



VNU ASIA PACIFIC



FAVA-VNU-Regional Webinar

The Vital Role of Veterinarians during Emergencies and Disasters in Asia

**Thursday, 29 July 2021
Time 13.00 - 15.00 hrs. (GMT+7)**

Key Takeaway Messages

Countries situated within the proximity of the Pacific Ocean is at a big risk of flooding following from storm surge, earthquakes of tectonic origins and, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions.

Disaster preparedness and mitigations should be directed on understanding how these natural phenomenon takes place in order to respond effectively.

Farm and Companion Animals suffers as much as people do in disaster situations. Plans should be in placed to reduce their suffering as fast as we could and as Veterinarians it is our main duty to do so.

Dr. Rey Camuta del Napoles, DVM

Head of Veterinary and Emergency Services for Animal Kingdom Foundation

Council on Technical Standard - Companion Animals Philippine Veterinary Medical Association

Disasters man made or natural come to our lives when we least expect it. I hope to share with you my experience as a citizen and a small animal practitioner together with many others who joined together to help people and animals in their direst time of need. As a community, we can all our part and contribute to alleviate the struggles of all living things as what happened during the Taal Volcano eruption last January 12, 2020. About 2,000 displaced animals needed food water, shelter and medical care.

In response to this, our Vets In Practice Animal Community together with many others put up The Pet Shelter Project where 43 animals were given medical attention, rehabilitated, rehomed and reunified with their owners. For two months, animals were cared for while the owners in evacuation centers scrambled to get back on their feet after the devastating eruption.

Veterinarians were vital during this crisis and key to bridge together those who wanted to help, and those who needed it . It is my hope that my experience sparks inspiration in any one to take an active role in the community to help save lives by doing what is inherently natural in all of us as humans and as veterinarians - to save lives and alleviate suffering.

Dr. Margarita Carpio

Small Animal Practitioner Philippines



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Animals are affected by the same disasters as people. Communities in Batangas, Philippines, many of which are poor and vulnerable to disasters, rely heavily on livestock as a source of livelihood. Thus, livestock support after the eruption of Taal volcano in 2020 was an important component in the province's emergency response.

The Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) is a set of international guidelines and standards that could help in designing, implementing, and evaluating interventions for crisis-affected communities. Many LEGS interventions contribute and lead to improved animal welfare.

LEGS is based on three livelihood objectives: 1) to provide rapid assistance, 2) to protect livestock assets, and 3) to rebuild the livestock assets. LEGS can be used by anyone; those who are part of emergency response efforts, policy and decision-makers, the academe, and community-based organizations.

Emergencies can increase disease risk and animal vulnerability. In a rapid-onset emergency such as volcanic eruptions, veterinary support is vital from immediate aftermath to recovery, to strengthen animals and protect livestock assets. Thus, veterinarians are vital to disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts. Protect livestock to protect livelihoods.

Dr. Maria Catalina Tan de Luna

Trainer, Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards

Program Director, University of the Philippines Professional School for
Agriculture and the Environment

1. Theories of disaster management can be found from internet- many articles came from Australia, New Zealand, UK, USA and etc.
2. How to make it work in real life is the main concern now. This has clearly indicated in the Sendai Framework's targets which focusing on how to implement the things (governance, plans, activities and etc.) on the ground during the period of 2020 until 2030.
3. Make the theory work in real life is by making people and authority feel worth to do so. Because human not normally do things that they feel "not worth" to do.
4. Helping animals need input from 4 keys components: Governance, Knowledge and Understanding, Resources, and Community awareness.
5. To make those 4 key components interesting or feel worth to assistant animals, there are several factors that can drive them: Global trending, Economic – trading, Politic, Asks or demand from people and global community, Money/Funding

Dr. Naritsorn Pholperm, DVM

Animal in Disaster Expert Thailand