DCA-VET on AgFair in Herat

On the 1st of October 2012, the annual "Agriculture Festival" (AgFair) was organized in Herat. An estimated one hundred participating groups and organizations were around that had taken the opportunity to present itself to the Herat farmers and stakeholders. A very neat impression made the stand (booth) of the Herat VFU cooperative (see picture). In this cooperative, over 150 paravets and veterinarians are participating.



Mr Mohammad Musa, Director VFU Herat Cooperative

Of course DCA-VET was also represented with a booth in which all different aspects of its programme were displayed. Unfortunately our booth was at an unfavorable location, on the second floor even, so not everybody found his way upstairs.

After the official speeches, the Fair was declared open, and the Minister of MAIL, his Excellency Mohammad Asif Rahimi, and his followers started their round through the exhibition. They spend more than an hour going through all the booths downstairs, and we feared already that they would not have the time for coming upstairs too. However, thanks to the good contacts that Dr. Fakhri, DCA Deputy Director Field, has with the local authorities the delegation came to the second floor and also passed our stand. But where



in every booth the displaying organisation tried to explain in one minute what they were doing, it was the opposite in our case: after the Minister shook hands with Dr. Fakhri, he immediately turned to the Herat Governor, Dr. Daud Shah Saba, with the words: "You know, this is DCA, the people that train all the paravets and send them to work in Veterinary Field Units", and "No, they don't pay them, they just give them an outfit for 8,000\$ including motorcycle etc., and then the paravets make their own living!"

His Excellency Mohammad Asif Rahimi explaining to the Governor of Herat (left) the work that DCA is doing (Dr. Fakhri seen on the back)

A better presenter of our case we could not imagine...

Bram Schreuder

Board member of DCA-VET