Veterinary Communication for Development

Tarni Cooper

Veterinary Student Special Interest Group (SIG) Conference The University of Queensland, Gatton 6th August 2014







Livestock in International Development

- The *global* context of veterinary science is a world where in our current time period (2012–14), the FAO states that 805 million people are chronically undernourished.¹

- Livestock in developing countries contribute up to 80 percent of agricultural GDP

- A recent FAO report² states that 98% of farming holdings are 'family farms' (smallholdings), of which there are more than 500 million.

Throughout the developing world, livestock are means for hundreds of millions of people to escape absolute poverty.; 600 million rural poor people rely on livestock for their livelihoods.





1. FAO (2014) 'The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2014: Strengthening the enabling environment to improve food security and nutrition', Food and Agriculture Organization of The United Nations, Available at: http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4030e.pdf

2. 2. FAOb (2014) 'Family farmers: feeding the world, caring for the earth', *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*, Available at: http://www.fao.org/docrep/019/mj760e.pdf

'A blueprint for sustainable smallholder pig production in central Vietnam'



AusAID Collaboration for Agriculture and Rural Development

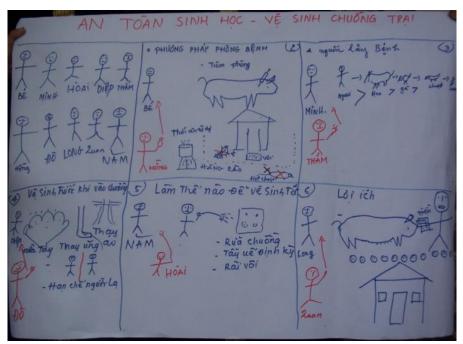
Early Communication Approach



A new approach: Participatory Video

Communication for Development (C4D)

"... communication processes, techniques and media to help people toward a full awareness of their situation and their options for change...to help people plan actions for change and sustainable development, to help people acquire the knowledge and skills they need to improve their condition...."¹



1. Fraser, C. & Restrepo-Estrada, S. (1998) *Communicating for Development: Human Change for Survival*. London and New York: I.B. Tauris, p63.









Farmers planned and created a film about their farming practices, to teach each other and others

Long-term impact assessment of the PV



- Farmers were left with cameras and took photos to show the changes that had occurred on their farms
- Photos were printed and the team recorded the farmers' description of the photos, while coding the back of them.



Front of photograph

draining + hroom

Back of photograph

Participatory Photography Exhibition



Farmers shared photos and stories with each other, explaining what lessons they applied from the PV (DVD) and what the outcome was. In this way, farmers benefited from the impact assessment *process*.

Improving the informed consent process with superior communication tools





Pictorial explanations allowed children to become engaged in the informed consent process

There are inherent complexities in cross-cultural research. Language, literacy and cultural barriers mean that a rigorous informed consent process relies in great part, on an effective communication approach. There can also be a power disparity between researcher and participant, which needs to be addressed, to avoid undue influence.

Informed consent



Providing feedback & talking through any misunderstandings

Assessment of comprehension & engagement





Acknowledgements

- Australian Volunteers for International Development: <u>http://www.volunteering.austraining.com.au/</u>
- The Kyeema Foundation: <u>http://www.kyeemafoundation.org/</u>
- Assoc. Prof. Darren Trott, Kit Parke, The University of Queensland



This work contributes to the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health





Resources

For an introduction to international veterinary medicine and C4D:

- Catley, A., Blakeway, S., Leyland, T. (2002) Community-Based Animal Healthcare: A Practical Guide to Improved Primary Veterinary Services. Vetwork UK, Scotland.
- Owen, E., Kitalyi, A., Jayasuriya, N., Smith, T. (*ed*) (2005) *Livestock and Wealth Creation*. Nottingham University Press, Nottingham.
- Quarry, W. & Ramirez, R. (2009) Communication for Another Development: Listening Before Telling. Zed Books, London.
- Sherman, D. (2002) *Tending Animals in the Global Village: A guide to International Veterinary Medicine*. Lipincott Williams and Wilkins, Pennsylvania.

better lives through livestock ilri.org

ilri.org better lives through livestock ILRI is a member of the CGIAR Consortium

Box 30709, Nairobi 00100 Kenya Phone +254 20 422 3000 Fax +254 20 4223001 Email ilri-kenya@cgiar.org

ILRI has offices in: Central America • East Africa • South Asia • Southeast and East Asia • Southern Africa • West Africa



The presentation has a Creative Commons licence. You are free to re-use or distribute this work, provided credit is given to ILRI.