



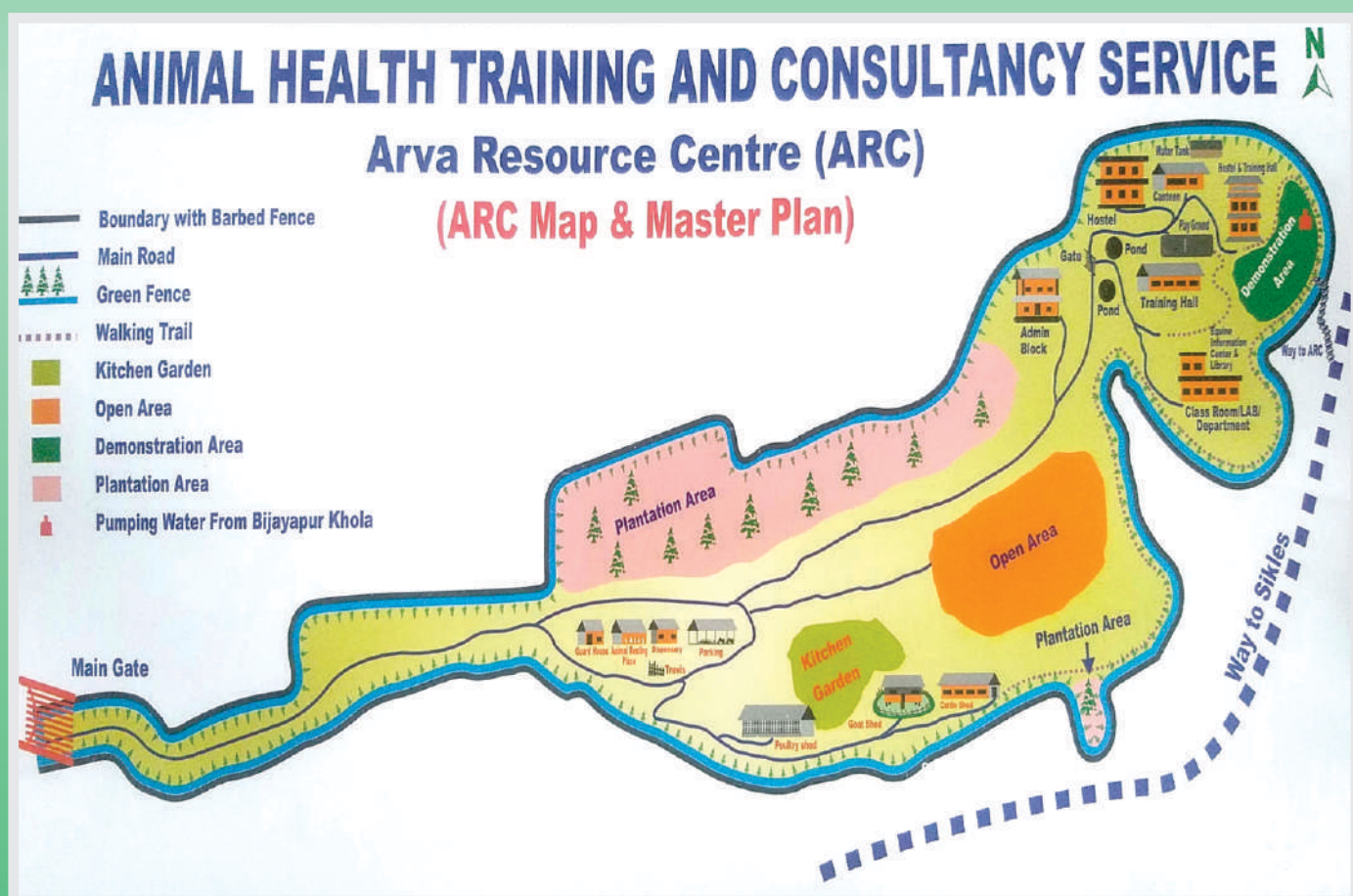
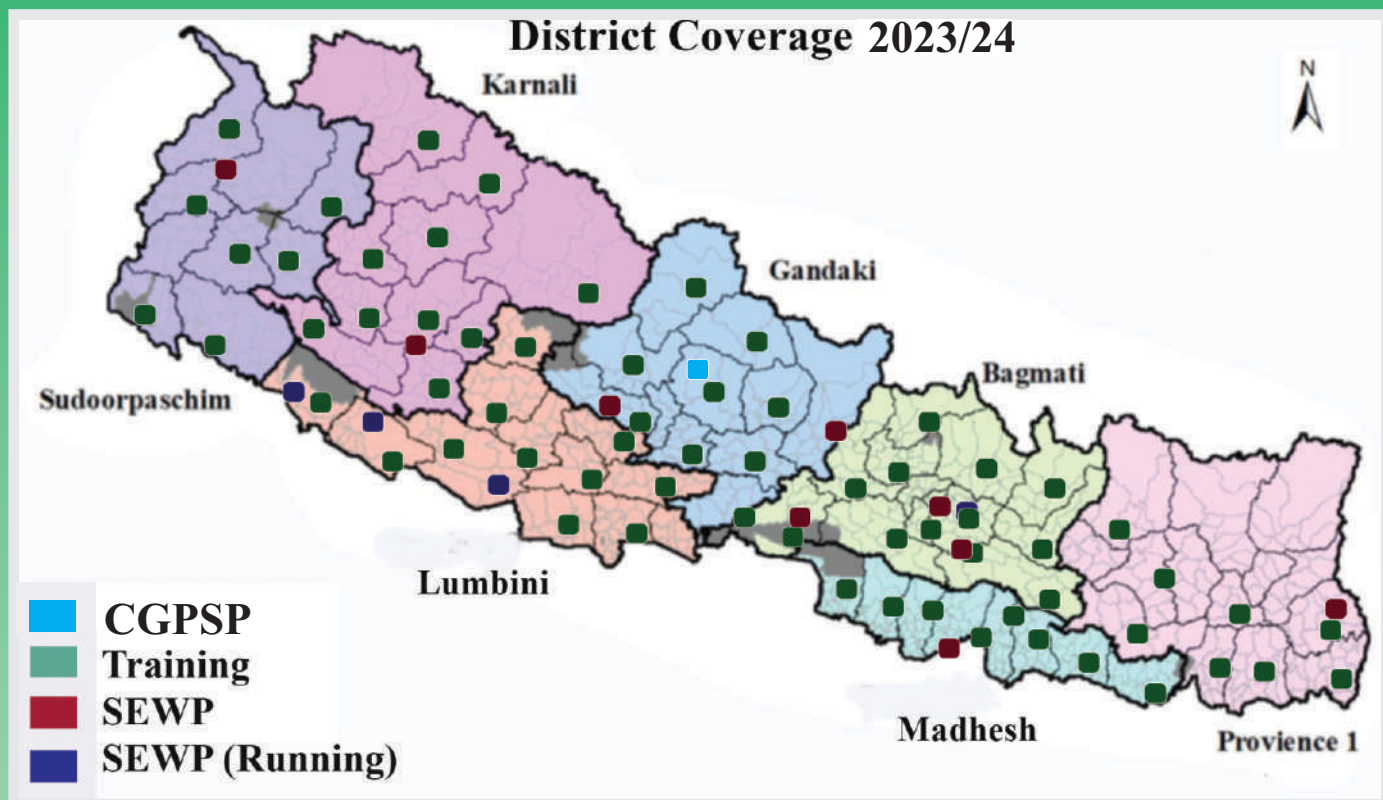
ANIMAL HEALTH TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY SERVICE
पशु स्वास्थ्य तालिम तथा परामर्श सेवा



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2023/24

www.ahtcs.org.np



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ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AHIP	Animal Health Improvement Program
RDC	Rural Development Centre
SWC	Social Welfare Council
VAHW	Village Animal Health Worker
AHPs	Animal Health Practitioners
EWG	Equine Welfare Group
LHPs	Local Health care Service Providers
WVD	World Veterinary Day
WAD	World Animal Day
SEBWAT	Standardized Equine Based Welfare Assessment Tool
OBM	Owner Behavior Monitoring Tool
EA	Environmental Assessment Tool
ARC	Arva Resource Centre
IAM-FT	Improved Animal Management Facilitation Training
CTEVT	Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Production
NSAIDs	Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs
AKC	Agriculture Knowledge Centre
DRM	Disaster Reduction and Management
BKs	Brick Kilns
BKA	Brick Kiln Association
RMs	Rice Mills
BAT	Basic Agriculture Training
LSS	Livestock Service Section
VIVA	Vonunteers in Irish Veterinary Assistance

Foreword from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are immensely pleased to present our annual report for the fiscal year 2023/24 marking the successful completion of 24 years. Since its establishment in 2000, AHTCS has remained steadfast in its mission to empower the communities with knowledge and resources fostering the sustainable livelihoods and enhancing resilience.

Notable highlight of this year has been, ‘Community Goat Production Strengthening Project (CGPSP)’, a joint initiative with Volunteers in Irish Veterinary Assistance (VIVA), Ireland. The project was launched in December 2023 covering the areas of Kaski districts i.e. Pokhara-16, Armala and Maadi Rural Municipality, aimed towards ensuring livelihood resilience through strengthening of goat value chain. AHTCS’s strategic vision supports multiple components of SDGs, global and national priorities in promoting the animal health and welfare, safeguarding the public health and ensuring the environmental conservation. Building upon the identity as a leading animal health and welfare organization, AHTCS envisions to anchor and accelerate on the motto “Helping people to make a difference”, and has tailored its next strategic cycle to address the riveting national and global concerns which priorities one health, climate change, biodiversity conservation, human wildlife coexistence, disaster resilient livelihood and institutional development among the others.

We express our genuine admiration to our partners, Department of Livestock Service (DLS) and Social Welfare Council, Kathmandu, Federal government, Gandaki Province (Ministry of Agriculture and Land Management, Directorate of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Livestock Service Training Centre, Veterinary Hospital and Livestock Service Expert Centre, Kaski), Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and respective local government entities. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to Brooke Action for Working Horses and Donkeys, UK, Volunteers in Irish Veterinary Assistance (VIVA), Heifer International Nepal, Sahas Nepal, Phase Nepal, Helvetas Nepal, Li Bird, WWF, INF, DUDAD Rolpa, FIRDO Nepal and other short term training partners whose support has been instrumental in solidifying AHTCS as a champion development organization. Furthermore, we acknowledge the crucial contribution of our executive board, members, staffs and everyone who has contributed to realizing our mission. As we navigate the next intriguing chapter, we expect unwavering support and goodwill from our contemporaries more than ever.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dr. Umesh Sharma
Executive Director

Animal Health Training and Consultancy Service (AHTCS), Pokhara-13, Aarva, Kaski, Nepal



ABOUT AHTCS

Animal Health Training and Consultancy Service (AHTCS) was established in 2000 as a service-oriented, non-profit making non-governmental organization for improving the living standard of marginalized communities through partnership with national and international organization and agencies. It was started by Animal Health Improvement Program (AHIP) of Rural Development Centre (RDC) under the direction of United Mission to Nepal in 1981 to address the myriad of constraints faced by rural livestock raisers. It is registered in District Administration Office Kaski and affiliated with Social Welfare Council (SWC) Lainchaur, Kathmandu. It works for the benefit of its target communities in the areas of animal health, husbandry and equine welfare. It also addresses need-based livestock-mediated program diversification such as livelihood enhancement via agriculture practices

VISION

AHTCS will be a sustainable and leading organization for building self-reliant, healthy and sustainable farming communities.

MISSION

Improve the quality of life of poor, marginalized and needy communities by providing them with eco-friendly practical education and services on animal care and its associated agriculture practices, using local resources and linking with other partners.

GOAL

Improve the livelihood status of target communities by providing quality education and services effectively and efficiently, along with increasing internal resources of organization.



Empower Growth Initiative

Empower Growth Initiative encompasses training and extension based approach aimed towards ensuring sustainable resilience communities through local capacity development and promotion of entrepreneurial avenues. AHTCS offers wide range of training programs centered around agriculture enterprises, animal health and management practices, commercial livestock enterprises and value chain development, livelihood promotion and income generation and associated disciplines.

Training Experience of AHTCS

Community Agro-vet Entrepreneur/CAVE; Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW) Training and Basic Agriculture Training.

Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW) training is a 35 day course, conducted in coordination with Livestock Services Training Centre, Gandaki Province. The course is designed to produce community based technical workforce with appropriate knowledge and skillsets pertaining to animal health, animal management and commercial livestock enterprise, capable of offering similar services and consultancies to the communities and undertake and promote entrepreneurial avenues.

Collaboration partners:

- Heifer International Nepal
- Sahas Nepal

- Hand Nepal
- Prayash Nepal
- Indreni Nepal
- DEFAN Udaypur
- CDF Dolkha
- D-Mega, Sindhuli
- NIDS, Sarlahi
- MSWC, Rammechhap
- SADEC, Gulmi
- SRDCN, Syanja
- Ratauli Youth Club
- SEEDS, Rasuwa
- Naya Goreto, Syanja
- CDECF, Sindhupalchowk
- GGCC, Dolkha
- Livestock Service Section of respective Municipalities and Rural Municipalities

Participants distribution (districts):

Accham, Syanja, Gulmi, Nawalpur, Kaski, Lamjung Sindhuli, Dhading, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha, Udaypur, Rammechhap, Mahottari

Achievements

- 4 events of 35 days 'Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW) Training' to 91 trainees that include 73 male and 18 female
- 4 events of "Basic Agriculture Training to 85 trainees (68 males and 17 females)

- A total of 91 start up medicine kit boxes were distributed to VAHW trainees
- A total of 1832 animals including cows, buffaloes, goats, sheep, pig and dogs were treated

Other trainings and services offered by AHTCS:

1. VAHW Refresher Training

Conducted based on need assessments, this 10 to 15-day refresher course updates VAHWs on recent diagnostic and treatment techniques. It also provides a platform for VAHWs to share experiences and learn from each other, ensuring they remain active and effective in their roles.

2. VAHW Facilitation Training

This 7-day course is designed to enhance VAHWs' ability to disseminate knowledge and skills in their communities. Besides technical training, it equips VAHWs to work as social mobilizers and group facilitators, broadening their impact.

3. VAHW Level-I Skill Testing Orientation and Examination

This 9-day program (5 days of orientation and 4 days of examination) helps VAHWs review their skills, share experiences, and build confidence. The training prepares them for the skill testing examination conducted by the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT).

4. Animal Management Training

A 3 to 7-day course focusing on animal husbandry and health management, including shed management, feeding, fodder, pasture management, and disease prevention. It aims to improve livestock practices and the economic status of farmers.

5. Goat Raising Training

A 3 to 5-day course covering basic goat health and management, including breed selection, breeding techniques, common diseases, de-worming practices, and diet preparation.

6. Pig Raising Training

This 3 to 5-day course covers pig health and management, including breed selection, handling, shed disinfection, diet formulation, and disease prevention.

7. Poultry Health and Husbandry Training

Aimed at poultry farmers, this 7-day course focuses

on preventive and curative health care and basic management to boost the income of poor families.

8. Animal Breeding Training

This 2 to 3-day training covers animal breeding basics, heat detection, mating, and the management of breeding animals. It aims to prevent inbreeding and improve animal production potential.

9. Small-Scale Slaughterhouse Management (Hygienic Meat Production)

Targeting meat producers and consumers, this training covers hygienic meat production, small-scale meat enterprise planning, and sanitary requirements.

10. Commercial Milk Production and Processing Training

A 10-day course (or adjusted based on participant needs) for commercial milk producers and cooperatives, covering dairy animal care, clean milk production, and marketing.

11. Fodder and Forage Production Training

This 2 to 3-day course teaches fodder cultivation techniques, soil fertility management, and practical demonstrations, aiming to enhance the availability of green fodder for livestock.

12. Animal Nutrition Management Training

A 3 to 5-day course focusing on balanced animal feeding using locally available ingredients to improve nutrition management.

13. Zoonotic Disease Control and Prevention Training

A 3-day course covering zoonosis, public health, transmission methods, and prevention measures for diseases like rabies, anthrax, and bird flu.

14. Shed Management Training

This 2-day course teaches practical knowledge on animal shed construction, including drainage, ventilation, and sanitation, to enhance animal production.

15. Integrated Fish Farming Training

A 5-day course on modern fish farming techniques, including pond structures, fingerling management, disease control, feeding, and harvesting. It is organized in coordination with District Agriculture Development Offices and Fish Development Offices.

16. Commercial Vegetable Production Training

A 5-day course aimed at producing seasonal and off-seasonal vegetables as commercial commodities. The training emphasizes organic farming and includes practical demonstrations on seeding methods and vegetable variety selection.

17. Non-Timber Forest Production (NTFP) Training

This 5-day training focuses on identifying and cultivating high-value non-timber forest products, such as medicinal herbs, based on location suitability.

18. Group Management Training

A 2 to 3-day course aimed at strengthening community groups by emphasizing the importance of group sustainability and savings. It helps participants explore ways to increase group savings.

19. Savings and Credit Training

This 3-day training provides knowledge and skills on savings and credit schemes, including maintaining transactions in passbooks and ledgers. It is targeted at representatives of community groups.

20. Gender Sensitization Training

A 2 to 3-day course designed to reduce gender discrimination and violence, and to promote social

harmony. It includes legal awareness on women's rights, violence against women, human trafficking, and property rights. This training is conducted in collaboration with District Women Development Offices.

21. Basic Cooperative Management Training

This 5-day course provides basic knowledge on establishing and managing cooperatives, aiming to motivate community groups to form cooperatives. It is conducted in collaboration with District Cooperative Division Offices.

22. Agro-based Market Management Training

A 3-day course designed to provide farmers with basic knowledge of market sub-sector analysis, the market value of goods, and producing quality products for better market access.

23. Basic Agriculture Training (BAT)

A comprehensive 7-day course designed to equip farmers with essential knowledge in diverse agricultural practices, including seasonal and off-season crop production, rooftop farming, and other innovative techniques. This training empowers participants to optimize their agricultural output, adapt to varying conditions, and explore sustainable farming methods to enhance productivity and income.

Integration of Equine specific syllabus into AHTCS's VAHW curriculum

Since its inception in 2000, AHTCS has been delivering Village Animal Health Worker's (VAHW) training, a government certified 35 days long program, to ensure the accessibility of timely quality animal healthcare services in the rural communities. Till date, the organisation has produced more than 2000 VAHWs who are actively providing basic veterinary treatment services all over Nepal.

Equine specific subjects have been overlooked in the major university degrees and vocational courses in Nepal. AHTCS being a pioneer organisation working in the sector of Equine welfare in Nepal, acknowledged the need and incorporated Equine specific content in the VAHW curriculum from FY 2022/23 with approval from Nepal Government. Equine related topics like equine behaviour, handling and restraining, clinical techniques, husbandry practices (housing, nutrition, hoof care, etc.) and common diseases and their treatment/management constitutes the additional 12 credit hours of the revised VAHW curriculum. Since then, 6 batches of 148 participants ranging from terai belt to Himalayas have received the revised training. The AHTCS trained VAHWs from SEWP command districts (Banke, Bardiya and Dang) are connected to the Equine project and mobilised during community engagement and other project activities to strengthen their network in the communities. This strategic approach aims to ensure the gradual transfer of ownership and sustainably enhance the equine welfare in Nepal.



Sustainable Equine Welfare Project (SEWP)

AHTCS in partnership with Brooke Hospital for Animals UK, a leading animal welfare charity, has been implementing Sustainable Equine Welfare through Improved Human Behavior and Working Environment Project (SEWP) across several districts of Nepal since 2007. The project aims to improve the overall health and welfare of the working equids and strengthen the livelihood resilience of the equine owning communities. The strategic framework is tailored with due consideration of the immediate and long term needs of the target beneficiaries. Community Engagement, Local Capacity Strengthening, Coordination among the key stakeholders and Advocacy constitutes the core component of the project with a vision of establishing self-sufficient communities with responsible ownership and a robust animal health care system in place to ensure the sustainable improvement in health and well-being of equids as well as communities.

5 Districts (Banke, Bardiya, Dang, Bhaktapur, Kavre)

34 Communities & Brick Kilns

1720 Equines (Horses, Mules & Donkeys)

3351 Indirect Animals Reach

1321 Equine Owners & Handlers

Animal Health Care System

- 94 Animal Healthcare Providers (61 AHPs and 33 Agrovets) were trained and linked to communities for accessible veterinary services.
- Equine-specific medicines or close alternatives are stocked at all targeted agrovets (33).
- Local government veterinary units continue to support equine care through health camps and vaccination campaigns. 1,321 equines were vaccinated against rabies and tetanus, and received general health checkups and need based medications.
- 148 stakeholders (including vet technicians, public health personnel, government vet authorities, and agrovets) were trained on one health concerns, zoonotic and contagious diseases (Glanders and others), and antimicrobial resistance (AMR). 6 communities and 117 equine owners were sensitized on zoonotic and contagious diseases, including rabies and glanders, as well as the responsible use of drugs.
- 64 veterinary students were trained in equine behavior, handling, health, and management through theoretical and hands-on practical sessions.
- 19 undergraduate vet students from Patuakhali Science and Technology University, Bangladesh, participated in a 10-day externship program at AHTCS.
- Collaboration with the Regional Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory in Kaski on Glanders surveillance and community awareness programs in Ghandruk, Kaski.



Community Engagement and Livelihood resilience:

- A total of 31 monthly review meetings were held with Equine Welfare Groups (EWGs) and equine owners/communities, engaging 496 equine owners.
- Equine owners continue to enjoy services and facilities from local government (fodder seed and plants, fertilizers, agri-inputs, medicines and treatment support, livestock related income generation training, etc.) Similarly, Nepalgunj sub metropolitan city has allocated resources to support livelihood of Kasgar community, equine rearing community.
- Dedicated sessions on appropriate harnessing techniques were provided to 152 equine owners/handlers across 34 communities, resulting in decrease in cart injuries, discontinuation in use of sharp bit/only plain bit where necessary, no hobbling/appropriate hobbling practices where required as well as use of soft comfortable padding materials and appropriate saddling techniques.
- Significant changes in equine owner's knowledge and practices have been realised in relation to husbandry practices including housing, nutrition and saddling practices as well as working environment (work hours,



workload) esp. in BKs. Similarly, 6 equine owning communities (132 equine owners) were linked with and continue to enjoy local government's services and facilities including greens support, agri-inputs support and livelihood related trainings(livestock enterprise and income generation).

- 17 events of one day training on various animal health and animal management topics including balanced ration and housing management, grooming, hoof health, harness, hoof care, eye care etc. were conducted among 557 equine owners
- 136 equine owners/handlers were oriented on humane animal handling as well as provisions laid in Animal Welfare Directives-2073 and Livestock Transport Standards-2064
- 12 events of peer monitoring, sharing good practices via exposure visit were conducted engaging 288 equine owners/handlers. Similarly, 55 equine owners with good welfare practices were recognized and rewarded, each were provided handling gears (head collar and lead rope), cleaning equipment, hoof pick and feed for equids.
- 6 communities and 107 equine owners were oriented on local planning and decision-making process as well as various services and schemes provided by local level government.

Advocacy

- AHTCS has promoted and contributed to various SDGs that includes, but not limited to, no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation and partnership for the goals.
- In recognition of the work of AHTCS in BKs, AHTCS was awarded the champion animal welfare organisation by the Federation of Nepal Brick Industries Association (FNBI) at their National Annual Convention.
- In FY 23/24, 64 BKA members were sensitized on AWD. Similarly, 59 BK managers and animal contractors were oriented on improved physical infrastructures and working environment. As a result, more than 70% of BKs have implemented basic provisions laid in AWD (humane animal handling, workload, workhours, resting hours, appropriate walking terrain, drinking water facilities)
- Enhanced visibility, protection and inclusion of equids in local governments plans and extension of various supports and services to equids and equine owning communities
- Inclusion of equine specific course/to in AHTCS' 35 days VAHW syllabus. 91 VAHWs received foundation training on equine welfare, behavior, handling, health and management.
- 28 local government stakeholders, 10 local policy makers/political leaders, 30 BKA members, and 19 champion equine owners were oriented on Nepal Government's DRM plans and policies. Amid lack of livestock specific policies, interactive session gathered inputs from stakeholders on appropriate policies in context of Nepal with reference to the global practices.
- Advocacy meetings held with Agrovets, district associations, and the Department of Drug Administration to ensure the availability of equine-specific medicines in the local market



Organizational Development, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

- Quarterly Virtual Review and Planning meeting among staffs
- Orientation to staffs on Animal Health Mentoring Framework
- Virtual capacity building training to staffs on Livestock Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness plans and Advocacy strategy
- Orientation and update of staffs on organizational legal and operational frameworks/compliance
- AHTCS veterinarian and technicians were engaged in e-learning platform for capacity strengthening
- Update to WFs on equine medicine by AHTCS vets
- Follow up visit and impact assessment of the exited sites. AHTCS team visited HILLS project area (Kaski district). 120 equids benefitted directly animal health camp and tetanus vaccination campaign. 25 equid owners were oriented on various equine welfare issues. Discussion was held with community leaders, local gov. vet technicians and other concerned stakeholders.
- Pilot study on Low tech Subsistence Hydroponics fodder Cultivation practice
- Monitoring and Evaluation visit by Social Welfare Council and relevant local government bodies in the project catchment areas.

FNBI awards AHTCS the leading animal welfare organisation

AHTCS has been awarded the leading animal welfare organisation by the Federation of Nepal Brick Industries (FNBI) in recognition of the contributions to the improvement of overall health and welfare of the equids working in the Brick Industries. AHTCS was honoured with Letter of Appreciation during the 15th Annual General Assembly of FNBI.

Since its inception in 2007, Sustainable Equine Welfare Project has been actively working to make a positive change in the sector of equine welfare in Nepal. Initial years of intervention were primarily focused on delivery of free vet treatment services to the ailing animals. The gradual progress witnessed a holistic multilevel stakeholder engagement approach to realise and establish a sustainable change. Community engagement, Service Provision, Local capacity building, Advocacy and Coordination with local bodies were identified as the major strategic pillars and acted upon accordingly. Among the target areas, Brick Kilns presented challenging welfare issues and a greater need and scope to reflect upon. AHTCS initiated working intensively with various actors involved in BK operation pertinent to Animal Welfare. Need based interventions were designed and implemented targeting various stakeholders and beneficiaries including equids, equine owners and handlers, animal contractors, BK owners and managers, BK Associations (BKA) and others. Equine owners were educated and trained on good husbandry practices, humane animal handling, appropriate workload and working conditions and primary health care. Similarly, AHTCS trained AHPs were connected with the BKs to ensure sustainable vet treatment service provision. Meanwhile, BK owners/managers and BKAs engagement ensured the establishment of physical infrastructure (housing, drinking water facilities, plain walking terrain) and a appropriate working environment. The overall expected outcome of the approach was the implementation of basic provisions laid in Animal Welfare Directive (AWD). The impact so far suggests encouraging progress as AWD has been implemented in more than 70% of the targeted BKs. The BKs have improved physical infrastructure and working environment including comfortable housing, nutrition, drinking facilities, isolation box, first aid kit box, plain walking terrain, appropriate workload and working hours as well as assessable animal healthcare services.



Community Goat Production Strengthening Project (CGPSP)

Community Goat Production Strengthening Project (CGPSP), a joint initiative between Animal Health Training and Consultancy Service (AHTCS) Nepal and Volunteers in Irish Veterinary Assistance (VIVA) Ireland, holds the potential to considerably improve the socioeconomic status of goat farmers in the target areas by addressing the prevalent challenges and fostering the sustainable practices through holistic approach. To ensure the effective implementation and long-lasting impact on the communities, the project is tailored accordingly to meet the immediate and long-term needs of the communities encompassing:

1. Community Engagement/Empowerment
2. Promotion of Good Husbandry Practices
3. Local Capacity Building
4. Promotion and improvement of indigenous resources
5. Networking and market extension
6. Coordination and collaboration

Community Goat Production Strengthening Project (CGPSP) was officially launched on 22nd December 2023. AHTCS conducted Project Inception cum Interaction Meeting at Maadi rural municipality, Kaski to mark the official inauguration of the CGPSP. Following the inception workshop, AHTCS visited the communities along with local government officials and proceeded with the identification and formation of the Goat Farmer's group.

S.N.	Group's Name	Address	No. of members	Total no. of goats reared
1.	Shibalaya Goat Farmer's Group	Maadi Rural Municipality, Ward no. 04, Kaski	25	195
4.	Taprang Yuwa Baakhraapaalak Samuha	Maadi-06, Kaski	26	1068
3.	Pragati Women Goat Farmer's Group	Pokhara-16, Kaski	29	86
4.	Deurali Goat Farmer's Group	Pokhara-16, Kaski	28	116
	Total		108	1465

- Farmer's group formation and monthly sharing and reflection meeting: Four separate goat rearing farmer's groups, one each from respective wards, were formed and notified within the respective government units. Monthly review and reflection meetings are held among the groups facilitated by AHTCS staffs and designated focal person within the very community.
- 3 days training on Good Husbandry Practices (GHP): 2 events of 3 days training on GHPs were conducted among 89 goat rearing farmers.
- 2 days training on animal nutrition management: 2 events of 2 days training on animal nutrition management were organized among 89 goat rearing farmers.
- 2 days training on Fodder and Forage Cultivation: 4 separate events of 2 days trainings on Fodder and Forage Cultivation were conducted among four goat farmer's group. Farmers were oriented on climate suitable fodder trees and forages using annual fodder calendar.
- Distribution of Fodder tress and forages: To realize the practical application of the knowledge and skills acquired in the training and improve the overall nutritional status of the animals in the target areas, fodder trees and forage plants were distributed in the communities.
- 35 days Village Animal Health Worker's (VAHW) Training: 3 farmers from the aforementioned groups received 35 days VAHW training. The training covers wide range of animal health and management aspects including husbandry practices, general health and disease management. Similarly, 2 women group members received 7 days long Basic Agriculture Training in an attempt to provide diverse livelihood opportunities to the women.
- General Animal Health Camp: 918 goats, 61 cattle and 54 buffaloes directly benefitted from



the animal health camp jointly conducted in coordination with Livestock Service Section, Maadi. General health examination, fecal examination and deworming, symptoms-based medication, wound dressing, etc. were some of the services provided through the camp. Further, educational session on first aid, primary care and preventive medicine was conducted among the farmers.

- Distribution of Agri equipment: Farmers experience high price variability amid no scientific trading structure. Live goats are traded on animal head basis and assumption based on observation rather than actual bodyweight. Most of the times, the animals are significantly undervalued leading to unfair return to the farmers. Upon the need and demand of the farmers, AHTCS provided electronic weighing machine to two farmers group to promote more uniform scientific pricing system.
- Disease diagnosis and Prevention support: AHTCS supported Maadi Rural municipality in disease diagnosis. A farm of 45 goats recorded 8 mortalities in last three days with no outward signs and symptoms. The team visited the farm, collected and tested sample and took necessary initiatives. Details is provided in the case study section.
- Fodder Nursery: AHTCS initiated the establishment of fodder nursery. The nursery will serve as a demonstration unit that will enhance training experience at AHTCS as well as will be capable of providing fodder related services to the communities in the long run.
- Establishment of Goat Farm: AHTCS envisions a model Goat farm/Resource Centre that will provide practical exposure as well as ensure accessibility of productive animals/improved breeds and related services in the communities.





A remarkable journey from financial hardship to an aspiring horse entrepreneur

Suresh Thakuri, a 33 years old resident of Bhaktapur, found himself struggling to provide for his family of seven, while doing labor works in a retail construction company. A modest monthly income of NRS 10000 could barely secure his mere essentials let alone the family needs. This constant battle to earn a living for his family shaped his thought for innovation which led him to his childhood love-horses. Three years ago, he embarked on a life changing journey, purchased a horse from nearby Brick Kiln (Majhi Bhairab) for NRS 30,000 and started tourist horse riding business. Motivated by the initial encouragements and newfound scope, he opted to add few more horses and diversify his business venture. Today, he owns six horses which are rented out for various socio-cultural rituals including weddings and others. He also lends his horses to local schools for educational and training purposes. His other notable avenues include providing horse riding training to the local residents. Despite never receiving any formal training, his passion and knack for understanding horse behavior as well as hands on experience, gathered him the trust of the trainees who confide in his mentorship in horse riding. His cumulative annual income ranges from NRS 1-1.5 million allowing him to secure a healthy annual saving of NRS 0.4-0.5 million after deducting costs incurred for looking after the horse and his family expenses. It has enabled him to break free from his financial constraints and afford quality

education, healthcare and a comfortable livelihood for his family as well as ensure optimal care to his invaluable asset, horse.

AHTCS has been a prominent figure in his truly remarkable journey right from the inception. His enthusiasm and learning attitude led to his involvement with the AHTCS. Since then, he has been actively engaged in various project interventions including training on various equine health and husbandry practices including housing, nutrition, primary care (hoof care, eye care, grooming), first aid and preventive medicines and other health and welfare related aspects. He is willing and seeks medical attention from AHTCS trained AHPs for ailing equids in need. Reflecting on his association with AHTCS, he says, "Initially I had the urge but not the right guidance. I was unaware of the needs and requirements of horses. My engagement with AHTCS has equipped me with proper skill and knowledge on equine care and husbandry practices and ensured that my horses receive best possible care within my resources." He intends to expand his business and provide job opportunities to the youths like him.

Suresh is a true role model and his journey could inspire the generation of youths to explore/create opportunities within the country rather than investing their prime productive youth working abroad; a harsh reality facing Nepal.

Resection of Crest tumour in working Mule at Nepalgunj

Species: Mule Age: 8 years
Sex: Male Body Weight: 300 kg
Owner: Shadab Kasgar
Address: Nepalgunj-05, Saibaba Road

History

- The tumor began to develop after the owner administered Triquin (Quinapryamine Sulfate) to the mule's crest region three years ago at Pachkhal Municipality-8, SP Brick Klin.
- Over the past three years, the tumor has steadily grown, becoming problematic for the mule's normal working conditions.
- The mule recently showed decreased appetite, and there was an increase in the number and size of vessels surrounding the tumor.
- Despite the tumor, the mule continued to work, while the owner sought a suitable medicinal intervention.
- The surgery was scheduled during the mule's rest period from April to October 2024.

Management

Date: July 27, 2024

Technical Assistance: Horizon Vet Clinic and Pet Shop

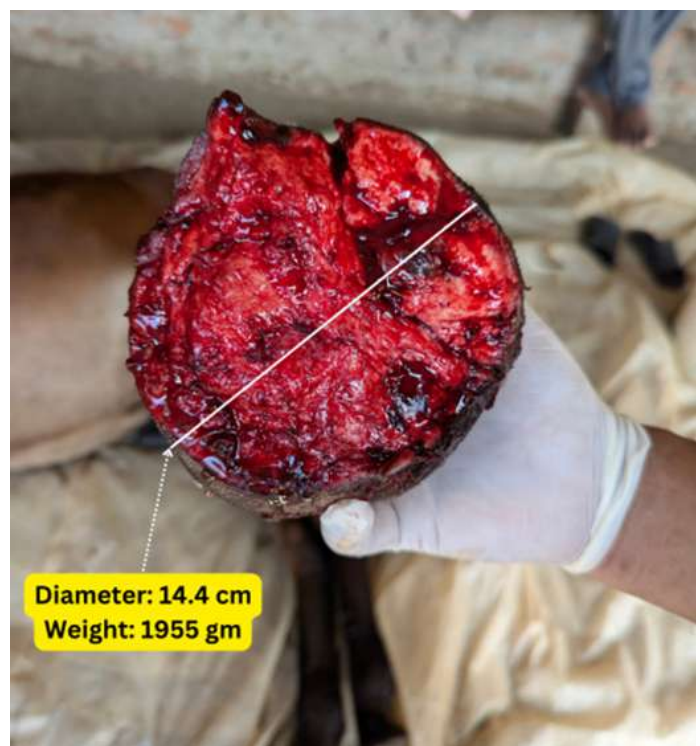
Anesthesia Protocol:

- Sedation: Xylazine at 1.1 mg/kg body weight IV
- Induction and Maintenance: Ketamine at 2.2 mg/kg body weight and Diazepam at 0.08 mg/kg body weight IV

Surgical Procedure:

- The tumor was successfully removed with proper hemostasis achieved through ligation and pressure as needed.
- Skin ends were apposed using subcutaneous sutures and interrupted sutures on the skin with Vicryl Size 1.
- The tumor measured 14.4 cm in average diameter and weighed 1955 grams after resection.

The timely intervention and careful surgical planning ensured the safe removal of the tumor, potentially improving the mule's quality of life and work capability.



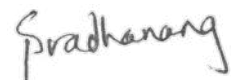
AHTCS Resource Centre

AHTCS is located in Pokhara Metropolitan City, Ward No. 13, Kaski, Gandaki Province, Nepal, 7 km east of the Western Regional Hospital. The organization occupies approximately 20,000 square meters (around 42 Ropani) of land surrounding its head office. AHTCS has a well-equipped training resource center offering safe and secure accommodations and conducive learning environment. A two-story well-furnished hostel and canteen offers comfortable accommodation and healthy hygienic fooding facilities, for up to 35 peoples. The training hall is well-facilitated with essential teaching materials, including multimedia projector, various handouts, posters, charts and audiovisual content. Furthermore, hands on practical unit, demonstration laboratory and mini library provide enhanced learning exposure to the participants.

TRAINING SUMMARY upto July 2024

S.N.	Name of Training	Duration	Events	Beneficiaries		
		(Days)		Male	Female	Total
1	VAHW	35	81	1692	546	2238
2	VAHW Refresher	15-20	32	728	233	961
3	VAHW TOT	10-15	12	146	57	203
4	General TOT	10	2	4	24	28
5	Animal Management	7-10	87	312	1582	1894
6	Goat Raising Training	5-7	37	272	559	831
7	Buffalo Raising Training	5-7	1	0	23	23
8	Pig Raising	5-7	4	22	41	63
9	Basic Poultry Production	7	3	42	32	74
10	Basic Poultry Health	7	1	10	4	14
11	Animal Health	7-10	2	12	17	29
12	Zoonotic Disease Control and Prevention	3	13	146	78	224
13	Animal Breeding	3	5	76	33	109
14	Equine Welfare Sensitization Training to Technicians	3-5	15	318	47	365
15	Shed Management	3	15	4	342	346
16	Animal Nutrition Management	3-5	7	55	177	232
17	Fodder and Forage Production	3	50	331	976	1307
18	Integrated Fish Farming	7-10	5	48	72	120
19	Commercial Vegetable Production	7-10	23	233	394	627
20	Non Timber Forest Production (NTFP)	5	7	100	84	184
21	Agro-based Market Management	5	4	48	58	106
22	Group Management	3	30	0	735	735
23	Group Facilitators Training	7	1	0	10	10
24	Saving and Micro-credit	2	2	0	35	35
25	Gender Sensitization and Awareness	2	16	7	342	349
26	Women Rights and Legal Awareness Training for Facilitators	2	1	0	10	10
27	Women Rights and Legal Awareness Training for Groups	1	16	0	362	362
28	Basic Cooperative Training	5	1	4	15	19
31	Local Health Service Provider Training	3	25	123	18	141
32	Graduate Vet Training	3	7	184	41	225
33	Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards Training	3	3	27	4	31
34	Junior Poultry technician	90	30	143	457	600
35	Local Healer Medicine Orientation	1	1	28	0	28
36	Basic Agriculture Training	7	23	404	120	524
37	Livestock Management and Facilitation Training	5	3	38	15	53
Total				5557	7543	13100

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW (2023/2024)

Animal Health Training & Consultancy Service (AHTCS) Pokhara, Kaski Statement of Financial Position As at 31st Ashad 2081 (15th July 2024)			
Particulars	Note	Current Year Amount Rs.	Previous Year Amount Rs.
Assets			
Non Current Assets			
Property Plant & Equipment			
a Cost Price	4.1	32,071,122.98	31,041,925.98
b. Accumulated Depreciation		17,542,060.44	16,714,825.53
c. Written Down Value (a-b)		14,529,062.54	14,327,100.45
Current Assets			
Inventory (Consumables-Stationeries)		552,671.05	607,253.37
Deposits, Advance and Receivables	4.2	1,169,946.39	4,914,439.65
Cash and Bank Balances	4.2	9,222,357.28	7,709,229.10
Donor's Fund		-	289,100.00
Deffered Tax Assets	4.3	105,647.78	3,340.69
		11,050,622.50	13,523,362.81
Total Assets		25,579,685.04	27,850,463.26
Fund & Liabilities			
Fund & Reserves			
Previous Year's Balance		24,213,369.36	23,513,362.22
Add: Surplus (Deficit)		(306,921.20)	700,007.14
Accumulated Reserves		23,906,448.16	24,213,369.36
Disaster Relief Fund		106,765.00	106,765.00
Property, Plant & Equipment Fund		1,124,618.02	1,409,782.12
Donor's Fund	4.4	192,743.86	-
Total Reserve & Fund		25,330,575.04	25,729,916.49
Non Current Liabilities		-	-
Current Liabilities			
Account Payables	4.2	249,110.00	2,120,546.77
Total		249,110.00	2,120,546.77
Total Liabilities		249,110.00	2,120,546.77
Total Fund & Liabilities		25,579,685.04	27,850,463.26
The Notes on accounts form an integral part of the financial statements			
   Mr. Shiba Kumar Pradhan Chairperson Mr. Lila Bahadur Gurung Member Secretary CA. Lakshman Adhikari L. Adhikari & Associates Chartered Accountants    Mr. Dipendra Poudel Admin/Finance Officer Dr. Umesh Sharma Executive Director Ms. Sunita Pradhanang Treasurer			

Animal Health Training & Consultancy Service (AHTCS) Pokhara, Kaski Statement of Income & Expenditure For the period from 1st Shrawan 2080 to 31st Ashad 2081			
Particulars	Note	Current Year Amount Rs.	Previous Year Amount Rs.
<u>Income</u>			
Incoming Resources	4.5	10,082,384.40	13,911,829.00
Training Income		6,378,950.00	9,531,116.00
Overhead Income		2,034,481.00	1,223,406.00
Staff Contribution		309,258.00	321,148.00
Financial Income		261,418.20	867,103.59
Other Incomes		35,864.00	100,603.30
Total Income (a)		19,102,355.60	25,955,205.89
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Program Expenses	4.6	9,438,636.00	13,911,829.00
AHTCS Core Account	4.7	9,530,877.09	10,477,536.85
Depreciation During Period		542,070.81	544,677.91
Total Expenditure (b)		19,511,583.89	24,934,043.77
Surplus (Deficit) During the year		(409,228.29)	1,021,162.12
Current Tax Expenses		-	255,371.18
Transfer From Specific Fund		-	-
Deffered Tax Expenses (Income)		(102,307.09)	(3,340.69)
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets		-	13,040.18
Prior Period Expenses		-	56,084.31
Surplus (Deficit) During the Year Transfer to Balance Sheet		(306,921.20)	700,007.14
The Notes on accounts form an integral part of the financial statements			
 Mr. Shiba Kumar Pradhan Chairperson	 Mr. Lila Bahadur Gurung Member Secretary	 CA. Lakshman Adhikari L. Adhikari & Associates Chartered Accountants	
 Mr. Dipendra Poudel Admin/Finance Officer	 Dr. Umesh Sharma Executive Director	 Ms. Sunita Pradhanang Treasurer	

Animal Health Training & Consultancy Service (AHTCS)

Pokhara, Kaski

Fund Accountability Statement

For the period from 1st Shrawan 2080 to 31st Ashad 2081

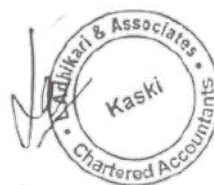
S N	Particulars	SEWP	VIVA (CGPSP)	AHTCS Core Account	Total
A	Opening Fund Balance				
1	Bank	24,321.00	-	7,684,908.10	7,709,229.10
2	Advance and Receivables	755,841.00	-	4,161,939.34	4,917,780.34
3	Inventories	-	-	14,934,353.82	14,934,353.82
4	Less: Payable	(1,069,262.00)	-	(1,051,284.77)	(2,120,546.77)
	Total	(289,100.00)	-	25,729,916.49	25,440,816.49
B	Fund Received				
1	Grant Received	8,850,657.14	1,818,163.72	643,748.40	11,312,569.26
2	Training Income	-	-	6,378,950.00	6,378,950.00
3	Interest Income	-	-	261,418.20	261,418.20
4	Overhead Income	-	-	2,034,481.00	2,034,481.00
5	Staff Contribution	-	-	309,258.00	309,258.00
6	Other Income	-	-	35,864.00	35,864.00
7	Deferred Tax Income	-	-	102,307.09	102,307.09
8	Previous Year Accounts Receivable Written Off	(748,341.00)	-	-	(748,341.00)
	Total	8,102,316.14	1,818,163.72	9,766,026.69	19,686,506.55
C	Fund Expensed				
1	Program Expenses	1,805,629.00	385,785.00	5,049,983.00	7,241,397.00
2	Human Resource Expenses	3,696,305.00	257,101.00	2,753,541.00	6,706,947.00
3	Travel Expenses	459,499.00	82,477.00	346,856.00	888,832.00
4	Office Overhead & Administrative Cost	1,784,866.00	966,974.00	1,380,497.09	4,132,337.09
5	Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
6	Prior Period Expenses	-	-	-	-
7	Current Year Tax Expenses	-	-	-	-
8	Depreciation	-	-	542,070.81	542,070.81
9	Depreciation & Disposal of Donated Assets	-	-	285,164.10	285,164.10
	Total	7,746,299.00	1,692,337.00	10,358,112.00	19,796,748.00
D	Closing Fund Balance (A+B-C)	66,917.14	125,826.72	25,137,831.18	25,330,575.04
	Represented By:				
1	Bank	90,312.14	142,213.72	8,989,831.42	9,222,357.28
2	Cash	-	-	-	-
3	Advance and Receivables	122,775.00	-	1,152,819.17	1,275,594.17
4	Inventories (Expendable & Nonexpendable)	-	-	15,081,733.59	15,081,733.59
5	Less: Payable	(146,170.00)	(16,387.00)	(86,553.00)	(249,110.00)
	Total	66,917.14	125,826.72	25,137,831.18	25,330,575.04

For and on behalf of Animal Health Training & Consultancy Service (AHTCS)

As per our attached report of even date

Mr. Shiba Kumar Pradhan
Chairperson

Mr. Lila Bahadur Gurung
Member Secretary



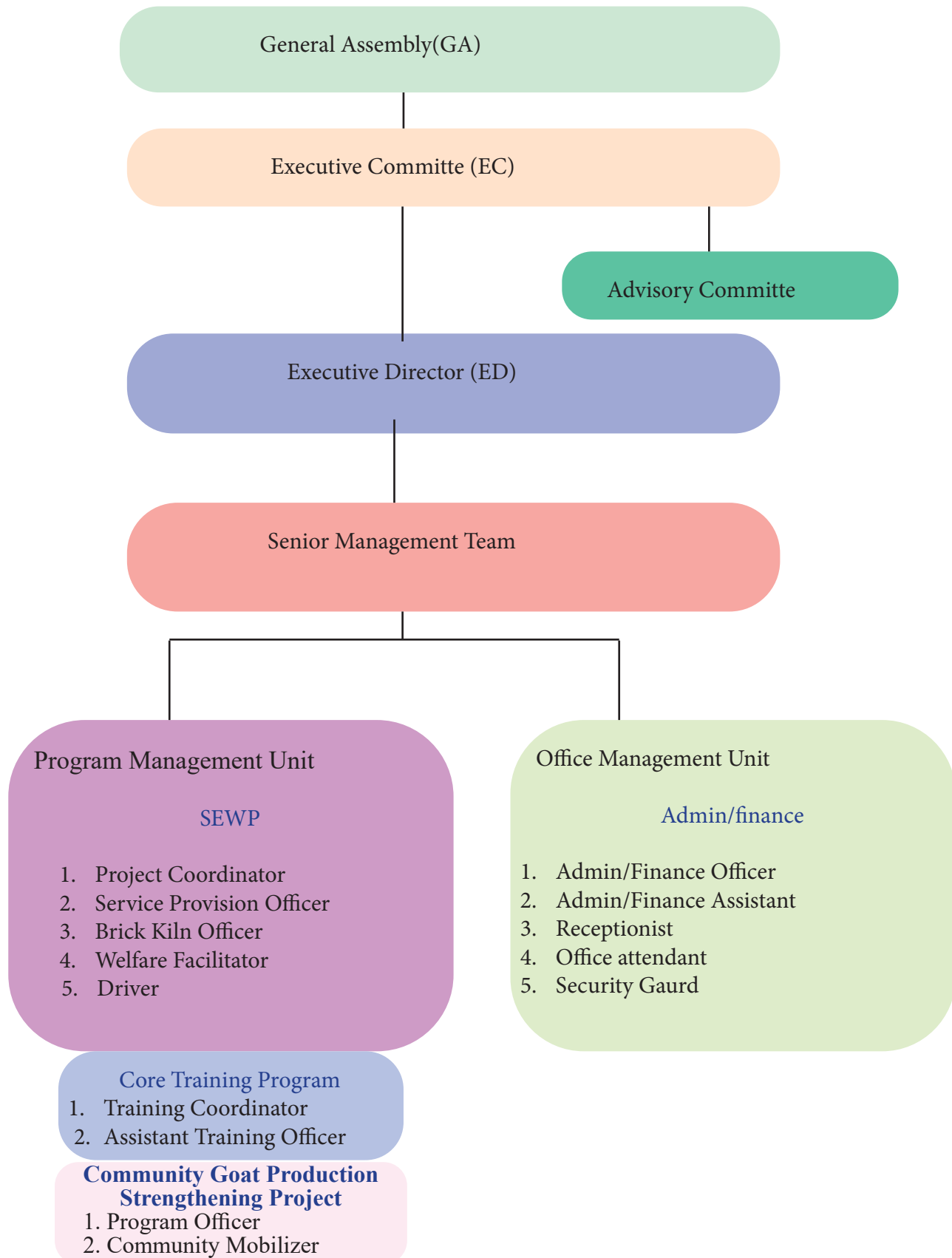
CA. Lakshman Adhikari
L. Adhikari & Associates
Chartered Accountants

Mr. Dipendra Poudel
Admin/Finance Officer

Dr. Umesh Sharma
Executive Director

Ms. Sunita Pradhanang
Treasurer

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





23rd General Assembly, Pokhara



Strategic planning workshop, Pokhara



Celebration of World Environment Day 2024, Aarva



CGPSP inception and interaction program, Maadi



Demonstration of Mineral Block Preparation



Distribution of fodder and agri equipment, Maadi



Monthly Group Meeting, Armala



Monitoring and Evaluation Visit by SWC, Banke



Orientation to vet students on Equine Practice, Banke



Review and sharing meeting with community leaders, Banke



Workshop with stakeholders on Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Policies, Banke



Training on Good Husbandry Practice, Arimalaa, Pokhara



Refresher training to AHPs on Equine practice, Banke



Hands on practical session to VAHWs, Pokhara



Closing ceremony of VAHWs training, Aarva, Kaski



Equine Health Camp, Ghandruk, Kaski



Nursery preparation demonstration, Kaski



Equine Welfare Group meeting, Banke



Animal Health Camp, Taprang, Maadi



Demonstration of Suturing Techniques, Pokhara



Educational session to equine owners, Banke



PSTU, Bangladesh educational visit to AHTCS, Pokhara



Workshop with AHPs on AMR, Bhaktapur



Workshop with stakeholders on Zoonoses and emerging diseases, Bhaktapur

DONORS AND PARTNERS

1. BROOKE Hospital for Animals, UK
2. Volunteers in Irish Veterinary Assistance
3. Good Neighbour International
3. Heifer International Nepal
4. Sansthatgat Bikas Sanjal
5. Forward Nepal
6. SAHAS Nepal
7. Livestock Service Training Centre, Gandaki Province, Kaski
8. Directorate of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Gandaki Province, Kaski
9. Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, Kaski
10. Veterinary Hospital and Livestock Service Expert Centre, Gandaki Province, Kaski
11. National Livestock Breeding Office, Kaski
12. Prayash Nepal
13. Indreni Nepal
14. DEFAN Udaypur
15. CDF Dolkha
16. D-Mega, Sindhuli
17. NIDS, Sarlahi
18. MSWC, Rammechhap
19. SADEC, Gulmi
20. SRDCN, Syanja
21. Ratauli Youth Club
22. SEEDS, Rasuwa
23. Naya Goreto, Syanja
24. CDECF, Sindhupalchowk
25. GGCC, Dolkha
26. Hand Nepal
27. Livestock Service Section of respective Municipalities and Rural Municipalities

AHTCS MEMBERS

Life Member

- 1 Dr. Jeewan Thapa

General Member

- 1 Mr. Shiba Kumar Pradhan
- 2 Dr. Shiva Hari Ghimire
- 3 Mr. Lila Bahadur Gurung
- 4 Mr. Magan lal Shrestha
- 5 Mr. Tulasi Jung Dahal
- 6 Mrs. Sunita Pradhananga
- 7 Mr. Ram Mani Paudyal
- 8 Mr. Bharat Bahadur Adhikari
- 9 Dr. Bhoj Bahadur Kshetri
- 10 Dr. Bidur Pakhrin
- 11 Dr. Tapendra Psd Bohara
- 12 Dr. Rishi Ram sapkota
- 13 Dr. Rupesh Shrestha
- 14 Dr. Bodh Raj Baral
- 15 Mr. Keshar Bahadur Raibhat
- 16 Mr. Raman Kumar Mishra
- 17 Ms. Sumitra Gayak
- 18 Mr. Yubraj Bhusal
- 19 Mr. keshab Psd Dhungana
- 20 Mr. Sunil Gautam
- 21 Dr. Grishma Neupane
- 22 Dr. Rajesh kumar Chaudhary
- 23 Mr. Padma kiran Rana
- 24 Mr. Nabin Bhandari
- 25 Dr. Yagya Raj Pandeya
- 26 Mrs. Phul Kumari Thapa
- 27 Dr. Lekhnath Adhikari
- 28 Dr. Nabin Paudel
- 29 Mr. Nagendra Bastakoti
- 30 Dr. Sagun Malla
- 31 Ms. Pramila Badikar
- 32 Mr. Sunil Pandey
- 33 Mr. Devendra Pokharel
- 34 Dr. Ashesh Bhattarai
- 35 Dr. Sital Kaji Shrestha
- 36 Ms. Shiva Kumari Gurung