

***SESSION OVERVIEW***

**Chair:** Dr. Elly Hiby

**Speakers:** Kate Atema, Dr. Elly Hiby, John Friar, Dr. Giovanna Massei

**POPULATION DYNAMICS OF FREE-ROAMING DOGS**

Dr. Elly Hiby

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This session will cover the challenges and solutions to collecting and analyzing appropriate data relating to dog population dynamics, including interactions and attitudes of the human populations that live with these dogs. An improved understanding of dog populations and their place in human communities will allow us to plan intelligently how best to implement non-surgical tools in a way that contributes meaningfully to population management and both dog and human welfare. In addition, such data can inform ongoing evaluation and subsequent improvement of population management programs.

Dr. Giovanna Massei presented first on “Using fertility control inhibitors for dog population management: a roadmap.” She addressed the wider context of introducing non-surgical tools, including cost-benefit analysis and legal compliance, and how a greater understanding of these criteria can impact implementation decisions.

The second talk, “A system for integrated data collection, information analysis, and modeling,” was given by John Friar and Kate Atema. They presented on the development, use, and application of an integrated system to facilitate strategic guidance and decision-making around animal/human health and welfare projects.

Dr. Elly Hiby presented third on “Practical ways to measure important dog population parameters,” sharing her experiences with and best practices for monitoring myriad characteristics of free-roaming dog populations.