



THE GLOBAL STANDARD FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

Network. Guidelines. Certification.

International Committee for Animal Recording: *The Global Standard for Livestock Data*

Ana Granados Chapatte
ICAR General Manager
NDHIA meeting
Savannah, GA, 5 March 2026

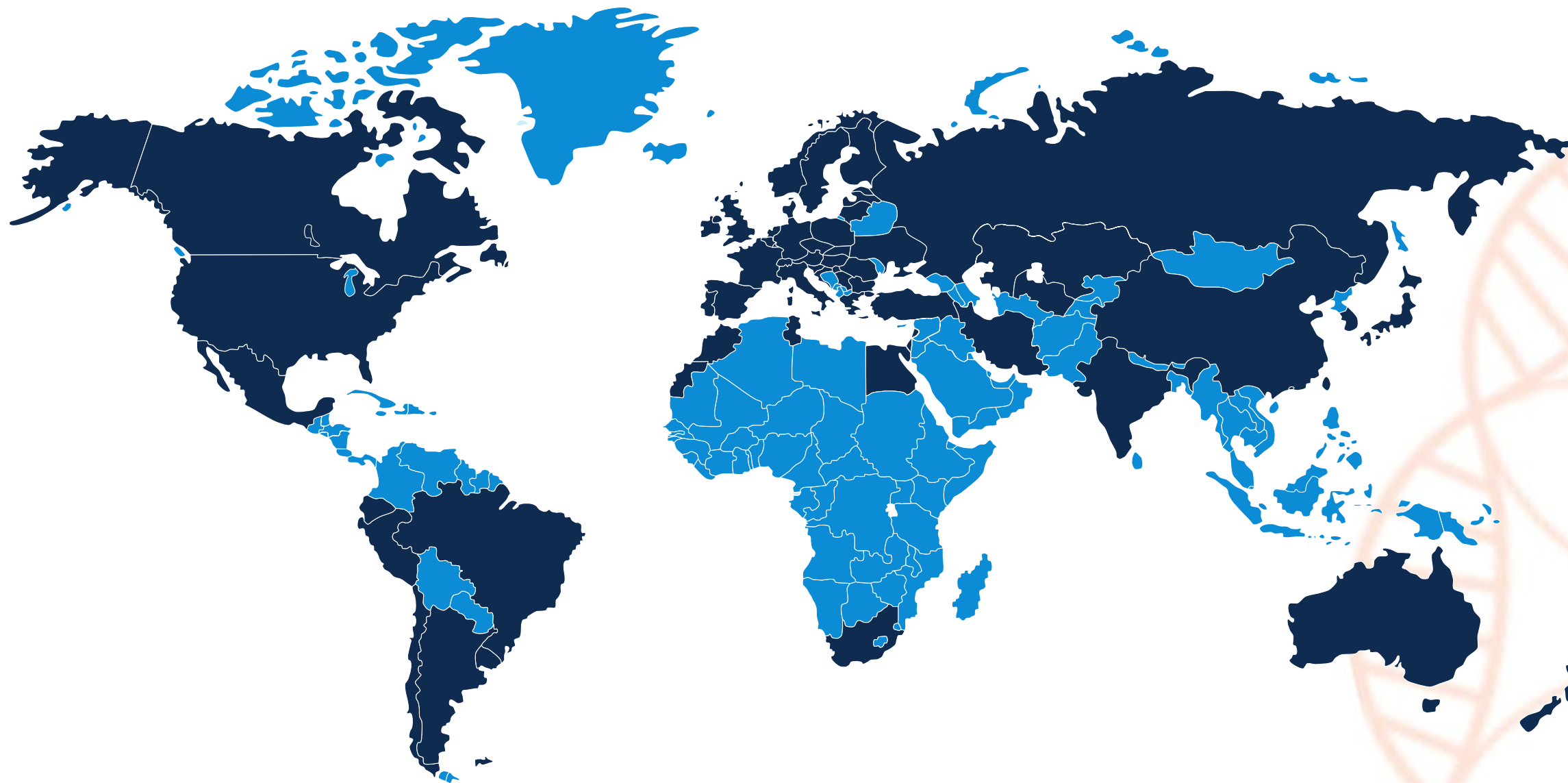
Presenting an overview

- Who we are and what we do
- And why
- Some examples and partners



ICAR MEMBERS & ACTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD

ICAR Members organisations • 135 members in 50 countries



Some members



Some Associated Members



DATAMARS FOSS



THE GLOBAL STANDARD
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

Vision:

ICAR, the universal language for sustainable animal production.

Mission:

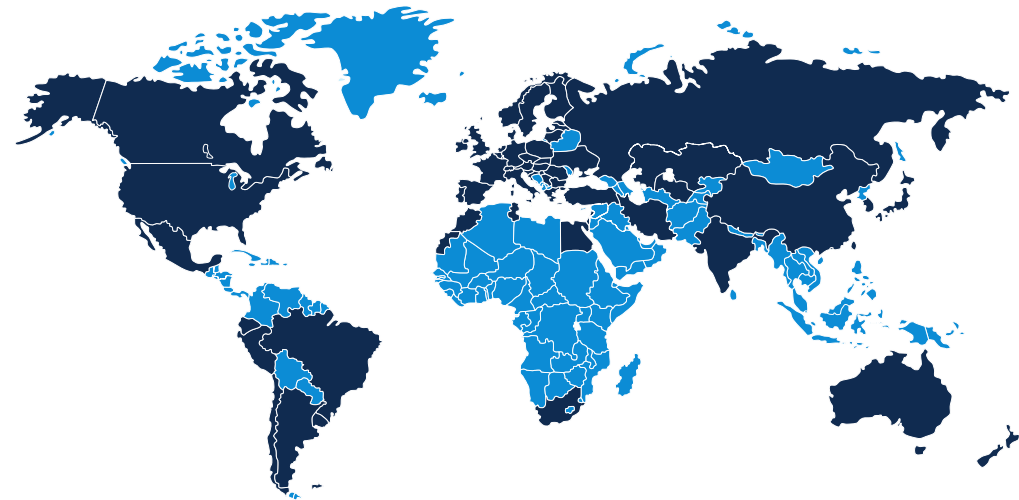
ICAR is the global provider of independent Guidelines, Standards, Validation & Certification for Animal Identification, Recording, Management and Genetic Evaluation.



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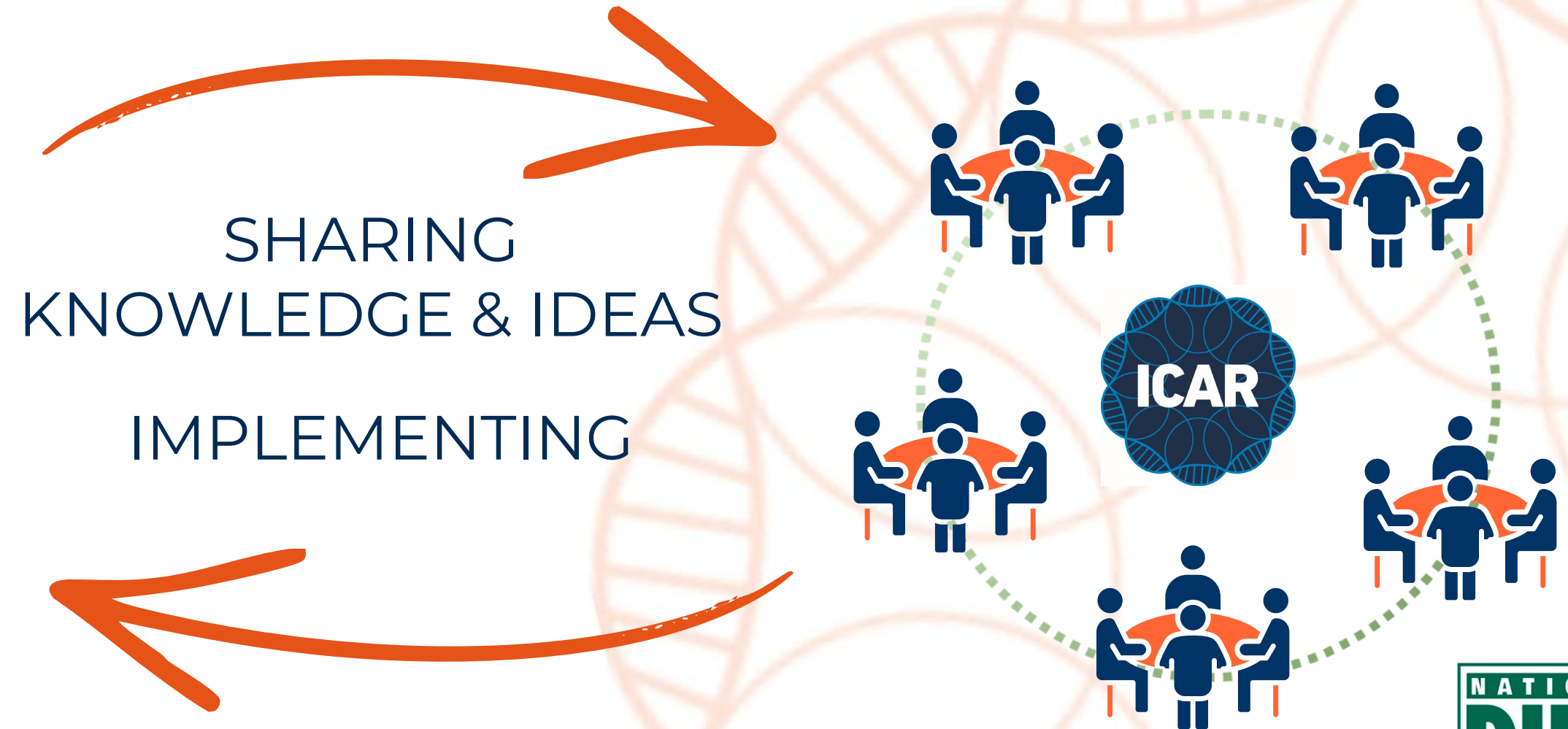
Building consensus, based on science for the benefit of farmers and their animals

ICAR Members organisations



To communicate and implement outputs locally with farmers/breeders

Subcommittees & Working groups



ICAR STANDARDS – BEST PRACTICES AND HARMONIZATION: WHY?

DEVELOPMENT & IMPROVEMENT FOR IDENTIFICATION, RECORDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF TOOLS, INCLUDING GENETIC EVALUATION

- Trait definition
- What data to record for certain trait and how?
- Frequency of recording
- Data checks to apply



HARMONIZATION AND DEFINITION OF TRAITS

For example, deriving certain traits from AMS data or sensors, different definitions and measurement principles across manufacturers for traits like:

- Milking speed
- Box time
- Failed, interrupted, missing milking
- Rumination time (ICAR-IDF initiative)



THE GLOBAL STANDARD
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SUBCOMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

- Animal Identification
- Measuring, recording and sampling devices
- Milk analysis
- Interbull
- Beef
- DNA
- Dairy cattle milk recording
- Conformation recording
- Feed intake and Greenhouse emissions
- Functional traits
- Artificial insemination
- **Animal data exchange (ADE)**
- Sheep, goats and camelids



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ICAR STANDARDS – GUIDELINES



SUBCOMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

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GUIDELINES FOR

- Functional traits
- Milk recording
- Measuring, recording and sampling devices
- Identification devices
- Beef traits
- Animal data exchange (ADE) standards
- Feed intake and methane

ICAR STANDARDS – GUIDELINES



ICAR WIKI🔍



Navigation

- [Guidelines](#)
- [Table of Contents](#)
- [Advanced search](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Help about MediaWiki](#)
- [ICAR Wiki SOP](#)

Wiki tools

- [Special pages](#)
- [Cite this article](#)

Guidelines

[Main Page](#) [Discussion](#)
[View source](#) [History](#)

This is the approved revision of this page, as well as being the most recent.

Forward

Welcome to [ICAR's](#) Guidelines Wiki. The content on this wiki is derived from the Guidelines, originally produced as PDF. The ICAR Guidelines attempt to provide the world-wide farm livestock recording sector with detailed standards and guidelines representing the state-of-the-art for the full range of activities involved in the identification, performance recording and evaluation of farm livestock.

Sections

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 0 – Preamble Section 01 – General Rules Section 02 – Cattle Milk Recording Section 03 – Beef Cattle Recording Section 04 – DNA Technology Section 05 – Conformation Recording Section 06 – AI and ET Data and Fertility Analysis Section 07 – Bovine Functional Traits Section 08 – Certificate of Quality Section 09 – Dairy Cattle Genetic Evaluation Section 10 – Identification Device Certification Section 11 – Testing, Approval and Checking of Measuring, Recording and Sampling Devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 12 – Evaluation of milk analysers for ICAR Certification Section 14 – Alpaca and Goat Identification and Fibre Section 15 – Data Exchange Section 16 – Dairy Sheep and Goats Section 17 – Buffalo Milk Recording Section 18 – Breed Associations Section 19 – Recording Feed Intake for Genetic Evaluation Section 20 – Methane Emission for Genetic Evaluation Section 21 – Meat, reproduction and maternal trait in sheep and goats Section 22 – Sustainability recording traits Section 23 – Wool Sheep Recording Section 24 – Recording resilience in sheep and goats
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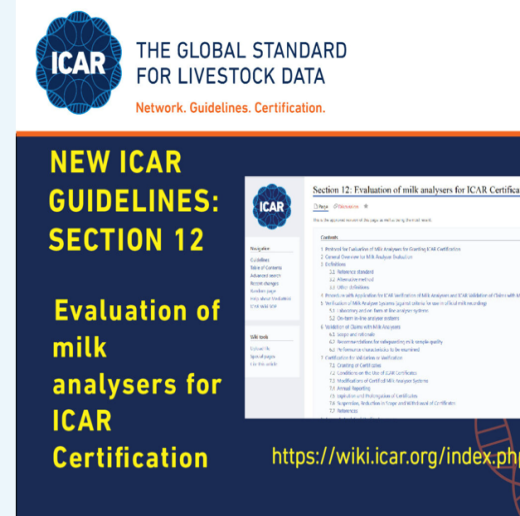
[Glossary](#)

Some examples

New ICAR Guidelines on “Evaluation of milk analysers for ICAR Certification”

New Section 12 of the Guidelines

[Link to the new Guidelines](#)



The ICAR “Bull Semen Proficiency Test”

The ICAR “Bull Semen Proficiency Test” operative since this week (17-June) !!!!!

[Read more here](#)



Validation of Methane Recording Devices

POTENTIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF SENSOR DATA FOR GENETIC IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES



Animal data exchange standards



The objective is to establish direct, permanent, reliable, easy to implement and to maintain, and cost-effective exchanges of large amounts of data both ways: **between equipment and external information systems and from equipment to external information systems.**

Modernise
and create
new
methods for
data transfer

Develop and
implement a
worldwide data
dictionary

Interface
specifications

Consider new
data coming



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Take home messages

- A lot is ongoing in livestock farming →
 - New and more technology and data
 - Existing and new initiatives
- Are we collaborating enough?
- How we can improve ICAR services
- Improved dialogue with stakeholders, including manufacturers
- To work on what has been already done
- Farmers' place and benefit at the core of the discussion





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Thank you

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March 2026