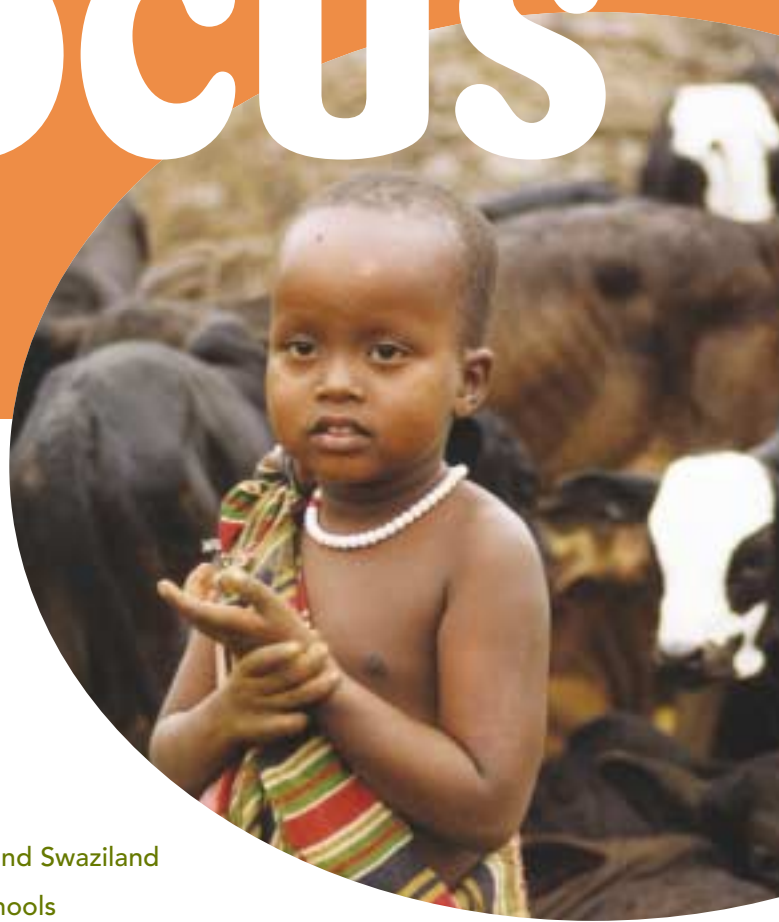


# a year in focus

annual review 2003/04



## Achievements 2003/04

Two new projects in Mozambique

New project in Kenya

New project in Tanzania

Marathon runners raise £15,000

Made £32,500 surplus

Jonathan Dimbleby Radio 4 appeal raises £17,000

Proposals in for Somaliland, Ethiopia, Angola, Kenya and Swaziland

New Development Education project with Scottish schools

Updating all promotional and fundraising material

Opportunity to be sponsored by a vet training company

Passed Investors in People renewal with flying colours

Fundraising competition for vet students

[www.vetaid.org](http://www.vetaid.org)





Swaziland chickens distributed to HIV/AIDS households in Tanzania

## Mozambique and NGOs

Over the last year VETAID Mozambique has established a project in partnership with national NGOs in little-developed districts of Maputo province. The main objectives of this project are to contribute to poverty reduction through securing land rights, to promote participation in decision making at district level by poor agriculturalists and to influence local decisions in favour of pro-poor policies, with the aim of improving the quality of and access to government services. This has involved many meetings, awareness campaigns, lobbying and capacity building within the communities. The design of community development strategies is underway, with a strong emphasis on a sustainable use of the resources available.

In 2004 two new food security projects started in Gaza and Inhambane provinces, in partnership with national NGOs. These are areas regularly subjected to drought and, as in Maputo province, are affected by increases in mortality and morbidity attributable to

HIV/AIDS. Relationships are currently being built with the communities and partners, whilst extension work has started and further field work will begin soon.

Activities such as training and supporting community based animal health workers, establishing community veterinary pharmacies, promoting citrus production, distributing ploughs, donkeys, panniers and carts are planned for Inhambane. In Gaza the project will also train and support community based animal health workers and will distribute goats, cattle, ploughs and carts, offer training to farmers, promote community farmers' associations and combine agricultural extension with marketing of produce.

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## Swaziland chickens

The pilot project in Sigombeni district, Swaziland, in partnership with the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society to increase the food security of people affected by HIV/AIDS through breeding naked neck chickens has now closed. Flocks of 8 naked neck chickens were distributed to the beneficiaries. Those not included in the first round of distribution are now receiving chicks from the first beneficiaries, thus the benefits of the project are spreading further within Sigombeni. Homesteads began breeding, eating and selling eggs as soon as the distributed chickens started laying, and once the flock was of a reasonable size they were also able to eat and sell the chickens. This increase in egg and chicken production has led to improvements in the nutritional, financial and capital status of beneficiary homesteads.

These improvements have taken the form of an increase in protein intake (the number of homesteads eating eggs has more than doubled), sale of eggs and chickens (the number of eggs eaten or sold each month has tripled and the number of chickens eaten or sold each month has increased 800%!) and improved their wealth base through having chickens to breed.

The sustainability of the project is guaranteed as the chickens are hardy and productive and do not depend on expensive feeds to remain productive, subsisting well on maize and whatever else they find whilst scratching. We are actively fundraising to continue this successful work in other areas of Swaziland.

## Tanzania partnership

This year VETAID Tanzania has been working in partnership with the Archdiocese of Arusha on a project which aims to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on local families. This project tackles the roots of poverty where women, who have lost everything, struggle to survive and look after their families.

The project is improving the food security of 100 affected households by distributing breeding flocks of chickens to each household and delivering training in poultry management. Children in the project families are now able to eat eggs and meat more often and family incomes have increased substantially through the sale of eggs and chicks. A measure of project success suggested by the beneficiaries is the fact that all families are able to purchase kerosene for their kerosene lamps. Each family is therefore able to have light at night, significantly improving their standard of living.

Each family received one cockerel and five hens; the chicks that have hatched as a result of this have been sufficient to provide birds for new group members.

A workshop was held to evaluate last year's Participatory Epidemiology Project and it was agreed that the project has had an exceptionally positive effect on disease reporting frequency.

An additional project has been extremely successful in setting up an active network of 19 community animal health workers in the Loliondo and Sale Divisions of Ngorongoro District.

A recent visit by a private vet has prompted him to rent a room in Malambo in preparation for a private veterinary centre. If this happens it will be the first of its kind in such a remote area of Tanzania.

VETAID has received funding from the Big Lottery Fund to continue our Maasai Pastoralist Development Programme for 2 years. This project will enable VETAID Tanzania and our local partners to work

with Maasai communities over a wider area, increasing food security through improved animal health services and greater access to grazing land and water. The project will also train villagers in managing the development process in their communities.

## Support in Kenya

Our recently opened Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya offers important local support to all VETAID's programmes in Africa.

This year also saw the launch of the Kenya programme, with project work starting in Machakos District in July. Around one in ten of the population in this area is HIV positive and many families have lost the most agriculturally productive family members to the disease. Responsibility for the family welfare falls to widows, children or grandparents, who often lack the skills and resources needed. VETAID is supporting affected families through a number of activities designed to increase food security and income. For example, each household will receive 2 or 3 goats, a small breeding flock of chickens and training in livestock-keeping. Families will also be encouraged to cultivate kitchen gardens with nutritional low management crops to improve the family nutrition. Local community-based organisations will receive a pair of oxen and a plough to enable them to assist disadvantaged families in cultivating their land effectively.

Families will also be encouraged to cultivate kitchen gardens with nutritional low management crops to improve the family nutrition.



Two beneficiaries of our project in Arusha



Young boy looking after goats in Tanzania

VETAID has received funding from the Big Lottery Fund to continue our Maasai Pastoralist Development Programme.

## At work in Somaliland

Over the past year VETAID in Somaliland has:

- Trained 60 Community-based Animal/Human Health Workers, almost an equal number of male and female in 30 villages and equipped them with drugs and equipment worth £250 per person
- Trained 126 rural women on managing credit and provided revolving loans to help them in their small businesses
- Created a blueprint for Pastoral Association and shared it with a wider audience and was endorsed by the Ministry of Pastoral Development and Environment
- Created a first draft of Pesticide Legislation, compiled and presented to a stakeholder workshop
- Provided training in poultry keeping to 10 farmers who later received watering/feeding equipment and samples of recommended mixture of chicken feed
- Given technical refresher training in natural resource management to 28 Ministry of Pastoral Development field staff
- Trained 12 people from the Ministry of Agriculture to develop their 3-year strategic plan
- Found research funding for gathering information and statistical data of economic importance and related to institutional and non-institutional domestic and international markets in the main towns of Hargeisa, Burao, Berbera, and Borama.

## International conference

In November 2003 VETAID Mozambique organized an international conference on *Mitigating the Effects of HIV/AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security in Eastern and Southern Africa*. The conference was attended by participants from 18 countries and offered a chance to share experiences, discuss the merits of new strategies to mitigate the effects of HIV/AIDS, and review how HIV/AIDS is impacting on food security and the agricultural sector. It also created an environment in which they could reflect on the best way forward for themselves and their institutions and presented the opportunity for practitioners and those who work to lessen the effects of HIV/AIDS to put together recommendations for all the stakeholders involved in the future of HIV/AIDS impact mitigation. Recommendations included such topics as using a food security response, providing adequate resources and capacity, using appropriate Monitoring and Evaluation systems, promoting information sharing and collaboration, the role of national AIDS councils and Ministries of Agriculture, approaching mitigation from a holistic perspective and supporting existing community structures and coping mechanisms. To download the summary and full reports see the VETAID website [www.vetaid.org](http://www.vetaid.org).

## Results for the year

VETAID has managed to make a small surplus for the first time in several years due to careful control of expenditure and active fundraising. This surplus has enabled us to reinvest in VETAID by increasing our capacity to tender for more projects and extending the impact of our work to many more regions.

During the 03/04 financial year we undertook a comprehensive review of our UK functions and reduced administrative and fundraising costs by 40%. As we look to the future these costs will increase once again but will be more focused on service delivery to our overseas projects and the support of our stakeholders.

We would like to thank all our donors for their continued support. This is even more critical as we move forward to ensure we have correct structures in place which enable us to capitalise on opportunities in the field as they arise.

If you would like a full copy of our annual accounts, please contact Louise McAndie at our office address.

## Future plans

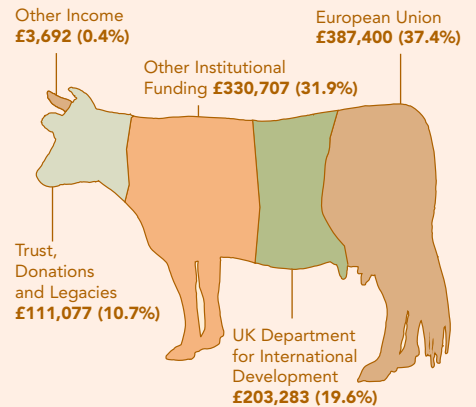
The future for VETAID is currently very exciting. The growth of the charity has enabled us to take on new projects on top of our continuing work. There are two additional food security projects in Mozambique which will last for four years. These will enable us to help thousands more people in South Inhambane and Gaza regions which have been badly affected by the impact of the war, the floods of 2000 and persistent unreliable rainy seasons. There is also a new Pastoral Development Programme in Tanzania which is a two year project covering the region of Simanjiro. This will enable us to continue our work with the Maasai communities, increasing food security through access to grazing land and water, improved animal health services and income generation activities.

Your contribution to VETAID will enable us to deliver this vital work.

VETAID Ltd  
A Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registered in Scotland – Company No 121960  
Scottish Charity No SC004913  
VETAID is part of the Moredun Group,  
Patron HRH The Princess Royal  
Audited financial facts for the year ended  
31st March 2004

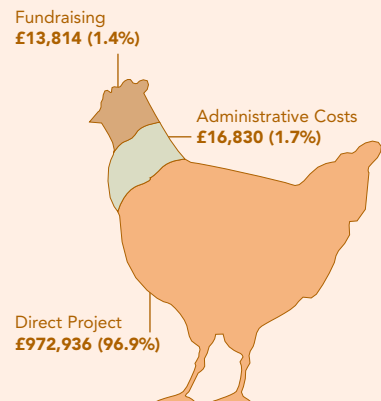
## Sources of income

Total **£1,036,159**



## Sources of expenditure

Total **£1,003,580**



# Fundraising Report



Our runners Jane and Deborah finishing the London Marathon

## Our thanks

Our thanks go to Jane Corley and Deborah Bearder and all who sponsored their run in the 2004 London Marathon on behalf of VETAID. Conditions were far from ideal but Jane and Deborah crossed the finish together after 5 hours. Their efforts raised a tremendous total of almost £5,600 for VETAID.

More marathon efforts were made in Edinburgh on 13 June when a team of five completed the 26.2 mile course on behalf of VETAID and raised an astounding total of almost £10,000. The weather was fine, if a little breezy, and having survived the "warm-up" (around Arthur's Seat), all went on to finish in good time. Some are even considering a re-run in 2005! Struthers & Scott in Doune receive our vote as fittest vet surgery in the country (challengers welcome!) as they alone managed to supply us with three runners – Kenny Lang, Colin Scott and Ian Rodger. A last minute knee injury prevented Ian from running on the day but he will complete the Dublin marathon later in the year to make up for it. Our other runners were Gavin Durston, Jim Hope and Elizabeth Martin.

**A team of five completed the 26.2 mile course on behalf of VETAID and raised an astounding total of almost £10,000.**

For the fifth year running, Duncan MacIntyre from Bute Vets completed the 10K road race at the Isle of Bute Highland Games in support of VETAID. Duncan was less pleased than usual with his time but all at VETAID are delighted by his loyal and continued support. To date, his efforts have raised more than £3,300.

## Successful events

Other successful fundraising events included a sponsored zipline at the end of August, when five thrill-seekers jumped from the 180 foot high Finnieston crane in Glasgow for a breath taking zipline across the River Clyde and on Sunday 5 September, a team of six from Woodlands Veterinary Clinic in Cheltenham visited Blue Planet Aquarium in Cheshire for a sponsored Dive with Sharks.

Congratulations and thanks to all our fundraisers, their supporters and sponsors for giving their time, energy and money in support of VETAID's valuable work. We really appreciate it and please remember almost anything can become a fundraising event, so if you are considering some kind of personal challenge in the next year, don't just do it – do it for VETAID!

## Radio 4 appeal

In November 2003 VETAID was allocated an appeal on Radio 4. Billy Connolly agreed to do the voice-over and we hoped for the £12,000 that we had raised three years earlier for a similar appeal. A week or so before the programme was scheduled for recording disaster struck. Billy Connolly was ill and could not get to a studio. We had to find someone else, quickly. With every cloud there is a silver lining the saying goes and our silver lining turned out to be Jonathan Dimpleby. Jonathan knew about what we did, is an organic farmer himself and had visited Somaliland which was the focus of our appeal. Jonathan did the appeal and the rest as they say is history. We raised over £17,000, more than we could possibly have hoped for and we are still receiving enquiries to this very day. Our deepest thanks to Jonathan Dimpleby and to all those who contributed to the appeal.

## Investors in people



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The time came around again to be reviewed for renewal of our Investors in People award.

We were assessed and passed with flying colours. To quote from their report: 'VETAID is a very dynamic organisation operating in challenging areas in Africa. It is a small organisation but its impact is large. It operates and supports the people it is serving and as such is a catalyst. Its people are continually "handing their knowledge on to others". During the visit the passion and "love of what we do" to achieve VETAID's aims and objectives was very evident by all interviewed both in the UK and Africa.'

## Improve International

Improve CPD was established in 1998 by a group of veterinary surgeons from across the UK, including a number of recognised experts. The primary mission of the company is to provide the highest quality professional development in a format that allows delegates to develop their skills and knowledge in a logical and progressive fashion, under the supervision of dedicated Course Directors each of whom has the highest qualifications in his or her field. Improve International will make a donation to VETAID for every delegate registering on an Improve CPD course between August 2004 and July 2005. In addition, they are encouraging delegates to consider adding a small donation themselves.

## Development education

Life size fibre-glass cows and African gum boot dancing, just a couple of the things I have found myself researching in my first months at VETAID! My name is Sarah Brown and I joined the VETAID team in June as Development Education Coordinator. The project I have been employed for is called *Raising Global Awareness through the Arts*. The majority of my work will take place in schools, running interactive, creative workshops to raise the global awareness of Scottish students between 10 and 14 years old.

In October I visited VETAID projects in Kenya and Tanzania where I collected information on the lives of local children including Maasai youngsters. I also collected information on, and examples of, local arts and crafts; these will be used to offer UK youngsters an inspiring insight into a culture very different from their own.

Alongside working with Scottish young people I plan to establish links and partnerships with African schools. The results of these partnerships will input into further outreach in the form of displays and activities at festivals and shows throughout Scotland. The project also includes presenting training workshops for teachers and students in initial teacher education. Through delivering information and ideas at this level it is hoped that the education work will continue long after VETAID's intervention. I look forward to keeping you updated on how this project develops. For more information I can be contacted at the VETAID office and online at [sarah@vetaid.org](mailto:sarah@vetaid.org).



Jonathan Dimbleby on his organic farm in Herefordshire

We raised over £17,000, more than we could possibly have hoped for and we are still receiving enquiries to this very day.

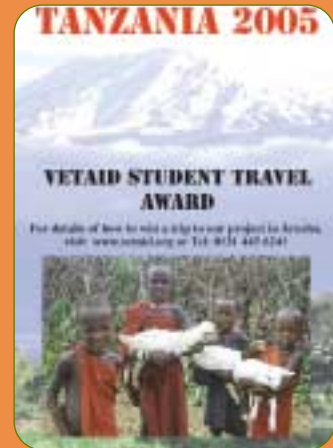
## Memorial for Graeme Thirlwell

Graeme Thirlwell died following a tragic accident in August 2003 whilst on holiday in France. Graeme was instrumental in founding VETAID back in 1988 during his postgraduate studies in Edinburgh and he continued to be an active advocate of the organisation's commitment to providing basic veterinary support to farmers and their animals in the developing world. Some of his colleagues felt it would be appropriate to establish a fund in his memory.

We have decided to set up the Graeme Thirlwell Student Award which will provide the opportunity for veterinary students to visit VETAID projects in Africa as part of their extramural studies.

We felt that this would be an issue close to Graeme's heart as he believed it important that younger members of the profession are able to experience the joys and frustrations of working in the developing world.

The award will be offered annually to a UK or Ireland veterinary student who manages to fundraise the greatest amount for VETAID in the preceding year. It will enable the student to visit and work on the VETAID project in northern Tanzania for a three week period in the summer. On return to the UK the student will be asked to write about their experience for publication.



VETAID student travel award

## Staff

Over the last year there have been many staff movements, Pauline Ormsby joined as an Admin Assistant, Leonie Fraser our Fundraiser, left for maternity leave and Jackie Stewart joined to cover for Leonie's absence. Jenny Schwarz (who worked for VETAID some years ago) rejoined as Projects Coordinator and Sarah Brown came to VETAID as our Development Education Officer. Lastly Connie Berridge our Finance Manager of 3 years left to go home to Australia. She was replaced by Louise McAndie from the Scottish Agricultural College. In Mozambique our Country Programme Coordinator, Kees Groenindijk has resigned and was replaced by Emma Bradley who has been working with VETAID in Mozambique for many years.

## Trustees

The essence of a good organisation is its trustees. This year we see the retirement of Richard Meade who had been on VETAID's board for over 5 years. We thank Richard for his positive contributions and his knowledge of finance. We welcome Irene Adams who has lived and worked in South Africa, was a director at Deutsche Asset Management and is currently working with Sir Robert Smith on several projects, including building a "Puffer" which will be used for leisure purposes on the Forth and Clyde Canal.

We would like to express our thanks to all our Trustees for their continued support and commitment.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

