

The role of veterinary para-professionals (VPP) in Africa

**“Linking veterinary para-professionals and
veterinarians”**

**Continental conference
13th -15th October 2015
Saint George Hotel
Pretoria**

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AU-IBAR ‘S PERSPECTIVE

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INTRODUCTION

- **Livestock has the advantage of improving the livelihood of the majority poor**
- **Expansion of the production, consumption and marketing of animal resources globally**
- **The speed of change has significantly outpaced the capacity of governments to provide the necessary policy and regulatory frameworks to ensure an appropriate balance between the provision of private and public goods.**

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INTRODUCTION

- **Veterinary services in Africa have been severely affected by the waves of recurrent Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) since the 1980s**
- **Public veterinary services staff have continued to decrease, and consequently the majority of the public veterinarians will retire in the next ten years.**



INTRODUCTION

- **The public investment in veterinary sciences education has also decreased in the last three decades, and the quality of training, as well as the number of veterinarians trained has decreased.**
- **very few countries have been able to set up Public Private Partnership (PPP) mechanisms to ensure that the private sector contributes effectively to the provision of veterinary public goods, including Veterinary Public Health (VPH) and bio-security.**



VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY – AGE CERTIFICATE & DIPLOMA HOLDERS

	<30	30-40	41-50	51-55	56-60	>60	Retirement Age
Benin	6	36	15	17	4	0	
Burundi	42	77	37	17	0	0	60
Gambia	0	17	20	29	0	0	60
Ghana	0	5	29	27	31	0	60
Guinea	5	32	12	12	10	2	63
Guinea Bissau	0	9	7	2	3	2	60
Madagascar	1	17	99	165	35	0	60
Mauritania	0	0	28	0	0	0	60
Rwanda	49	85	433	1	0	0	65
Senegal	28	26	74	44	26	0	60
Tunisia	5	13	27	138	135	0	63
Zambia	543	111	27	4	0	0	55
Zimbabwe	32	60	50	6	8	2	58

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VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY – AGE

BSc and DVM HOLDERS

	<30	30-40	41-50	51-55	56-60	>60
Benin	2	10	9	15	22	2
Burundi	0	3	10	16	1	0
Gambia	0	6	5	0	1	0
Ghana	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guinea	13	22	14	89	151	8
Guinea Bissau	0	0	10	4	3	1
Kenya	55	65	119	90	6	0
Lesotho	2	2	2	5	1	0
Mauritania	0	5	108	15	1	0
Nigeria	22	209	87	49	70	45
Rwanda	0	2	1	1	3	0
Senegal	0	6	27	24	21	0
Seychelles	0	3	1	2	0	0
Sierra Leone	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tunisia	26	60	55	32	99	1
Uganda	14	22	51	96	83	0
Zambia	42	140	48	14	2	10
Zimbabwe	14	28	21	4	4	2

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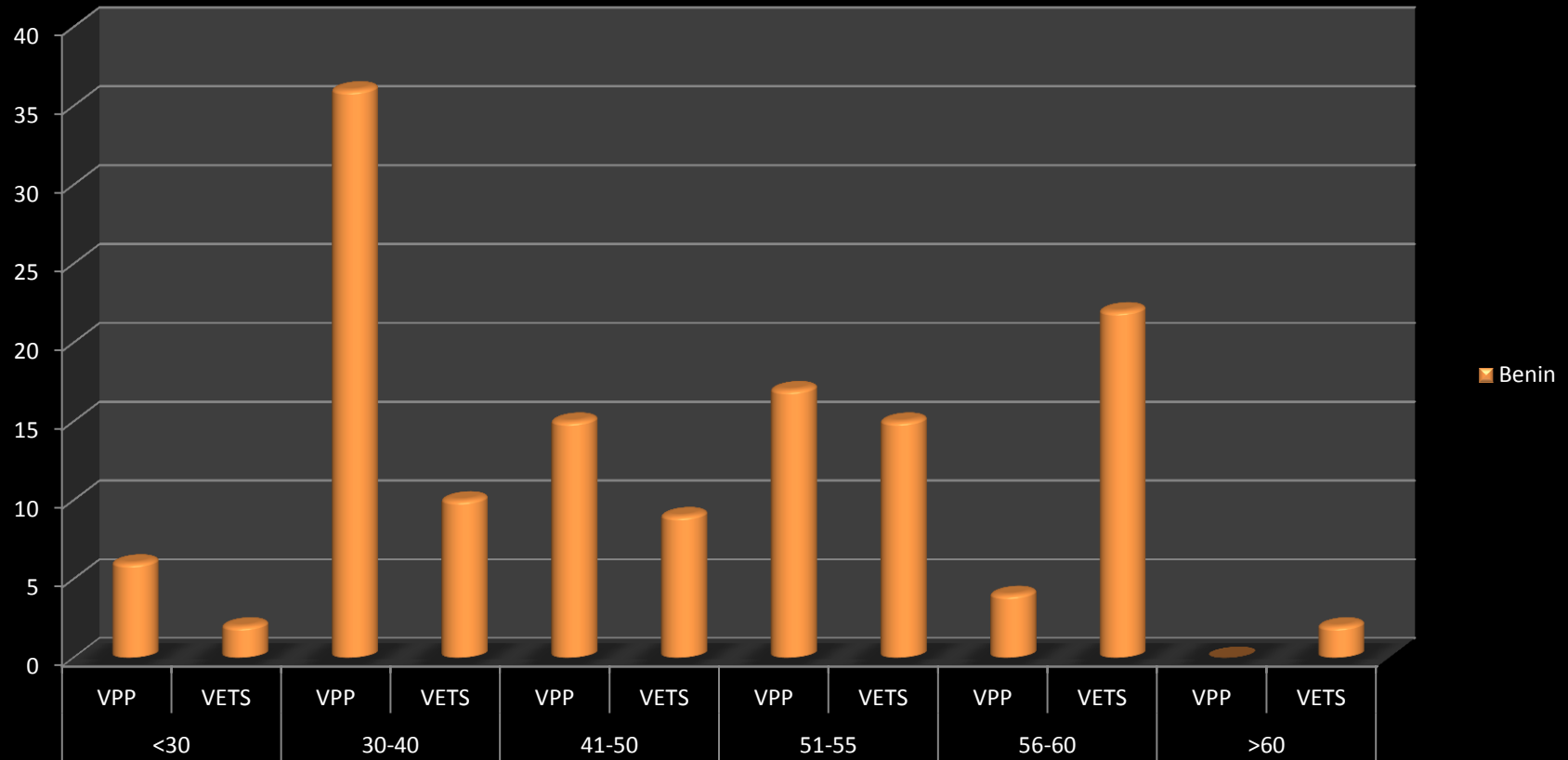


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VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY – AGE

CERT.&DIPL **VS** BSc & DVM

Benin



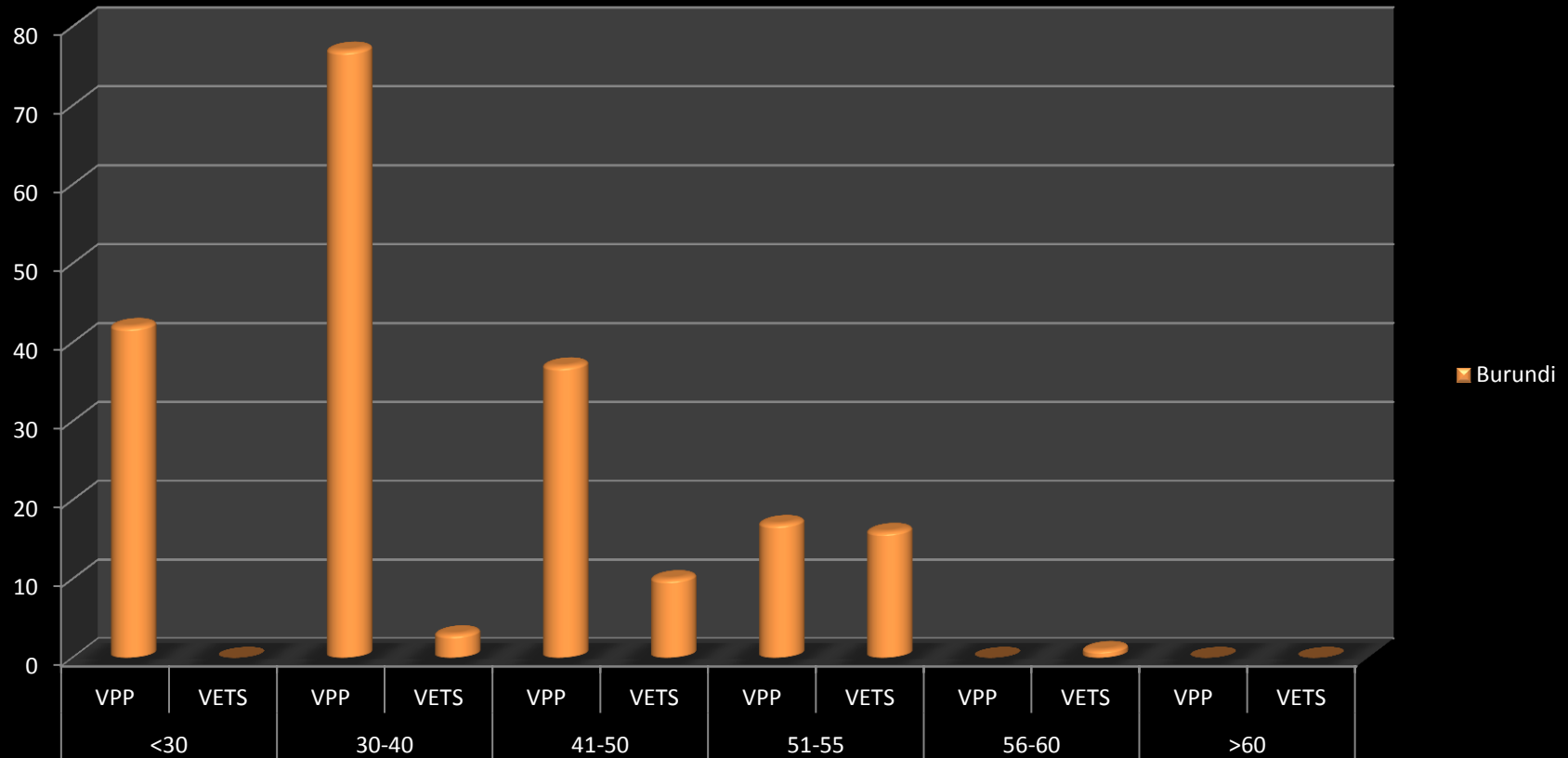
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VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY – AGE CERT.&DIPL VS BSc & DVM

Burundi



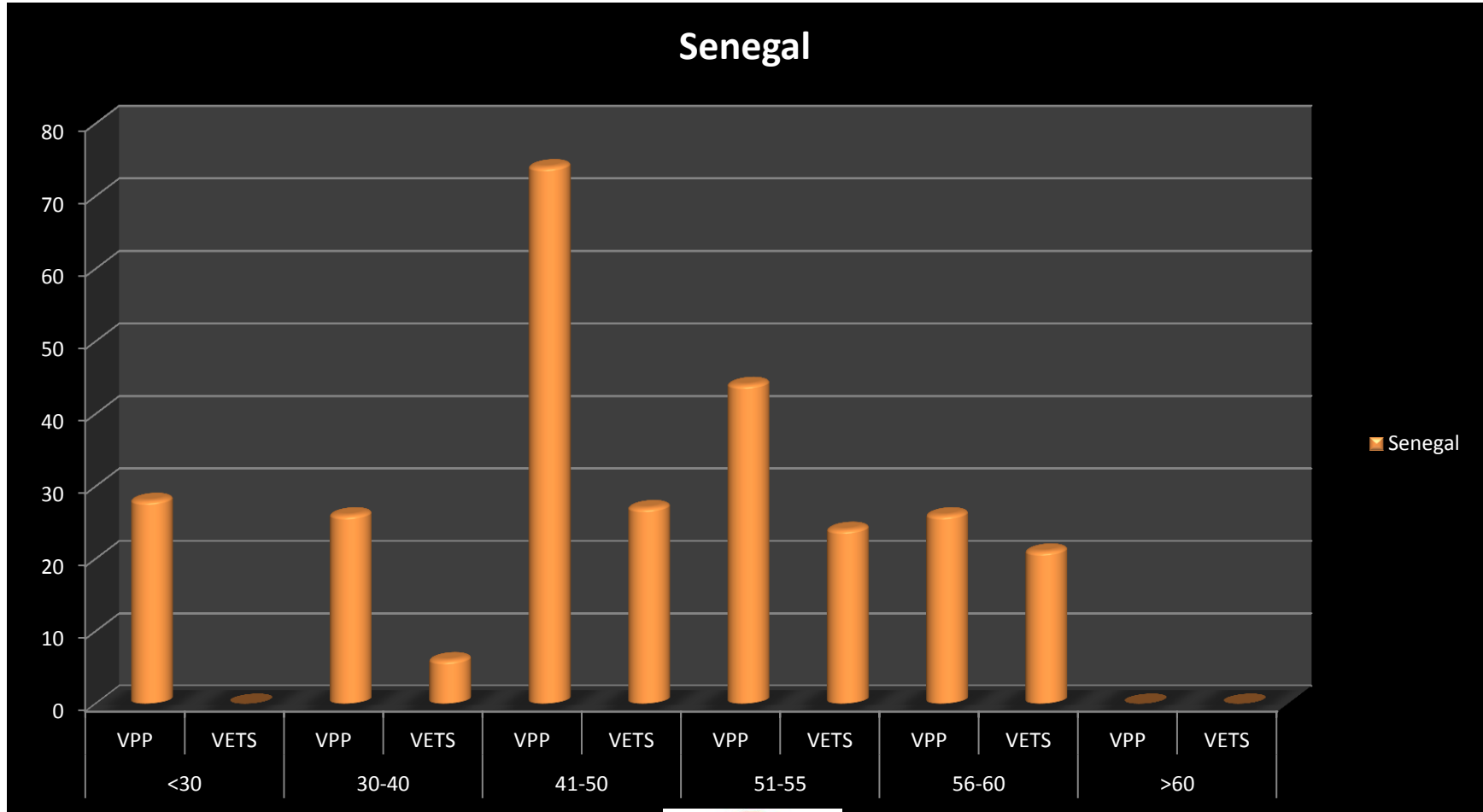
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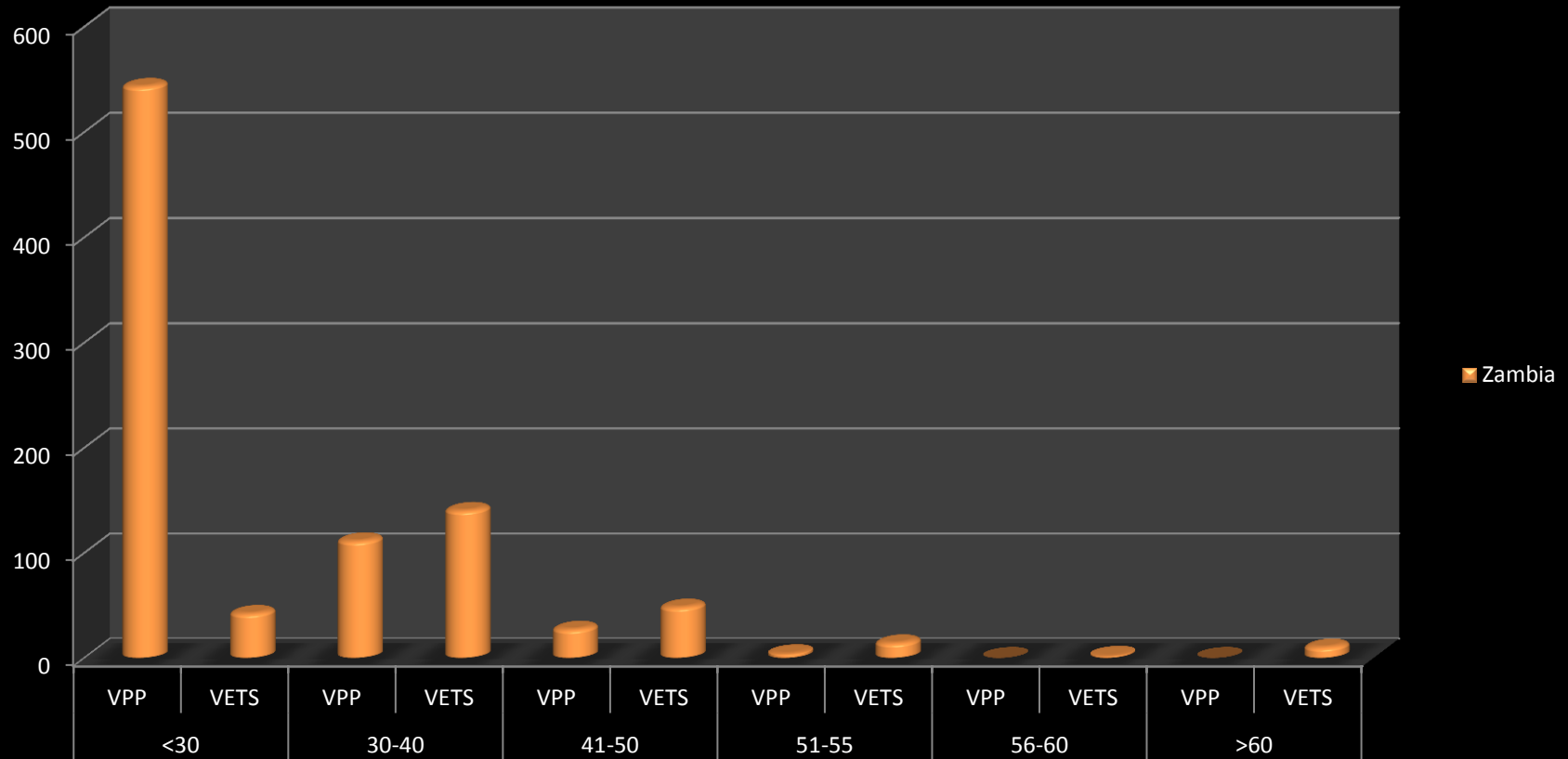
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VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY – AGE CERT.&DIPL **VS** BSc & DVM

Zambia



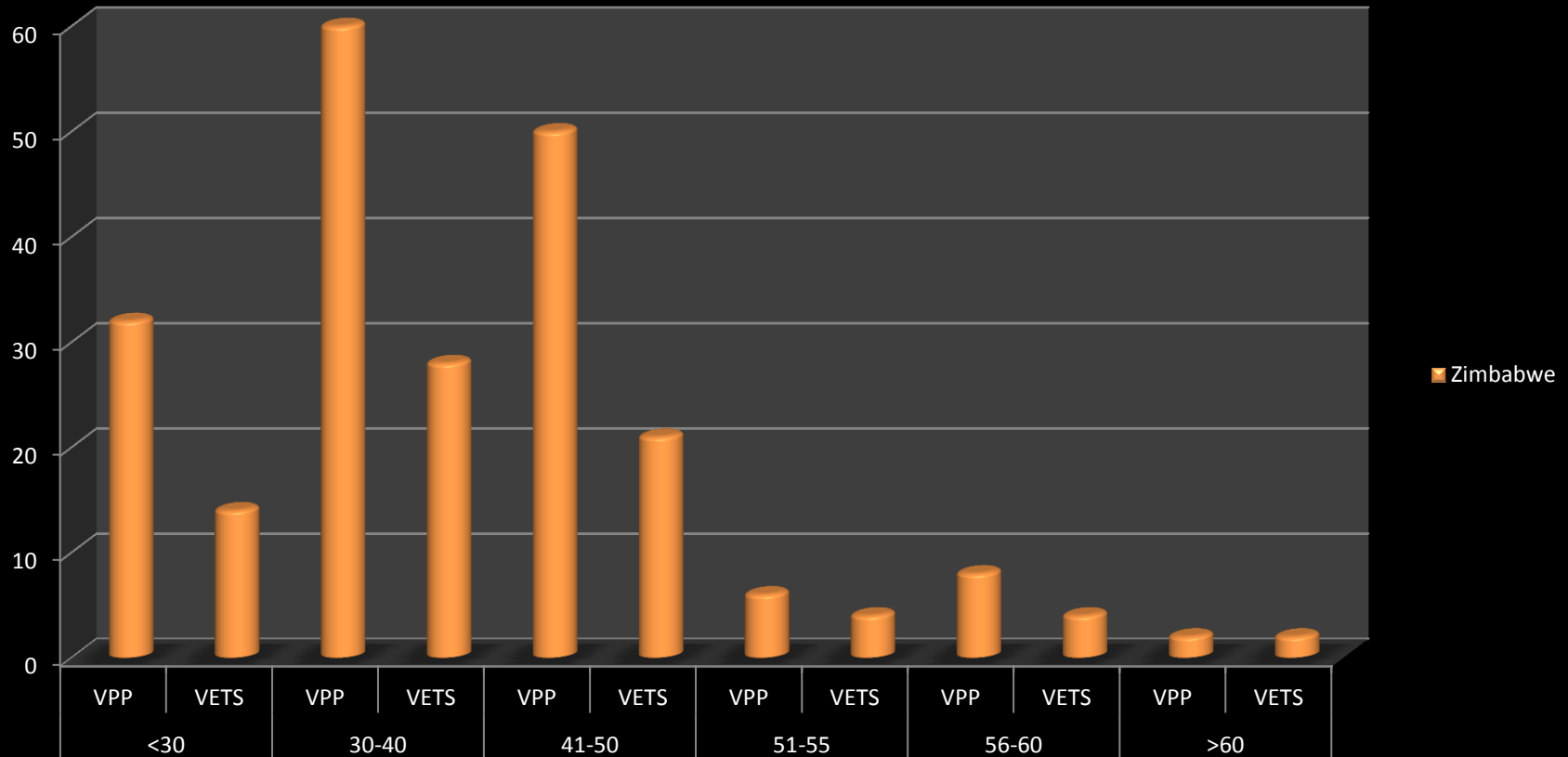
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VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY – AGE CERTIFICATE & DIPLOMA HOLDERS

Zimbabwe



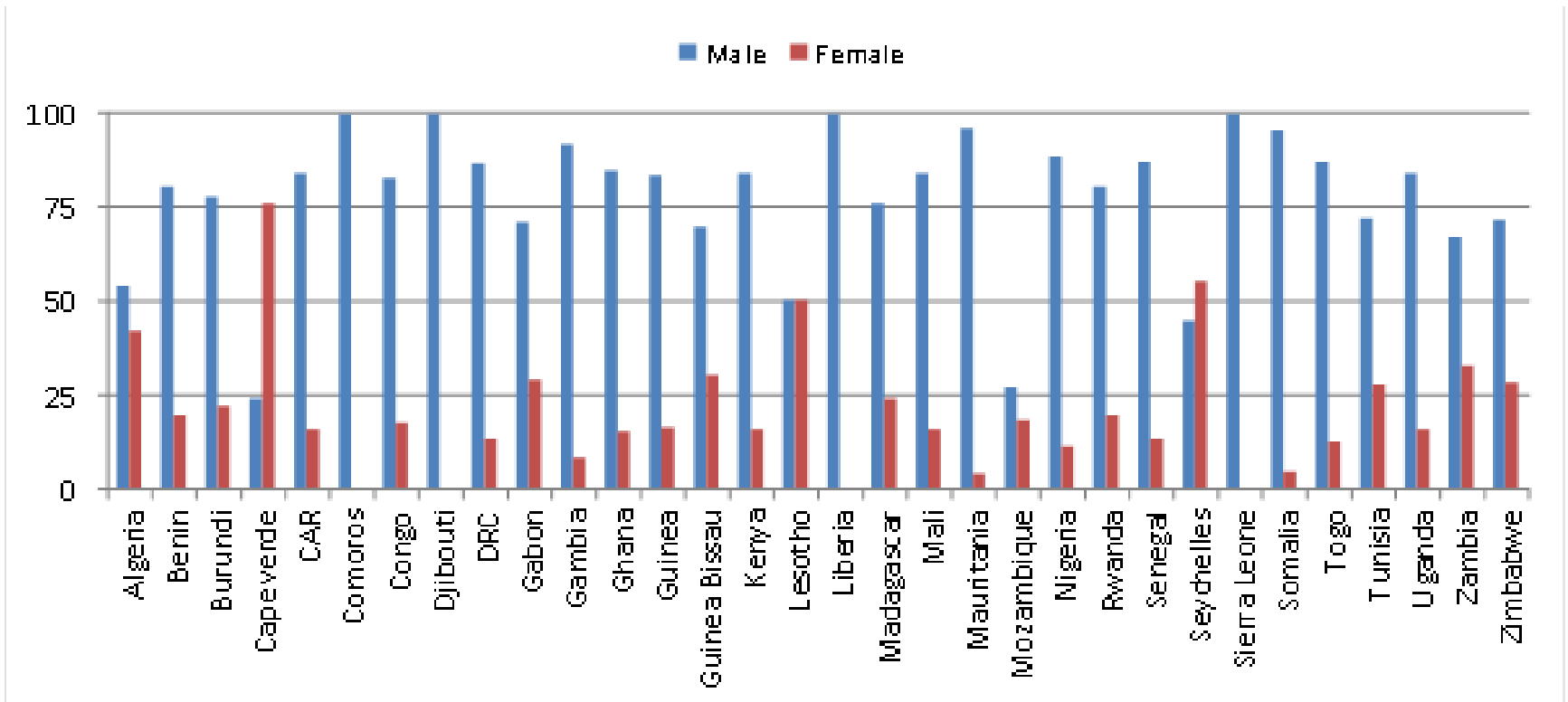
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VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY

Distribution in the public sector by sex



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POLICY PROVISIONS

The policy provides guidelines on the following:

- Organisation and structure of veterinary services**
- Legislation**
- Quality Control**
- It also provide the basis for coherence with Policies on Veterinary Service Restructuring and Privatisation**

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STRATEGIC PLAN

- Improve and expand accessibility of animal health services to livestock producers through broader participation of private sector and outreach services;
- Improve skills and knowledge of both private and public animal health professionals through training and capacity development building on previous achievements and established institutional structures to ensure sustainability;

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STRATEGIC PLAN

- Promote good veterinary governance including appropriate policy and legislative frameworks, human and financial resources and physical infrastructure;
- Strengthen core competences of the national and regional animal health institutions mostly in the fields of disease surveillance, reporting, diagnostic capabilities, emergency preparedness and response;



STRATEGIC PLAN

- ❑ Facilitate the engagement of the private sector in the delivery of animal health services through enhancing public-private-partnerships;
- ❑ Support MSs and RECs to identify knowledge gaps, develop/customize tools and access new technology to enhance disease surveillance, diagnosis and control;

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STRATEGIC PLAN

- Collaborate with relevant partners and academic institutions in developing and implementing training programs and continuous learning curricula for animal health personnel, in order to improve the technical and managerial capacity of animal health systems.

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WAY FORWARD

- The national veterinary authorities should encourage and evaluate the continuing education of veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals in their respective countries in accordance with OIE and other standards.
- National Veterinary authorities should also examine how to improve the public perception of the importance of veterinary activities for society as a whole, and convince governments and/ or international donors of the need to better finance initial and continuing veterinary education as a global public good.



WAY FORWARD

- ❑ **There is also a need to develop on-line distance learning courses and also develop and implement as appropriate the use of new information technologies for these courses to support cheap continuing education and professional development. Development partners should be requested to provide adequate resources for the relevance of continued professional development.**



WAY FORWARD

- There is need to share human resources and available infrastructure across the region due to the high cost of training a veterinarian. Therefore, collaboration between the Veterinary / related training institutions and Statutory Boards of different countries should be encouraged in order to harmonize the evaluations and facilitate regional integration, let alone the subsequent mobility of veterinary professionals.



WAY FORWARD

- ❑ **There is need to invest in training facilities such as demonstration farms, teaching hospitals, teaching and research laboratories, teaching aids, library and information resources, and internet services housing and well equipped facilities. Governments and donor agents can support this**



WAY FORWARD

- In addition to clinical sciences, emphasis should be put on livestock production, product processing, production economics and livelihoods, public health, biosafety and biosecurity of animal resource value chains and industries. The countries, institutions and partners in the region and beyond should work together to address the high cost of veterinary education and at the same time maintaining adequate quality





THANKS

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