

**Training Village Animal Health Workers in Nepal: A case study**  
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**Abstract**

The UMN's Rural Development Centre/AHTCS has been involved in training VAHWs since 1981 and altogether 1400 were trained till date. The training and follow-up reports maintained at AHTCS from January 1996 to 2000 (five years) were analyzed in this study. A total of 294 persons were trained during this period in 18 different trainings, out of which 87.1% (256) were males and 12.9% (38) were females. 61.56% (157) were certified after a follow-up visit, having satisfactory results. Three training courses (2 of the year 1999 and 1 of the year 2000) consisting of 39 trainees have remained for follow-up visits, the report indicates. 63.8% (188) of the trained VAHWs have got secondary level education and 68% (200) fall in the age group below 30 years. It may be the reason for the high success rate (74%) of the AHTCS that they are still on the job. Geographically, it has covered 36 districts of all agro-ecological strata of Nepal covering 13 zones of all Development Regions.

After approval with CTEVT in April 1998, AHTCS has conducted 14 Skill Testing Examination in different parts of Nepal since September 1998 to July 2000. A total of 231 experienced VAHWs trained through the AHTCS (then AHITP) attended the Exam in which 8.65% (20) were females and 91.35% (211) were males. 60.60 % (140) successfully passed the exam and got certificate equivalent to non-graduate level 3. It also has covered 29 districts, 13 zones covering all 5-development regions. The highest number of participants in both cases was from Okhaldhunga i.e. 37 for VAHW training and 25 for Skill Testing Examination.