



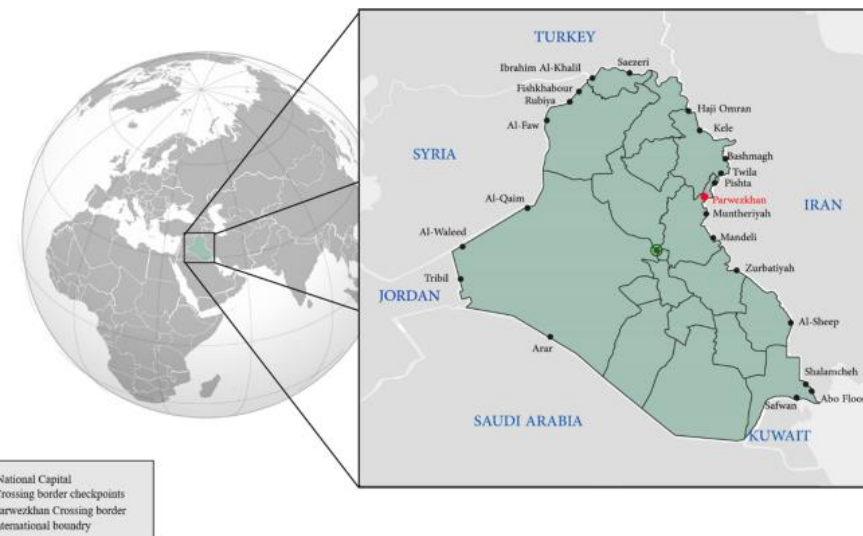
# Multi-regional Whole Journey Scenario Workshop on Long-Distance Transport by Land and Sea

Europe – Middle East – North Africa  
13–15 January 2026, Amman, Jordan

Dr. Ali Othman

# 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 WOAHA 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.



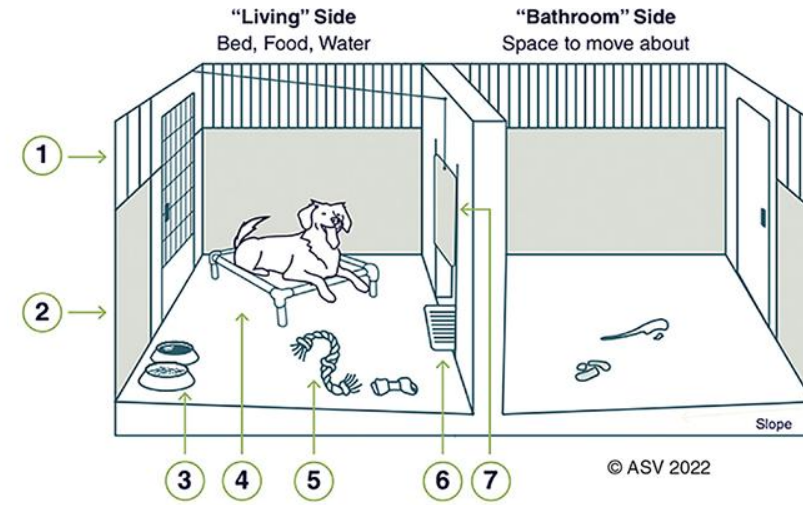
# Implementation of the standards

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



# 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

