



Veterinarians commit to sustainable food systems



Maurizio Ferri

FVE Webinar
23 May 2022

FEDERATION OF VETERINARIANS OF EUROPE

The FVE Network

Members Observers



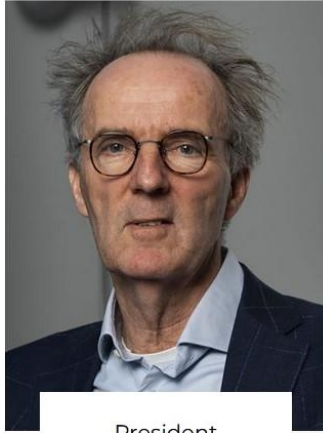
>300 000 veterinarians

- 47 national associations
- 39 European countries
- 4 Sections
 - UEVP (*Practitioners*)
 - UEVH (*Hygienists – Public Health Officers*)
 - EASVO (*Veterinary State Officers*)
 - EVERI (*Education, Research, Industry*)

Mission

- to **enhance animal health, animal welfare, public health and protect the environment** by promoting the veterinary profession
- together with its members, FVE supports veterinarians in delivering their **professional responsibilities** to the best possible standards and ensures that veterinary expertise is recognized and valued by society

Veterinarians know, care and contribute



President
Rens van Dobbenburgh
 (Netherlands)



Vice-President
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 (France)



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 Vet Practitioners
 Piotr Kwieninski

UEVH
 Food Safety, Public Health
 Slaven Grbic

EASVO
 State Vet Officers
 Jane Clark

EVERI
 Edu, Research, Industry
 Massenzio Fornasier

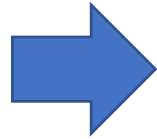
Working Groups

- Food safety & sustainability
- Animal Welfare
- Medicines
- Statutory Bodies

SECRETARIAT

Food Safety & Sustainability

1. Maurizio Ferri
2. Alvaro Mateos
3. John Matthews
4. Marek Kubica
5. Ole Alvseike
6. Cornelia Rossi-Broy
7. Fran Proscia (Secretariat)



Simon Doherty

- Veterinarians in circular economy, “Farm-to-Fork” strategy & in Green Deal
- Campaigning & promoting role of veterinarians in protecting public health
- Liaising with stakeholders
- EFSA Stakeholders Discussion group on Emergent Risk
- EFSCM

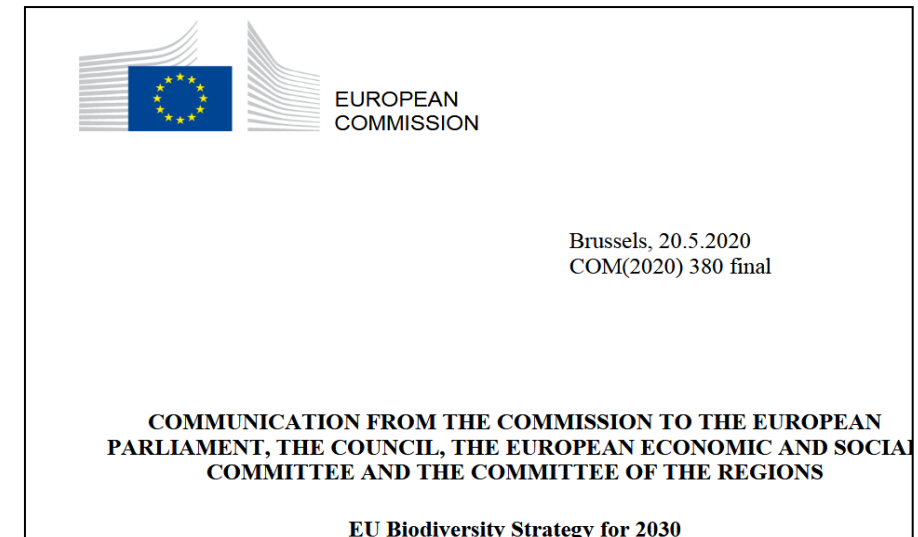
The preamble

▪ EU Farm to Fork Strategy

- food sustainability and the importance of **animal health and welfare** is detailed in the European Union's F2F strategy, part of the European Green Deal.
- food security
- food lost and waste (reducing)
- food fraud
- reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- preservation of biodiversity

▪ EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

- protect nature and revers the degradation of ecosystems




Terminology

- Food systems
 - all actors & interactions along the food value chain + relevant policy
 - FS are transnational and failures are systemic
- Food chain
 - transferring food energy from the producers, through a series of organisms (herbivores to carnivores to decomposers)
- Sustainability
 - sustainable farming and agriculture means that they are undertaken in a way that meets the present needs without compromising the ability to meet the future ones



The EU framework initiative on sustainable food systems

- horizontal EU legislative framework for sustainable food systems (FSFS)
- accelerate and facilitate the transition
- make the transition to sustainable food systems easier
- promotion of policy coherence at EU level and national level

 Ref. Ares(2021)5902055 - 28/09/2021

INCEPTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Inception Impact Assessments aim to inform citizens and stakeholders about the Commission's plans in order to allow them to provide feedback on the intended initiative and to participate effectively in future consultation activities. Citizens and stakeholders are in particular invited to provide views on the Commission's understanding of the problem and possible solutions and to make available any relevant information that they may have, including on possible impacts of the different options.

TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE	<i>Sustainable food system framework initiative</i>
LEAD DG (RESPONSIBLE UNIT)	DG SANTE Farm to Fork/ DG AGRI/DG ENV/DG MARE
LIKELY TYPE OF INITIATIVE	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council
INDICATIVE PLANNING	Q4 2023
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	Farm to Fork Strategy (COM(2020) 381 final)

The Inception Impact Assessment is provided for information purposes only. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content. All elements of the initiative described by the Inception impact assessment, including its timing, are subject to change.

The FVE Strategy



Federation of
Veterinarians
of Europe
Strategy
2021-2025

Veterinarians
know, care and
contribute

- **One health and sustainability**
- One veterinary community
- Being recognised & influential
- Veterinary demography & rewarding careers
- **Embracing technology**

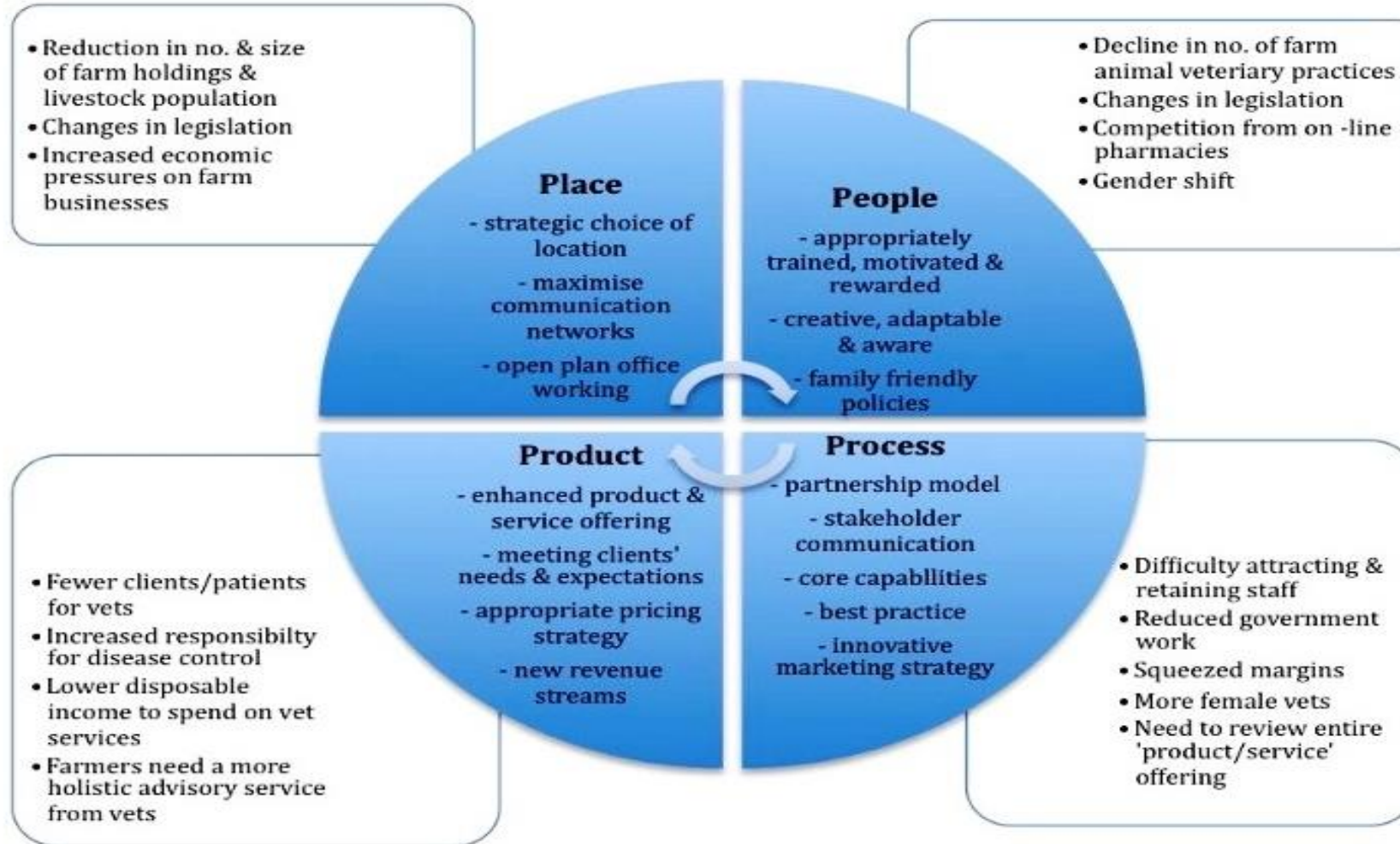
The changes

Changes in farming sector

- Reduction in no. & size of farm holdings & livestock population
- Changes in legislation
- Increased economic pressures on farm businesses

Changes in veterinary sector

- Decline in no. of farm animal veterinary practices
- Changes in legislation
- Competition from on-line pharmacies
- Gender shift



Impact

Impact

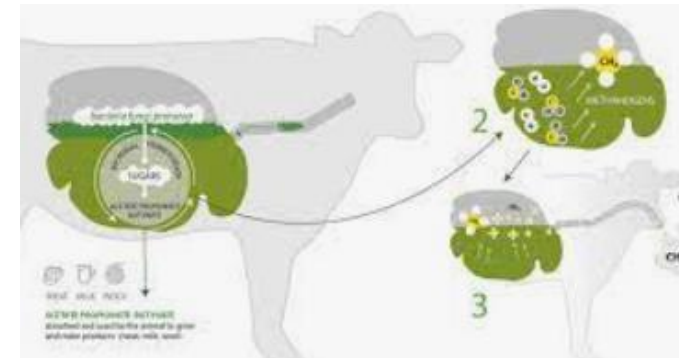
The veterinary role in promoting and implementing sustainability and biodiversity

- Vet are aware of the most pressing anthropocenic issues: climate change, reduced biodiversity, sustainability, food safety, antimicrobial resistance
- veterinary profession has the necessary tools to drive changes in agriculture and animal production, increase their efficiency with less environmental impact.
- vets are strategically positioned at the animal-human-environment interface and can provide a wide range of sustainability services to society

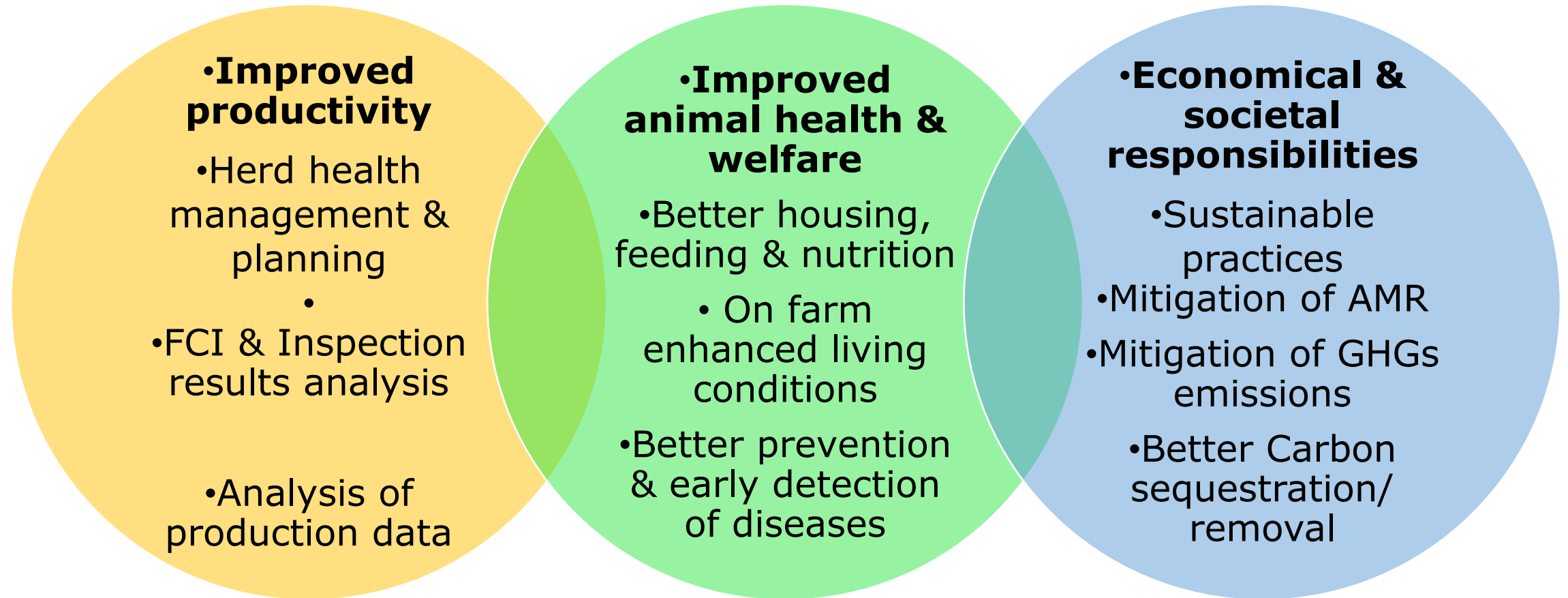


The veterinary key sustainability services

- improving animal welfare and animal health
 - reduce food chain waste associated with livestock disease
 - reduce carbon footprint (modify enteric fermentation)
- supporting protection (health and welfare) of wildlife species their habitats and biodiversity
- reducing the public health risk of antimicrobial resistance through a responsible use of medicine



The veterinary key sustainability services



FVE sustainability campaign



*FVE/2021/pp/018
Adopted 11 June 2021*

Veterinarians commit to sustainable food systems

Members

Albania
Austria
Belgium
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Montenegro
Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Serbia
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Kingdom

The Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) - representing around 300,000 veterinarians across 39 European countries - aims to enhance animal health, animal welfare, public health and to protect the environment by promoting the veterinary profession. The FVE and the European veterinary profession play a key role in One Health, animal health, animal welfare and public health.

Introduction

The livestock sector contributes substantially to the European economy and is a key component of the agri-food systems¹.

Veterinarians are special advisors to livestock farmers and keepers and are fully committed to sustainable livestock and aquaculture production by promoting day-by-day animal health and welfare, public health and protecting the ecosystems². Veterinarians contribute to keeping EU food at a global gold standard³ by:

- Advising and supporting farmers through the transfer of knowledge, skills, and competencies;
- Enforcing legislation;
- Applying innovation and effective technologies throughout food supply networks;
- Providing scientific support to policy-makers and decision-makers;

Throughout this paper, FVE intends to provide a list of the most important areas where the veterinary sector actively contributes to sustainable food systems throughout the promotion of animal health, welfare and public health. FVE points to the need to further invest in these crucial areas as they represent the backbone for improved sustainability, global health and security.

FVE sustainability campaign

FVE | Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

Veterinarians commit to Sustainable Food Systems



1. One Health

Veterinarians contribute to the One Health approach through improved communication and collaboration between animal health, human health and environmental health partners

FVE | Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

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2. Food Safety & Security

Veterinarians play pivotal roles in all parts of food supply networks, namely safe production, processing, transport and distribution of products of animal origin

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3. Animal Health & Welfare

Veterinarians recognize the link between livestock health & welfare farms and promote them day by day

FVE sustainability campaign



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4.

Antimicrobial resistance

Veterinarians, animal owners and the wider livestock sector keep working hard to REDUCE the need for antibiotics in food-producing animals



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5.

Environmental protection & mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions

Veterinarians support farmers at land and sea to adapt to changing environmental factors such as climate change



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6.

Circular economy

Veterinarians support and ensure the most effective and responsible use of the resources at the farm and along the whole food chain

Way forward

- Ensure a **WISE** shift towards digital animal agriculture
- Improve the 'One Health' perspective
- Keeping the livestock sector efficient, diseases free, welfare friendly and trusted by consumers
- Continue to make responsible use of antibiotics
- Reduce the climate footprint of farming
- Increase organic production (by 25%).

Take home message

- key emerging threat of the planet (e.g. climate change) is not more solely viewed with an anthropocentric perspectives but with an impact on non-human species under the guard of the vet profession
- the animal farming has environmental, animal welfare, human and animal health consequences
- even if the **veterinary profession** could be considered a part of the problem, **is also the solution**, particularly in advising farmers and prescribing good farming practices in line with the sustainability objectives.
- the vet profession is **re-defining its roles in society for a sustainable future** and fall under the scope of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) framework (e.g. animal welfare).

NEED FOR ANIMAL PROTEIN



**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

FOOD SAFETY



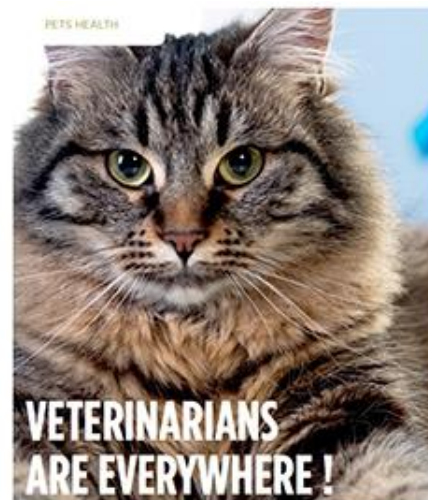
**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

ZOOLOGICAL PREVENTION



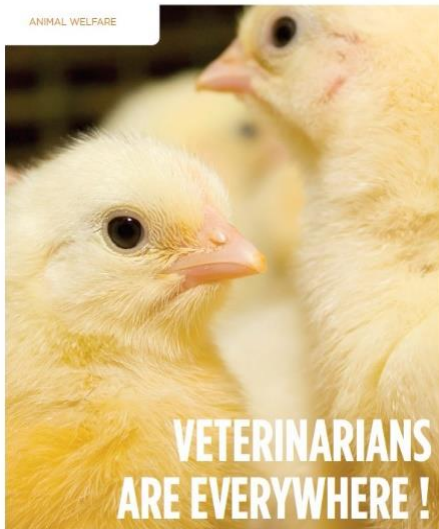
**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

PETS HEALTH



**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

ANIMAL WELFARE



**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

MEDICAL RESEARCH



**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

NEW RESOURCES



**VETERINARIANS
ARE EVERYWHERE !**

THANK YOU!

Tel.: +32 2 533 70

E-mail: francesco@fve.org

Website: <https://fve.org/>

WHERE WE ARE

Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE)

Victor Oudart 7 1030 Brussels

