



EXPERIENCE TO VPP REGULATION IN KENYA

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**WOAH subregional webinar on legislation
regulating the veterinary professions in East
Africa**

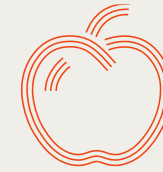
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Content



Background



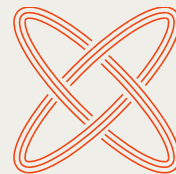
VSVP Act Regulations



VPP Population and deployment



Pre training requirements and Training Institutions



Road map to VPP regulation in Kenya



Registration by the Board and retention in the register



Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals Act Provisions



The practice of VPPs



Background

- The first VPP's to be trained by the government was in the year 1965, and all were absorbed into the public sector.
- The automatic absorption into the public sector was discontinued in 1988 after the privatization of Veterinary Clinical and A.I Services.
- The first welfare association was created in 1995 to champion for the legal recognition of VPP's in the Private sector.



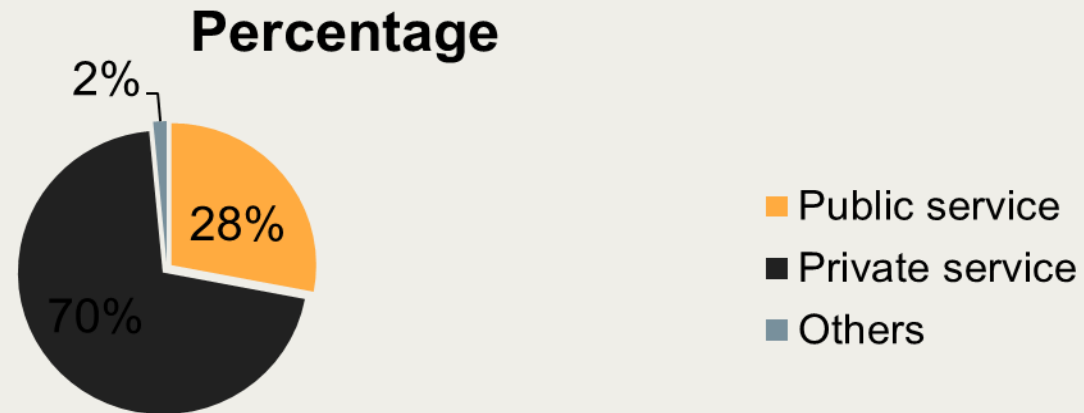
Background cont.

- In 2011 the Veterinary Surgeons Act was repealed and replaced by Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals Act.
- The Act established Kenya Veterinary Board to regulate veterinary training and practice in Kenya.
- The VPPs are now required to register with the Kenya Veterinary Board and with their Professional Association.
- This has greatly improved Veterinary Services in Kenya



VPP Population in Kenya

- VPP's are about 9,000 in number, with government employment (28%), private practice (70.5%) or employed by different organizations (1.5%) therefore having a close contact with farmers and in turn animals.





**Livestock Population
according to 2009
Kenya Bureau of
Statistics**

KENYA	Exotic Cattle	Indigenous Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Camels
Number of Animals	3,355,407	14,112,367	17,129,606	27,740,153	2,971,111
Animals pe VPP	372.0	1,568.0	1,903.3	3,082.2	330.1



Road map to VPP regulation

Late 1980s to early 1990s – Structural Adjustment Programs

Resulting into freeze of automatic employment to the public sector.

1992 – Formation of VPP association.

- The Veterinary Authorities strongly opposed this resulting in the interdiction of the Association Chairman in 1994. The team however continued and the association got legal registration in 1995.

2002 – Formation of a committee to review Veterinary Policy and Veterinary Surgeons Act Cap 366. The committee comprised of KVB, KVA, FVM, DVS and KALT(the VPP association). The team agreed on **Veterinary Practitioners Bill** .



Road map

2006 – The Veterinary Association pulled out of the review process on the basis that VPPs are not practitioners. The Veterinary Authority moved to support the Veterinary Association.

2009 – VPPs sponsors **Animal Technicians Bill** through a private member of parliament. The Bill received support from all members of parliament except the Minister for Livestock.

- However the President rejected the Bill and proposed amendments to exclude health and food safety.

2010 – The AT Bill passed by parliament with amendments, on condition that the Minister for Livestock tables a Bill immediately to include the practice of VPPs



Road map

2010 – Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals Bill tabled . The Members of Parliament increased the VPP membership in the Board from 1 to 3.

2011 – The VSVP Bill passed by parliament , however the VPPs rejected the requirement that VPPs perform tasks as employees of Veterinary Surgeons. The President placed the Bill pending for 5 months before assenting to it.

- The VPP Association petitioned the VSVP Act in High Court of Kenya for redress. The Court asked the Minister to address the issues raised administratively. **The Chair of VPPs endangered.**

2013 – The VSVP Act fully operationalised



BENEFITS TO THE PROFESSION

Enhanced collaboration between Vet. Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals.

Employers demanding for registered VPPs.

Growth in training institutions from 4 to over 20.

VPPs are involved in decision making at the Board level.

Employment opportunities for both Vets and VPPs in the Board.

Establishment of continuous learning mechanism.





CONSTRUCTION OF KVB HQ





KVB HEADQUATERS





Definition of VSVP Act

The Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals Act is an ACT of Parliament to make provision for the training, registration and licensing of Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals; to provide for matters related to animal health services and welfare, and for connected purposes.



Parts of the VSVP Act

1. Preliminary
2. The Kenya Veterinary Board.
3. Provisions related to registration and practice.
4. Practice by registered persons.
5. Financial provisions.
6. Inquiries and discipline by the Board.
7. Offences and penalties.
8. Miscellaneous.
9. Repeals and transitional.
10. Schedules.



Regulations

1. Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals Regulations 2013.

- Elections of Board Members, the disciplinary committee and other matters.
- Training and Registration
- Registration of Institutions and Organisations.
- Standards eg Veterinary clinics, hospitals, laboratory....
- Training Institutions and conduct of Examinations.



Regulations

2. The Code of Ethics for Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals 2015.

- Professionalism
- Handling of animals.
- Veterinary Premises and Practice
- General provisions

3. Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Paraprofessionals (Veterinary Medicines Directorate) Regulations 2015.

- Veterinary Medicines Directorate eg powers, appointment of Council etc
- Manufacture, importation and Registration
- Veterinary Pharmacy etc



Categories of Veterinary Paraprofessionals

The VPP's in Kenya are categorized as

1. Veterinary technologist

- Degree holders in Animal Health course duration 4 years
- Diploma Holders in Animal Health course duration 3 years

They are trained in the Kenyan Universities and their roles are mainly as stated in the VSVP Act,

2. Veterinary technicians

- They hold a 2 years certificate in animal's health and are trained in Animal Health training institutions recognized by the Board.



Pre-training Requirements

- **Certificate in Animal Health**

Those who have a minimum of a high school certificate with a minimum mean grade of C- with at least C- in Biology .

- **Diploma in Animal Health**

A minimum mean grade of C and at least C in Biology, C- in Mathematics and Chemistry or a certificate in Animal Health.

- **Degree in Animal Health**

A minimum of grade C+ with at least C+ in Biology or Biological Sciences and any one of the following subjects: Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Physical Sciences



Institutions

For an institution to train VPPs, it has to be accredited by Kenya Veterinary Board. The institutions are either government or private.

This institutions must have the basic facilities to offer either certificate, diploma or degree in animal health such as laboratories, qualified lecturers and farms.

Such institutions include

- A.H.I.T.I Kabete, Ndomba and Nyahururu
- Egerton University
- Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology
- Kenyatta university
- Other 20 more



Indexing by the Board

- Indexing is the process of registering all veterinary students joining various institutions in order to keep track their study, registration and practice.
- All veterinary medicine and animal health students are indexed within one month from the date of admission.
- All applications **MUST** be accompanied with copies of your National Identity (ID) Card/ Passport, Certified KSCE Examination Results Slip, Secondary School Leaving Certificate, and 1 (one) coloured passport size photograph. Upon upgrading, applicants must attach copies of previous certificates/ qualifications and practice license.



Period of Study

The period of training varies from course to course depending whether it is a certificate, diploma or degree.

- The certificate course goes for 2 calendar years
- The diploma ranges between 2-3 years of study depending on institution
- The degree goes for 4 calendar years only offered in local universities

During the period of study the students are required to go for attachment for a period of 4 months. They are posted to their local veterinary office to cover (Meat inspection, herd health, Lab, animal production)



Internship

- Internship is a requirement for registration by the Kenya Veterinary Board as a Veterinary Para-Professional.
- The program takes 1 year under the supervision of a Registered Veterinary Surgeon.
- * Internship provides students with an opportunity to get real life experience in veterinary work, e.g.
 - Client relationship
 - Practice management and economics
 - Communication skills
 - Practical medical and surgical interventions
 - Welfare, Production and responsibility of the veterinarian to clients & society



Registration by the Board

1. Registration with a professional association
2. Payment of registration fee as the Board may determine from time to time.
3. Certified copies of relevant certificates.
4. A letter from a registered veterinary surgeon certifying that the applicant served internship under his supervision as required by the VSVP Act.
5. Shall swear or affirm the OATH set out in the in the VSVP Act.
6. Issued with a certificate of registration which is signed by the Registrar.



Retention and Continuous Professional Development Activities

- CPD's are activities or programs that provide added value to the capability of Veterinary Para-professionals through enhancement of knowledge, skills and personal qualities for appropriate execution of the veterinary profession.
- Veterinary para-professionals are required to attend training activities approved by KVB to attain a minimum of 14 points annually.
- Only when you have attained the above points and have paid the retention and practicing fee can you be allowed to practice and if not you are de-registered



How does one acquire CPD Credit points?

- Formal study for additional qualifications
- Short training and organizational activities
- Professional involvement in professional associations, committees
etc
- Publication of scholarly articles in journals and book chapters.
- Mentorship of students and interns.
- Community service e.g extension activities among others.



Services offered by a Veterinary Para- professionals

- Implementation of parasite control programs in animals
- Meat inspection and other duties under the relevant legislation, if authorized therefore by the Director of Veterinary Services.
- Delegated duties pertaining to regulated animal diseases, including the various eradication schemes.
- Extension services (including training and education) to farmers and community members;
- The collection, capturing and evaluation of data and the compiling of reports whilst assisting with epidemiological and research projects.



Services offered continued

- The collection of samples, including blood smears, impression smears, skin scrapings, and wool scrapings and fecal samples (excluding the collection of samples by biopsy);
- The examination and analysis of samples, including blood smears, skin and wool scrapings, urine analysis and fecal samples and elementary clinical chemistry;
- Basic post mortem examinations and the collection and submission of samples;
- Artificial insemination provided that the veterinary para-professional is registered as an inseminator with the Director of Veterinary Services.
- Any other function which may be assigned pursuant to this Act.



Practice procedures

Procedures

- Closed castrations of cattle under 6 (six) months of age;
- Closed castrations of sheep and goats under 3 (three) months of age
- Open castrations of pigs up to thirty days of age;
- Dehorning of immature cattle, sheep and goats under 4 (four) months of age;
- Tail docking of sheep under 2 months of age by using the open method;
- Hoof trimming;

Under the responsibility or direction of a veterinary surgeon—

- the lancing of abscesses;
- the treatment of septic wounds; and
- the administration of injections and medicines.



VPP's roles and Practice

Vaccinations



Veterinary public health



Common mode of Transport



Thank you

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World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal





Discussion Questions:

1. Are VPPs involved in the decision-making organ for regulating the profession in your country?

Les VPP sont-ils impliqués dans l'organe de décision de la réglementation de la profession ?

2. If so, please comment on how they participate.

Si oui, commentez la manière dont ils participent.