

# a year in focus

annual review 2004/05



## Achievements 2004/05

- VETAID raises £1.3m in the year
- VETAID assists over 1 million people
- School development projects targets 700 children
- Launch of Student Travel Award
- VETAID features in TV programme with BBC Scotland
- Bringing CowParade to Edinburgh in 2006
- Organises climb of Mount Kilimanjaro

## New Projects:

- Promoting the Rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS – Tanzania
- Machakos HIV/AIDS Impact Mitigation through Community-Based Agricultural Development – Kenya
- Pastoral Livelihoods Development Project – Somalia
- Sool Plateau Pastoral Food Security Project – Somalia

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





Young orphans outside their home in Kenya

## Kenya

Six-year old Mainga Wambna (second from left) lives with his grandmother and siblings in Machakos District, Eastern Province, Kenya. They cultivate a small plot of land. Orphaned at two, Mainga lost both his parents to HIV/AIDS.

Supported by VETAID's **HIV/AIDS Impact Mitigation through community-based agricultural development** project to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on the most vulnerable households in poor agricultural communities, the family has received three goats, a small flock of breeding poultry and training in livestock keeping and gardening. This has improved nutrition and provided an income from selling eggs and surplus produce. The first offspring from the poultry and goats will be passed on to another family in the area.

VETAID supports affected families through initiatives to increase food security and income. These are low-input and low-management as families are often unable to manage more demanding activities.

Child and elderly-headed households who have lost the breadwinner to HIV/AIDS are targeted.

When young children (especially girls) in agricultural communities lose their parents, they often forfeit their land and the opportunity to learn the skills they need to earn a living from farming. They are forced to sell family assets (including livestock and tools) and to switch to less nutritious, less labour-intensive crops. School attendance in these households drops dramatically.

Working with 380 households, VETAID's activities are implemented through four Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) which already assist vulnerable families. The project will also renovate 17 hand-dug wells giving access to clean, safe water.

Many households have already benefited from the pilot project which started in June 2004, supported by Jersey Overseas Aid. VETAID Kenya received £330,000 from the Big Lottery fund in May 2005 to expand this work.

VETAID has a sound reputation for the development of community agricultural responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Lessons learned during the implementation of the project will be disseminated widely to inform future policy-making of NGOs, governments and the UN.

**The pilot project in Machakos has raised the hope and self-esteem of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. The Programme Co-ordinator writes:** *"I asked one of the children how he feels about giving back a female kid from his goat herd so that it can be passed on to another family. He answered that he would be very happy and willing to help another orphaned child like he was helped to own livestock because he thought his life and that of his siblings was over with the death of their parents. Now he has some hope.*

*Another orphan told me proudly that other children in his school have started looking up to him because he tends his goats after school".*

Another orphan told me proudly that other children in his school have started looking up to him because he tends his goats after school.

## Mozambique

Farming families in rural areas of Mozambique suffered greatly as a result of the 16 year civil war, which ended in 1992. Many lost land and livestock during the conflict which ruined the country's infrastructure. About 80% of the population works in agriculture and many are dependent on livestock. A long rehabilitation process resulted in Mozambique being able to produce enough food to feed its population in 1999 for the first time since the war. However, catastrophic floods in 2000 and 2001 and subsequent droughts set back this process.

In 2004, VETAID received funding from the EC for two major food security projects in Mozambique: the **Inhambane Community Livestock Development Project** (Inhambane Province) and **Improving Food Security through Livestock and Agricultural Development** (Gaza Province).

Inhambane Province, southern Mozambique has low and irregular rainfall. With the exception of cassava and a few other drought-resistant crops, there is little potential for crop-based agriculture which requires twice the existing level of rainfall to be sustainable. The Mozambique food security update (March 2005), forecast a major crop failure due to drought this year.

Families in both districts are heavily reliant on livestock (cattle, goats and chickens) for their survival. Livestock is a food source that can be sold to buy essential items like maize and rice. Livestock diseases endanger the food security of many families. Some 40% of households lose chickens annually to Newcastle Disease, which is easily preventable through vaccination.

Key to the programme is a community-based animal health scheme.

VETAID has trained 60 community animal health workers (CAHW) to provide accessible and affordable animal health care. The CAHW are selected from target communities in close collaboration with community leaders and experts from the district office of agriculture. Trainees have practised diagnosing diseases and giving treatments, learning about dosages and administering drugs. Over 1,000 animals have been treated for ailments such as ticks and tick-borne diseases, wounds and internal parasites. Trainees have also conducted Newcastle Disease and Foot & Mouth Disease vaccinations.

In addition to CAHW training, vulnerable families are being re-stocked with cattle, goats and chickens. Project staff are working with communities to provide livestock infrastructure, such as treatment corridors and dip tanks. In addition, teaching ox-ploughing will enable farmers to cultivate larger areas more quickly, critical in a country with a short growing season.

Livestock health and productivity is improving, increasing food security and drought preparedness for at least 5,000 farming families. For example, through re-stocking, vaccination and treatment, average chicken flock sizes per family will triple, providing households with a cheap and easily manageable source of protein.



Ploughing in progress in Mozambique

Livestock are a food source that can be sold to buy essential items like maize and rice.



Local mothers attending a meeting to elect a Village Development Committee in Nabarera Village, Simanjiro District.

## Tanzania

VETAID's **Maasai Pastoralist Development Programme** (funded by the Big Lottery Fund) in northern Tanzania is progressing well. Food security for Maasai pastoralists has increased through improved animal health services and greater access to grazing land and water. The project is also promoting income generation schemes, such as leather tanning. The Village Development Committee plays a key role in ensuring that assistance is given to the families most in need.

Key achievements include:

- Training and equipping 43 Community Animal Health Workers
- Setting up three veterinary drug pharmacies in local villages
- Field and laboratory trials on the effect of the plant *Commiphora swynnertonii* on animal ticks and fleas. Laboratory results show that at 100% concentration the plant sap kills 100% of tick larvae and fleas. Field trials show that the sap diluted with 25% water kills all ticks and fleas
- Work has started on renovating the leather tanning facility
- Village development plans have been finalised for Lendenai and Orkutu villages in Nabarera Ward, south of Arusha. The Lendenai plan has been approved by the development committee and is due to be submitted to the district government for funding.

The Village Development Committee plays a key role in ensuring that assistance is given to the families most in need.

In June 2005, VETAID Tanzania was successful in securing £495,000 from the Department for International Development (DFID) for a project, **Promoting the Rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS**. Within Tanzania, HIV/AIDS has spread rapidly to rural communities. The national average for sexually active adults infected with HIV/AIDS is 12%. In the project area, HIV/AIDS peaks at 30% in Simanjiro district.

A major cause of poverty for families affected by HIV/AIDS is a lack of knowledge of the rights of inheritance and a lack of support mechanisms to help people retain what is rightfully theirs. Widows who have lost their husbands to the virus have been stripped of assets and left homeless. Although current law allows women to inherit land from their husbands, it stipulates that, where land is communally owned, inheritance is governed by community tribal customs. This commonly leads to the exclusion of women who are traditionally cared for by their husband's family and are not considered to have any need for land. The inclusion of HIV/AIDS into this scenario means that the husband's family often rejects the widow and her children, leaving them with no land or assets.

This project will address the inheritance rights issue. It will also tackle the more immediate food security needs by promoting labour-saving agricultural methods suited to households with limited resources.

## Somalia

The **Pastoral Livelihoods Development Project** (with two-year funding from Comic Relief) started in December 2004, with a follow-up to the programme completed in March. It aims to improve the welfare and livelihoods of poor and disadvantaged pastoralists (nomadic herders) and agro-pastoralists living in Somaliland. Key activities include:

- increasing access to human and animal health services
- improving crop and fodder production
- protecting land rights
- soil and water conservation schemes
- assisting local institutions with training infrastructure and project support



Demonstration farm in Somalia

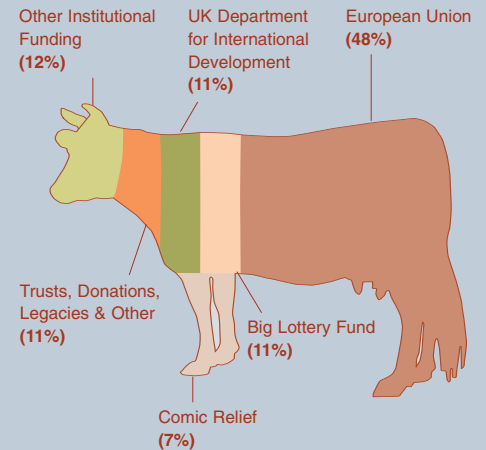
### Achievements so far:

- refresher training for 35 Community Human and Animal Health Workers
- developing training material on fodder production, soil and water conservation for farmers
- establishing three fodder production demonstration plots
- twelve farmers in Beer village have been selected and trained as agricultural extension agents. They pass on alternative production techniques directly to other farmers in their community
- project planning, implementation and training needs analysis for local NGO partner organisations Sanaag Agricultural Development Organisation (SADO) and Awdal Relief and Development Association (ARDA)
- launching *VETSAAR*, a quarterly newsletter published jointly with VETAID
- updating local and international organisations, government bodies and UN agencies on project activities and learning through SADO and ARDA
- best-performing crop and fodder seeds experiments for Somaliland soil in association with the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

VETAID's Somalia programme received over £500,000 from the EC to fund the **Sool Plateau Pastoral Food Security Project**, which began in June 2005. This will expand VETAID's work beyond Somaliland into Puntland and other areas of Somalia.

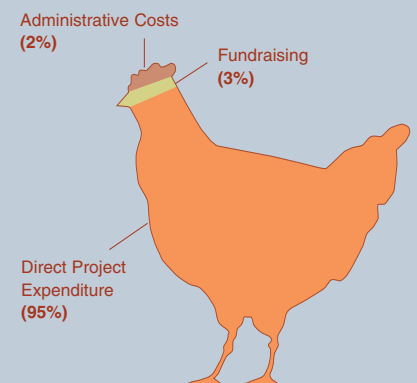
## Sources of income

Total £1,351,457



## Sources of expenditure

Total £1,371,892



If you would like a full copy of our annual accounts, please contact:

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An example of a painted cow in Manchester

## The cows are coming to town!

VETAID is thrilled to announce that in 2006 Edinburgh is hosting CowParade, the world's largest public art event! Working with CowParade will raise VETAID's profile and also maintain awareness of the issues raised by 2005's unprecedented campaign, Make Poverty History.

### What is Cow Parade?

CowParade has taken place in many countries but this is its first visit to Scotland. The Parade consists of over 100 fibre-glass cows. These will be decorated by artists and local community groups, attached onto concrete blocks and displayed throughout the city for two months starting in mid-May. The decoration of the cows is spectacular. Last year Manchester's CowParade included football themed *Daisy Beckham*, rugby's *Jonny Milkson* and *Alphadite*, Goddess of Shopping!

Following the display, the cows will be auctioned with 75% of funds raised going to the associated charities. CowParade Edinburgh is supporting VETAID and OneCity Trust.

This year has seen VETAID's education programme go from strength to strength.

## Development education in the UK

This year has seen VETAID's education programme go from strength to strength thanks to the enthusiastic response of Scottish school children and their teachers. Over 700 pupils have been involved with VETAID, developing their understanding of livestock-dependent lifestyles and acknowledging their influence as Global citizens.

Pupils from St Matthew's Primary School, Rosewell, chose to focus on Kenya and developing the Raising Global Awareness Project into the curriculum. The outcome was a wonderful celebration night where work was displayed, African foods enjoyed and drama performed to an appreciative audience of parents, teachers, the local Provost and Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs).

It is not only in the classroom that VETAID has been raising awareness. We also provided educational activities at many summer shows and events. The most demanding was the Royal Highland Show (near Edinburgh) where we were visited by hundreds of school children, numerous families and her Royal Highness Princess Anne.

VETAID is proud to be a member of the Make Poverty History coalition. We have been working to raise public awareness about the key topics of Trade, Aid and Debt. Activities to illustrate these issues included the production of banners. One banner, produced with youngsters from Peebles, Scotland, was passed to a group of cyclists who took it to Tanzania. In response, local Tanzanian youngsters created another banner which was returned to Scotland by the cyclists in time for the G8 summit.

If you would like VETAID's Education Coordinator to visit your school, hold a stand at an event or to give a talk, please contact Sarah at the office.

## Fundraising update

In the first year of the **Student Travel Award** (in memory of Graeme Thirlwell, a founding member of VETAID) students competed to raise funds for VETAID. The winner, Jessica Thornton from Royal Veterinary College London, travelled to Tanzania in August. Working closely with Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW) trained by VETAID, a report of her work will be published in veterinary journals and on our website. Entry details for this annual award are available from the VETAID office.

Our thanks to the three runners and 1 relay team in June's **Edinburgh Marathon** who raised over £3,100 for VETAID. All finished in excellent times, and we hope they will consider running again in 2006! Sarah and Pauline manned our charity stand, distributing information on VETAID and encouraging people to run for us next year. If you would like to run for VETAID, please contact Leonie at the office.

The **BBC** contacted us earlier in the year and asked to film our projects in Tanzania. The **Landward** television programme was aired in May on BBC Scotland. It showed that our work in Tanzania is vital to the survival of Maasai communities. By providing better access to livestock health and resources, building on traditional practices, we are increasing both the knowledge and ability of these herders to improve the quality of their own life. Our projects also featured on **BBC Radio Scotland** earlier in the year.

In October, we hosted a **Comedy Evening** at the Stand Comedy Club in Edinburgh. Some of Scotland's finest bright hopes and other established performers are waiving fees and donating their time to VETAID. Our thanks go to the local businesses who donated prizes for the raffle, and helped make the evening a success.

In February 2006, over 20 people are climbing **Mount Kilimanjaro** to raise funds for VETAID. Kilimanjaro is one of Africa's most magnificent sights, and, at 5,985m, her highest peak. Ascending by the Marangu Route, hikers will pass through tropical forest, alpine meadows and across a barren landscape to the snow-capped summit of Kibo. We wish our hikers a safe and successful trip and will publish a progress update on our website.

Our **website** has been revamped to make it simpler and easier to understand. It contains a basic review of our current projects and fundraising events, but more information can be obtained from the office.

Finally, our sincere **thanks** go to all our fundraisers, supporters and sponsors for their time, energy and money. Special thanks go to *Elanco Animal Health* who continue to sponsor the printing of our appeals including this publication. Without this support, our work could not continue, so please keep helping in whatever way you can. If you have fundraising ideas or want to participate in any events on VETAID's behalf, please contact the office for a fundraising pack.



Marathon runner at the start of the race

We wish our hikers a safe and successful trip and will publish a progress update on our website.



## Staff

Over the past year, we have worked hard to ensure the smooth running of VETAID, both in the UK and overseas. There have been no changes to the core staff, and contact details can be found on our website at <http://www.vetaid.org/contact-vetaid.asp>.

Our thanks go to our **Trustees**, who continue to give the support and commitment needed. This year we welcomed Namasiku Liandu to the Board. A Chartered Accountant lecturing in Accounting and Finance at the University of Abertay, Dundee, Mr Liandu was born in Zambia. We are sure Mr Liandu's financial experience and knowledge of Africa will prove invaluable to VETAID.

## Trustees

Declan McKeever (Chair)

Irene Adams

Guy Freeland

Dennis Hagan

Douglas Hutchison

Namasiku Liandu

Neil Philp

Hugh Reid



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