

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Dutch Committee for Afghanistan – Livestock Programs

# Colophon

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## DCA Livestock Programs

Active since 1988, officially registered in 1994,  
Netherlands Chamber of Commerce, # 41246751

Registered in Afghanistan as international NGO  
under the name DCA since 2005, # 119

<b>Seat</b>	Lelystad, the Netherlands
<b>Main office</b>	Kabul, Afghanistan
<b>Working area</b>	Afghanistan
<b>Focus</b>	Livestock health and production
<b>Staff</b>	160
<b>Board</b>	Six members
<b>Chairman of the Board</b>	Gert-Jan Duives (interim) Theo Lam (from October 2018)
<b>Advisory Council</b>	Four advisors

**Mission: to reduce poverty and increase  
food security for the people of Afghanistan  
by improving the health and production of  
their livestock**





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# 1. Preface

In this Annual Report, you can find what has been achieved by DCA Livestock Programs in 2018. In this Preface, I want to mention some highlights:

## Security

In spite of the deteriorating security situation, our Afghan staff was able to do their work. Of course, DCA is taking care of the safety of its staff as much as possible. The Head of DCA's Administration Department is the key person in this respect; he has a hotline with INSO (International NGO Safety Organisation) that continuously monitors the safety situation, and he is responsible for the implementation of the DCA Security Policy.

## EU project(s)

To our regret, the extensive and successful EU phase II project came to an end in the middle of 2018 and is as yet not followed by another EU project. The EU has changed its donation channels in Afghanistan and is not funding NGOs directly anymore. The funding is assigned now 'on total budget' of the Government, and project management is delegated to international organizations like World Bank and GIZ. DCA has submitted a concept proposal to these organizations to strengthen the still weakly functioning Sanitary Mandate Contracting Scheme (SMCS).

## Kuchi

The IFAD CLAP Kuchi project is DCA's largest project now; it is expanded to more provinces and may go nationwide in a next phase. Now the Kuchi have access to private veterinary services, the mortality in the Kuchi livestock herds decreased significantly (from 15 to 6%) since the baseline. The last IFAD mission was very satisfied with the performance of DCA in the CLAP Kuchi project.

## Brooke

The Brooke project in Afghanistan has changed its scope towards the very remote areas. Due to security, the Brooke works via District Based Facilitators and Community Engage Workers, who train donkey owners in the villages in basic animal welfare. The main objective is to make the owners aware that their donkey does essential daily work for the family, like bringing crop

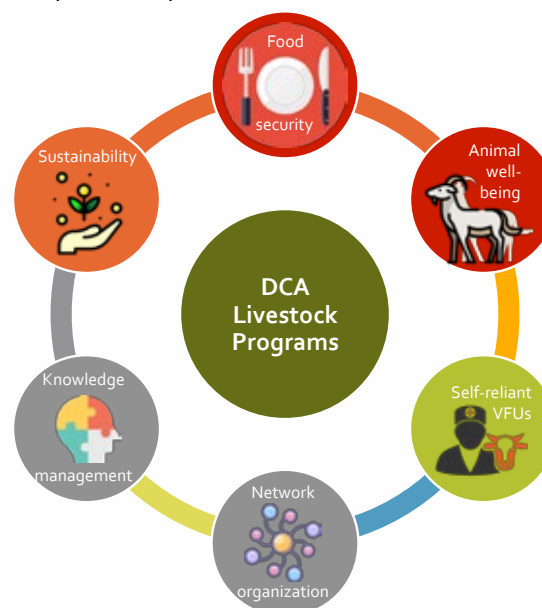
and (drinking) water home. Moreover, that donkeys perform much better when receiving timely feed and water, getting regular hoof trimming, and are given animal friendly harnesses. Implementation of this model is relatively cheap and finds follow up in other (Brooke-supported) countries.

## BADILL

Another very successful project is the UNODC BADILL project: dairy production is improved by veterinary care, better nutrition and extension. Small milk collecting and processing centres are created, and the dairy products are sold in city centres. By this 'value chain' all people involved gain. There is a similar value chain developed for production of eggs: layers are distributed with feed and veterinary care, and via collection centres the eggs go to the market with added value. The BADILL project will be extended and expanded in the second half of 2019.

## Strategy Plan

The former five-year DCA Strategy Plan was developed in 2013, and thus is expired. This year the Board, together with Afghan senior staff, is developing a new plan for 2019-2023. The picture below tells you more about the main topics of the plan:



**Ab Emmerzaal**  
*Secretary General*

## 2. Afghanistan now



### Safety and Food security

In 2018, the fragile security situation in Afghanistan has decreased even further. Since 2007, the number of injured and civilian casualties has increased five-fold, with a peak of 1,692 recorded by UNAMA during the first half of 2018. Due to the ongoing instability and insecurity, living conditions in Afghanistan are rapidly decreasing. The Afghanistan Central Statistics Organization (CSO) estimated that in 2018 54% of the Afghan population was living under the poverty line, compared to 38% in 2014. This poverty brings along huge food insecurity, which is one of the main problems in Afghanistan. Analyses indicate that around 30% of Afghanistan's population – 7.6 million people – have a caloric intake that is insufficient to sustain a healthy and active life. Food insecurity especially affects children under five: 41% of them are suffering from malnutrition.

### Livestock sector

In 2018, 74.8% of the Afghan population lived in rural areas, being mainly dependent on animal husbandry and farming for their daily needs. Livestock raising is common practice in Afghanistan, where around 45% of the geographical area consists of rangeland. Livestock provide the farmers with a range of animal products for subsistence use and can also be an important source of income. The Afghan livestock population presently consists of 22 million sheep, 10 million goats, and 3.7 million cattle (ALCS 2016-2017).

The well-functioning system of Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) in the country, largely established and supported by DCA, is very effective in reaching a good vaccination

coverage (between 72 and 91% for different types of livestock). According to DCA estimations, around 60% of the livestock owners now rely on private veterinary service providers, but the remaining 40% for the greater part still do not have access to animal healthcare facilities. Therefore, there still is a need for expansion of VFUs to those deprived areas. Another problem in the livestock sector is low access to feed sources and fodder concentrate. On average 53% of animals do not have access to quality food and/or concentrate (NRVA 2011-2012) and farmers do not have sufficient knowledge on good feeding practices. In addition, much of Afghanistan has been affected by a devastating drought, caused by a shortage of precipitation during the winter months of 2017/2018. Pastures dried up, prices of fodder increased, and tens of thousands of sheep and goats died or were sold for slaughter.

### Gender

In the patriarchal culture of Afghanistan women are still marginalized, often not being able to decide over their own lives. In 2018, the participation of women in the labour force was only 19.8%. However, in the agricultural sector, women's contribution is much higher, as traditionally women tend the household livestock and help to work the fields. Today, women make up almost half of the agricultural workforce, although they often receive only a meagre reward. However, the situation is improving, due to donors supporting small village groups of female farmers to earn more income from their agricultural and livestock products. This increases agricultural production, improves food security, and raises the status of the women in their communities.

# 3. Approach



## Way of working

From 1988, DCA continues to help the Afghan people by boosting the health and production of their livestock. Healthier and more productive animals increase food security and are a source of extra income for rural families. DCA believes development work has to start with the people themselves. Therefore, all DCA projects are based on the needs and demands of the local community. The main problems encountered by the local livestock farmers are rampant livestock diseases; lack of knowledge on animal husbandry, nutrition, and production; and lack of market opportunities for livestock products. To work on solutions to these problems, DCA is using the following approach:

- Developing of quality veterinary service provision countrywide
- Offering the farmers extension on livestock health and production
- Developing of value chains for processing and trading of livestock products
- Maintaining strong links with local and national private and public partners

## Main working areas of DCA

### • Veterinary training and services

Historically, the core of DCA's livestock program has been the training of paraveterinarians and the development of Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) in Afghanistan. Each VFU offers quality, affordable, and

accessible veterinary services to the local farmers. An almost nationwide network of VFUs now exists, built and supported by DCA and other NGOs, which takes care of the livestock of Afghanistan.

### • Extension

To make the farmers aware of best practises in animal health and production, extension programs are developed. This twin-track of veterinary and extension services has proven to be a successful model to create awareness on best animal husbandry practices, and access to disease information. In addition, extension services definitely increase the demand of services from the VFUs.

### • Value chain development

In a value chain, production, processing and marketing of products are optimized in such a way that all participants benefit by the value that is added in each stage in the chain. DCA creates thriving livestock value chains from producer to consumer by introducing applicable techniques to increase production and improve the quality of the processed products. Besides, DCA helps to shape the value chain by linking farmers to input suppliers, service providers as well as to the markets.

### • Institutional work

DCA is keen on developing strong links with local and national government departments. The private veterinary services can only be sustainable, when they are embedded in a well-functioning national animal health system. To this aim, DCA links the VFUs to the public veterinary services thereby strengthening the National Veterinary Services.

## Gender approach

Gender equality is an important guiding principle for DCA, in its own organization as well as in its programs. Carefully working within the cultural boundaries of the country, DCA is applying a successful women-to-women approach to empower vulnerable women and improve the health and production of their livestock.

## Emergency support

In response to the severe drought of 2018, DCA distributed 2,400 metric tons of concentrate feed to drought-affected beneficiaries in the CLAP Kuchi and EU projects.

# 4. Projects in 2018



## Projects 2018 in brief

In 2018, the DCA project portfolio contained eight projects. Four of these were long-term, multi-million projects, the other four being smaller in funding as well as in project life span. Two of the larger projects, CLAP Kuchi and EU II, focused primarily on animal health care and livestock extension services. The RADP-N project mainly includes value chain development. The Brooke granted DCA in 2018 a relatively large three-year project with a focus on equine welfare but expanding to livelihoods using a One Welfare approach.

The smaller projects clearly gave evidence to the extended profile of DCA from being a veterinary

foundation to a broader livestock sector organization.

The BADILL project focused on adding value through processing and marketing of livestock products. The PUR Breeding project aimed at breeding of goats with a higher quality of cashmere wool and improved meat production, while the CCHF and PPR projects centred around the mitigation and control of contagious livestock diseases.

## Geographic scope

In 2018, DCA covered again 30 out of the 34 provinces in Afghanistan. This almost nationwide coverage was mainly attributed to the EU project (18 provinces) and the PPR III project (20 provinces). The only provinces where DCA was not active were Nimruz, Daikundi, Nuristan and Kunar.

Project	Donor	Funding total project (million)	Focus	Timeline 2015 - 2022									
				15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
CLAP Kuchi	IFAD	\$ 10.1	Kuchi, value chain										
EU II	EU	€ 6.9	VFUs +										
RADP-N	USAID	\$ 3.1	VFUs										
Brooke	Brooke	\$ 2.7	Equine welfare										
BADILL	UNODC	\$ 0.6	Dairy, poultry, vegetables										
PUR Breeding	PUR Projet	\$ 0.4	Breeding cashmere goats										
CCHF	US Dep. St.	\$ 0.4	CCHF mitigation and control										
PPR III	FAO	\$ 0.3	PPR control										

# 4a. Veterinary services



## Nadim, paravet

My name is Nadim, living in Kabul province. I graduated from High School in 2014 and then, through the Shura, I was introduced to the DCA/CLAP Kuchi team as a candidate for their paraveterinarian course. I completed the course at Charikar Training Centre and back in my village I established a VFU with financial and equipment support of DCA/CLAP Kuchi project. Currently, I am working as a paravet, providing veterinary services for livestock owners in my community. I am happy because through my services not only I myself earn a good income now, but also the income of my clients has increased.

## VFUs

In Afghanistan, day-to-day veterinary services are provided by staff of private Veterinary Field Units (VFUs). These VFUs offer preventive and curative animal health care to the livestock of their community. The VFU services are on average of good quality, easily accessible, and affordable to most livestock owners. This successful VFU model is based on charging fees for services, thus greatly enhancing the sustainability of the system. In 2018, the total VFU network consisted of about 900 VFUs, 607 of which were supported by DCA. On average, each VFU serves about 2,500 households and takes care of 10,000 to 15,000 animals. A quick calculation shows that the 607 DCA-supported VFUs covered 1.5 million households, servicing about 6 to 9 million livestock.

## Services

Main services of the VFUs consist of vaccination against contagious diseases, treatment of diseases and injuries, deworming, and advice to farmers. In 2018, DCA-supported VFUs administered 8.4 million vaccinations and preventive treatments, and 2.5 million curative treatments, while 2.3 million livestock were dewormed. These figures refer only to the period that a VFU was under support of DCA, and thus are lower than the annual output of these 607 VFUs.

## Training and support

Selection of appropriate candidates for staffing a VFU is key for a successful veterinary service delivery. Candidates should be motivated, be from their own community,

and preferable have a grade 10 schooling. It is important that the community leaders, the Shura, support their candidacy. Selected candidates receive an in-house 6-month paravet training in DCA's main training centre in Charikar. Over the years, DCA trained over thirteen hundred paravets, not only for its own VFUs but also for other NGOs. Currently, DCA is the main organization in Afghanistan offering applied veterinary training. In 2018, 39 new paravets (37 males and 2 females) were trained, mainly for DCA's own projects. Each of them was provided with veterinary equipment, vaccines and medicines, cold store facilities, and a motorcycle. Active VFU staff may benefit from refresher courses that are offered by DCA in several projects. In 2018, DCA administered 996 refresher courses to VFU staff (945 male and 51 female). Popular topics were Pharmacology and Clinical Diagnosis.



## 4b. Extension



Creating awareness on livestock husbandry, nutrition and diseases among the farmers is essential for a healthy and productive livestock population. Extension also effectively promotes the livestock services of the VFU. Both VFU staff as well as special extension workers are engaged in DCA extension activities. All extension by DCA is based on the needs of the community involved and builds on the knowledge already existing among the participants.

### Extension methods

Extension techniques vary from simple demonstrations and one-time sessions to monthly meetings of Farmer Extension Groups, local groups of 10 to 20 farmers. In 2018, 180,000 male farmers and 27,000 female farmers joined these sessions. In addition, regional Farmer Field Days were held where key farmers explain their best practices to fellow farmers. Also, demonstrations are popular, e.g. to show improving of stables (3000 stables treated in 2018), and urea treatment of straw. To reach an even larger public, radio messages were broadcasted.

### Extension packages

To support VFU staff and extension workers, DCA developed several extension packages. These packages offer the extension professionals the necessary information and tools to teach livestock owners often illiterate. In 2018, one new package was developed on equine health and welfare, in addition to the existing six packages on small ruminants, large ruminants, role of women in livestock husbandry, dairy, veterinary public health (zoonoses, meat inspection, food safety and hygiene) and Kuchi.

### Fariba, SHG Leader and Basic Veterinary Worker

My name is Fariba, living in a family of seven members. A few years ago, I attended the one-year extension course offered by the EU/DCA project and learned a lot on animal husbandry. After that course, 27 women started a Self-Help-Group with support of DCA, and I was chosen as their leader. We first purchased a cow that we sold with profit and now we are engaged in lamb fattening. Recently, I attended a course to become a Basic Veterinary Worker (BVW). Now I have my own little business, sharing my experience in livestock management with the other women of the village.

### Female extension workers

To reach female farmers, women-to-women extension is most appropriate and effective. To this aim, DCA trains influential women in the communities, like schoolteachers, as special Local Female Extension Workers (LFEWs) on practical livestock extension topics. In 2018, DCA supported 227 LFEWs who are voluntary educating and supporting women's groups.

### One Health

In addition to the project for mitigation of the zoonosis CCHF, one of DCA's One Health activities is to raise awareness on hygienic handling of animals and animal products to farmers. In addition, DCA trained 450 butchers in hygienic slaughtering and meat processing.

### Feed banks

To ensure that livestock had access to sufficient feed in winter, DCA supported 23 feed banks in 2018, four of which were newly established.

## 4c. Value chains



### Value chains

Recently, the development of livestock value chains has become an important component of the DCA program. Value chain development ultimately aims at enhancing the livelihood and earning capacity of livestock farmers. Main instruments are improving quantity and quality of animal products at farm level, and further in the chain to add value to these products by establishing collection centres and small processing industries that prepare quality products for the market. In the DCA program, value chain activities are mainly aimed at women, so value chain development and empowerment of women go hand in hand.

### Self-Help-Groups

Often the female beneficiaries are united in so-called Self-Help-Groups (SHGs) for mutual motivation and for easy linking to the market. In the CLAP Kuchi and EU project, 45 SHGs were developed with 851 participants. Often these SHGs are also saving groups, where the women monthly save some money for buying new assets in future. Presently, the main DCA value chain activities are related to lamb fattening, dairy production, and (backyard) poultry.

### CLAP Kuchi Project

In the IFAD/MAIL CLAP Kuchi project, DCA distributed 237 churning machines to female Kuchi to strengthen the dairy value chain. These innovative devices improved food safety and hygiene and hence the quality of the traditional Kuchi cream and cheese. This created added

### Amanullah, shop owner

My name is Amanullah, and I own a small grocery shop. When the UNODC/DCA BADILL project looked for an entrepreneur to process and sell the milk of the newly developed female dairy groups, I was immediately interested. With support of DCA, I expanded my shop with a small dairy processing centre, and I received training in hygienic processing of milk. Now the women farmers provide me daily with 250 to 300 litres of high-quality milk to process to dairy products, like yoghurt. Since then, the number of my customers – and thus my income – has significantly increased, as they like my quality milk products.

value to these products, providing the women with extra income. In the lamb fattening value chain, 650 lambs and 15.7 metric tons feed were distributed to 298 households.

### BADILL Project

The BADILL project, funded by UNODC, focuses entirely on value chain development. Value chains concerned are that of dairy, backyard poultry, and vegetables. In the dairy value chain, 400 women farmers have been supported through the distribution of concentrate feed and hygiene kits; access to animal health services (VFUs); and development of dairy extension groups. Furthermore, they have been linked to eight women-led dairy centres, where the produced milk is collected, processed and supplied to the local markets. Using a comparable approach, 600 female farmers were selected to benefit from the backyard poultry chain (collecting eggs and bringing these to the Kabul market), and 96 women were supported to start vegetable gardening activities.

## 4d. Institutional level



DCA not only is committed to strengthen the livestock sector in Afghanistan at the practical level by training and field work, it also strives for enhancing the sector at the institutional level. Therefore, DCA aims at a powerful public-private veterinary infrastructure, an effective livestock policy and legislation, and compliance of the Afghanistan veterinary system with the international guidelines of OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health).

### Public-Private Cooperation

DCA has always been working within the framework of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL). At district level, DCA cooperates with DAIL (District AIL) staff in monitoring of the nationwide system of private VFUs. To build the capacity of DAIL, in 2018 DCA trained 92 local government staff in technical topics as well as in guiding and monitoring of the VFUs. All VFUs are registered and recognized at MAIL. A very useful instrument to link private and public services is the Sanitary Mandate Contracting Scheme (SMCS): contracting private VFU staff to support the Government in disease control programmes. This year, 55 contracted VFU staff were paid for outbreak reporting, sample collection, and controlling of highly contagious diseases. The aim of DCA is to empower the SMCS, so that all 900 existing VFUs participate.

### CCHF project

In 2018, a comparable approach of VFU staff assisting in public tasks has been applied in the BEP/US Department of State project focusing on the mitigation of Crimea

### DCA curriculum assessed by OIE

The 6-month core paravet curriculum of DCA has been assessed by the OIE as a valuable example of paraprofessional training to other regional countries. The DCA curriculum scored 79% of the paravet day-one competencies in the Animal Health Track. The OIE was impressed by these results, and suggested DCA to add one or two months to the training for broadening of the curriculum with topics on practical training for working with the public sector, One Health, and the basics of disease control. The coming year, DCA will implement the recommendations of the OIE to improve its curriculum.

Congo Haemorrhagic Fever. Here, in addition to awareness raising and application of prevention methods (stable improvement and spraying), DCA empowered the Zoonotic Committee to develop a holistic approach to control CCHF. DCA hired a tick expert to build the capacity of the Central Veterinary Laboratory to identify the vector tick species, and to establish a tick reference collection.

### OIE

DCA's knowledge and experience are highly valued by OIE. Gert-Jan Duives, DCA Board member, is part of the OIE committee that is developing world-wide day-one competencies of paraprofessionals. Raymond Briscoe, DCA's Executive Director, was asked to present the Afghan public-private partnership (PPP) case study at an OIE meeting last spring. This case study will be included in the PPP Handbook that OIE is developing for publication next year.

# 5. Impact



*Preparing mineral blocks*

## Impact studies

Ultimately, DCA strives to bring a lasting improvement in the livelihoods of the Afghan rural population. A long-term change is difficult to measure, as it needs a thorough socioeconomic study. However, an important outcome of DCA's program that is more easily determined is the reduction in livestock mortality due to the provision of animal health services. The first DCA studies date from the 1990s, when mortality of animals in areas with and without veterinary care were compared. The results were convincing: in areas with animal health services mortality rates were 40 – 60% lower for adult small ruminants, and 22 – 30% lower for young stock. This study was repeated in 2011 – 2014, this time comparing farmers who were using veterinary services, and farmers who did not. Here, small ruminants (adult and young stock) experienced 27% respectively 23% less mortality when making use of animal health care.

## Results of CLAP Kuchi project

The CLAP Kuchi project started in 2014 and is showing some important results of DCA's project activities. Milk production of cattle increased from 1.64 litres at the baseline study in 2014 to 2.58 litres at the midterm study (end of 2016). Average income of a livestock keeping household increased from 11,155 AFS to 15,588 AFS. Annual livestock mortality decreased from 15% to 6.2%, and the percentage of Kuchi rating the health of their animals as good, increased from 39% to 76%. The economic situation

## DCA Staff member

As a staff member I am proud to work for DCA. I think the DCA program is highly effective because of its community-based approach, responding to the needs of the local people and working directly with and in-between the beneficiaries on the ground. The results DCA are delivering are obvious: healthier livestock, more animal production, increased family food security, empowered women, and higher family income. To make its impact really sustainable, DCA needs a transparent livestock legislation, ensuring recognition and public support of the VFU network. And, together with our partners, we should work on more robust and economically solid value chains.

of women was also strengthened; in 2014 only 6% of the female beneficiaries had a sustainable household business, against 25% at the end of 2016.

## M&E system under construction

At present, DCA applies monitoring and evaluation (M&E) at project level. For each project, a log frame, project indicators, and an M&E work plan are developed in consultation with the donor. However, M&E is also vital for program-wide accountability, and for evidence-based strategy development. Therefore, DCA intends to move from project-based M&E to program-level Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL). DCA is now developing a plan for a MEAL Department and has drafted a first set of program-level Key Performance Indicators, representing DCA's mission and vision.

# 6. Organization

DCA Livestock Programs is a Dutch foundation, implementing veterinary and livestock projects in Afghanistan since 1988. In 1994, the organization was officially registered as DCA-VET at the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce. Since 2017, it is registered as DCA Livestock Programs. In Afghanistan, registration as an International NGO took place in 2005 at the Ministry of Economy, under the name of DCA.

DCA Livestock Programs has a Board that bears final responsibility. The Board monitors the Afghan organization and outlines the DCA policy and strategy in close coordination with the Afghan senior management team in Kabul. An Advisory Council provides DCA (bi) annually with support and advice.

## Afghanistan

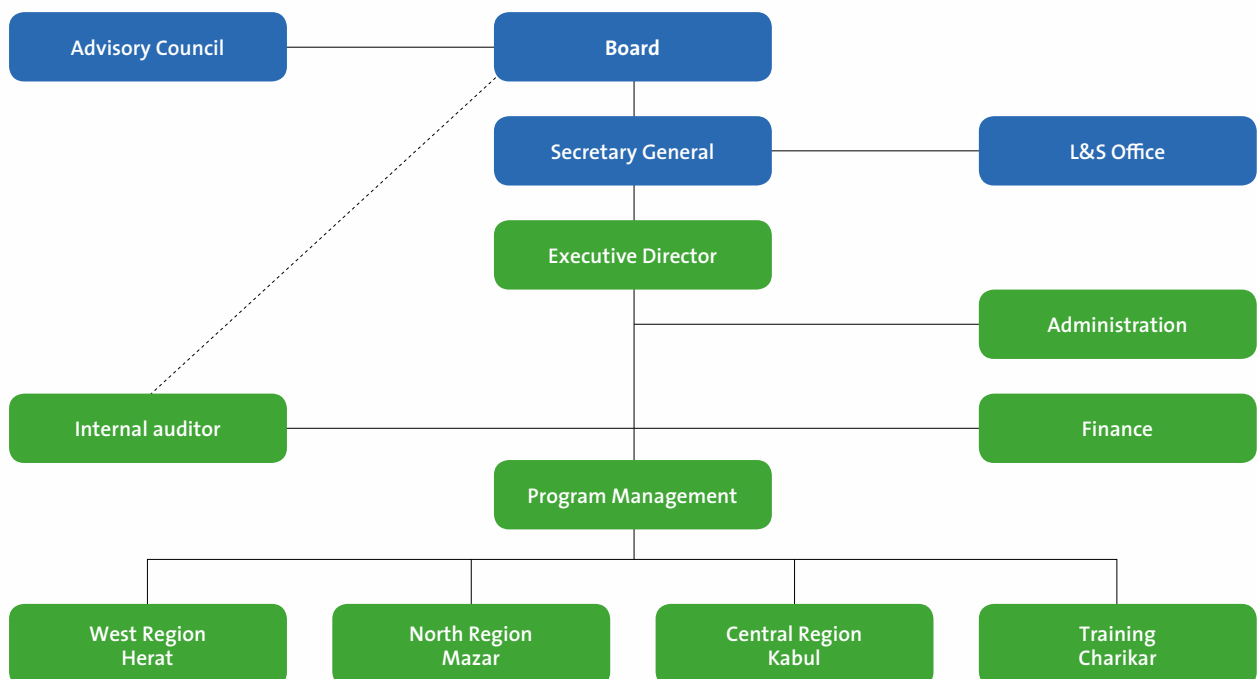
The DCA team in Afghanistan consists of some 160 staff (2018), all Afghan nationals, with only one expat. The national staff represent all the different ethnic groups. About 20% of the staff are women. The Afghan staff take care of project implementation, financial affairs, administration, HRM, M&E, and facilitation of services.

The Executive Director, Dr Raymond Briscoe, is in charge of the daily management of the organization, the acquisition of new projects, and the communication with donors and stakeholders. Deputy and Program Director, Dr Abdul Qader Fakhri, manages the project managers who are responsible for project implementation. A Core Management Team (CMT) of six Afghan senior project- and department managers serves as primary planning and decision-making body for the preparation and implementation of DCA projects in Afghanistan.

DCA offices are established in Kabul (headquarters), Herat, and Mazar-i-Sharif, and the main training centre is situated in Charikar. Smaller regional offices can be found in the capitals of ten provinces.

## Netherlands

The Executive Director works closely with the Board in Holland through the Secretary General (SG), Ab Emmerzaal. The Liaison & Support office (two part-time staff) takes care of monitoring and supporting of projects and finances, and of facilitation of the Board meetings.



# 7. Board and Advisory Council

## Members of the Board

---



**Theo Lam, DVM PhD**  
*Chairman*



**Gert-Jan Duives, DVM**  
*Secretary*



**Romke Steensma, CA**  
*Treasurer*



**Bram E.C. Schreuder, DVM PhD**  
*Delegated Board Member*



**Ruairaidh Petre, MSc**  
*Member*



**Kees van Maanen, DVM PhD**  
*Member*

### Board

In December 2017, DCA's former chairman, Dr Peter W. de Leeuw, retired after long years of commitment to the organization. From 2003 onwards, he has guided DCA from a small veterinary aid foundation towards a renowned livestock organization. In his absence, Gert-Jan Duives acted as interim chairman until October 2018, when Dr Theo Lam was installed as chairman. Theo has been a DCA Board member in the 1990s already and is presently manager Research and Development at GD Animal Health in the Netherlands. He is also part-time professor Bovine Mastitis Management at the Veterinary Faculty of Utrecht University. The Board met twelve times in 2018.

### Advisory Council

Once or twice a year, the DCA Board asks the expert opinion of the DCA Advisory Council on strategic topics. Members of the DCA Advisory Council are Akke van der Zijpp, Cees de Haan, Henk Moll, and Frauke de Weijer. All members have a vast experience in livestock development aid. During 2018, the DCA Board met once with the Advisory Council in February, discussing topics like DCA's lobbying policy and the development of a program-wide M&E system.

## Members of the Advisory Council

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**Akke van der Zijpp, Prof. PhD**  
*Animal Production Systems*



**Cees de Haan, Ir.**  
*Senior Livestock Advisor*



**Henk A.J. Moll, PhD**  
*Agricultural Development  
Economics*



**Frauke de Weijer, DVM BA MPA**  
*Development policy*

# 8. Partners

For realizing its mission, DCA is working together with an array of different partners. DCA has become what it is, a renowned and valued livestock organization in Afghanistan, thanks to the close coordination with the national and regional Government, the generous funding by international donors, the joined cooperation with other NGOs, and the quality inputs by its commercial partners.

## Government

For more information on the cooperation between DCA and the Government, the so-called public-private partnership, see section 4d on page 11.

## Donors

DCA would like to thank all donors for funding the implementation of the projects in 2018. DCA is especially grateful to the donors that funded the organization for many years already, like the EU, USAID, and Brooke. Also, the smaller donors, like PUR Projet, FAO, UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), and US Department of State, are heartily welcomed, especially because they offer new opportunities for broadening of the DCA program with a focus on specialised areas.

## NGOs

DCA's main NGO partners in 2018 were Relief International (RI), MADERA, and the Aga Khan Foundation. Especially with RI and MADERA, DCA worked closely together, as these NGOs operated in provinces also covered by DCA. Coordination between NGOs is of great importance to share information and knowledge, and to learn from each other's best practices and lessons learned. In addition, NGO cooperation also contributes to harmonization of the VFU approach by all livestock NGOs.

## Commercial partners

Commercial partners are of special importance to DCA as they provide the organization and the VFU network with quality products. DCA's main commercial partner is VetServ, a spin-off company of DCA itself and from 2011 onwards responsible for the import and distribution of quality veterinary vaccines, medicines and equipment. Also in the value chain projects commercial partners are highly valued, providing beneficiaries with inputs, taking care of processing of products, or disclosing markets for end products.



# 9. Finance

## Expenditures in 2018

The expenditures of DCA Livestock Programs to keep the overall program and the individual projects running in 2018 amounted to 6,502,449 US dollars.

DCA received funds from the following donors:

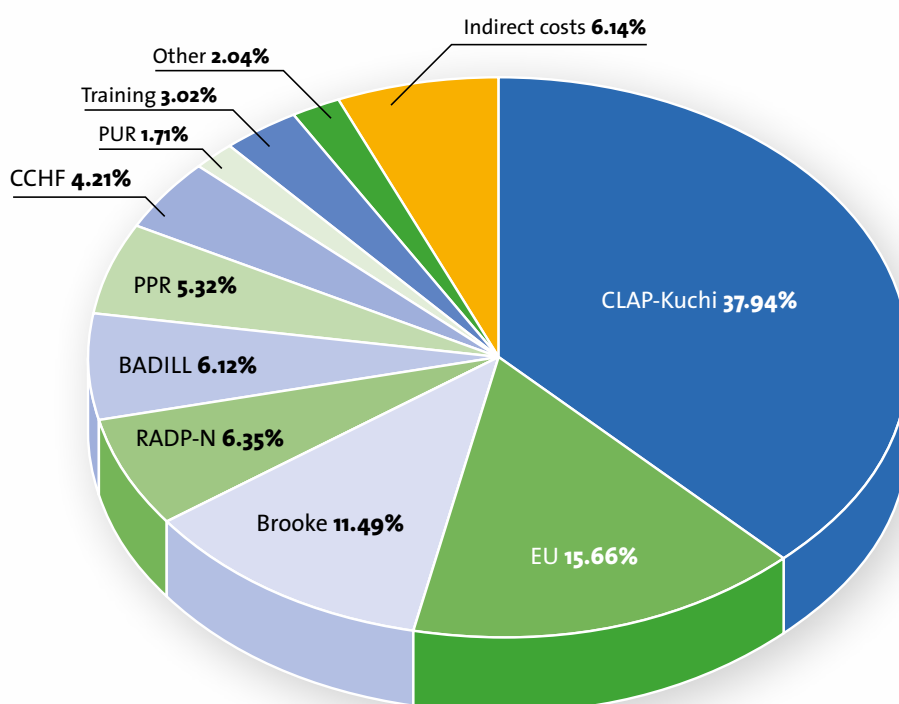
- IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) that provided funds for the continuation and expansion of the CLAP Kuchi project
- EU (European Union) that was involved in a nationwide livestock program that ended in June 2018
- Brooke (The Brooke Hospital for Animals) that started a new three-year partnership with DCA on sustainable equine welfare improvement in Afghanistan with also a livelihood focus
- USAID (United States Agency for International Development) that funded the RADP-North project

and for some smaller projects, but nevertheless very much appreciated, from:

- UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) for implementation of the BADILL project that aims at enhancing the livelihoods of people
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) for continuation of the vaccination campaigns against PPR
- US Department of State for increasing CCHF detection, mitigation and prevention in Afghanistan
- PUR Development Pte. Ltd., for management of a breeding program to improve cashmere quality, meat production, and reproduction of cashmere goats.

The below graph shows the expenditures per project expressed in percentages. DCA Livestock Programs is again proud to say that from the total expenditures only 6.14% have been spent on indirect costs in 2018, which leads to the conclusion that more than 90% of all expenditures are directly used for the implementation of DCA's projects.

## Total Expenditures 2018





# 10. Looking forward



There were a number of important topical issues that arose during the year that we need to focus on going forward.

## 1. Drought

2018 was a very bad year for the country with many people internally displaced, loss of livestock either through lack of feed or being sold at lower than normal prices, and the high cost of feed that was available. The situation needs to be addressed and not only through the emergency distribution of feed but sustainably through proper animal husbandry advice, provision of drought resistant crop seeds, and the management of available water supplies.

## 2. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

These partnerships are very important to strengthen the capacity of the National Veterinary Services. A Sanitary Mandate Contracting Scheme is in operation but there is a need to build stronger links with the private sector service providers (VFUs) when needed. A case example is VFUs working with Government in the first phases of the Global FAO/OIE Strategy for the control and eradication of PPR. We need to focus then on impactful and sustainable PPPs. The OIE will publish guidelines in a PPP Handbook next year.

## 3. Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Antibiotics should be used judiciously and responsibly. Safeguarding animals will lead to healthier people, and a safe environment. We will be introducing this topic into our curriculum for training service providers and farmers themselves. Preventive medicine and responsible use can help protect antibiotics for future generations.

## 4. One Health

Agriculture and animal health form the first line of defence for human health. One Health is very important and will be part of our curriculum and extension messaging, particularly the zoonoses prevalent in the country such as Rabies, CCHF, Brucellosis, and Anthrax.

## 5. Paravet Curriculum

The OIE has favourably reviewed our curriculum and we will be making changes based on the recommendations so as to fulfil the global day-one competencies for paraprofessionals working in the Animal Health Track.

**Raymond Briscoe**  
*Executive Director*



# Abbreviations



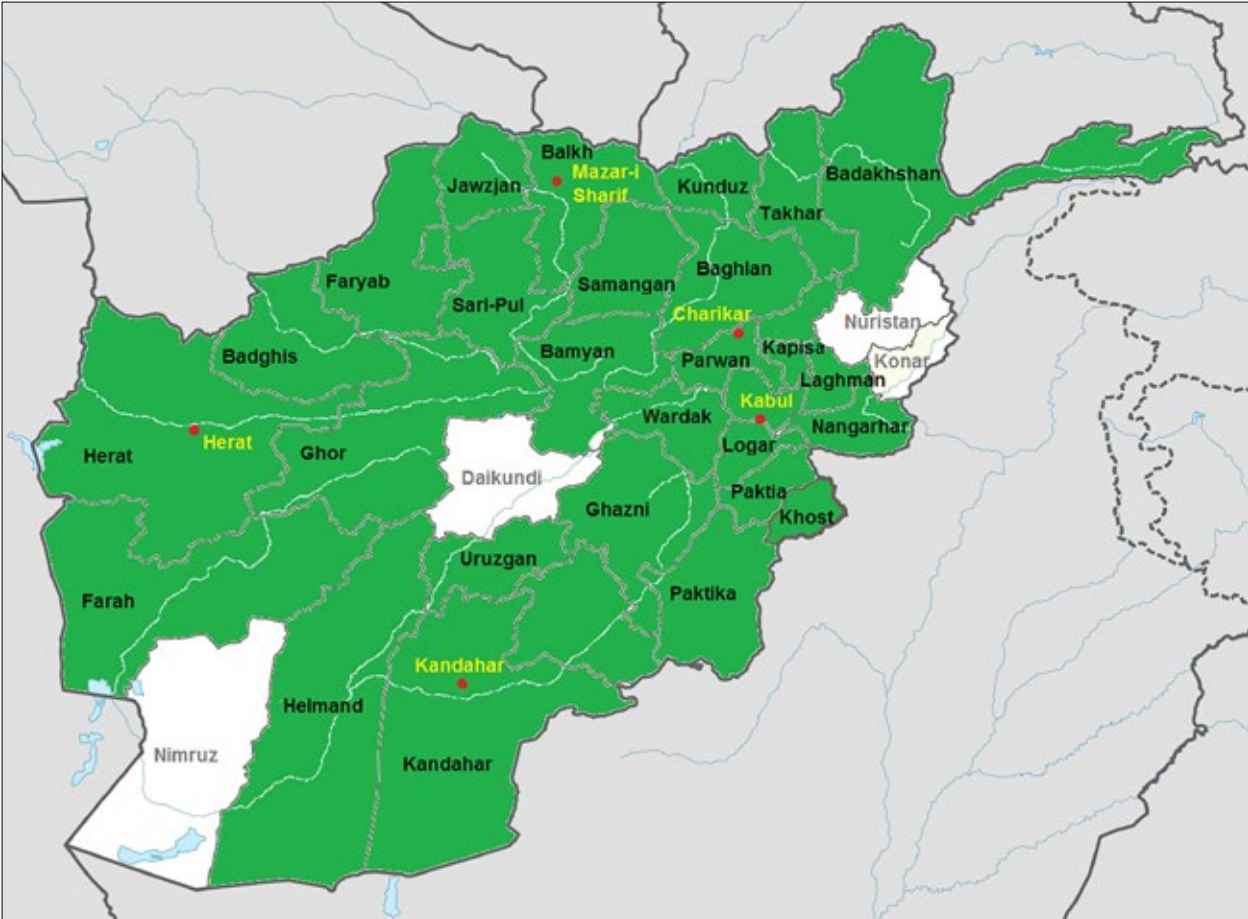
*HE President Ashraf Ghani visits DCA Kuchi tent at Kabul Agriculture Fair, October 2018*

<b>AFS</b>	Afghanis, currency of Afghanistan	<b>MAIL</b>	(Afghan) Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
<b>AKF</b>	Aga Khan Foundation	<b>MEAL</b>	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning
<b>ALCS</b>	Afghanistan Living Conditions Survey	<b>MPA</b>	Master of Public Administration
<b>BA</b>	Bachelor of Arts	<b>MSc</b>	Master of Science
<b>BADILL</b>	Boost Alternative Development Intervention through Licit Livelihoods	<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>BEP</b>	Biosecurity Engagement Program	<b>NRVA</b>	National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
<b>CA</b>	Chartered Accountant	<b>OIE</b>	Office International des Epizooties - World Organisation for Animal Health
<b>CCHF</b>	Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever	<b>PhD</b>	Doctor of Philosophy (academic degree)
<b>CLAP</b>	Community Livestock and Agriculture Project	<b>PPP</b>	Public Private Partnership
<b>CMT</b>	Core Management Team	<b>PPR</b>	Peste des Petits Ruminants
<b>CSO</b>	Afghanistan Central Statistics Organization	<b>PUR Projet</b>	PUR Development Pte. Ltd.
<b>DAIL</b>	District Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock	<b>RADP</b>	Regional Agricultural Development Program
<b>DCA</b>	Dutch Committee for Afghanistan	<b>RI</b>	Relief International
<b>DCA-VET</b>	Dutch Committee for Afghanistan – Veterinary Programmes	<b>SG</b>	Secretary General
<b>DVM</b>	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine	<b>SHG</b>	Self-Help-Group
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>SMCS</b>	Sanitary Mandate Contracting Scheme
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization	<b>UNAMA</b>	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
<b>HRM</b>	Human Resource Management	<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development	<b>US</b>	United States
<b>INSO</b>	International NGO Safety Organisation	<b>USAID</b>	US Agency for International Development
<b>LFEW</b>	Local Female Extension Workers	<b>VFU</b>	Veterinary Field Unit
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation		
<b>MADERA</b>	Mission d'Aide au Développement des Economies Rurales en Afghanistan		

# DCA on the map



Map of coverage of DCA Livestock Programs





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