

Successful Sixth LEGS Training for VetMed Students

Fourth year Faculty of Veterinary Medicine students got a rare opportunity to actively participate in the Sixth Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS).

The three-day training involved 25 participants drawn from 4th year veterinary students who are members of Veterinary Emergency Response Unit (VERU), and was conducted at CSD Seminar Room.

LEGS is a set of international standards for improving the quality of livestock programmes in humanitarian disasters based on rights. It is one of the global initiatives in enhancing quality and accountability in humanitarian action. Owing to its nature, the training entails six detailed sessions; Introduction to LEGS, Livelihood, Livestock and Emergencies, Preliminary assessments, Response identification, Analysis of technical interventions and options, and Monitoring and evaluation.

Such trainings are a true reflection of collaborative venture between World Animal Protection, FAO and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the UoN; with FAO providing all the training materials, World Animal Protection providing logistical support, and UoN offering a training venue and other support services.

World Animal Protection is supporting accreditation process for two lecturers from the Faculty, who would sustainably maintain LEGS training within the new curriculum of Animal Welfare and Disaster Management. Being the first of its kind in the world, it is expected to be a pilot test for other global universities. The success of this training will enable the Faculty to incorporate LEGS Training in its 4th year curriculum on Animal Welfare and Disaster Management. This time, on a more sustainable basis.

To date, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UoN) is the only institution of higher learning in East African Region, and indeed in the whole world, where LEGS Training is conducted for University students.

The training was successfully conducted by Dr Simon Kihu, Accredited LEGS Trainer, and Professors Charles Mulei and Henry Mutembei, both from UoN.