



APRIL 29, 2021

POST-EVENT REPORT



WORLD VETERINARY
ASSOCIATION

Thursday 29th April 3pm - 5pm CET

WVA VIRTUAL SEMINAR

FOOD SECURITY



*Raising awareness and promoting the veterinary role in
achieving global food security.*

OVERVIEW

On 29th April 2021, the WVA organised a virtual seminar on *Food Security* to raise awareness and to promote the veterinarian's role in achieving global food security through partnership with other professionals, integrating veterinary expertise into current and future global food security programs and identifying workforce opportunities for veterinary professionals outside of traditional practice roles. The WVA's recent release of its position statement on [food security and nutrition](#), combined with the impact of SARS-CoV-2 on food supply chains throughout the world, make this a relevant, timely topic for veterinary continuing education. The seminar featured presentations from subject matter experts on recent and novel research findings, highlighting the importance of food security and nutrition globally, especially combined with the impact of SARS-CoV-2. The webinar agenda and presentations can be found [HERE](#) and the full webinar recording can be found [HERE](#).

Welcome and Opening

Dr Patricia Turner – President, World Veterinary Association (WVA)

WVA President, Dr Patricia Turner, opened the seminar by welcoming the participants and commending members of the global veterinary community for their active participation in research and promotion of Food Security at a global level.



Food security under economic globalization and climate change

Prof. Evan Fraser – University of Guelph

Prof. Fraser provided a stimulating presentation in which he documented the importance of food security within the context of economic globalization. Prof. Fraser gave new insights about the essential role of new technologies for the production of food, such as plant-based proteins, robotic milkers, and vertical farming. The full presentation can be viewed [here](#).

Contributions of animal source food to Food Security

Dr. Saskia Hendrickx - USAID

Dr Hendrickx presented on the importance of Animal Source Food (ASF) for Food Security and explained the difference between Food Security and Food Insecurity. Dr Hendrickx discussed the phenomenon of stunting in children to measure the level of food insecurity. She concluded by saying that according to the scientific community, ASF can be an essential source for providing Food Security globally. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).



Contribution of Animal Health Services for Food and Nutrition Security in Ethiopia

Dr. Gijs Van't Klooster -FAO/ECTAD

Dr Klooster presented the current situation of Food Security and Food Access in Ethiopia and emphasized that the tremendous increase in human population is one of the main threats that the country has to face in the years to come. Dr Klooster also explained that Food Insecurity in Ethiopia is mainly related to geographical and demographical parameters. The complete presentation can be viewed [here](#).



The role of veterinarians in Food Security

Dr. Karla Lucia Verastegui Castro

Dr Castro presented on the multidisciplinary role of veterinarians, from animal health, animal welfare to research and development and policymaking. Dr Castro also shared her professional experience and described the current situation in Peru. Finally, she addressed the issue of under-representation of veterinarians in the aquaculture industry. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).



FOOD SECURITY- MOVING FORWARD

The lectures were followed by a panel discussion and Q&A session bringing together all speakers and an additional veterinary expert: Dr Milorad Radakovic from the University of Cambridge. Dr Radakovic led the panel discussion by questioning, *who should be responsible for addressing hunger and food insecurity in the future?* The discussion continued by addressing issues regarding methods and tools that can be used to measure Food Security, the main differences between the developing and developed countries concerning Food Security, and the impact of animal diseases on Food Security.



We produce enough food but not healthy one...

Prof. Evan Fraser

Food Security means that we have to provide safe food and nutritious food to everyone....

Dr Saskia Hendrickx

There is no food security without food safety...

Dr Karla Lucia Verastegui Castro

CLOSING

The WVA Food Security Virtual Seminar was concluded with closing remarks from the WVA President emphasising the essential role of veterinarians in assuring Food Security and said that WVA will remain actively engaged on this issue. Dr Turner closed the seminar by thanking all of those involved in the preparations of the seminar, and the global veterinary community for their commitment.

The future will include more quality and less quantity of meat. At the same time, we need to be able to produce any crop at any time and anywhere.

DID YOU MISS THE VIRTUAL SEMINAR?

The seminar will be available on the [WVA YouTube Channel](#) for FREE!!