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## DUTCH COMMITTEE FOR AFGHANISTAN – VETERINARY PROGRAMMES



افغانستان لپاره د هالنډ کمیټه  
کمیټه هالنډ برای افغانستان



Lelystad, July 2012

Dear Sir / Madam,

On behalf of the DCA-VET Board, I present you hereby the DCA-VET Annual Report 2011. This Report provides an overview of DCA-VET's activities during the past year, and gives a brief preview of our ambitions and chances in 2011.

We are grateful to our donors, USAID, GIZ, IFAD, EU, World Bank, Dutch Government, and Brooke who (again) offered us the opportunity to commit ourselves to the further development of sustainable private veterinary services in Afghanistan. And we would like to thank all DCA-VET staff in Afghanistan and the Netherlands for their wholehearted commitment and their working power, that enabled us to achieve the results we are presenting you now.

Important developments in 2011 are the focus moving to extension to improve animal production, the official registration of VetServ, and the launching of sanitary mandates by the government.

In previous years, DCA-VET already developed four Herd Health Packages to be used in the extension on animal husbandry, health and production. This year, the Herd Health Packages were used in all DCA-VET projects and also by other NGOs, to train through the VFUs the Afghan farmers how to treat and feed their animals for better health and productivity. For the extension to women, who take care of the new-born animals and the livestock around the house in Afghanistan, special Local Female Extension Workers are trained now. A short story of one of these LFEWs in the Annual Report shows how impassioned and effective these women are.

The first of January 2011, VetServ had been officially registered. The transfer of the importation and distribution of vaccines and medicines by DCA-VET to this commercial company is a big leap forward in the strategy of DCA-VET. And we are pleased to inform you that the commercial results of VetServ over 2011 have been satisfactory.

This year to our delight some sanitary mandates were issued by the Afghan government. These mandates delegate official veterinary tasks to private veterinary staff in order to assist the Ministry of Agriculture in the surveillance and control of outbreaks of contagious diseases. This offers VFU staff additional work and income and strengthens the cooperation between public and private services.

For the future, our focus will stay on private veterinary services including extension to improve animal production. Enlarging the agricultural and livestock production is an important prerequisite for improved livelihood in Afghanistan. Healthy and productive animals are at the base of this livestock economy, the development of value chains, enabling livestock owners to bring their animal products for a fair but profitable price to the market, is an important follow-up measure. The veterinary staff, trained and supported by DCA-VET, can play a key role in both aspects of enhancing animal production and hence improving human livelihood in Afghanistan.

With kind regards,

Ab Emmerzaal,  
Executive Director DCA-VET

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