



VSF INTERNATIONAL
VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES

ANNUAL REPORT
2024

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WHO WE ARE

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International is a network of non-profit organisations active globally to support small-scale farmers, livestock keepers and local animal health and welfare initiatives.

We are committed to fostering healthy relationships between humans, animals and the environment, and we promote the implementation of the One Health approach at community level through multi-sectoral collaborations and participatory mechanisms.

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



Vétérinaires
Sans Frontières
Dierenartsen
Zonder Grenzen



Veterinarians
Without Borders
North America



Vétérinaires
Sans Frontières
Germany



Vets Without Borders
Ireland



Veterinari
Senza
Frontiere

Dierenartsen
Zonder Grenzen



VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES
SUISSE

Austria

Tierärzte ohne Grenzen Österreich

www.vsf.at

Belgium

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières

Dierenartsen Zonder Grenzen Belgium

www.vsf-belgium.org

North America (Canada and USA)

Veterinarians Without Borders North America

www.vwb.org

Czech Republic

Veterinári bez hranic ČR, o.p.s.

www.veterinaribezhranic.cz/cz/

France

Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières (AVSF)

www.avsf.org

Germany

Tierärzte ohne Grenzen e.V.

www.togev.de

Ireland

Vets Without Borders Ireland

www.vetswithoutbordersireland.ie

Italy

Veterinari Senza Frontiere Italia

www.vsf-italia.it

The Netherlands

Dierenartsen zonder Grenzen

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Nederland

www.dierenartsenzondergrenzen.nl

Portugal

Veterinários Sem Fronteiras Portugal

www.vsfportugal.com

Sweden

Veterinärer Utan Gränser Sverige

www.vsf-sverige.org

Switzerland

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Suisse

www.vsf-suisse.org

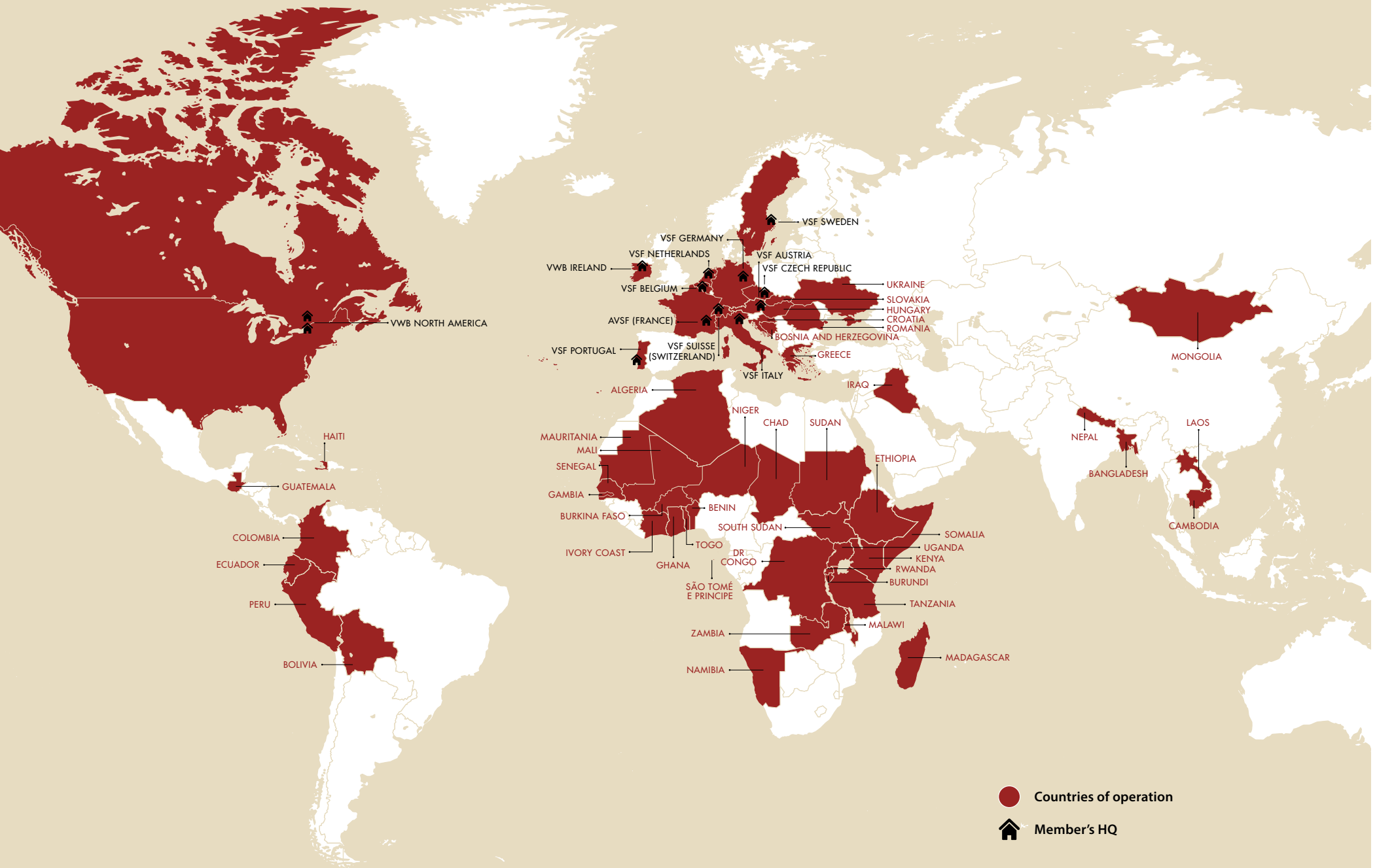
The members of the VSF International network are autonomous organisations that directly implement projects in the field. As members of the network, they share the VSF International mission and coordinate their activities to maximise their collective impact. The network facilitates knowledge sharing, learning from experience, the development of quality standards, and the coordination of joint advocacy and communication activities.

For more details about each member's specific activities, please refer to their websites and annual reports.

THE VSF INTERNATIONAL NETWORK IN 2024



WHERE WE WORK



2024 IN NUMBERS

€ 68.43
MILLION
total income


60
countries

845
staff worldwide
90% in the field
10% at HQ



2.46
MILLION
households reached




28.9
MILLION
animals treated

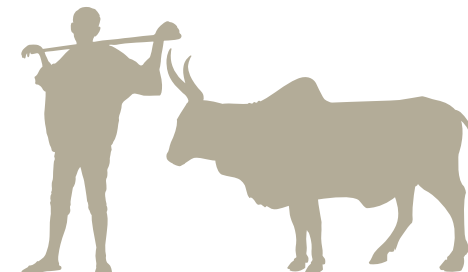
5,835
animal health
professionals
supported



including
4,877
Community
Animal
Health Workers



660,540
livestock keepers
gained access to
improved animal
health services



65,740
animals distributed
in emergency response
programmes or as
income-generating assets



83,387
people improved their professional
and/or life skills
thanks to empowerment,
capacity building
or income generating activities

190
awareness raising
events
targeting youth in Europe
and North America



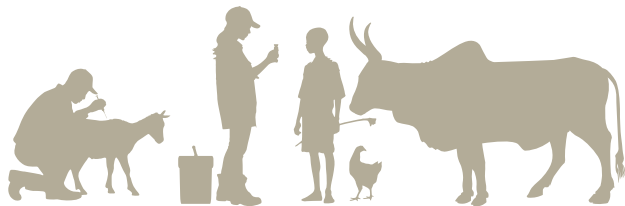


© Bart Lasuy / VSF Belgium

OUR ACTIONS

The VSF International network supports families and farmers' organizations in **60 countries** in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. In 2024, the members of VSF International reached over **2.46 million households**, with an overall budget of **€ 68.43 million**.

OUR ACTIONS



LAST-MILE ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICES

Last-Mile Animal Health Services are a cornerstone of the VSF International's mission to support resilient livelihoods and sustainable livestock systems, ensuring that remote and underserved communities have access to essential veterinary care.

- Through targeted training of community-based animal health workers (CAHWs), mobile veterinary outreach, and collaboration with local authorities, we expand service coverage across pastoralist and rural areas.

These efforts not only improve animal health, welfare and productivity but reinforce the autonomy and resilience of rural populations.



ONE HEALTH

VSF International applies the One Health approach at the community level, addressing the interconnected health of people, animals, and the ecosystems.

- In remote and pastoral areas, we deliver integrated services through mobile One Health Units, combining veterinary care, basic human health services, and environmental monitoring in a coordinated, cost-effective model.
- We strengthen early detection of zoonotic diseases by engaging community-based animal health workers, health committees, and environmental actors in local surveillance systems.
- We promote responsible use of veterinary medicines, raise awareness on antimicrobial resistance, and support access to quality drugs to curb the use of substandard products.

Collaboration is key to our approach: solutions are developed with communities, local authorities and in partnership with organizations that bring complementary technical expertise. This ensures that interventions are locally adapted, sustainable, and effective.

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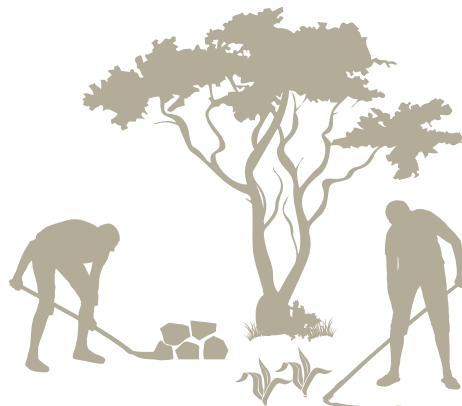


SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS & FOOD SECURITY

VSF International supports livestock-dependent households by improving their capacity to manage animals, access services, and respond to environmental and economic risks.

- We provide trainings in animal husbandry, natural resource management, and climate-resilient practices, while improving access to markets, veterinary services, and quality inputs.

By enhancing livestock productivity and promoting diversified income sources, we empower vulnerable households to secure their nutrition, increase their resilience to shocks, and build more stable and dignified livelihoods.

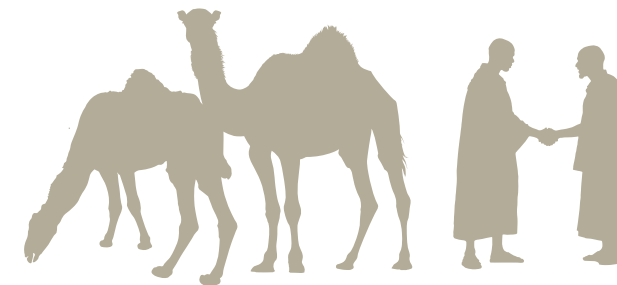


AGROECOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

In areas facing environmental degradation and resource-based conflict, we promote agroecological practices that strengthen the resilience of rural communities and sustainably utilize the ecosystems they depend on.

- We support practices that regenerate soils, preserve water sources, and maintain biodiversity, while fostering inclusive governance of rangelands, pastures, and forests.

© Tim Dirven / VSF Belgium



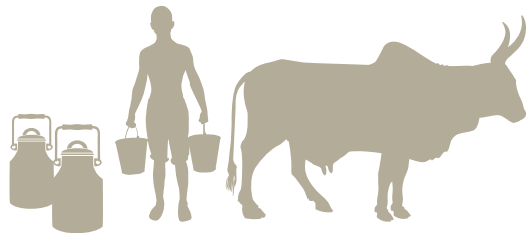
BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

VSF International supports communities in adapting to increasing climate variability and environmental shocks by:

- Promoting climate-adaptive livestock systems, such as drought-tolerant breeds, fodder production or seasonal mobility.
- Supporting preparedness planning, including the development of early warning systems and community-based risk mitigation measures.

By combining technical support with community-driven approaches, we support vulnerable populations anticipate, respond to, and recover from climate-related challenges, safeguarding their livelihoods and food security in an increasingly unpredictable climate.

OUR ACTIONS



INCLUSIVE VALUE CHAINS

VSF International supports producers (especially smallholders and marginalized groups) to access markets, improve product quality, and increase their bargaining power.

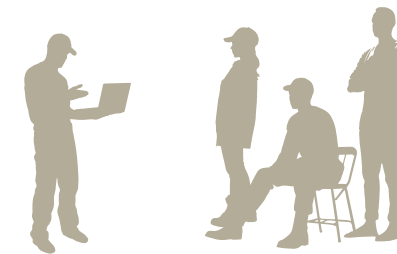
- We facilitate training in sustainable production, focusing on product quality improvement and hygiene, which is particularly important for food of animal origin.
- We enhance linkages between producers, processors, and consumers, and promote fair trade practices.

By fostering equitable participation and transparent partnerships across the value chain, VSF International ensures that benefits are fairly shared, contributing to improved incomes, food security, and community development.

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YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

In many rural areas, women and young people have limited access to land, credit, training, and markets, and often face restrictive social norms that constrain their full participation in livestock and agricultural value chains. VSF International works to remove these obstacles by supporting the active involvement of women and youth in livestock production, natural resource management, and decision-making processes.

- We provide training, leadership development, and access to resources, credit and markets, enabling women and young people to become key drivers of sustainable livelihoods.

Through these efforts, we foster gender equality, economic inclusion, and the creation of opportunities that build the skills and confidence needed for long-term community resilience and prosperity.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE BUILDING

VSF International provides rapid support during emergencies, particularly in regions affected by conflict, drought, or disease outbreaks.

- We provide immediate veterinary care, restock livestock, and restore essential services to protect livelihoods during disasters.
- We strengthen long-term resilience through risk reduction strategies, capacity building, and the promotion of sustainable practices that help communities better prepare for, respond, and recover from future shocks.



ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS RAISING

VSF International actively engages in advocacy and awareness raising to influence policies and practices that support sustainable livestock development and rural livelihoods.

- Through targeted campaigns and strategic partnerships, we raise awareness on critical issues such as animal health, pastoralist's rights, food security, gender equality, and climate resilience, driving positive change for vulnerable populations.
- We support capacity building for civil society and producer organizations so they can effectively participate in decision-making processes.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

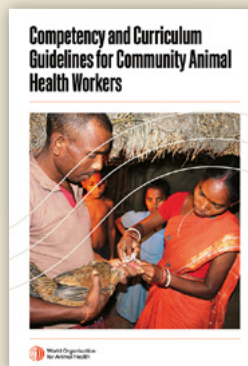


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A MAJOR STEP FORWARD FOR GLOBAL RECOGNITION OF CAHWS

In 2024, the project on **Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs)**, implemented together by VSF International and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), has produced some landmark documents and guidelines to support the formal recognition of CAHWs and best practices for CAHW project implementation.

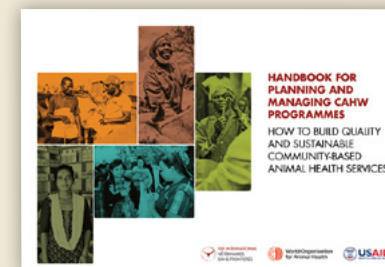
Following three years of preparatory work involving stakeholders mapping, a literature review, case studies, and active engagement with experts and CAHW training providers, the project produced two major outputs.



COMPETENCY AND CURRICULUM GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY ANIMAL HEALTH WORKERS (CAHWS)

The WOAH **Competency and Curriculum Guidelines for Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs)** set out the essential knowledge and competencies that CAHWs should acquire. The aim is to ensure that training programmes offer a common set of core competencies that are recognised by public and private animal health services, thereby building trust within communities and delivering high-quality services. The guidelines also provide a framework for harmonised training, enabling regulatory bodies to set qualifications for CAHW registration. This helps to better recognize and monitor the contributions of CAHWs to the veterinary workforce and national animal health services.

<https://www.woah.org/en/document/competency-and-curriculum-guidelines-for-community-animal-health-workers/>



HANDBOOK FOR PLANNING AND MANAGING CAHW

VSF International's **Handbook for planning and managing CAHW** is a practical guide designed to support private, public and civil society organisations, along with their financial partners, in implementing sustainable community-based animal health services. Complementing the WOAH guidelines, it focuses on sustainability factors for successful programmes and improves future approaches to CAHW training and deployment.

Additionally, the Handbook offers practical recommendations for Veterinary statutory bodies, veterinary services, and line ministries in countries considering formally recognising CAHWs as official members of their animal health workforce.

<https://vsf-international.org/handbook-cahw-programmes/>





To promote the uptake of the recommendations and guidelines, the project had planned to organise regional workshops in West Africa, East Africa, and Southeast Asia. Unfortunately, the USAID funding cuts that hit the humanitarian and development community worldwide in January 2025 also affected the CAHW project, which was entirely financed by USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance. The project was halted just before the regional workshops could be organised and efforts to disseminate the two key documents could gain momentum.

Despite the funding challenges, we will continue to seek innovative solutions and new partnerships to continue our commitment to high-quality community-based animal health services. Our focus remains on ensuring that the recommendations and guidelines are accessible and widely disseminated to all stakeholders to ensure a sustainable future for CAHWs and the communities they serve.



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FINANCE

Overall, in 2024 the VSF International network had a total income of € 68.43 million.

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

In 2024, the total income of the VSF International coordination office was € 280,895.

The VSF International coordination office is financially supported by the members' contributions and by the generous support of donors.

€ 68.43
MILLION
total income

© VWB North America



GOVERNANCE

VSF International is a non-profit organisation (a.i.s.b.l. in French) registered in Belgium. It is governed by a General Assembly composed of all the members of the network, with senior management providing representation. The General Assembly meets annually to define the organisation's global vision and strategy, approve the financial statements and budgets, and elect the Board every two years. The Board implements the decisions of the General Assembly while supporting the coordination office's day-to-day activities in Brussels. Board members also participate in various working groups focusing on specific themes, alongside 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.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD*

- **Giorgia Angeloni**
VSF Italy — President
- **Carline Mainenti**
AVSF, France — Vice-president
- **Peter Van Der Jagt**
VSF Belgium — Treasurer
- **Miriam Morhart**
VSF Germany
- **Charmaine Brett-Mills**
VWB North America

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Executive Director, AVSF - France
- **Charmaine Brett-Mills**
Executive Director, VWB North America
- **Mike Burke**
Executive Director, VWB Ireland
- **Piero Casale**
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Managing Director, VSF Czech Republic
- **Dagmar Schoder**
President, VSF Austria
- **Joep Van Mierlo**
Executive Director, VSF Belgium

* as of June 2025

PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

WE ARE MEMBER OF



Action
for Animal
Health



PREZODE



One
Sustainable
Health



United
Against
Rabies



GALVmed
Protecting Livestock - Improving Human Lives



Antimicrobial
Resistance (AMR)
Multi-Stakeholder
Partnership Platform
Catalyzing a global movement for action against AMR



GLOBAL AGENDA FOR
SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK



GLOBAL
FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER
Strengthening Humanitarian Response

WE SUPPORT





VSF INTERNATIONAL
VÉTÉRINAIRES
SANS FRONTIÈRES

Vétérinaires Sans Frontières
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