







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### 3 WHO WE ARE

- 4 THE VSF INTERNATIONAL NETWORK
- 4 Where we work
- 5 2022 in numbers

#### 6 THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022

- 7 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs)
- 8 One Health
- 12 Pastoralism
- 14 Control and eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)
- 15 Livestock in emergency
- 16 War in Ukraine
- 16 Key areas of development within the VSF network
- 17 FINANCE
- 18 GOVERNANCE

© Bart Lasuy / VSF-Belgium

### **WHO WE ARE**

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International is a network of non-profit organisations working all over the world to support small-scale farmers, livestock keepers and local animal health and welfare initiatives.

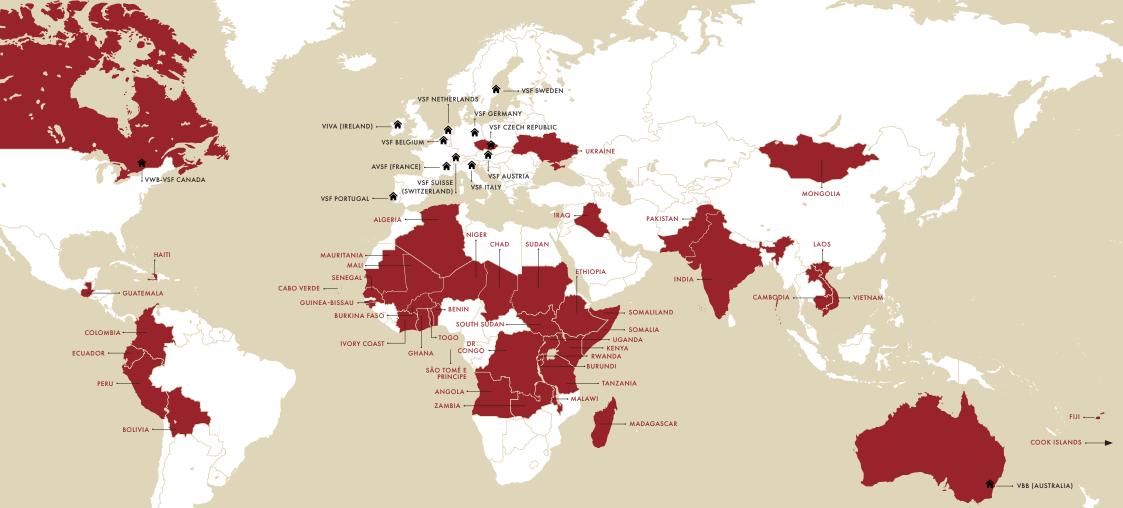
Through the implementation of our projects and programs, we serve the most vulnerable populations whose livelihoods depend on livestock, and we act collectively to support small-scale family farming, pastoralism, animal, human and environmental health.



### OUR MEMBERS



Pictures on cover and last page: © Tim Dirven/VSF Belgium © VSF International 2023 / Graphic layout: Beltza, Brussels



### THE **VSF INTERNATIONAL** NETWORK IN 2022

### WHERE WE WORK

The VSF International network supports families and farmers' organizations in **48 countries** in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Oceania. In 2022, the members of VSF International reached over **2.54 million families (direct beneficiaries)**, with an overall budget of  $\in$  **70.9 million**.

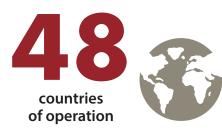
#### OUR SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

- > Livelihoods and food and nutrition security
- Animal health, welfare and productivity
  One Health
- > Sustainable Natural Resource Management
- Access to markets and value chains
- > Youth and women empowerment
- > Emergency response and resilience building
- > Advocacy and awareness raising

#### Countries of operation

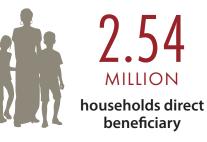
Member's HQ

### 2022 IN NUMBERS



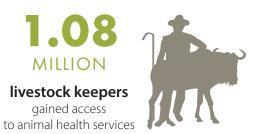






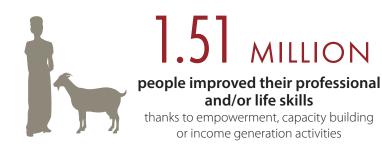


7 152 animal health professionals supported (including 5 302 Community-based Animal Health Workers)





in emergency response programmes or as incomegenerating assets



133 awareness raising events targeting youth in Europe and Canada

5 | VSF INTERNATIONAL | Annual Report 2022



# THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022

The members of the VSF International network are autonomous organizations that directly implement projects in the field. As members of the network they share the VSF International mission and are committed to coordinating their activities in order to increase the overall VSF impact. The network facilitates exchanges, lesson learning, the development of quality standards and coordinates common advocacy and communication activities.

In this report we will present the key achievements of 2022 showcasing the successful collaborations and joint efforts between different member organizations. For more details about the specific activities of each member, please refer to their respective annual reports.

 $(\mathbf{P})$ 

© Martin Demay/VSF Belgium

### COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKERS (CAHWs)

#### WOAH and VSF International's project on CAHWs

In 2022 VSF International started the implementation of a joint project with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE), entitled "Strengthening the enabling environment for community animal health workers through the development of competency and curricula guidelines", and funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA).

CAHWs play a key role in the delivery of last mile veterinary services in many countries around the world. Yet numerous challenges exist related to the sustainability and quality standards of CAHW training programs, including lack of coordination between those who train CAHWs, lack of regulation or even recognition of their role in providing animal health services, and sometimes, lack of followup when the projects that fund their training end. The project aims at addressing these challenges by developing competency and curricula guidelines for CAHW trainings, and a set of recommendations to improve sustainability of CAHW models.

After a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and collection of documents, we performed a literature review to identify strengths, weaknesses, and factors for success of CAHW programmes. The literature review has been published in March 2023. It includes an overview of the approaches that have been taken so far in terms of national policy frameworks, project planning and design, selection, and training of CAHWs, and supervision and monitoring mechanisms, and provides targeted recommendations to improve the sustainability of future CAHW programs.

Furthermore, in collaboration with VSFs' country teams and WOAH, we identified 4 countries in which case studies will be conducted during 2023, to gather in-depth data on the factors that influence the success or failure of CAHW programs through field visits and stakeholder interviews. The participating countries are Burundi, Cambodia, Niger, and South Sudan. Findings and recommendations from the literature review and the country case studies will be subsequently consolidated and validated through regional expert consultations, with the final objective of formulating recommendations for a more sustainable and effective integration of CAHWs into the national animal health systems.

In parallel, WOAH has formed an Ad Hoc Group of international experts to discuss and define the competency and curricula guidelines for CAHWs through various virtual and face to face meetings. The guidelines are expected to be ready by mid-2024.

PUBLICATIONS

English and French)

A literature review of community-based

animal health workers in Africa and Asia, with recommendations for impro-

ved practices, March 2023 (available in

- vsf-international.org/project/cahws-literature-review







#### Cooperation agreement between VSF International and WOAH

In December 2020, VSF International and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) signed a cooperation agreement to promote information-sharing, advocacy and policy dialogue around 3 areas of collaboration:

- Community Animal Health Workers
- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
- Transboundary animal disease (TAD) control and prevention effort

Through regular meetings, often involving the field teams, we are progressing towards the common objectives. The three year agreement will end in 2023, and our two organisations are already reflecting on how to refine the areas of collaboration for a new period.

### **ONE HEALTH**

The VSF International network is advocating with its partners for an increased international political commitment on One Health. We want development and humanitarian actors, governments and communities to prevent and minimise threats at the interface between livestock, health and the environment through the One Health approach.

#### Investing in Animal Health to support One Health and prevent the next pandemics

In 2022, pandemic prevention and the risks of zoonotic disease spread remained high on the global agenda. While One Health is gaining ground at a global level to combat emerging health threats, there are significant barriers to its implementation on the ground due to the lack of investment in animal health systems.

Together with the other members of the **Action for Animal Health Coalition (A4AH)**, VSF International calls on governments and international organisations to strengthen animal health systems in order to make One Health a reality.

Throughout 2022, governments from around the world started negotiating, under the World Health Organisation, a **Pandemic Treaty** to protect the world from future pandemics. Action for Animal Health is advocating for the new treaty to contain specific obligations to prevent



zoonotic disease from spilling over from animals to people focusing on prevention at source, for instance through upskilling animal health workforces to stop zoonotic diseases in their tracks. The coalition demonstrated to decisionmakers why critical shortages in the skills and numbers of animal health practitioners risks our health, and why they should be treated as part of the global health workforce.

The A4AH coalition also engaged with the World Bank to request that its newly launched **Pandemic Fund** invests in





The Case for Investing in Animal Health to Support One Health, February 2023 — vsf-international.org/project/a4ahreport-investing-in-animal-health



#### PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORKS

The Action for Animal Health Coalition (A4AH), led by several organizations active in animal health, including VSF International, and chaired by The Brooke, calls for more investment in animal health systems as part of operationalising One Health and in the attainment of the UN's Sustainable Development Goal, across five pillars:

- Support community engagement and equitable access to animal health services;
- Increase the numbers and improve the skills of the animal health workforce;
- Close the veterinary medicines and vaccines gap;
- Improve animal disease surveillance;
- Enhance collaboration for One Health.



More info: actionforanimalhealth.org

animal health systems. This billion-dollar fund will support low-and-middle-income countries to protect themselves from future global health threats.

Finally, as part of the evidence-building for its advocacy actions, the coalition commissioned the report "The Case for Investing in Animal Health to Support One Health", which presents key messages and recommendations related to the state of animal health systems in lower- and middle-income contexts (LMIC).

# Community-driven approaches in One Health implementation

#### VSF International believes that **multi-disciplinary and community-driven approaches accounting for local knowledge are central to One Health implementation**.

Local civil society and service providers, farmers' and livestock keepers' organizations have a pivotal role at the interface of the three pillars of health: human-animalenvironment. Rather than being considered solely as the beneficiaries of One Health interventions, they should have a more central role in co-identification of public health threats and finding locally adapted responses.

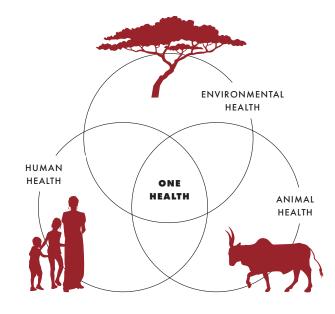
By participating in global initiatives such as PREZODE and the One Sustainable Health Forum, and in global conferences and events, VSF International advocates for the inclusion of community actors in the implementation of One Health. Our experience in the field allows us to share lessons learned on how to ensure coordination across sectors and disciplines at grassroots or decentralized level; and how to involve local communities in solution-finding.

### EVENTS

In May 2022, VSF International participated in the **Geneva Health** Forum with a presentation titled "Communities and local service providers: key stakeholders for operationalizing One Health". The presentation included examples from projects by VSF Belgium in Niger, VSF Suisse in the Horn of Africa (HEAL project) and AVSF in Senegal.



© Thomas Cytrynowicz/VSF Belgium



### PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORKS

VSF International is member of the **PREZODE (Preventing Zoonotic Diseases)** initiative, a network that facilitates and strengthens interactions across member organizations, existing and future initiatives, projects, and programs. As of March 2023, the PREZODE community encompasses almost 206 members from scientific, academic, and associative backgrounds, including the governments of 21 countries.

More info: prezode.org



VSF International is also member of the Strategic Partners Committee of the **One Sustainable Health (OSH)** Forum, and participates in the Working Group 6: Developing OSH Practices & Resilience within Local Communities.

More info: onesustainablehealth.org/fr



# One Health and the preservation of healthy, resilient, and sustainable ecosystems

Many of the VSF's projects are located in highly biodiverse areas, in proximity to national parks or protected areas. In these biodiversity hotspots there is a convergence of challenges around human-animal interactions and the environment.

When local communities are in a vulnerable situation, with limited access to income, services and food, they might revert to subsistence strategies that have a negative impact on the environment, such as bushmeat consumption and sales, clearance of forest areas for crop or livestock production and sales of wood, charcoal production, poaching, etc. The increased pressure on a limited territory is likely to lead to **habitat fragmentation and loss of biodiversity, leading to higher risks of spillover of zoonotic diseases**. All this calls for a multi-stakeholder, multi-sector response within a One Health approach to reduce the risks of the emergence of a new disease.

VSF International members and their partners strive to develop sustainable livelihood opportunities for local communities, reconciling biodiversity conservation goals with social and economic goals and health goals. Through multisectoral interventions and partnerships, we are able to tackle economic factors (income generation and diversification), food security (promoting sustainable livestock and crop production to access nutritious and diversified diets), health (integrated animal/human health services delivery), land access (securing land tenure and governance for the direct benefit of local populations) and awareness raising on natural resource and biodiversity conservation.



PUBLICATIONS

Poster: Supporting local communities around protected areas with a One Health approach, July 2022 — vsf-international.org/project/posterprotected-areas-one-health





In July 2022, VSF Belgium organised, on behalf of VSF International, a session at the One Health Pavilion of the Africa Protected Areas Congress in Kigali, Rwanda. The session, titled "Addressing health risks among communities surrounding protected areas through an OH approach: the case of Kahuzi Biega National Park in DRC", presented the vision of the VSF network on the implementation of the One Health approach, and gave a detailed overview of VSF Belgium's activities in South Kivu, promoting an

integrated approach between animal, human and environmental health around the Kahuzi Biega National Park. A poster was also displayed at the congress, showcasing 4 examples of projects by AVSF, VSF Suisse and VSF Belgium, integrating sustainable livelihoods and conservation goals.



# Rabies elimination through a coordinated response across sectors

Rabies is a zoonotic disease estimated to be killing around 60,000 people every year, primarily in poor rural communities in Africa and Asia. Almost half of the victims are children under the age of 15. Yet rabies is 100% preventable if we address the disease through a One Health approach.

Rabies virus transmission is mainly through a bite or direct contact with saliva of an infected animal, and dogs are responsible for 99% of human cases. Therefore, only a coordinated response across sectors will allow us to bring the number of human deaths from dog-mediated rabies to zero.

Throughout the year, various VSF-Int members conducted rabies prevention and control activities in several countries of Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia), India, Canada's Northern Territories, Czech Republic and Ukraine. These activities included vaccination of dogs and cats, but also equids, as these animals critically contribute to households' livelihoods through transport and traction. Vaccination campaigns are also used to carry out other complementary treatments such as deworming, to prevent transmission of parasitic zoonoses such as echinococcosis.

As part of the capacity building components, the VSF-Int members also conducted community education and training of veterinary paraprofessionals, professionals and CAHWs on rabies prevention and control. Finally, in our countries of intervention, we advocate for a better collaboration between human health and animal health sectors, to foster ongoing communication and improve access to vaccines and post-exposure prophylaxis.



© Star Media/VSF Netherlands

#### In 2022:

- **11 countries** with rabies prevention and control activities
- 142,300 dogs & cats vaccinated against rabies
- 51,450 dogs & cats dewormed
- **48,700** households sensitized on rabies risk, responsible dog ownership, and dog bite prevention
- **321** CAHWs trained on rabies detection, control and reporting
- 6,750 equids vaccinated

#### PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORKS

In September 2022, VSF International became member of the **United Against Rabies Forum**, a platform initiated by WOAH, FAO and WHO for stakeholders to work together and advance their efforts to achieve the goal of eliminating human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030 ("Zero by 30"). VSF International contributes more particularly to the dog vaccination workstream, and regularly attends the webinars organized by UAR to keep the VSF-Int working group Rabies updated on the best practices.

More info: www.unitedagainstrabies.org



### PASTORALISM

Pastoralism (extensive, often mobile, livestock production) offers vital lessons for navigating highly variable environments. Pastoralists produce food and manage ecosystems, making use of rangelands that cover over half of the land on Earth. Despite this, they are often dismissed as destructive, backward and in need of 'modernisation'.

Longstanding policy biases and negative narratives have shaped decision-making and investments in pastoral regions. A new approach is needed, informed by pastoralist knowledge and practice, to support livelihoods, to defuse ongoing conflicts, and to mitigate food and social insecurities.



# Towards the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralism

In March 2022 the United Nations General Assembly declared **2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP)**, reflecting the important role healthy rangelands play in creating a sustainable environment, economic growth, and resilient livelihoods for communities across the world. This final approval is the result of an IYRP movement that developed over several years into a global coalition of over 300 pastoralist and support organisations, including VSF International, and governments.

The IYRP will be a great opportunity to raise awareness and fill knowledge gaps about the benefits provided by healthy rangelands and sustainable pastoralism. It will be a platform to advocate for strengthening the capacity of the pastoral livestock sector and for increasing responsible investment in this sector.

The IYRP International Support Group is working hard to prepare for the Year, in close collaboration with FAO (who will facilitate the implementation of IYRP in 2026), and through the establishment of regional groups. The VSF network is active especially in the West Africa, Central Asia, and East Africa support groups.

More info: iyrp.info



### EVENTS

In December 2022 VSF International contributed, with the Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern Africa Pastoralism (CELEP) and the Pastoralism, Uncertainty and Resilience (PASTRES) project, to the organisation of several events in Brussels to raise awareness on pastoralism.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December, a **hybrid conference "Pastoralists, embracing** uncertainty in a turbulent world" organised at the European Commission's International Partnerships (INTPA), explored how development and environmental programmes could work better with pastoralists.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, a **photo exhibition 'An Uncertain World'** displayed a selection of photographs showing how pastoralists embrace uncertainty to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world. Following the exhibition, a screening of the **"Perspectives on Pastoralism" film festival** was organized, with films from Hungary, Uganda, India and Mongolia.

On the same week, CELEP held a two day strategy-planning workshop that focused on how we can best influence the EU to create pro-pastoralist policies and programmes.

#### PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORKS

Since 2017 VSF International is a member of the **Global Agenda** for Sustainable Livestock (GASL), a multi-stakeholder platform, facilitated by FAO, that includes a broad range of organizations committed to sustainable livestock systems. GASL organizes regional and global dialogues around four sustainability domains: livelihoods and economic growth, food and nutrition security, animal health and animal welfare, and climate and natural resource use. Together with other NGOs and representatives from the social movements, VSF International aims to bring a first-hand perspective on small-scale livestock production to the policy dialogue on sustainable livestock.





### CONTROL AND ERADICATION OF PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS (PPR)

A few decades ago, global ambitions to eradicate rinderpest led to a large-scale coordinated response and funding effort, which was eventually successful in 2011, when the world was declared free of this disease. Back then, the VSF members contributed to those efforts by supporting community-based animal health systems, improving access to animal health services and inputs in the most remote areas and involving communities in disease surveillance through participatory epidemiology. These actions were key to rinderpest eradication and today the VSFs contributions are acknowledged in the recently published FAO-WOAH book "Rinderpest and its eradication".

In 2015, the **Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) Global Control and Eradication Strategy** was launched, to target PPR as the next animal disease to be eradicated by 2030. After a first phase of 5 years, the second phase of the PPR Global Eradication Programme (GEP) 2023-2027 was launched in 2022, with important new elements to address some of the existing gaps.

The members of VSF International mostly work in countries where PPR risk is still high, and contribute to PPR eradication efforts in many ways. Working in close collaboration with local authorities and veterinary services, we train and support community-based animal health workers to provide frontline extension services in areas where veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals are unable to meet the needs of livestock keepers. These local service providers, entrusted by their communities, are central to the dissemination of knowledge and good practices that contribute to improved awareness of PPR. We also strive to increase access to vaccines, through provision of cold chain facilities and improved planning, and promote community-based disease surveillance, through training of livestock keeping communities, but also through development of digital applications.



On the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2022, FAO and WOAH invited VSF International to deliver a statement at their **Small Ruminants Stakeholder Forum Meeting on PPR Global Eradication Programme (GEP)**. This event preceded the formal launch of the second phase of the PPR GEP, along with the launch of the book "Rinderpest and its eradication".



# EVENTS

On 17<sup>th</sup> November, VSF International was invited to deliver a webinar on the contribution of VSF members to national PPR control and eradication programmes, from detection to mitigation of socio-economic impacts. This event was hosted by FAO as part of its "PPR Stakeholder Seminar Series" and was attended by 150 participants from all around the world.

The panellists gave an overview of different experiences, such as the development and training on real-time digital collection tools, the rolling out of thermostable vaccines, the benefits of women empowerment in PPR control, and the local private veterinary services as an effective model for the eradication of PPR in the Sahel.

More info: www.fao.org/ppr/news-and-events/ppr-stakeholderseries/calendar/2022/en

## LIVESTOCK IN EMERGENCY

In most countries where the members of VSF International operate, drought is a recurrent threat to people and animals. In 2022, after five bad rainy seasons in a row, **the Horn of Africa experienced the worst drought of the last 40 years**. Over 36 million people in Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya were affected by severe food insecurity, and more than 9 million livestock died. In addition, food prices and the cost of living were rising due to below-average harvests and developments on international markets, including the spike in energy costs following Russia's war against Ukraine. This affected countries in both East and West Africa.

Pastoral communities living in dry grasslands are highly dependent on pasture and water availability for the survival of their herds and therefore for their own food security and livelihoods. They are consequently strongly affected by the erratic climate events and prolonged droughts. Experience shows that it takes at least five years for a pastoralist family to rebuild their herd after a drought. However, with many families having lost all their livestock during this drought, and droughts becoming more frequent and intense in the Horn of Africa, some may be forced to leave pastoralism.

In emergencies, VSF carries out various activities to improve the situation of drought-affected people and their animals. These include distributing animal feed, providing animal health services and conducting vaccinations, training community animal health workers, rehabilitating water points, and providing financial assistance to families. In our activities, we are guided by the **Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS)**, that offer a valuable set of guiding principles to implement livestock-based interventions that strengthen the recovery capacity and the overall resilience of affected populations. VSF International is also periodically exchanging with the **FAO's Emergency Management Center (EMC)**, a platform which coordinates global animal health emergency preparedness, response and resource mobilization using a One Health approach. As part of the projects led by EMC, VSF International participated in multi-stakeholder workshops for the development of the strategy for "Multisectoral Coordination of Animal Health Events of International Concern".

# PUBLICATIONS

In 2022, LEGS undertook the revision of its manual through a public consultation, in which the VSF network participated, leading to the **publication of the third edition of LEGS** in June 2023.

This third edition of the LEGS handbook is more user-friendly, includes new core principles such as ensuring community participation or supporting gender-sensitive programming, and offers updated standards, key actions and guidance notes.

As one of the contributors to the LEGS handbook since its inception, VSF is committed to continuously training its staff to ensure a thorough understanding of the LEGS principles and standards and their application.

© Tim Dirven/VSF Belgium



### WAR IN UKRAINE

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, the VSF network was called upon to act in support of war-affected animals. Especially in the first months after the Russian invasion, everyday thousands of people fled from Ukraine with only what they could carry: often this was their pet.

Companion animals play a significant role in fostering the psychological wellbeing of pets' owners, especially in such extreme situation. Taking care of pets means preserving a connection with the life that so many people are forced to leave. While health care and support are given to humans, pets also need their needs and welfare attended to: many animals, as their owners, arrive exhausted or with some wounds that need to be taken care of. Moreover, rabies is still present in Ukraine, in contrast to many European countries, which are free from rabies. The sudden arrival of nonvaccinated pets could pose serious threats to public health and required a prompt reaction from the local veterinary services to vaccinate them against rabies or impose a quarantine.

Two VSF International's member organizations have been active in providing support to refugees' pets.



# VWB/VSF Canada's Ukraine emergency program

WWB/VSF Canada was among the first organizations to respond to the Ukraine crisis by supporting a number of key local partners to help affected animals. In March 2022, VWB/ VSF partners successfully delivered initial food shipments to devastated shelters within the Kyiv region. Since then, unwavering assistance has been provided daily without interruption. As the war goes on, and the lack of food and medicine for animals shows no signs of improving, VWB/VSF has progressively strengthened its partnership with three local animal welfare organizations, who continue to provide food, medicine, and veterinary care to companion animals in war-torn Ukraine. This support targets war-affected shelters and households, including internally displaced families, families who have lost their homes, and those who care for animals in volunteer and home boarding situations.

#### VSF-Czech's project "Seeking Refuge Together"

VSF-CZ has been assisting Ukrainian refugees arriving in the Czech Republic in need of veterinary care, pet food and pet care for their animals. The organization helped in finding suitable veterinary clinics, offering interpreting services, providing financial support to pet owners to take care for their pets and setting up an information hub where incoming refugees could find relevant information for their pets.

### KEY AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE VSF NETWORK

#### **Regional meeting in West Africa**

In October 2022 the staff of the VSF members active in West Africa participated in a workshop in Lomé, Togo, to foster collaborations at the regional level. The workshop was a continuation of previous engagements already taken within the VSF International network, including the last regional workshop in Senegal in 2019, and the establishment of regular coordination meetings between VSFs active in the region.

The workshop facilitated discussion of opportunities for collaboration at country and regional level, and the identification of three common priorities for joint projects at regional level, namely: One Health implementation at community level; the fight against Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR); and the creation of employment opportunities in the livestock value chain for youth and women in vulnerable and conflict-affected areas.

The regional workshop was combined with a training on crisis management, to strengthen the capacities of colleagues in the field in a region, West Africa, characterised by growing insecurity and instability. By strengthening our security management, we want to be better prepared to continue working and providing services to vulnerable people in unstable contexts.







### **FINANCE**

### Overall, in 2022 the VSF International network had a total income of $\in$ 70.9 million.

With varying budgets and structures, the members of the VSF network implement projects in the field, organise education and awareness raising activities in their own countries and support the common activities of the network.

The VSF International coordination office is financially supported by the members' contributions, and is responsible for knowledge management, developing common quality standards and coordinating joint advocacy and communication activities while ensuring that exchanges and network dynamics are running smoothly.

@ 2SCOM/VSF Belgium

### GOVERNANCE

VSF International is a non-profit organisation (a.i.s.b.l. from its French title) registered in Belgium. It is governed by a General Assembly, which is composed of all the members of the network and represented by the senior management. The General Assembly meets annually and defines the global vision and strategy of the organisation, approves the financial statements and budgets, and elects the Board every two years. The Board is responsible for the implementation of the General Assembly's decisions while supporting the day-to-day activities of the coordination office in Brussels. Board members also participate in different thematic working groups, along with other technical experts from the national VSFs.

VSF International is managed by a coordination office in Brussels (Belgium), which is responsible for fostering collaboration between members, coordinating joint projects and campaigns, leading external communication and representing the network at the international level.

The current Board was elected in October 2021, and will be renewed in October 2023.

#### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD (AS OF AUGUST 2023)

- Giorgia Angeloni
  (VSF Italy) President
- Manuelle Miller (AVSF, France) - Vice-president
- Sébastien Tyrpak
  (VSF Belgium) Treasurer
- Christian Griebenow, replacing Shoshanna Hillmann-Breuer (VSF Germany)
- Ciarán Göbl (VIVA, Ireland)
- John Allen
  (VBB, Australia)

#### MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (AS OF AUGUST 2023)

- Fréderic Apollin (Executive Director, AVSF - France)
- Charmaine Brett-Mills
  (Executive Director, VWB/
  VSF Canada)
- > Mike Burke (Executive Director, VIVA - Ireland)
- Helen Byrnes (Director, Vets Beyond Borders -Australia)
- Piero Casale (President, VSF Italy)
- Flurina Derungs (Executive Director, VSF Suisse)
- Iris Geerts (Coordinator, VSF Netherlands)
- Christian Griebenow
  (Managing Director, VSF Germany)

- Sara Lysholm (President, VSF Sweden)
- David Modrý (Managing Director, VSF Czech Republic)
- Manuela Oliveira (President, VSF Portugal)
- Dagmar Schoder (President, VSF Austria)
- Joep Van Mierlo (Executive Director, VSF Belgium)

19 | VSF INTERNATIONAL | Annual Report 2022





#### Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International

Avenue des Arts 7-8 1210 Brussels - Belgium

info@vsf-international.org **vsf-international.org**