

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



HEALTHY ANIMALS.  
HEALTHY PEOPLE.  
HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.





## MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

It's been a transformative year at Veterinarians Without Borders/Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Canada (VWB/VSF). From humble beginnings in 2005, when a caring group of veterinarians founded VWB/VSF, our organization has grown to incredible new heights, right here in Canada and across the globe.

2021 and 2022 marked the next chapter in how we operate by finalizing the integration of the One Health model across all VWB/VSF departments and strategic plans. Despite the challenges presented by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our team's work carried on, across 11 countries. We ensured our worldwide partners also align with the One Health approach of "healthy animals, healthy people, healthy environment". Last year, in South Sudan, we worked with 432 beneficiaries and nearly 1,400 animals to create healthier, long-term solutions for families and animals. In northern Canada, we hosted seven veterinary clinics in remote communities throughout Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, ensuring that animals and people remain healthy and protected from the spread of zoonotic diseases like rabies. Through our VETS program, in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, we deployed 190 volunteers who worked with local partners to provide animal health assessments, along with environmental and gender relations training to communities in need.

Worldwide, VWB/VSF continued responding to emergencies, such as natural disasters and conflicts, launching our local response in Ukraine in March 2022.

Whether you're a donor, partner, volunteer, or other valued member of the VWB/VSF community, thank you for your support. Without you, our work would simply not be possible.

Sincerely,

Charmaine Brett, Executive Director &  
Dr. Jennifer Geer, Chair, Board of Directors





## WHO WE ARE

Veterinarians Without Borders/Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Canada (VWB/VSF) was founded in 2005 by a caring group of veterinarians with one goal in mind: improving the lives of animals, people, and the environment across the world.

Since those early days, and by building strong relationships with on-the-ground partners throughout northern Canada, Africa, Asia, Ukraine, and beyond, VWB/VSF has grown to offer life-saving support to animals and communities that lack access to veterinary training and care.

By providing veterinary travel clinics, education, and emergency support – such as vaccinations, animal evacuations, access to fodder, and more, we are ensuring people, and animals they depend on, can secure healthier futures.

## ONE HEALTH MODEL

VWB/VSF uses a holistic One Health model to improve the health of people, animals, and the environment. To achieve this, we work at the local, national, and international levels. This means striving for clean air and water, soil healthy enough to support plants, and animals – both companion and farm – that are healthy and will not transmit zoonotic disease to humans. Our approach ensures that people and communities are involved in the decisions that affect their health and environment.



**One Health has its roots in veterinary medicine, but has come to involve human health practitioners, social scientists, environmental scientists, and others.**



### FOCUSED ON HEALTH

We focus on animal health care as integrally tied to human and ecosystem health.



### COMMITTED TO LEARNING

We are committed to sharing our expertise and knowledge and continuously learning from our partners.



### HIGH LOCAL IMPACT

Our work happens on the ground, at the community level, in every program country.



### BUILT ON RESPECT

We respect people, culture, local knowledge, human rights, laws and customs, animal welfare, and the environment.



### REPEATABLE & SUSTAINABLE

Our projects are built to be repeatable and to promote sustainability over the long-term.



### COMMUNITY GUIDED

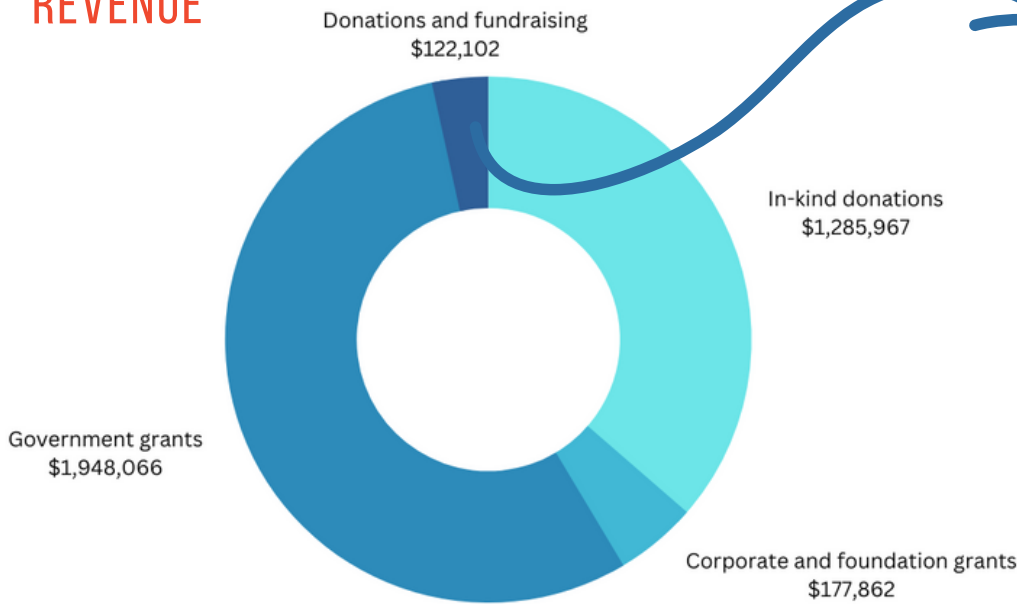
We are guided by the communities we work with and committed to participatory and inclusive approaches to development.



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Revenue generated and funds used during the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

## REVENUE



79% increase in individual donations

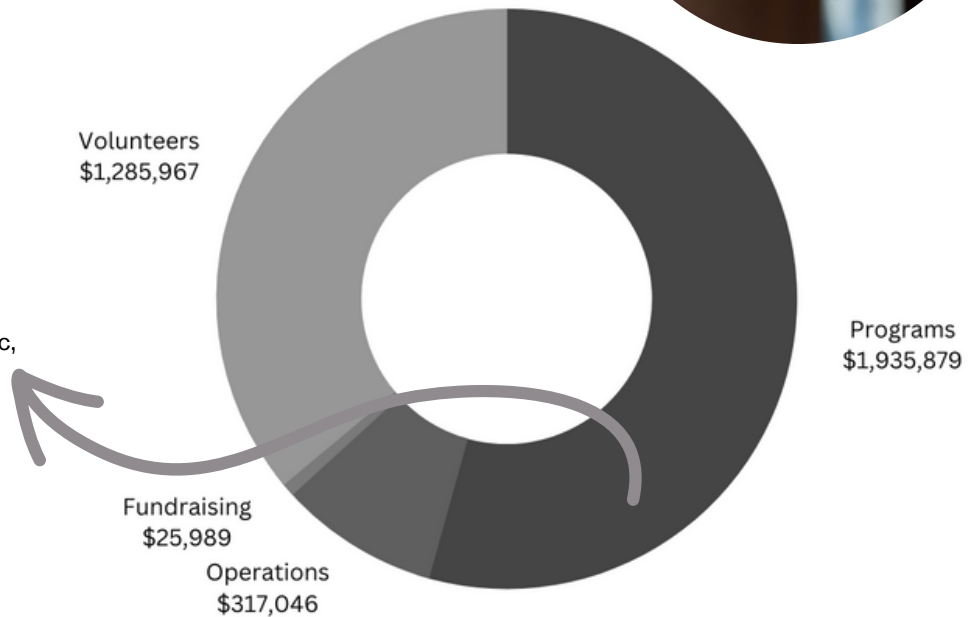


The crisis in Ukraine brought in a lot of new donors and funds designated to the cause. What was not spent in 2021-22, is already at work in Ukraine and will be reported in the 2022-2023 report.



## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Includes all programs in 11 countries, including:  
The Bahamas, Canada, Cambodia, Czech Republic, Ghana, Kenya, Laos, Senegal, South Sudan, Ukraine, & Vietnam

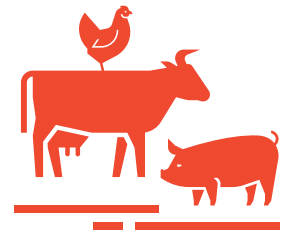




# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

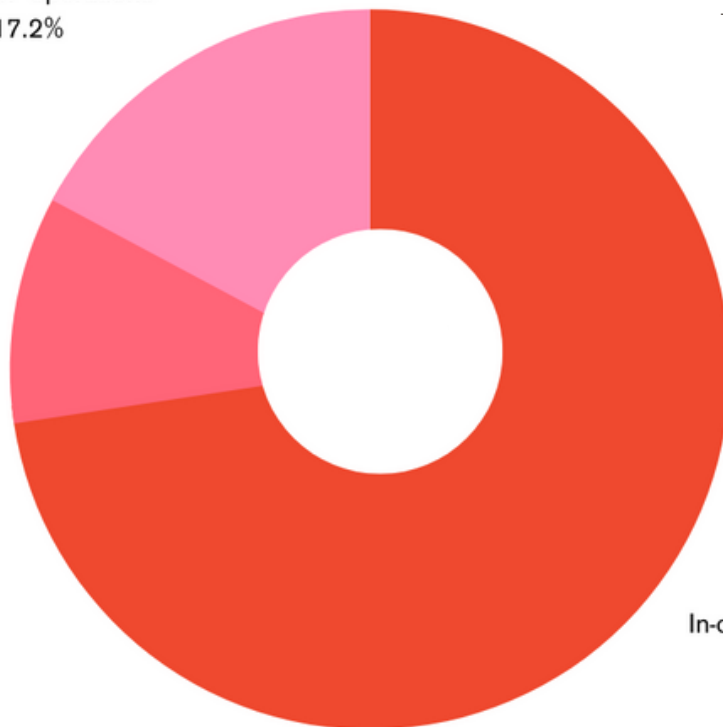
## AGROW (CAMBODIA)

VWB/VSF works with farming groups in Cambodia, including climate-smart farming training, to increase crop yields and combat food insecurity in the region.



VWB/VSF operations  
17.2%

AVSF operations  
10.2%



In-country programs  
72.6%



Volunteer training in Laos

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, VETS

Despite ongoing challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Volunteers Engaged in Gender Responsive Technical Solutions (VETS) program had many successes in 2021-2022. We were able to recruit and deploy 38 volunteers to work with our partners in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. Thanks to generous programming flexibilities by our donor, Global Affairs Canada, we were able to recruit national volunteers allowing the project to capitalize off local expertise, not only building partner and community capacity, but also creating amazing opportunities for collaboration with our Canadian volunteers.

The second year of the program saw capacity building within our local partners' staff, extension workers, university students, and community animal health providers, who will take those skills and knowledge and use them to provide training in target communities. The project also focused on improving partner gender equitable programming by supporting gender mainstreaming activities and helping to integrate gender sensitivity topics in a variety of training scenarios.

### VETS PROGRAM DIRECT BENEFICIARIES

 10,431 WOMEN

 9,595 MEN

 3,088 CHILDREN

- 240 staff, field officers, government workers, and veterinarian students trained in poultry welfare and productivity.
- 2,269 students, lecturers, and local partners trained in gender and social inclusion, risk communication, and One Health concepts.
- 62 community members recruited and trained to provide animal health services to improve livestock health and production.
- 213 para-vets, partner consultants, and partner staff trained in proper pesticide use, pastoral management, and One Health concepts.



6 DEPLOYED CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS  
7 REMOTE CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS  
25 NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS





## GENDER TRAINING IN GHANA

In Ghana, gender sensitization and animal health training was provided in 36 communities to more than 1,800 community members. Of the individuals trained, 432 families committed to register as gender model families. They received additional training which provided them with knowledge and skills to live a gender transformative lifestyle. Each family was provided with manuals to serve as reference whilst implementing gender action plans, which they self-developed. These plans included how families would redistribute roles and responsibilities within their households to relieve women and girls of the unpaid burden of care. Families who have previously received and implemented the learnings from these trainings have reported higher yields on farms, improved nutrition and income for families and communities.

### VETS PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES



3 VETS  
WEBINARS PROVIDED



62 COMMUNITY  
ANIMAL HEALTH  
WORKERS TRAINED

- 15,071 farmers and community members provided with information on reducing COVID-19 and other zoonotic disease transmission.
- 4,177 intermediate beneficiaries (government officials/workers, veterinarian students, professors, partner staff, para-vets, etc.)

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, UKRAINE

When the war in Ukraine started in February 2022, VWB/VSF was quick to spring into action by partnering with on-the-ground organizations in Ukraine, along with a shelter in bordering Romania, that was helping Ukrainians pet owners seeking refuge. This marked the launch of our Ukrainian emergency fund, which brought in significant funding throughout March that went towards pet food deliveries, shelter evacuations, emergency veterinary examinations, vaccinations, spay/neuter programs, and more throughout the year.



BETWEEN MARCH 1-31, 2022

5 LOCAL PARTNERS

2 VOLUNTEERS DEPLOYED TO POLAND  
DELIVERED 309 TONNES OF PET FOOD

FUNDS RAISED THROUGHOUT  
MARCH 2022 SUPPORTED

REBUILDING 1 SHELTER  
MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR 400 CLINICS  
5,000 ANIMALS  
5,524 SPAY/NEUTERS

## NAHI PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES



7 COMMUNITIES VISITED



135 SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES



366 ANIMALS VACCINATED

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, NAHI

Through our Northern Animal Health Initiative (NAHI), VWB/VSF develops partnerships with remote communities across Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, by their invitation only. Access to veterinary care across the North is extremely limited; in fact, in a 2017 study conducted on behalf of VWB/VSF, 54 communities with more than 100 people in Canada's three northern territories, had little or no access to veterinary services. We work with northern communities to identify animal care needs and build a plan with community representatives to strengthen local capacity to address animal care needs year-round. This includes offering temporary veterinary clinics with a team of volunteer veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across Canada.



- Dewormed 64 animals at fall Taloyoak, NU clinic.
- Provided examinations for 65 animals at fall Taloyoak clinic.
- First clinic in Kimmirut saw 89 animals examined and 44 spayed/neutered.
- Examined 26 animals at our Pehdzeh Ki (Wrigley), NWT fall clinic.
- 35 dogs spayed/neutered in Kugluktuk.



## CLINIC SNAPSHOT: FORT LIARD

From Sept. 28 to 30, 2021, our northern team visited Fort Liard, NWT, to host one of our fall clinics. While there, our team of four – including veterinarians and veterinary technicians, worked with local community members and their pets to deworm, vaccinate, and provide examinations for 65 animals, and provide 11 spay/neuter surgeries. Our local community liaison, Christine, helped us arrange for and advertise the clinic, including creating appointment cards.



VWB/VSF's northern team during our fall 2021 NAHI clinics

7 NAHI COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
3 CHARTERED FLIGHTS





# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, SOUTH SUDAN

Two-thirds of South Sudan's population is dependent on humanitarian aid. This is due to ongoing civil conflicts, along with the country's vulnerability to climate change and climate-related events, such as flooding, droughts, dry spells, pests, and disease. To help communities across South Sudan address these challenges, VWB/VSF has partnered with local organizations to provide food security solutions via agricultural training, equipment, and animal health assessments. This will not only help to ensure sustainable sources of nutrition, but also secure income for many community members.

## SOUTH SUDAN PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES



432 BENEFICIARIES



1,392 ANIMALS TREATED



40 COMMUNITY  
ANIMAL HEALTH  
WORKERS TRAINED

- 4 community mobilization and dialogue meetings were conducted in Boma and Kassingor and in Tonj South. Attendees included 36 women and 44 men.
- Visited 5 cattle camps for animal health assessments and training.
- Provided refresher training to 20 community animal health workers from Boma County.
- Procured start-up veterinary kits for vaccinations and basic treatments for about 2,592 livestock.



## COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKERS' TRAINING

From Sept. 18 to Sept. 22, 2021, and Oct. 6 to Oct. 10, 2021, 40 community animal health workers were trained in the Kassingor Boma and Greater Tonj regions. The training included: parts/functions of animals' bodies, differentiating between healthy and sick animals, common animal diseases, as well as clinical signs of disease, transmission, control and prevention, vaccines and doses, handling of vaccines and storage, veterinary drugs, drug administration, clinical examinations, epidemiology, and disease surveillance.



Dr. Mathok Thuc Kur provides community mobilization and sensitization training in Tonj South County

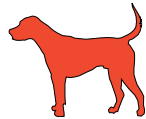


Cows at a beneficiary farm

COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKERS WERE TRAINED IN THE IDENTIFICATION AND PREVENTION OF ZOOONOTIC DISEASES (ANTHRAX, BRUCELLOSIS, RABIES ETC.) IN CATTLE CAMPS AROUND BOMA COUNTY.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, BAARK!

BAARK!'s mission is to provide spay/neuter surgeries and educational training and information to help reduce the homeless animal population of dogs and cats in The Bahamas. VWB/VSF partnered with BAARK! to help ensure animals can live healthy, happy lives. Program support included pet food, surgical tools and equipment, personal protective equipment, fuel for transports, the cost of veterinary technicians, and surgeries at local veterinary clinics.



An animal receiving care through the BAARK! program

COMPLETED 3,000  
SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES



The team transporting a dog for care

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, VSF-CZ

VWB/VSF has partnered with Veterináři bez hranic ČR, o.p.s./Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Czech Republic (VSF CZ) to help senior people in financial need access veterinary care for their pets. The program, "Aging Together", focused on three cities within the Czech Republic – Brno, Liberec, and Praha. After the outbreak of COVID-19, and the start of the war in Ukraine, the program experienced an influx in applicants due to increased need for seniors in isolation and newly arrived Ukrainian refugees and their pets in the Czech Republic.



VWB/VSF provided surgery funding for Nero the dog's life-saving tumour removal

- 94 "Aging Together" program applicants in 2021 and 2022.
- 29 local veterinarian partners.
- 40 elderly applicants, 7 individuals experiencing homelessness, and 1 single parent

SINCE THE PROGRAM'S  
LAUNCH IN 2019...



41 DOGS TREATED



13 CATS TREATED



# OUR DONORS

Since VWB/VSF was established in 2005, our incredible donors have been supporting the needs of animals and communities across the globe. Through their continued generosity, we have continued to support our partners and volunteers who are working hard to implement better animal health, welfare, and agricultural practices, with the goal of creating healthier outcomes for animals, people, and the environment. This fiscal year we received a record 1,978 gifts to continue our work.

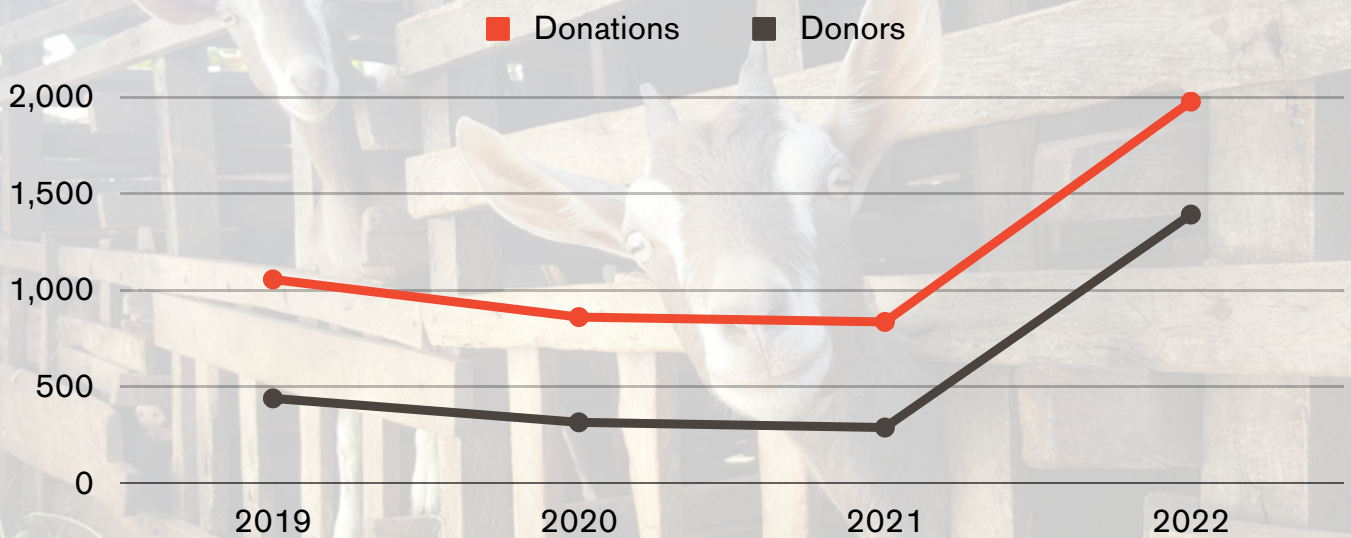


Ukraine pet owner/pet food recipient

Fiscal year (Apr. - Mar.)	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020
# of donations	1,978	837	862
# of donors	1,393	290	317



Patient at a northern clinic





"This board of directors has completely changed the momentum of this organization. They have insured that the critical work offered by VWB/VSF will be available for many more years to come."

Charly Jarrett,  
Director of Communications &  
Development

# VWB/VSF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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BSc, DVM, MSc, MBA, MA  
Board Chair



**PETE MOSNEY**  
Vice-Chair



**BRENDAN DELEHANTY**  
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**THEA SOMMERDYK**  
Board Member



**THERESA BERNARDO**  
Board Member



# THANK YOU

For investing in the health of  
animals, people, and the environment.



VWB/V SF Kenya country co-ordinator, Esther Mburu, visiting a beneficiary farm.

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## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Charmaine Brett, Executive Director  
Charly Jarrett, Director, Communications & Development  
Deborah Bruce, Director, Finance  
Kristen Rodrigues, Director, International Programs

VWB/VSF is a member of the VSF International network.

Charitable Reg. No.: 84146 9547 RR0001

