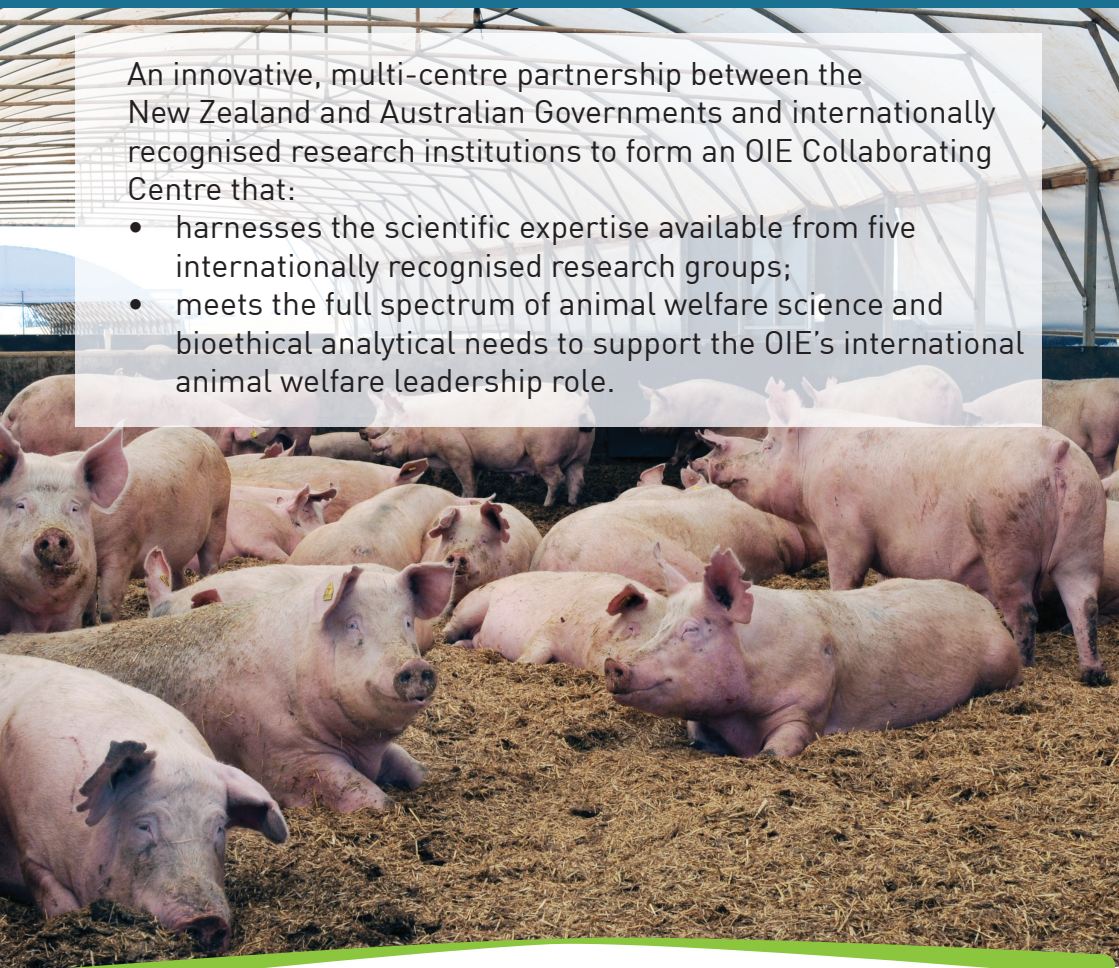


OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis

An innovative, multi-centre partnership between the New Zealand and Australian Governments and internationally recognised research institutions to form an OIE Collaborating Centre that:

- harnesses the scientific expertise available from five internationally recognised research groups;
- meets the full spectrum of animal welfare science and bioethical analytical needs to support the OIE's international animal welfare leadership role.



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Background

The Asia, Far East and Oceania region hosts the OIE's first collaborating centre, granted that status in 2007. The Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis Collaborating Centre, a multicentre partnership between the New Zealand and Australian Governments, comprises New Zealand's Massey University and AgResearch, and Australia's Animal Welfare Science Centre based at the University of Melbourne, the University of Queensland, and CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation), collectively The David Bayvel Consortium.

The OIE animal welfare mandate covers livestock production animals, animals used in research testing and teaching, wild animals, animals used for work, sport, recreational and display purposes and aquatic animals. Given such a broad mandate, the need for animal welfare scientific support will increase progressively, a need that can be met by a well-coordinated, regional multi-centre comprising internationally recognised centres of animal welfare science excellence.

In addition to providing support to the OIE and its Animal Welfare Working Group, and the Asia, Far East and Oceania Region, it is envisaged that the Centre enters into appropriate international "cooperative" arrangements in accordance with OIE policy and strategy.

The Centre has a significant pool of available experience and expertise and collaboration has always been strong between the five institutions, with joint projects and many international links.

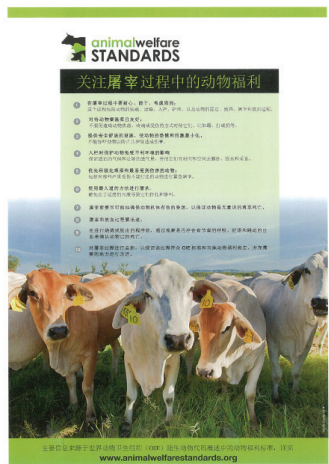
The strengths of all five members to make a unique combination of expertise as follows:

- Diversity and depth of high quality scientific expertise.
- Strong bioethical analytical capacity.
- Wide experience of national and international science issues relevant to regulatory operating frameworks for setting and implementing animal welfare standards.
- Facility to deliver education and training in the animal welfare arena.

Progress and Achievements

The Cooperative project

One of the Collaborating Centre's major initiatives has been to facilitate a Cooperative Project to enhance stakeholder knowledge of the OIE's slaughter and transport standards in Southeast Asia. It was led by the University of Queensland, in partnership with the University Putra Malaysia. The project involved training workshops in China, Vietnam, Malaysia and Thailand, with resources in English, Mandarin, Bahasa Malaysia, Thai and Vietnamese (www.animalwelfarestandards.org). A number of related research projects also investigated attitudes, motivations and barriers to improving welfare practices.



Focusing on the future

The complex, multifaceted nature of modern animal welfare with its scientific, ethical, economic, religious, cultural and trade dimensions was brought together in *Animal Welfare: Focusing on the Future*. One of the OIE's Scientific and Technical Review Series 33 (1), the concept was suggested, and the contributions edited, by the Centre. The international contributors looked to the future through the implementation of standards, and the wider ownership of issues, both in the private and public sectors. Animal welfare is increasingly being recognised as a critical element in wider international public policy issues concerned with, among other things, poverty alleviation, climate change and sustainable agriculture, links emphasised in One Welfare.

Animal zoonoses

CALLISTO (Companion Animals multisectorial, interprofessional, Interdisciplinary Strategic Think tank On zoonoses) was a three-year European research programme that aimed to examine companion animals as sources of infectious disease in people and food producing animals. The Centre contributed to the policy actions working group. The full final report and further information about the project can be found [here](#).

Annual report

A copy of the New Zealand Australia OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis annual report is available [here](#).

Regional Animal Welfare Strategy

A copy of the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy is available [here](#).

Members of the David Bayvel Consortium

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David Bayvel, who had a long and distinguished career in veterinary and animal welfare science and was instrumental in establishing the Centre.

GOVERNANCE

The Centre has a Management Committee, drawn from each of the Government Agencies and the five research groups. The principle point of contact is through the Government nominee.

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