



PMAC | PRINCE MAHIDOL
AWARD CONFERENCE **2018**



PARALLEL SESSION 1.5

ONE HEALTH ON THE MOVE: NOMADIC COMMUNITIES



| BACKGROUND

Fully dependent on their animals for their livelihood and income, pastoralists employ mobility as a key strategy to ensure the availability of pasture and water for their herds, thus increasing their resilience. While their movement allows them to overcome the vagaries of nature prevalent in the harsh environments they inhabit, their remoteness and often trans-boundary livelihoods have made it challenging to access services and engage in decision-making. Pastoralists are at the forefront of the human, livestock and wildlife interface. They are especially vulnerable to zoonotic diseases, because they live in close contact with their animals and often consume raw milk and meat. Furthermore changing environmental conditions also affect the availability of pasture for their animals, and in-turn affect their nutrition status.

The animal-human-environment sectors are interconnected and associated with the emergence of infectious diseases as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS). Multisectoral approaches such as One Health can help address the challenges at this interface by providing adapted vaccinations campaigns and veterinary services to pastoralists.

| OBJECTIVES

- To foster a deeper understanding of the health risks faced by mobile pastoral communities, and the challenges they encounter in accessing animal and human healthcare
- To share examples of interventions and policies that tackle pastoralists' health issues at the animal-human-environment interface
- To promote the participation of pastoral communities in health policy decisions and sanitation campaigns



Moderator

Gregorio Velasco

Coordinator of the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Italy

Gregorio Velasco Gil is the coordinator of the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub. He is an agricultural engineer with 20 years of working experience in livestock production, animal genetic resources, and water and food security. He has implemented and coordinated field projects in Spain, Venezuela, Algeria, Egypt and various countries in West Africa. Not only has Gregorio worked with pastoralist communities in West Africa, but he also grew up in a pastoralist family in Spain.



Panelist

A. Lotfi Allal

Team Leader, Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Disease

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Egypt

Dr. Lotfi Allal is a veterinarian, serving as the Team Leader for FAO's Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) in Egypt with support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MoALR) and its respective Departments including the General Organization of the Veterinary Services (GOVS), the Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI), the National Laboratory for Veterinary Quality Control and Poultry Production (NLQP), the Central Laboratory for the Evaluation of Veterinary Biologics (CLEVB) and all decentralized offices. Mr. Allal received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1992 followed by a year course of Statistics Applied to Life Sciences in 1993 (Paris); Globalization, Sustainable Development and Cooperation – Stakes and Cooperation Practices in 2003 (Paris) and a One Health International Course in 2015 (Copenhagen). He started his professional career in 1993 and after 9 years with NGOs working respectively in Cambodia, Niger and Lao PDR; he became a Livestock Minister Advisor in Chad in 2002 (with a special focus to the nomadic communities) and finally in charge of the implementation of a livestock program in Northern Lao PDR in 2005 before joining FAO early 2008 in Cambodia as a Team Leader for FAO's ECTAD with support to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and its respective Departments including Animal Health & Production Department, National Veterinary Research Institute and all decentralized offices. During his 25 years in the field, Mr. Allal works under different environments and contexts, mainly on projects management and Government's advice. During this long period, he was leading a number of projects/programs funded by different donors such as ADB, AfDB, AFD, EU, French and German cooperation, JTF, ROK, WB and USAID during the last 10 years. As a Team Leader in Egypt, Mr. Allal is managing the program for addressing Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (A/H5N1), MERS Coronavirus (MERS-CoV), Africa Sustainable Livestock 2050 (ASL2050) and other animal diseases and contributed to FAO Country Representation and Regional Office for approaches in livestock management by promoting safe, sustainable and healthy livestock production, facilitating a One Health approach to agriculture and public health. His technical and managerial insights contributed to FAO's broader mandates of food safety, food security, and sustainable development for poverty elimination.



Panelist

Baldomero Molina Flores

Specialist in Diagnosis, Surveillance and Control of Zoonotic Diseases

Pan American Health Organization

Brazil

VETERINARY & LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST: Degree in Veterinary Medicine from Cordoba University, Spain; MSc in Animal Production-Development Option from Wales-Bangor University, UK; PGD in Veterinary Epidemiology from Granma University, Cuba; and PhD (candidate) in Natural Resources and Sustainable Management from Cordoba University, Spain. About 18 years of both long-term and short term professional experience in more than 40 countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Americas, working for PAHO/WHO, OIE, FAO, AECID, VSF, etc. and more than 80 scientific publications, communications and workshops organized/attended.



Panelist

Benon Asiimwe

Associate Professor

Makerere University
Uganda

Benon Asiimwe, DVM, MSc, PhD, MPH Dr. Benon Asiimwe is an Associate Professor of Microbiology and Public Health at Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda, where he has taught for the last 15 years. His research interests are genomic epidemiology and using the One Health approach to understand pathogen transmission dynamics at the human-animal interface. He currently holds an EcoHealth Chair funded by the IDRC-Canada to study health vulnerabilities in protected ecosystems of Eastern and Central Africa; and is also a recent awardee of the antimicrobial resistance in a Global Context development grant from the MRC (UK). He chairs the research committee of the National One Health Technical Working Group of Uganda.



Panelist

María Teresa Alvarez

Pastoral representative

Redes Chaco y Pastorámericas
Argentina



Panelist

Quentin Moreau

Country Representative

Agronomes et Vétérinaires sans frontières (AVSF)
Mongolia



Panelist

Taghi Farvar

Chair

Shahsevan indigenous tribal confederacy
Iran

