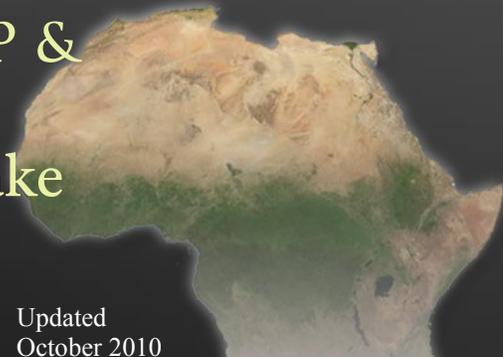




U.S. Army Civil Affairs VETCAP & Community Animal Health Worker Training Programs Make An Impact in Uganda

U.S. Africa Command Vignette

Updated
October 2010



“SPRING recommends that a USAID implementing partner or project partner with the Ugandan Veterinary Association (UVA) to link with the current CJTF-HOA’s VETCAP programs in Karamoja to provide additional business planning and management training so that more private veterinarians can qualify for the UVA loan guarantee program thereby increasing access to private veterinary care for livestock owners.” USAID-SPRING Continuity and Opportunities Assessment

Overview

U.S. Army Civil Affairs Teams conducts Veterinary Civil Action Programs (VETCAP’s) and Community Animal Health Worker training in Uganda. These programs have lead to the creation of jobs and made a positive impact on the availability and access to animal health services in the region.

The Participants

The Community Animal Health Worker courses are conducted in partnership with Uganda Peoples’ Defense Forces (UPDF), Civil Military Coordination Center (CMCC), and various local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

Objectives

The primary objective of the Community Animal Health Worker training is to teach local veterinary students common livestock diseases and treatments, social issues affecting the agro-pastoral community, and how to use veterinary tools and medicines. The training also allows the students to discuss issues that affect their varying communities and tribes in a safe environment.



MOROTO, Uganda - U.S. Army Colonel Robert Adamson of the 353rd Functional Specialty Team communicates with a local villager about his livestock in Moroto, Uganda, September 1, 2010. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christine Clark)

Bottom Line

U.S. Army Civil Affairs programs in Uganda lead to the creation of jobs and improved access to animal health services.

Outcome

USAID’s Stability Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Uganda (SPRING) Continuity and Opportunities Assessment states, in January 2009 a grant agreement with the Ugandan Veterinary Association (UVA) was signed for the *Promotion of Livestock Health Services (PLHS)* Project in Gulu and Amuru.

The project empowered ten local private veterinarians to capitalize on the market demand created from the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) Civil Affairs team’s Veterinary Civic Action Program (VETCAP) program through dissemination of census and disease surveillance information, public information campaigns as well

as through business and vet skills training and small grants support.

As of March 31, 10 vets recorded more than \$18,500 (37,000,000 UGX) in sales of drugs and services treating close to 14,000 animals and birds servicing 1,298 farmers. Because of the stimulated demand for animal health services, the vets were able to hire an additional 40 employees in the form of vet technicians and sales agents.