



... linking the health and welfare of animals, people and the environment

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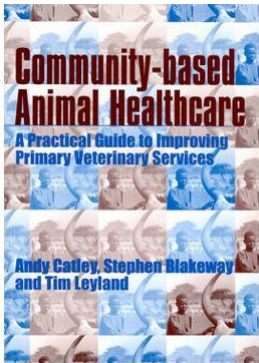
HISTORY 6: 1997 PUNE EVK CONFERENCE VOLUME 2: ABSTRACTS

One of our first and most influential projects:

COMMUNITY-BASED ANIMAL HEALTHCARE:

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO IMPROVING PRIMARY VETERINARY SERVICES

Editors: Andy Catley, Stephen Blakeway and Tim Leyland



A partnership between Vetwork UK, the Participatory Community-based Animal Health and Vaccination (PARC-VAC) Project, Organisation of African Unity / Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources, and Intermediate Technology Publications (now called Practical Action). Written by a team of veterinarians and livestock professionals with field experience of community-based projects in Africa and Asia, the guide contains contributions and case studies from projects around the world, presented as text boxes, stories, anecdotes, diagrams, cartoons and photographs.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Getting started

Chapter 3: Taking a long-term perspective: sustainability issues

Chapter 4: Participative training methods and approaches

Chapter 5: How to design and implement training courses

Chapter 6: Monitoring and assessment of community based animal health projects

Chapter 7: CAHWs and disease surveillance

Chapter 8: The rules of the game and how to influence policy

Chapter 9: Sharing experiences and networking

List of Contributors

Further Reading

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The book can be ordered through: Development Bookshop, Practical Action Publishing, The Schumacher Centre, Bourton on Dunsmore, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 9QZ. Available [online](#). Available also in French

HIGHLIGHTS FROM PAST ACTIVITIES

- **Books, training materials, workshops and exhibitions:** We've written books, developed training materials, delivered workshops, and contributed photographs and exhibitions for development education initiatives in the UK and overseas, including the book [Community-based Animal Healthcare: A Practical Guide to Improving Primary Veterinary Services](#) , one of our first and most widely recognised activities, a project initiated and led by Andy Catley.
- **Overseas:** Vetwork UK has provided technical support ranging from best-practice field implementation and impact assessment, through to policy reform for community-based animal health services.
- **People and Animals in the UK:** In the UK in 1997, we initiated a project in Craigmillar, Edinburgh, looking at what people think of animals and ways of supporting their interests which evolved into an environmental education programme with Becky Plunkett who developed the [Craigmillar Wildlife Information Site](#) , a website still referenced after 25 years.
- We produced a short film with Walking Pictures, [Sleeping Ruff](#), on the relationships between street dogs and their people in Edinburgh. Vetwork and Walking Pictures.
- **Animals in Disasters:** Between 2009 and 2018 Vetwork UK coordinated the [Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards \(LEGS\)](#) . LEGS became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in August 2018, and all activity relating to LEGS is now the responsibility of the LEGS CIO. (see below for further information)
- **Wildlife Conservation:** From October 2015 to November 2018 we gave small grants via the RSPB to the Safe Vulture Programme in Assam, India, which is implemented by the SAVE Consortium as part of their programme to support endangered vulture populations in Asia that declined dramatically due to the introduction of the NSAID drug Diclofenac into the veterinary market, a drug that proved highly toxic to vultures, including to re-establish Gyps Vulture populations. We also helped RSPB develop an unfortunately unsuccessful proposal for Darwin Initiative funding. See: <http://www.save-vultures.org> & [Vulture conservation in India](#)

OUR ORGANISATIONAL HISTORY

Vetwork UK began in October 1996 as an informal networking association of veterinarians and animal welfare scientists with experience in community-based services, participatory approaches and methods, indigenous knowledge systems, policy and legislative change, livestock trade and disaster risk reduction.

Vetwork UK registered in 1997 as a Charity in Scotland where most of its founder Trustees were based. Vetwork UK's early aims were to:

- Provide technical and project support to primarily donor-funded livestock and related livelihoods projects in low-income countries, including development and emergency interventions.
- Work with local and international NGOs, government, research institutes, and bilateral and multilateral agencies.
- Collate and disseminate experiences in primary animal health and welfare service delivery in the context of veterinary service reform, and livestock related initiatives.
- Develop existing interests in animal welfare and social aspects of animal ownership in the UK and overseas, and explore and highlight the role that animals play in people's lives.
- Develop our understanding of wildlife conservation and provide funds to support wildlife conservation projects.

Later, we re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England because at the time we needed to update the foundation documents the Trustees were mostly based in England.

VETWORK UK'S APPROACH

Rather than implement projects overseas directly, Vetwork UK has worked to encourage best practice in the design and assessment of community-based animal health services and related livestock projects, including appropriate links to the private sector and regulatory bodies. Our work has included technical support to a range of partners, from NGOs to international agencies. We have drawn on the experience of associates who have many years' experience working low income countries, and understand the policy environment.

To keep running costs to a minimum, we continue to run a low-cost 'virtual' administration based on email communication between our trustee directors and associates. Specific projects have employed people on project specific contracts, and during the time of LEGS, a large project with international funding streams, we employed a part time administrator.

Photos via [Vetwork UK on flickr](#)

VETWORK UK: PROJECTS & OTHER SUPPORT

Since its establishment Vetwork has provided technical support to organisations ranging from Governments, International Agencies and Non Government Organisations (NGOs). Advice, design and back up has been at global, regional and national levels.

Key areas of support have included:

- Policy and Best Practice
- Training, Capacity Building and Project Support
- Project Design, Reviews, Evaluation and Assessment
- Educational Activities & Human-Animal Interaction
- Animals in Disasters
- Wildlife Conservation
- Student Grants

Technical support has ranged from best-practice field implementation and impact assessment, through to policy reform for community-based animal health services and livestock interventions. We've also developed training materials, and supported development education initiatives in the UK and overseas.