

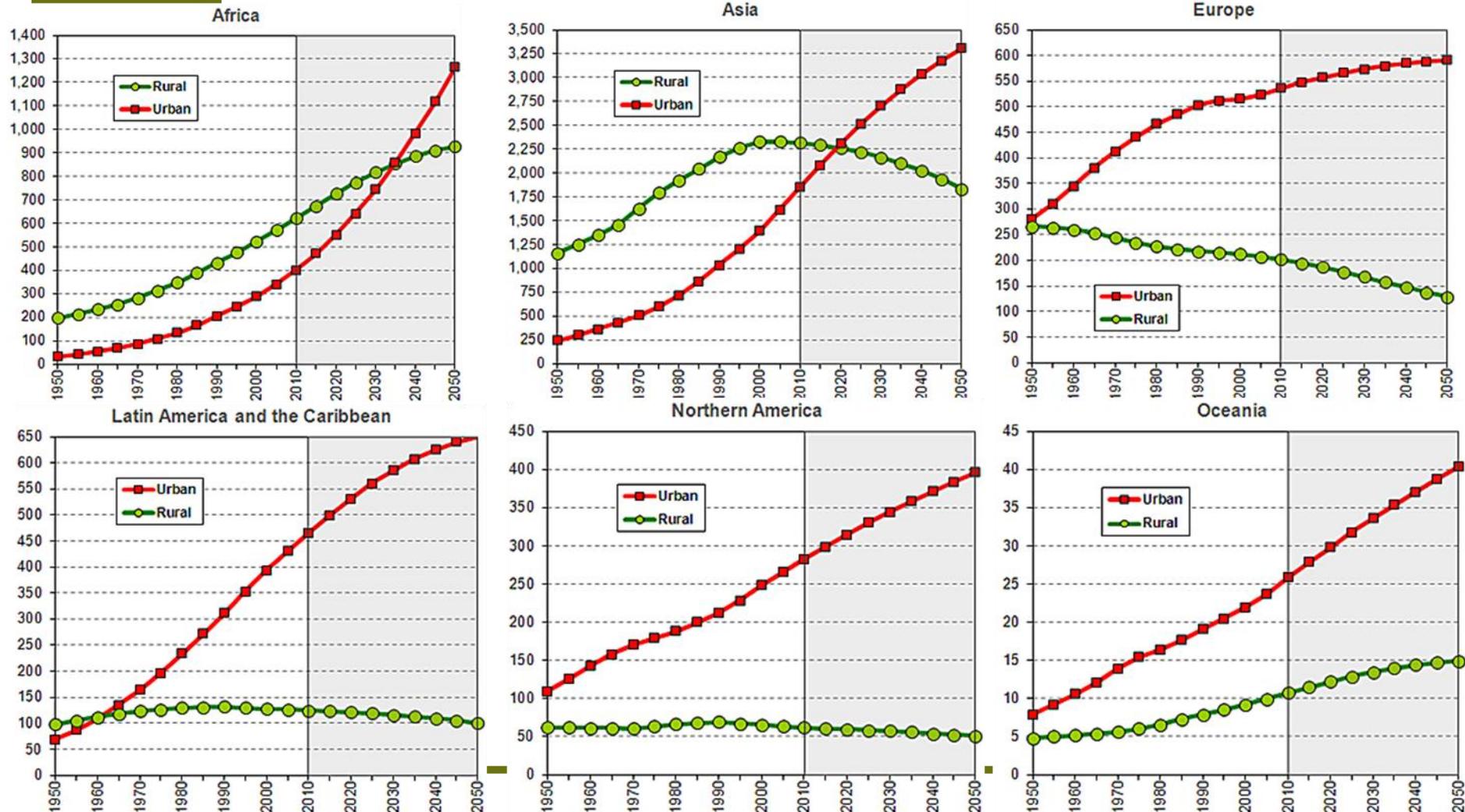
AHW(13)2140:1

Existing initiatives to implement responsible and prudent use: need for a harmonised multisectorial approach - European farmer initiatives

- Gwyn JONES -
Vice-chair of the Animal Health and Welfare Working Party of Copa-Cogeca

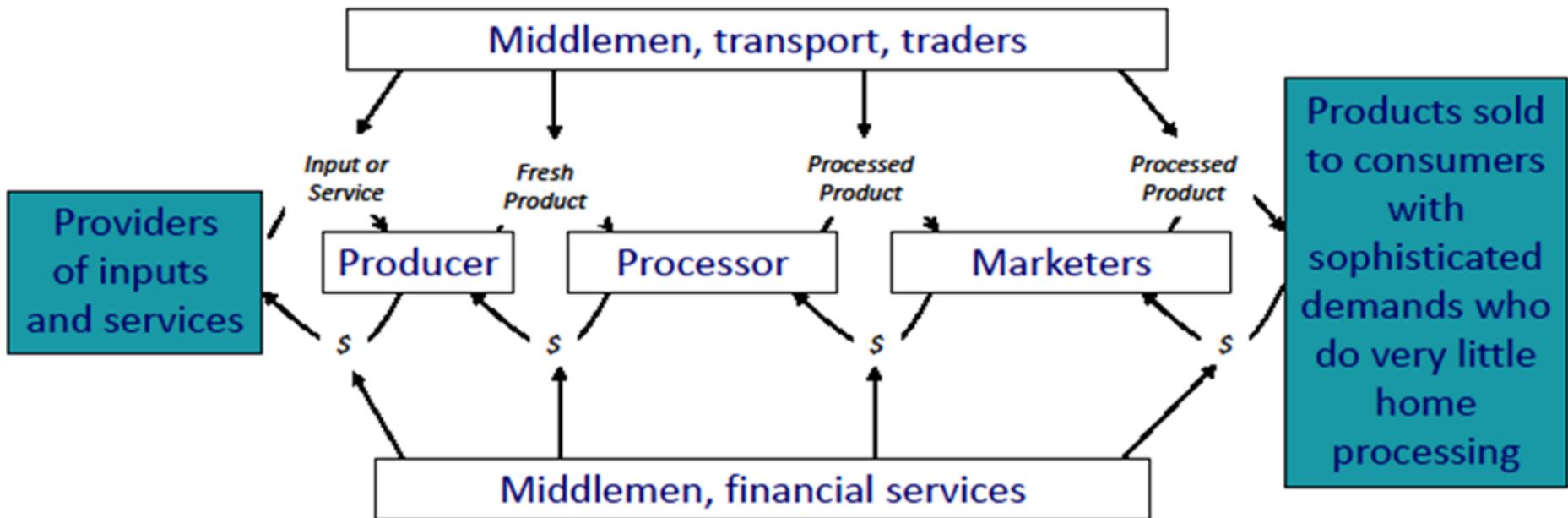
Paris, 14th March 2013

Urban and rural population by major regions, 1950-2050 (million)



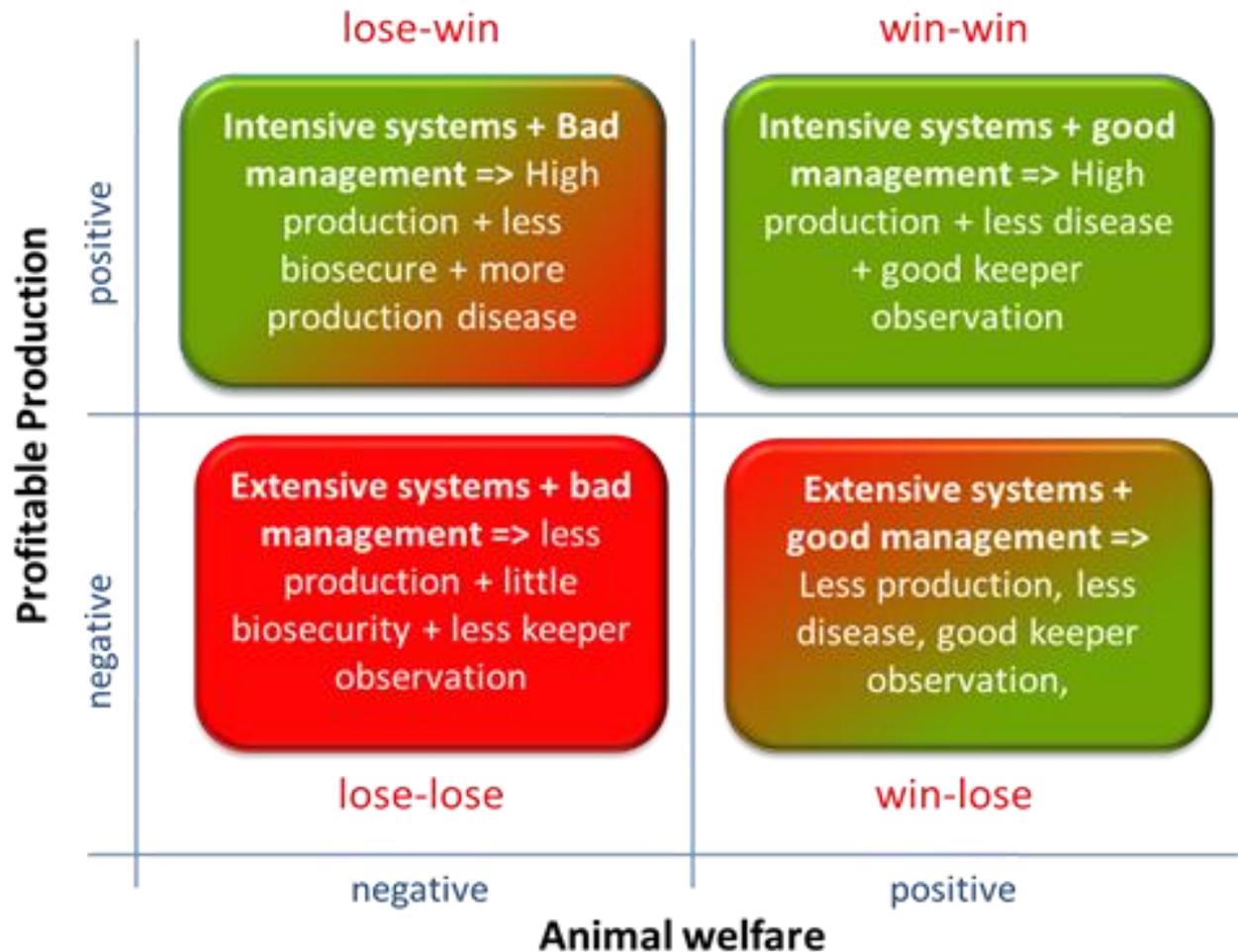
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division: *World Urbanization Prospects, the 2011 Revision*. New York, 2012

Schematic diagram of a complex livestock food chain



Source: Rushton, J. (2009) The Economics of Animal Health and Production.

Balance objective of productivity with sustainability and animal welfare



Antimicrobial resistance is a serious concern

1. Fundamental to ensure a responsible use of antimicrobials in order to:

- Guarantee that bacterial infections in animals and humans can continue to be treated in future;
- Prevent the transmission of resistant bacteria through the food-chain and into the environment;

2. Reduce risks without reducing the availability of necessary antimicrobials

- Access to smart, effective and also alternative tools to cure our animals

What has been achieved so far ?

1. **More awareness** among the farming community (e.g. disease prevention, good husbandry practices);
 - Ongoing information campaigns at Member State level;
2. **More transparency and responsibility;**
3. **Greater collaboration** among the key players (e.g. farmers, vets, animal health industry, research institutes) and public authorities;
4. **Development of Guidelines** for the responsible use of antimicrobials in animals both at EU (e.g. EPRUMA) and Member State level;

Use of critically important antibiotics

1. Third and fourth generation cephalosporins and fluoroquinolones should be excluded as a first drug of choice for clinical diseases in individual animals/groups of animals
2. ...unless clinical history or specific antibiograms indicate that they are needed
3. Bacteriological examinations should be performed to find alternative solutions in case of failure
4. It is important to guarantee a broad and **effective diagnostic system** across all EU Member States

Transparency and responsibility of all key actors

1. Increased transparency regarding the use of antimicrobials is essential
2. A harmonised system of data collection is needed for epidemiological surveillance
3. Privacy and quality of the data should be preserved
4. This official monitoring should be carried out in an aggregated manner by a veterinarian/pharmacist, and should be based on veterinary prescriptions.
5. Farmers, however, would still be obliged to record all treatments for on farm control and to facilitate post-treatment evaluation and possible readjustments.

How can we ensure a responsible use of antimicrobials at farm level ?

1. Disease prevention is at the core of farmers' agenda - Good husbandry system (e.g. good hygiene, biosecurity plans, proper feed, right animal environment and management)
2. All farmers must adhere to the veterinary prescription, including recommendations for medicine use;
3. Record all treatments in order to facilitate evaluation and allow for possible adjustments to future treatments;
4. Appropriate and effective diagnosis before treating animals with antimicrobials
5. Ensuring a continued availability of specialised vets who are able to provide a prompt and appropriate prescription

Health management on farm

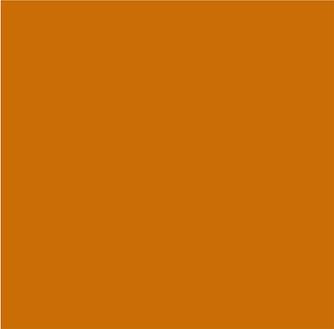
1. On a **voluntary basis**, it is important to promote the setting up of **farm-based health management planning** systems to:
 - Prevent health problems becoming established
 - Measure – how much disease is costing your farm
 - Manage - with your vet or other adviser the most effective health management methods
 - Monitor –regularly review and make necessary changes in the herd (management)
2. It is **not a certification scheme** !
3. Voluntary quality schemes are part of the solution

Further plans ahead to reduce the risks of antimicrobial resistance - 1

1. Ensure proper financial resources within the next **Common Agricultural Policy 2014-2020** for structural investments at farm level (e.g. new husbandry system, biosecurity schemes)
2. Call on **more research and innovative solutions on animal health and husbandry systems within:**
 - The European research framework “Horizon 2020”
 - Joint Programming initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance
3. Facilitate the **uptake of innovation** through the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) "Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability"

Further plans ahead to reduce the risks of antimicrobial resistance - 2

1. Continue **eradication programs, where possible and cost effective** – e.g. BVD is a precursor to pneumonia, reduced fertility and lack of thrift, all potentially requiring antimicrobials.
2. Continue the uptake of **training courses and guidelines** on the management of modern livestock farms, animal health and antimicrobial use
3. Work on **shared communication strategies** to disseminate information on the responsible use of antimicrobials
4. Sharing practices of antimicrobial use and the success of measures to decrease **unnecessary use of antimicrobials**.



EPRUMA : multi-stakeholder platform linking best practices with animal health and public health

EPRUMA's objectives

1. Build stakeholder agreement on what constitutes “Responsible Use” of veterinary medicines
2. Promote animal health & welfare as well as human health through the “Responsible Use” of veterinary medicines
3. Develop broad principles at EU level, which in turn can be tailored nationally to reflect local specificities in EU Member States.
4. Ensure coordination with national initiatives on responsible use and with countries where such initiatives do not yet exist
5. Promote the principles of responsible use as part of communication and education campaigns

EPRUMA is a multi-stakeholder platform linking best practice with animal health and public health. It aims to promote the responsible use of medicines in animals in the EU. [read more](#)



▶ VETERINARIANS



▶ FARMERS



▶ PET OWNERS



▶ FOOD CHAIN

FECAVA poster with advice on the responsible use of antimicrobials in pets

20 December 2012: The Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations (FECAVA) has published a poster with advice to veterinarians on the responsible use of antimicrobials in pets.

To download the poster, visit the [FECAVA website](#).

[Read More](#)

EPRUMA strengthens links with national platforms on Responsible Use

NEWS & EVENTS

- March 13, 2013
 - ▶ OIE global conference on the responsible use of antimicrobial agents for animals
- December 20, 2012
 - ▶ FECAVA poster with advice on the responsible use of antimicrobials in pets
- December 19, 2012
 - ▶ EPRUMA strengthens links with national platforms on Responsible Use
- July 2, 2012
 - ▶ Introductory leaflet on EPRUMA

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

Conclusions

1. Science based communication is needed
2. Antimicrobial resistance is a shared responsibility
3. European farmers and agri-cooperatives are keen to continue to play their role in preventing animal diseases and ensuring responsible use of medicines at farm level;
4. Important to ensure access to smart, effective and alternative tools on the market to cure their animals
5. Tackling antimicrobial resistance is a global issue: one world – one health

Copa-Cogeca - defending and developing the European Model of Agriculture



Thank you!

www.copa-cogeca.eu

