



# Towards a More Resilient Veterinary Workforce for Africa 2024

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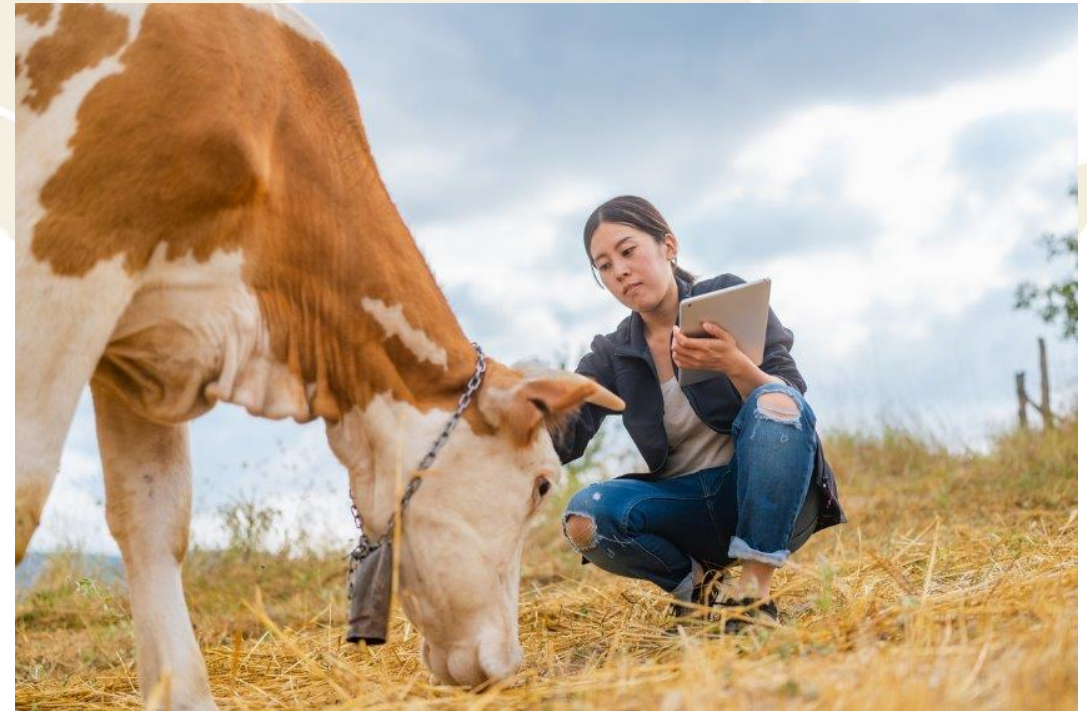
# WORKING WITH REGIONAL NETWORKS OF VETERINARY EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENTS (VEE) AND VETERINARY STATUTORY BODIES (VSB) IN ASIA FOR VETERINARY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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# Presentation covers

- Context
- WOAH's support for regional and sub-regional VEE/VSB networks in Asia
- Example from Southeast Asia
- Relevance

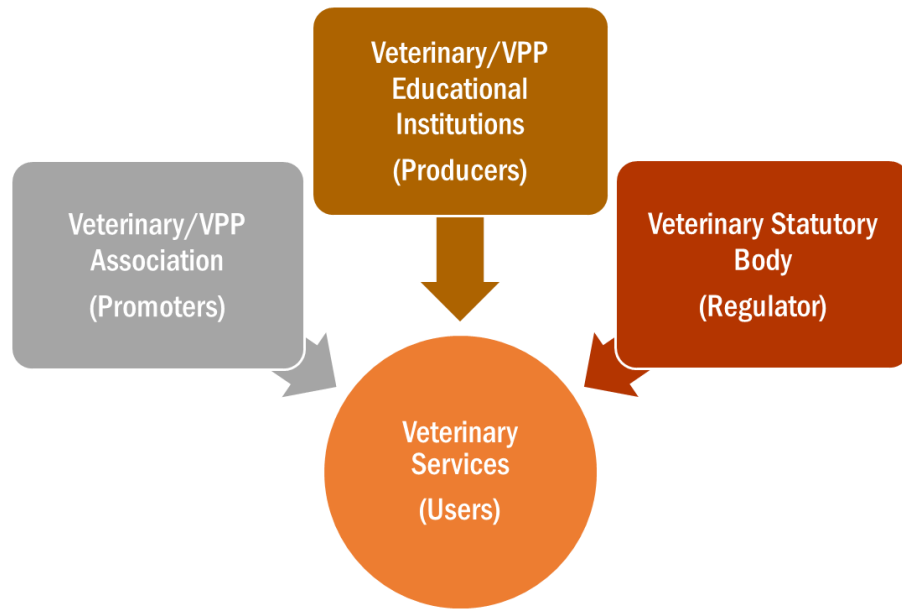


# Context

- Both VEEs and VSBs play a key role in ensuring the effectiveness of veterinary professionals and delivery of competent Veterinary Services (VS).
- Networking and networks among VEEs, VSBs and other stakeholders of veterinary workforce development can improve standards and veterinary education outcomes through sharing of experiences, ideas, and resources.
- In Asia, more than 300 VEEs exist with diverse course curricula, standards and delivery methods.
- Majority of VEEs are accredited by national accreditation systems but no regional VEE accreditation standards/ body exist.



# Networking to strengthen veterinary education



Close collaboration is encouraged to ensure the provision of veterinary education appropriate to the needs of each country.

# WOAH Veterinary Education Twinning Projects in Asia

The VEE Twinning Programme provides an opportunity for a 'beneficiary' VEE wishing to improve its performance, to link with a 'parent' VEE in a formal partnership to address specific, agreed objectives for curriculum development and other aspects of educational capacity building, with support from WOAH.

## Completed projects:

- University of Minnesota (USA) – Chiang Mai University (Thailand) (2013-2016)
- University of Queensland (Australia) – Nong Lam University (Vietnam) (2015-2019)
- Massey University (New Zealand) – University of Peradeniya (Sri Lanka) (2014-2018)
- Hokkaido University (Japan) – Mongolian University of Life Science (Mongolia) (2017-2019)
- University of Tokyo (Japan) – Royal University of Agriculture (Cambodia) (2018-2021)

## Ongoing project:

- University of Calgary (Canada) - Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (India) (2020 – 2024)



<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-offer/improving-veterinary-services/pvs-pathway/veterinary-workforce-development/>



# Facilitating collaboration among regional VEEs and VSBs

Sub-regional Meeting for VEEs and other Stakeholders of Veterinary Workforce Development in East Asia, Japan, 2023



Sub-regional Meeting for VEE/VSB Networks in South-East Asia

**Virtual Workshop on the Way Forward of VEEs and VSBs in South-East Asia**



SEAVSA Annual Meeting, 2024



Towards establishment of Sub-Regional VEE/VSB Network for South Asia, 2024

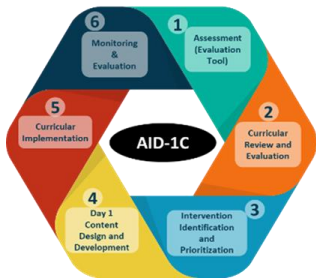
**Virtual Meeting of VEE & VSB Focal points: Towards Establishing a South Asia VEE & VSB Network**



# Veterinary Education activities supported in South-East Asia

## VEE Curriculum Assessment:

- Collaboration of WOAHA with the Ohio State University (OSU), US to support VEEs in SEA to perform curriculum assessment against the WOAHA Day 1 Competencies (D1Cs)
- Using the **A**ssessment and **I**mplementation of WOAHA **D**ay **1** **C**ompetencies (AID-1C) Model developed under the Twinning Project between the University of Gondar, Ethiopia and the OSU



**Goal:** to evaluate and harmonise the veterinary curriculum to the WOAHA D1Cs and Core Curriculum to graduate highly proficient veterinarians

## Collaboration of WOAHA with SEAVSA and AVSBN

### South-East Asia Veterinary School Accreditation Standards:

- WOAHA collaborated with SEAVSA and AVSBN to develop the Southeast Asia Veterinary School Accreditation Standards through a series of consultation webinars with the stakeholders and experts
- 11 accreditation standards
- To be accredited by the South-East Asia Veterinary School Accreditation Body (in the process of establishment by the AVSBN)
- To facilitate the transboundary mobility of veterinarians between the ASEAN Member States

### Progressive Veterinary School Accreditation Standards:

- 4 Levels
- Could be a means to strengthen veterinary education of VEEs with different advancement levels.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wEYBp73\\_uKN-LjP7bnRdyE2JnvGbS5YT](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wEYBp73_uKN-LjP7bnRdyE2JnvGbS5YT)



# ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network (AVSBN)



- Established in 2017 with the WOAHA support
- Network of the National VSBs/VSB equivalent organisations/relevant institutions of the 10 ASEAN Member States
- Strategic Plans include Ensuring the capacity of National VSBs to promote good governance of Veterinary Services both nationally and regionally
- The **WOAH VSB Twinning Project** between the Veterinary Council of Thailand and the Australasian Veterinary Board Council Inc., 2018-2020 also contributed to the AVSBN activities.
- Draft the **ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA)** on Veterinary Practitioners

## TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ASEAN VETERINARY STATUTORY BODY NETWORK

### 1. Background

The activities of Veterinary Services are recognized as a global public good because of their role in protecting animal health and welfare, public health and ecosystem health alike. Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB) as regulators play a key role in licensing veterinarians and/or veterinary para-professionals providing minimum standards of veterinary education, initial and continuing, while also ensuring high standards of professional conduct within the veterinary profession. A strong, efficient and competent National VSB is therefore essential in establishing and maintaining of good governance and functioning of National Veterinary Services. To strengthen and promote the authority and capacity of the National VSBs of the ASEAN Member States, an ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network is being proposed.

### 2. Vision

Strong and committed National Veterinary Statutory Body Authorities and with functional capacity that is anchored through the ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network.

### 3. Objectives

The ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network is a regional network of the National VSBs/VSB equivalent organisations/relevant institutions of 10 ASEAN Member States.

The objectives of the ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network are:

- To create a regional forum for the National VSBs of ASEAN Member States and equivalent authority (where a National VSB does not exist) for the purpose of sharing information, knowledge and experiences related to the policies, authority and functions of the National VSBs;
- To promote collaboration between ASEAN Member States in supporting the development/establishment of fully functioning National VSBs in Member States currently without VSBs or where VSBs are being developed;
- To mutually support the implementation of international standards' related to VSB in ensuring the capacity of National VSBs in promoting good veterinary governance within a country;
- To harmonise the National VSB best practices and operational guidelines, thereby facilitating transboundary mobility of veterinarians/ veterinary paraprofessionals between ASEAN Member States without prejudice to personalities, religious beliefs, socio-cultural and even political diversities.;
- To create links with VSBs/VSB authorities or relevant institutions in other regions for the purpose of exchanging expertise, thereby improving the regional capacity of National VSBs for compliance with international standards.

### 4. Roles and Functions

The ASEAN Veterinary Statutory Body Network shall:

- Organise an ASEAN forum (in person meeting or via on-line tools/teleconference) to discuss and share information, knowledge and experiences on the issues relating to the best practices, operational guidelines, regulations, authority and functions of the National VSBs;

SEA veterinary school accreditation standards

MRA on  
Veterinary  
Practitioners

Transboundary  
mobility of  
veterinarians

Regional  
veterinary  
workforce  
development

# Relevance

- Networking among VEEs and VSBs across countries can provide valuable **opportunities for information and resource sharing** towards harmonised curriculum and accreditation processes.
- Such networks can also **provide unified voice to advocate for policy changes** and better **funding** for veterinary education and practice to build capacities.
- **Enhanced communication** between Veterinary Services , VEEs, VSBs and other stakeholders can **facilitate the alignment of curriculum reforms with workforce needs**.
- Collaboration can help **align recruitment and admissions policies** at VEEs to address workforce gaps identified by VSBs and other workforce assessment initiatives.
- Collaboration between VSBs and VEEs plays a significant role in **increasing the mobility of vocational education graduates across borders** due to the harmonisation of training and standards.
- WOAHA can play a critical role in such endeavours.

Thank you for your  
attention !



For more information about VEE/VSF Activities in Asia,  
visit WOAHA Asia Pacific Regional website  
<https://rr-asia.woah.org/en/projects/vee/>

