



## Regional Awareness Raising Workshop on Veterinary Workforce and VPPs in Asia and the Pacific, June-July 2021

### Relevant definitions - From the Terrestrial Animal Health Code

#### **Veterinarian**

means a person with appropriate education, registered or licensed by the relevant veterinary statutory body of a country to practice veterinary medicine/science in that country.

#### **Veterinary Authority**

means the Governmental Authority of a Member Country, comprising *veterinarians*, other professionals and paraprofessionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and *welfare* measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and recommendations in the *Terrestrial Code* in the whole territory.

#### **Veterinary legislation**

means laws, regulations and all associated legal instruments that pertain to the veterinary domain.

#### **Veterinary Services**

means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code in the territory. The Veterinary Services are under the overall control and direction of the Veterinary Authority. Private sector organisations, veterinarians, veterinary paraprofessionals or aquatic animal health professionals are normally accredited or approved by the Veterinary Authority to deliver the delegated functions.

#### **Veterinary statutory body**

An autonomous regulatory body for veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals.

**For the purpose of this workshop, we are using the following definitions, although they are not official OIE definitions:**

#### **Veterinary workforce**

The number, distribution and type of personnel working in the veterinary services across the public and private sectors. The veterinary workforce includes veterinarians of different specialisms, and VPPs working in animal health, veterinary public health (such as meat inspection) and laboratories, in urban, rural and remote settings.

For the purposes of this survey, the veterinary workforce DOES NOT include Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs).

#### **VPP – Veterinary paraprofessional**

A person who is not a veterinarian but has received at least one year of formal training in animal health/production from a recognised /accredited institution resulting in a certificate, diploma or degree, and who is currently active. In practice this may include Animal health technicians, Animal health assistants, Meat inspectors, Laboratory technicians, Veterinary nurses and other similar job titles.



**CAHW - Community-based animal health worker**

A person with short, informal training taught to perform very basic animal health related tasks, who is accountable to a VPP and/or veterinarian, and who is currently active. (In practice, CAHWs are often trained by NGOs or local field projects).

**Public**

Primarily employed by the government

**Private**

Self-employed or employed by private clinics, companies, industry, farmer groups or not-for-profit organisations such as NGOs (non-governmental organisations)

**Accredits (accreditation)**

In the context of veterinary and veterinary paraprofessional education, accreditation means the process of review by an official regulatory body of a training institution and its curriculum to ensure that the resources are present to properly train the students who enter the institution and to ensure that the students graduate with the competencies expected from their training. A training institution is accredited when the official regulatory body completes its review and issues a certificate of accreditation.