

vets beyond borders



Government of Sikkim
Department of Animal Husbandry,
Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services

Sikkim Anti-Rabies and Animal Health Programme

"Achievement through cooperation"

**How has the S.A.R.A.H
Programme identified
stakeholders and maintained
their interest over 10 years?**

Dr Thinlay Bhutia and Dr Diki Sherpa

Introduction



- Brief outline of work at SARAHA (Sikkim Anti-Rabies and Animal Health)
- Who are the stakeholders for SARAHA?
- How were stakeholders initially engaged?
- How has this interest been maintain over 10 years
- Summary

SARAH Brief History



- Sikkim SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) formed 2000
- VetCharity Australia (now VBB) met to implement an ABC and AR programme, started in 2005
- SARAH came into being in March 2006 as a collaboration between;
 - Government of Sikkim
 - Bridget Bardot Foundation
 - Vets Beyond Borders (VBB)
- Surgical training provided by VBB
- 22nd April 2009 – SARAH became a Division within Animal Husbandry, Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services Department.

SARAH Purpose – current



- Control the stray dog population by humane and sustainable means
- Train local veterinary personnel in all aspects of veterinary medicine and surgery
- Improve animal welfare throughout Sikkim
- Make Sikkim Rabies Free and prevent human deaths from rabies in Sikkim

Who are the stakeholders? High-level



- State Government of Sikkim
 - Vets Beyond Borders
 - Bridgette Bardot Foundation
- Involvement of these key organisations has developed through the last decade:

Who are the stakeholders? Ground-level



- SARAH employees
- Human communities
- Veterinary Officers
- Private local vets
- Volunteer vets
- NGOs

How was stakeholder interest engaged?



In the establishing phases of SARAH the process outlined below was a key to it's on-going success:

- Inform
- Consult
- Involve
- Collaborate
- Empower

This framework is still as important today as it was in those initial phases.

How has interest been maintained?



- Clear purpose
- Communication
- Results
- Training
- Attitude – staff, leaders, locals
- Collaboration



Results



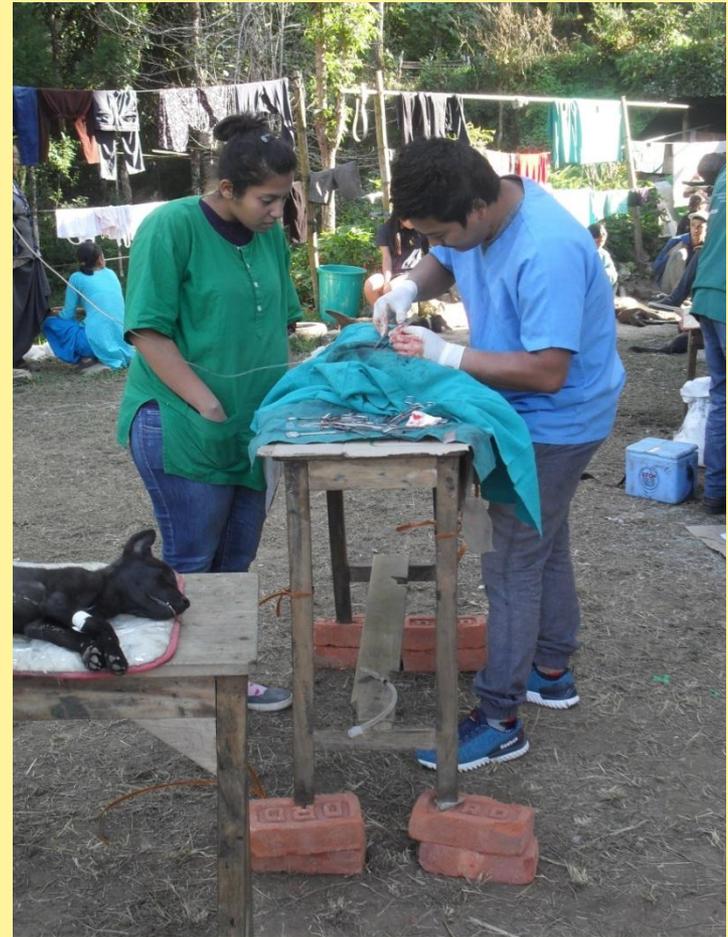
- **Timely activity**
 - Good logistics
 - Adaptable
 - Wide ranging access
- **Transparent feedback to Government and VBB**
- **Review at this level to continue to assess validity of aims and purpose**



Knowledge and Training

Collaborative process –
receipt and provision of
training

- Inclusivity in employment opportunities
- Maintaining on-going training to employees
- Local V.O.s
- Volunteers
- Other NGOs



Attitude



- **Respect**
 - Culture
 - Knowledge base
- **Lead by example**
 - Work ethic
 - Belief in cause
- **Open minded**
 - Willing to listen to alternative ideas and methods



Summary



- Key to maintaining stakeholder interest:
 - Engagement on all levels
 - Well defined purpose
 - Timely engagement
 - Respectful attitude
 - Good results
 - Consultation



Any questions?



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