

## **A study on status of village animal health workers trained and monitored from AHTCS**

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### **Abstract**

A study was conducted for six months period from November, 2009 to April, 2010 with the aim of identifying the monthly income of Village Animal Health Workers (VAHWS) from fee of handling of cases and profit from selling medicines (pure technical part), service coverage, and annual transaction of medicines. Thirty eight VAHWS associated with community groups in 7 districts were surveyed using a structured questionnaire. The data were cross-checked and verified at subsequent monitoring visits. A variation of monthly income in pure technical part was identified from NPR 200 (2.85 USD) to NPR 6,000 (85.71 USD) except one VAHW whose income was NPR 12,000 (171.42 USD). The annual income of 55.26 percent VAHWS from pure technical part was higher than national per capita income (250 USD). Income level was governed by household coverage and annual transaction of medicines. Household coverage ranged from 43 to 532 where as annual transaction ranged from NPR 2500 to NPR 900,000. Moreover, 92.10 percent VAHWS made money after establishing vet or agro-vet. Apart from pure technical part, 65.78 percent VAHWS increased their income level by adopting improved animal practices and 47.36 percent VAHWS increased their income level by rearing more number of animals and birds than before training. Although fee of case handling is a major portion of income in pure technical part, only 42.10 percent VAHWS found it easy to obtain. Therefore, it is recommended that group should take initiative to inform and suggest their members and others for providing case fee after handling cases by VAHWS.