



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

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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.

POLICY AND BEST-PRACTICE

HORN OF AFRICA, 2005 - Policy Support to the African Union

Vetwork UK provided technical support to the African Union/Interafrican Bureau of Animal Resources' 'Institutional and Policy Support Team' (IPST) for three months in early 2005. IPST's focus was on developing and enhancing pro-poor livestock policy for Africa.

SOMALI AREAS, 1999 - Review of Community-based Animal Health Systems

We conducted a policy review of experiences in community-based animal health services in Somalia, eastern Ethiopia and northeast Kenya, on behalf of the Organization of African Unity/Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources.

ETHIOPIA, 1996-1998 - Policy Support to Primary Veterinary Service Delivery

We provided technical support to Save the Children Fund UK's community animal health and restocking work in south-east and northern Ethiopia and up to March 1998, also supported SCF UK's Veterinary Services Support Project in south-east Ethiopia. This project worked with regional government to

understand options for economic and structural reform of veterinary services, define regional policy and offer assistance to private practitioners.

GLOBAL, 1997 - Policy Research on Non Governmental Organisations

We researched and produced a discussion paper on the roles and impact of non governmental organisations in veterinary services for the Department for International Development, UK.

TRAINING, CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROJECT SUPPORT

GLOBAL, 2016 - Livestock Related Interventions During Emergencies - the 'How to do it guide'.

(NB Vetwork carried out a similar review in 1998 for USAID). Over the last two decades there has been an increasing need for disaster response in developing countries. Inevitably it is the vulnerable members of the community who are most affected and who, in many cases, rely upon animals in one form or another to support their livelihoods. Livestock-related interventions are commonly included as part of emergency responses. To complement the LEGS Handbook, Vetwork UK was contracted by FAO to prepare the Livestock Related Interventions During Emergencies - the 'How to do it guide' which provides practical guidelines for each of the most common livestock interventions, linking to corresponding chapters in the LEGS manual.

The material for chapters on destocking, veterinary support, provision of livestock, monitoring, evaluation and assessing the impact of emergency response, was prepared by experts recruited by Vetwork UK, under contract to the FAO Animal Production and Health Division. Vetwork UK played a major role in editing the entire guide, which can be downloaded at

2016 FAO Animal Production and Health Manual <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5904e.pdf> & also report available on request from Vetwork UK.

LESOTHO, February 2015 -Vetwork UK Veterinary support visit to Pets Welfare Association (PWA) ,

With funding from the Jean Sainsbury Trust, Vetwork UK provided veterinary support to PWA, a Lesotho non-governmental organization dealing with animal welfare. The trip focused on the Quabane Valley district in southern Lesotho, an extremely remote area where the community is highly interdependent on animals for transport, food, income, rodent control and security. Despite the large number of animals there is no input into animal health and welfare from either the state or the private sector. The services offered were: routine neutering for dogs and cats; rabies vaccination for dogs and cats; vaccination for dogs against distemper etc; internal parasite treatment for dogs and cats; external parasite treatment for dogs and cats; castration of horses and donkeys; general animal health care and advice to owners and school children.

(report available on request from Vetwork UK)

ETHIOPIA, 2007 - Training manual development

Development of a training manual on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza for the NGO FARM Africa in Ethiopia, targeting CAHWs, which aims to raise awareness about bird flu and provide CAHWs with the knowledge of what action to take if they suspect an outbreak of bird flu, as part of the Ethiopian National Strategic Preparedness and Response plan for bird flu (2006-2008).

SOUTH SUDAN, 2005 - Training in participatory epidemiology

Training and mentoring in participatory epidemiology for vets and livestock workers in VSF Suisse, VSF Belgium, and FAO, and research design for Foot and Mouth Disease.

ETHIOPIA, 2005 - Training in impact assessment

Training in participatory impact assessment for FARM Africa and SOS Sahel; and the government of Ethiopia.

ETHIOPIA, 2004 - Ethnoveterinary Research

Vetwork provided support to ethnoveterinary research and development in northern Ethiopia with Save the Children UK. The work designed methods for livestock owners and traditional healers to undertake their own research to validate plant and other traditional remedies for livestock diseases, with the support of the regional government veterinary department. Ways for providing support and recognition for traditional livestock healers were also identified.

GLOBAL, 1999 - Community-based Animal Health: A How-to-do-it Guide.

In partnership with 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), Vetwork UK produced a book called '[Community-based Animal Health: A How-To-Do-It Guide](#)'. It was written by a team of veterinarians and livestock professionals with field experience of community-based projects in Africa and Asia.

ETHIOPIA, 1998 - Veterinary Curriculum Development

Vetwork worked with the Addis Ababa University Veterinary School and the Ministry of Agriculture in Ethiopia to investigate options for modifying the veterinary undergraduate curriculum in the face of structural reform of veterinary services. This work included a survey of opinions of public and private sector veterinarians, and was conducted in association with *RDP Livestock Services BV*.

ETHIOPIA, 1996 - Support to Restocking in the Somali Region of Ethiopia

Vetwork designed a restocking project with Save the Children UK, based on support to traditional restocking methods among Somali agro-pastoralists.

SOUTH SUDAN, 1996 - Support to the UNICEF-Operation Lifeline Sudan Livestock Programme

Vetwork conducted an ethnoveterinary survey with the Dinka and Nuer in South Sudan on behalf of the UNICEF-Operation Lifeline Sudan Livestock Programme. This work included the production of an ethnoveterinary resource manual for South Sudan. Vetwork also provided introductory training on Community Based Animal Health Systems, including a workshop and follow up training for government, UNICEF and NGO vets and other staff in Sudan.

PROJECT DESIGN, REVIEWS, EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

UK, Brooke (Action for Working Horses and Donkeys), 2016 - The Link between Equine Welfare and Livelihoods

Vetwork UK undertook a review for Brooke to help the organisation deepen its understanding of the links between equine welfare and livelihoods, and propose a research approach to further its knowledge and resources.

HORN OF AFRICA, 2013 - Evaluation of USAID/OFDA funded CBAH delivery systems

This was a follow up to the Greater Horn of Africa Assessment of Community-based Animal Health Care undertaken in 1998 for USAID. The 2016 evaluation report can be downloaded at: <http://fic.tufts.edu/publication-item/community-based-animal-health-workers-in-the-horn-of-africa/> 2014 Tufts University Community-based Animal Health Workers in the Horn of Africa [Read the report](#)

SOUTH SUDAN, 2006 - Evaluation of VSF Germany Livelihoods Programme, Shilluk Kingdom

Vetwork evaluated a project in the Shilluk Kingdom of South Sudan which aimed to improve rural livelihoods through support to poultry rearing, honey and lalop seed oil production, and capacity building of community-based organisations.

ETHIOPIA, 2005 - Design a Pastoralist Livelihoods Initiative for USAID, Ethiopia.

Subsequent funding for this initiative brought together international and local NGOs along with university bodies working with various local government and private sector partners. The programme used a twin track approach to cover both development and relief interventions in drought prone areas of Ethiopia and was ultimately expanded to neighbouring countries and a second phase.

KENYA, 2005 - Impact Assessment of Farmer Field Schools

Designed and led an assessment of ILRI's 'Livestock Farmer Field School Project' in smallholder dairy areas of Kenya, focusing on the impact of the project on farmer skills and knowledge, and the coverage and cost-benefit of the FFS approach as applied by ILRI.

SOUTH SUDAN, 2003 - Community Participatory Evaluation in Gogrial County

Vetwork UK facilitated the community evaluation of the VSF Germany community-based animal health programme in Gogrial County. This work including training local staff in participatory evaluation approaches and methods, and supervising the evaluation in the field.

GREATER HORN OF AFRICA, 1999 - Pastoral Livelihoods Appraisal Mission

Vetwork led a multidisciplinary consultancy team to design a regional-level pastoral livelihoods programme for the DFID Rural Livelihoods Department. Programme objectives focussed on scaling-up community-based animal health systems, institutional and policy reform, trans-boundary epizootic disease control and using animal health as an entry for broader development initiatives in pastoral areas. This assessment included project design for the Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology (CAPE) Unit in OAU/IBAR.

SOUTH SUDAN, 1999 - Participatory Impact Assessment

Vetwork facilitated work with veterinarians and livestock staff from VSF Belgium and VSF Switzerland to design and test participatory monitoring and impact assessment systems for community-based animal health projects, as part of the UNICEF-Operation Lifeline Sudan (Southern Sector) Livestock Programme, South Sudan.

GREATER HORN OF AFRICA, 1998 - Assessment of Community-based Animal Health Care for USAID

Vetwork was part of a multidisciplinary assessment of USAID's support to community-based animal health in the Greater Horn of Africa via the Pan African Rinderpest Campaign, UNICEF and NGOs. The assessment included work in northern Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan and focussed on the effectiveness and sustainability of community-based approaches.

KENYA, 1998 - Support to Veterinaires sans Frontieres-Belgium, Turkana District

Vetwork assisted Veterinaires sans Frontieres-Belgium to prepare the Turkana Livestock Development Project, an integrated project linking animal health, water and local institution building.

ERITREA, 1997 - Impact Assessment of Restocking

Vetwork UK, with Christian Aid and Oxfam GB, undertook an assessment of a pilot livestock restocking project in Eritrea (PROFERI) for refugees returning from Sudan.

SOUTH SUDAN. 1997 - Evaluation of Vétérinaire sans Frontieres – Belgium's livestock programme in South Sudan.

ETHIOPIA, 1997 - Evaluation of Save the Children UK Livestock Projects

Led a multidisciplinary evaluation of Save the Children UK's veterinary and restocking projects in Wag Hamra and North Wollo, northern Ethiopia.

UGANDA, 1997 - Review of Oxfam UK Community-based Animal Health Programme, Karamoja

Vetwork reviewed the Oxfam UK/Ireland animal health work in Karamoja, Uganda on behalf of the ODA (now DFID) Renewable Natural Resources Sector. A consultancy report describing the review is available from Vetwork. We also prepared proposals for a continuation of Oxfam's animal health and gender projects in Karamoja, with funding from DFID.

AFGHANISTAN, 1997 - Reviews and Monitoring with Dutch Committee for Afghanistan

Vetwork reviewed the training component of the Dutch Committee for Afghanistan's Veterinary Programme. This work included an assessment of CAHW and veterinary auxiliary training curricula in consultation with government authorities and other agencies. We also worked with DCA in December 1998 to develop a participatory monitoring methodology for their veterinary programme.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES & HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERACTION

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND, 2004 – ‘Sleeping Ruff’: 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.

SCOTLAND, UK, 1997-2001, Animals in the Community, Craigmillar, Edinburgh: We initiated a project in Craigmillar, Edinburgh, exploring human-animal relationships (wild, farm, and domestic companion), looking at what people think of animals, and exploring ways of supporting their interests. In third year focussed on environmental education and wild spaces in Craigmillar - [Craigmillar Wildlife Information Site](#).

Touring photographic exhibition , 1999 - Somali Pastoralists

[View it here](#)

Our second photographic exhibition *The Camel Carers* describing life and community-based veterinary care in Somali areas of Africa. This exhibition was funded by Save the Children UK and was shown in venues in Scotland, including the Royal Botanic Gardens and the International Institute for Environment and Development, both in Edinburgh.

Both of these exhibitions were also shown in Wajir, Northern Kenya.

SCOTLAND-AFRICA '97 - Touring photographic exhibition, 1997 - Agropastoralists in South Sudan

[View it here](#)

Vetwork produced a touring photographic exhibition on the *Life of Dinka and Nuer Agropastoralists in South Sudan*. The exhibition formed part of the Scotland Africa 97 programme and was supported by Christian Aid, Save the Children (UK) and UNICEF. The exhibition was shown in Edinburgh, the Isle of Skye, Isle of Lewis and the Museum of Education, Glasgow. In collaboration with SC-UK, 'development education' slide packs were developed and distributed throughout the UK.

ANIMALS IN DISASTERS

Disasters and Animals

A disaster occurs when vulnerable, usually poor, people and governments are unable to effectively manage an extreme event. Animals are often the only assets of the poor and thus their only hedge against shocks such as family emergencies, crop failure, floods and droughts. Indeed, animals are estimated to support the livelihoods of 1 billion of the world's poor and are the main source of protein

and micro-nutrients for most of the World's 900 million food insecure people. Reducing the impact of disasters on animals or even preventing disasters allows vulnerable people to maintain their livelihoods.

GLOBAL, 2007-2018, Livestock and Disasters & LEGS

NB: 'Livestock', production animals, are a sub-set of animals. However, LEGS has played a part in raising awareness about responses to animals in disasters more generally.

Between 2007 and 2018 Vetwork UK developed, coordinated and provided legal governance for the [Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards \(LEGS\)](#). During this time, LEGS gained companion status to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards for Disaster Response (SPHERE).

From 2009 until August 2018, Vetwork also supported and coordinated the training and awareness raising for Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS).

LEGS aims were to improve the livelihoods impact and quality of livestock related projects in humanitarian situations (such as during disasters and emergencies) through a set of international standards and guidelines for the assessment, design, implementation and evaluation of livestock interventions.

There is growing interest in and political support for helping communities build their resilience to disasters, particularly drought. Livestock play a crucial role in building resilience as they are often the social and financial assets that the poor draw upon in times of stress. To effectively build resilience humanitarian or emergency response initiatives must be closely coordinated with development efforts and vice versa.

LEGS became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in August 2018, and all activity relating to LEGS is now the responsibility of the LEGS CIO.

LEGS - Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards – further information

The **Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) project** exists to improve the quality and accountability of responses to emergency situations that affect communities dependent on livestock for their livelihoods.

LEGS originated in early 2000 when various agencies and individuals involved in livestock relief work began to question the quality and professionalism of their interventions. For example, inputs such as emergency veterinary care often arrived too late to be of any value and when delivered to people free-of-charge, undermined local service providers. In these situations, although some animals may have been saved in the short-term, the capacity of local services to provide more long-term support was damaged by the relief response. These kinds of problems were compounded because donors and NGOs often lacked in-house livestock expertise and decisions on livestock programming were made without professional input.

Over time, these concerns were linked to current thinking on livelihoods and the concept of 'saving lives and livelihoods'. Some agencies started to explore ways to deliver emergency livestock de-stocking programmes using local traders. Others began to deliver emergency veterinary care through the private sector. The overall aim had to be to protect the welfare of the livestock owners, the livestock themselves, the livelihood system within which they exist together with the natural resource base.

Recently, climate change appears to be resulting in more frequent and diverse types of disaster. Especially vulnerable are livestock-dependent communities in fragile arid and semi-arid environments who are experiencing increasing drought followed by severe flooding.

From a global perspective, the most pressing need is to improve relief interventions aimed at livestock for communities who rely heavily on livestock for their social and economic well-being. LEGS covers livestock interventions in these usually pastoral areas, but also addresses livestock support to settled farming communities and livestock kept by people in urban areas.

The LEGS process has drawn together lessons and experiences from across the range of livestock owning communities, covering slow and rapid onset emergencies, to produce a single set of international standards and guidelines for livestock emergency interventions.

Until August 2018, Vetwork UK was responsible for the governance, day-to-day management and administrative support to LEGS. However, LEGS is now registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in England and all activity relating to LEGS is now the responsibility of the LEGS CIO.

For full information on LEGS, visit the [LEGS website](#).

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](#) (a Sway by David Hadrill - the background to the Vulture work in South and South-East Asia)

UK STUDENT GRANTS

Zoological Society of London Wild Animal Health and Wild Animal Biology Masters Degree Student Research Grants

In line with Vetwork UK's strategic outcome relating to wildlife conservations, from 2017, we provided a grant to support two students per year who were doing the Wild Animal Health and/or Wild Animal Biology Masters degrees run by the Zoological Society of London in conjunction with the Royal Veterinary College London University. Funds were provided as a contribution towards international students' research projects overseas. Research reports were published on the Vetwork UK website.

2017:

- **Gemma Crowley** - Evaluation of biochemical data collected from chemically immobilised semi-captive Southern White Rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. [View report](#)
- **Berta Blanch** - Genetic diversity and population structure of *Angiostrongylus vasorum* parasites in urban foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) of London, UK. [View report](#)

BVA Overseas Travel Grants

Between 2014 and 2016, Vetwork UK supported the BVA Overseas Travel Grants scheme, instituted in March 1983, which awards annual grants of up to 500 pounds to undergraduates attending a veterinary school in the UK. This scheme has given students the chance to gain experience in a range of areas including prevention and control of exotic and emerging animal diseases, wildlife conservation and community-based livestock projects.

2016:

- **Stephanie Panayiotou** - An investigation into the impact of educational programmes on the health and welfare of dogs owned by families in rural areas of North Goa in India [View report](#)

2015:

- **Catrina Prince** for Evaluating the barriers to effective breeding and husbandry in communal alpaca herds in Pucara, Peru in comparison to the UK. - [View report](#)
- **Louise Curtis** for Wildlife Defence: A Field Investigation into the conservative control of Wildebeest-associated Malignant Catarrhal Fever (A1HV-1) on a dairy farm in Kenya - [View report](#)

2014:

- **Alice Whittle** - Conflicts between cattle herders and crop farmers in southern Chad: Suggestions for a more peaceful cohabitation - [View report](#)
- **Rosie Beaumont** - An investigation of the parasitic worm burden in a captive and a wild Asian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) population and the effect of worming in the captive population in Sri Lanka - [View report](#)

Student Grant to Support the LEGS Project

2016:

- **Katriina Willgert**, a vet student studying at the Royal Veterinary College London University, a grant of £500 to review the evaluation feedback from training courses for the Livestock Emergency Standards and Guidelines Project.