



# Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario Workshop on Long-Distance Transport by Land and Sea

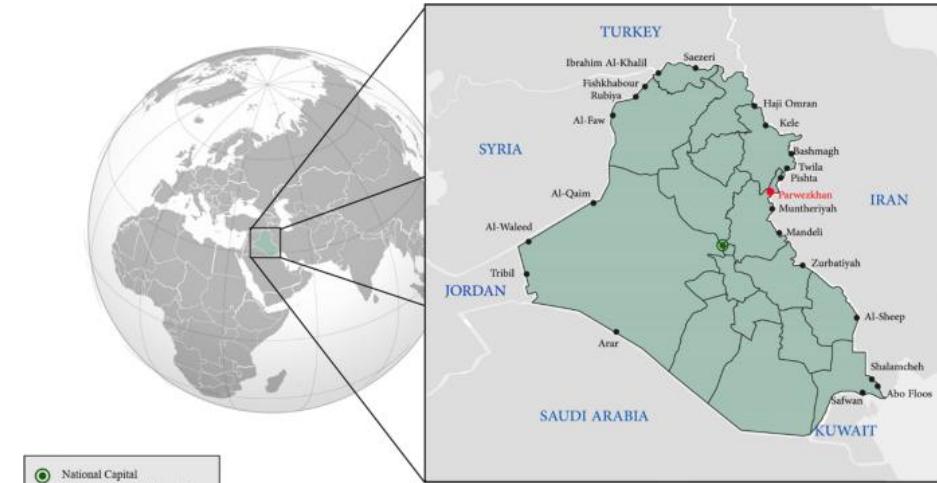
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# Overview of country livestock transport and trade



- **Overview of country livestock transport and trade**
- Iraq is mainly an **importing country** for live animals.
- **Long-distance land transport** is the most common mode, mainly for sheep and cattle.
- **Sea transport** is used through southern ports for imported livestock.
- Animal movements increase seasonally, especially before religious and market peaks.
- Main control points include **land border crossings, international airports, and seaports**, all with veterinary quarantine presence.



# Competent Authority(ies)



- The **Veterinary Authority under the Ministry of Agriculture** is responsible for animal welfare during transport by land and sea.
- Other involved authorities include **Customs, Border Police, Port Authorities, Transport Authorities, and Security Services**, working in coordination at border posts.



# National animal welfare standards



- National regulations require **veterinary inspection of animals before transport and at points of entry**.
- Animals must be **fit to travel**, meaning able to stand, move, and free from severe injury, advanced disease, or extreme exhaustion.
- **Veterinary health certification** is mandatory for cross-border transport.
- Record keeping is applied at border posts, mainly for inspection and certification purposes.
- General standards exist for vehicles and holding facilities, but **technical details are not fully aligned with WOAH standards**.

# Competence of personnel

- There is **no formal national certification system** for animal handlers and drivers specific to animal welfare.
- Competence is largely based on experience, with **limited structured training** on animal welfare during transport.



# Implementation of the standards



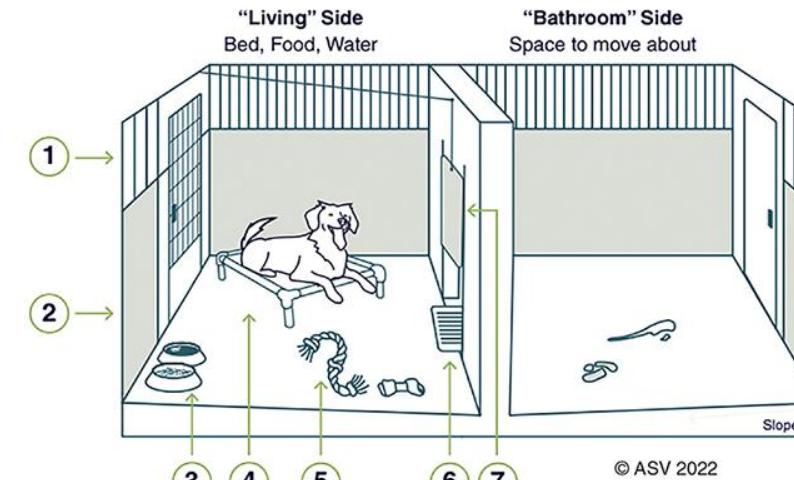
- Animal welfare standards are implemented through **routine veterinary inspections** at border control posts
- Inspections focus on **visible clinical signs and obvious welfare problems**.
- Non-compliance may result in **corrective actions, temporary holding, or refusal of transport**, depending on severity.
- Implementation during long-distance transport remains **challenging due to infrastructure and time constraints**.



# Monitoring and evaluation



- Monitoring is based on **inspection reports and routine controls** at entry points.
- Data on injuries or mortality during transport are **not systematically collected or analyzed**.
- There is **no national evaluation framework** to assess the overall effectiveness of animal welfare measures.



1. Open Bars
  - Interaction
  - Ventilation
2. Partial Visual Barrier
  - Retreat space
  - Interaction choice
3. Food and water
4. Bed or Crate Den
  - Soft resting place
  - Retreat space
5. Toys
6. Floor slope toward drain
  - Faster drying
  - Durable cleanable materials
7. Guillotine door
  - Ease of daily care
  - Staff safety latch outside
  - Retreat space
  - Open except during cleaning

# Cross-border transport of animals



- **Before departure:** Veterinary inspection and official health certification are required.
- **During transit:** Checks may occur at border posts; rest and watering depend on available facilities.
- **At arrival:** Animals are inspected and quarantined if necessary.
- **Reporting problems:** There is **no standardized feedback mechanism** to report serious welfare problems to the sending authority; reporting is done case-by-case.



# Conclusions



- Iraq is **partially compliant** with WOAH standards on animal welfare during long-distance and cross-border transport by land and sea.
- **Main gaps and challenges:**
  - Limited alignment of national legislation with WOAH Chapters 7.2 and 7.3
  - Insufficient infrastructure at some border posts
  - Lack of structured training for handlers and drivers
  - Limited monitoring and data collection
  - Absence of a formal cross-border reporting system

