

## **OIE Workforce and VPP workshop Session 3 on Veterinary Education (22 June 2021): Answers to questions and comments received during the workshop session**

As of 5 July 2021

### **General Perspectives Topic Competency Based Approaches Topic**

Question to Indonesia: What is the entry level/requirement for VPP course in Indonesia?

- Answer (LIVE): They need high school graduation.

Question to Indonesia: How do you rate their hands on skills after leaving school and how do you manage their on-the-job development/supervision?

- Answer: If I have to rate my VPP graduate is in good level, obviously there is need of time and experience to become an expert. But we do some tracer study to the institution that using our VPP graduates and have a positive feedback from them.

Question to Indonesia: Is it possible that VPP is promoted to veterinary (DVM)?

- Answer: For the opportunity to continue to veterinarian program is impossible in Indonesia by the regulation of the association.

Question: What degree do you give to the graduated students?

- Answer from India: As the Question is regarding Degree so I presume the Question pertains to "Veterinary Doctors". The Degree for Veterinary Graduates is "Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry (BVSc & AH)". For Para-vets its Diploma for which nomenclature varies but generally "Diploma in veterinary and Animal Health Technology" or generally "Diploma in veterinary and Livestock Technology"
- Answer from Indonesia: In Indonesia, we give Diploma degree for our 3 years VPP course.

Question to Cambodia: Is there conflict between Veterinarians and VPP's in case of exerting their duties?

- Answer: We do not have any conflicts because any activities we always to collaborate and pre-discussed before starting.

Question to Cambodia: Regarding VPP Laboratory personnel, are they trained from the beginning in animal/veterinary diagnostics, or do they usually start training as medical diagnosticians, and then cross-train for animals?

- Answer: Normally, we have a program to train for the students at year 4 at RUA and also the students from RUA and RUPP that came to do internship for their thesis. And some teachers from RUA and National school of agriculture to learn the technique of test for parasite, bacterial and virus diagnosis. They can learn from the starting how to collect specimen and which kind of specimen that can detect to each disease properly.

### **Curricula Guidelines Topic**

Question (LIVE): Are VPP guidelines and curricula used in PVS evaluation?

- Answer from OIE (LIVE): [PVS](#) has 2 critical competencies to assess Veterinary Workforce. 1: Appropriate numbers in veterinary workforce personnel, 2: If Vets and VPPs are adequately trained. VPP and Vets are assessed separately in both 1 and 2. We refer the OIE guideline and curricula in VPP evaluation, but don't have enough time to assess deeply and don't cross check the curricula of the country against OIE guidelines and curricula. We use the OIE guidelines and curricula as a reference and the awareness of them in the country is considered.

Question: How can we access the tool (CAM)?

- Answer: You can find the link to download the tool on this page: <https://www.oie.int/en/what-we-offer/improving-veterinary-services/pvs-pathway/targeted-support/veterinary-and-veterinary-paraprofessional-education/>

Question (LIVE): Does OIE have recommendation on the standard timeline for VPP training?

- Answer from OIE Expert: (LIVE) : Most common duration for VPP education we have observed is 2

years, but the OIE does not specify a timeline because it as length of training is less important as compared to ensuring the competency of the trainees. Timeline can be adjusted to fulfil the competencies they want VPPs to achieve. Some courses are 6 months with additional practical training and some as long as 4 years.

### Training Standards

Question: Would OIE consider having an online self-assessment module for VPPs that is totally anonymous?

- Answer from OIE Expert (LIVE): CAM tool is not evaluating VPP's workforce capacity itself, but to evaluate the associated training programs. We don't have a tool to assess individual VPP's capacity, but the OIE guidelines could be used by VPPs as a self-assessment tool to see what competencies they have and what competencies they need.
- Answer from OIE: OIE is exploring online self-assessment tools as part of the OIE Training Portal: <https://training.oie.int/?lang=en> - This suggestions for VPPs will be considered in future.

Question: Should the VPP certificate be effective for life?

- Answer from OIE Expert (LIVE): It depends on each country's VPP registration requirements, VPP type, context and other requirements for professional certification. The OIE doesn't necessarily provide an absolute rule. Generally, it would be a reasonable expectation that VPPs and veterinarians demonstrate some level of Continuing Professional Development in order to maintain their certification, but It is important that all countries consider if they need follow up assessment for graduated VPPs within their own circumstances.

Question to Indonesia: Is VPP programmes in Indonesia like diploma programme?

- Answer: Yes, right. VPP programmes in Indonesia is diploma programme

Question to Indonesia: Can the graduate Vet paramedic in Indonesia directly work or do they need any special training on the task that work with the veterinarian?

- Answer: The graduate Vet paramedic in Indonesia can directly work

Question to India: Is there any program of CAHW within the NCVE&T for creation of field level vaccinators in India? As we're developing national programmes to eradicate several diseases and short of human resources, it is helpful to have the specific standard.

- Answer: Vaccination is covered as a separate Occupational Standard (NOS) within Qualification of "Animal Health Worker" and we have not created a separate QP for stand-alone Vaccinator because it is too narrow qualification but could make the standards specific for vaccination in the future.

Question to Indonesia: Do you have CAHW in Indonesia?

- Answer: Yes, we have CAHW

Question to Indonesia: Is there difference between CAHW & VPPs in Indonesia?

- Answer: The difference lies in the time of course and the competencies/task that they can handle. VPP is a 3-year course and a formal course held by a university. CAHW is an extension of veterinary service than can only do certain task under supervision of a veterinarian. CAHW course is a non-formal course held by the government/ department of agriculture that runs in 3 to 4 weeks course. CAHW certification only for a few competencies that needed by the community in the certain area.

Question: The VPP curricula guideline really is useful as we are in process of updating our VPP curricula. Will there be any plans for making unique and standard VPP curricula in future? The reason for the question is variation of the courses duration in different countries.

- Answer from OIE Expert: I would defer to my OIE colleagues for a definitive answer, but it would be very challenging to create specific curriculum for the many different VPP roles in so many countries. The best we can do is facilitate countries doing this for themselves.
- Answer from OIE: there are no plans to develop a more specific curriculum than the Guidelines which have already been published.

Question: For a country, the requirement of the veterinary work force will be based on the numbers of animal unit in each country. Determination of the animal unit will vary among countries, I Think? How do you determine the animal unit for different animal spp. in South East Asia countries?

- Answer from OIE Expert: This is where VPP and veterinarian education must be linked to PVS activities,

i.e. understanding the needs of the country (including with respect to animal numbers, important production systems, etc.) and produce effective professionals to deal with those PVS evaluations.