare Laboratory at the Federal University of Paraná (LABEA) under the guidance of Professor Carla Molento. Some legislations are: Law 11.794, of October 8, 2008; Law 9.605, of February 12, 1998; LAW NO. 13.426, OF MARCH 30, 2017; Resolution of the Federal Council of Veterinary Medicine No. 1236 OF 10/26/2018; LAW NO. 14.228, OF OCTOBER 20, 2021; LAW NO. 14.064, OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2020.	Vitor Teixeira
4	'@Brunna, is the 10% neutering requirement built into the agreement set at that level because it is the practical maximum that could be achieved (200k pa)?	with financial and applicable resources in mind, 10 per cent were requested. Ideally, the percentage should be higher... but unfortunately we have very poor municipalities. It would be unattainable if we increased the application fees.	Brunna Ferreira
Gisela Vico Pesch, Asociación Nacional Protectora de Animales (ANPA): Breaking Paradigms Saves Thousands of Lives			
1	Do you have a target % of animals sterilised in the programme in Costa Rica? What is the minimal age animals are sterilized? Do you do TNR?	Hi In the year 2016 a study was made in Costa Rica, which is a powerful baseline in many topics, not only in an estimated dog population. In the early 2000 a study about wild animals as pets was made, which gave us an idea of the cat population. At this moment, 50,5% of the households have dogs. There is an average of 1.8 dogs and a relation of 3,58 habitantes per dog and 10 per cats. In this study (2016) 43,7% of the households had at least one dog s/n which is a great number, because in the year 2003 it was only a 18%. Our goal is to reach 70-80% of the dog / cat population and of course, keep on going to maintain the population controlled. In ANPA we s/n animals after 3 months of age, except for male cats, which is 5 months. Yes, we do, TNR. We always deworm the animals, but rarely vaccinate. At this moment most of this programas are held with local governments.	Gisela Vico
2	'@Gisela, What happened to the animals in the shelter when it was closed in 2006?	They were all re-homed. It took us 6 years. At the time we wanted to close, the average age of the animales was 4-5 years. We we did two huge adoption campaigns of the benefits to adopt adult animals, which were very successful. The last 10 dogs, very old ones, were adopted by a volunteer.	Gisela Vico

3	Thank you for your answer. Let me ask, what is the reason for male cats being neuter at 5 months?	Mostly because of medical reasons. Our vet team says that the urinary tract doesn't develop that good when neutered so early, and when they are older, they can have health issues. And besides, sometimes when they are younger, they haven't developed and it is better to wait a little bit more. until both testicles are in place. I could explain this better in Spanish, I am sorry.	Gisela Vico
4	Gisela that was an eye opener of a presentation. Can I ask how many people work in the organisation you speak for? how many vets actually do the neuters and how many assistants does one vet require? Are the animals released the same day? or is there a holding zone and time for post op evaluation and care?	<p>Thank you very much. Being disruptive in animal welfare topics is not easy. You get "attacked" by other and sometimes it makes you feel maybe it was not such a great idea. But what we have lived and experienced is that shelter should never be part of this efforts, because they don't help and very, very expensive.</p> <p>At this time, we are 6 persons in ANPA doing all the work and we have a group of 6 vets. Before covid we were 3 more, but we always have managed with a small group of very responsible and compromised individuals to get the job done. This team is the youngest we have had in years and they work perfectly. We are very lucky. This is all paid staff. The vets are only paid when they do a s/n clinic, they have their own practices.</p> <p>With our TNR we release the animals one day after they are s/n.</p>	Gisela Vico
5	For the presentation about Costa Rica, I am very curious to know what the main problem is there, and what you are trying to address (eg: welfare, diseases, conflict with people, wildlife or livestock attacks etc), and are there any baseline data and current data to show the impact you are having (eg: population reduction, human behaviour change, lower prevalence of diseases etc)? Thanks for the great presentation and good work your org is doing!	<p>Hi</p> <p>The main issues are dog and cat overpopulation and irresponsible ownership. Using the ICAM impact table, we are focusing in the first 3, improve animal welfare, improve animal care and reduce dog and cat population density.</p> <p>We have a national baseline thanks to a national study made by WAP in the year 2016, and just last year (or 2022) HSI did another study in very specific communities, which are communities where ANPA has worked for many, many years, and the results were fascinating and the work is definitely having a big impact. The study did show population reduction and better dog care.</p> <p>Love to share more with you if you want :) My email is gvicop@anpacostarica.org</p>	Gisela Vico