To celebrate the World Veterinary Day (WVD) that will take place globally on 28th April 2018, the World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) are organising the World Veterinary Day Award to reward the most successful contribution by the veterinary profession on the selected theme for 2018.

The competition is open to all WVA member associations, alone, or in cooperation with any other selected body.

The winner of the World Veterinary World 2018 will be announced on the WVA and OIE websites on 15th June 2018.

**THEME 2018**

*The role of the Veterinary Profession in Sustainable Development to improve livelihoods, food security and safety*

A large part of the world population lives in rural areas where animals are indispensable for their livelihood and access to food. Many farmers in these areas depend on animals as the main source of income. For numerous households, animals are also the best means to preserve the necessary resources to cope with agricultural crises, to exit poverty, or to help to keep the soil fertile and provide traction for ploughing and transport.

It is estimated that the world population will reach 9.7 billion people by 2050 and the demand for animal protein and by-products will grow respectively. By preventing and controlling animal diseases, veterinarians play a crucial role in securing sufficient and safe high-quality food, improving the health and welfare of people and animals. They contribute to ensure the existence of sufficient resources for future generations by supporting the development of sustainable, responsible and efficient livestock production systems.

Furthermore, the veterinary profession is responsible for the control and inspection of animal products at all stages “from farm to fork” to guarantee safe food to the world population. It also positively impacts a wide range of employment fields that deliver services for the benefit of society and all animals.

These activities will contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals such as poverty, zero hunger, good health and economic growth.
### SELECTION PROCESS

#### ELIGIBILITY

All World Veterinary Association member associations that contribute to the World Veterinary Day theme alone or in cooperation with other bodies can participate in the competition.

#### CRITERIA

The WVD 2018 Award will be given to the veterinary association who will best promote the theme of “The role of the Veterinary Profession in Sustainable Development to improve livelihoods, food security and safety” during the WVD.

The organisers will also consider activities that took place in the past, still on-going, or are planned to take place in the future.

**Main criteria for evaluation are:**

- Contribution and achievements on the WVD 2018 theme;
- Involvement of relevant stakeholders and general public;
- Collaboration with the public health sector;
- Media coverage;
- Follow-up initiatives.

#### NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

All fields in the application form (click [HERE](#) to download the application form) shall be properly filled out and emailed at [wva_assistant@worldvet.org](mailto:wva_assistant@worldvet.org) no later than 31st May 2018.

Applications received after the deadline will be automatically rejected.

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

*Examples of activities (the list is not exhaustive):*

- Identification and implementation of good practices and programmes related to the WVD 2018 theme.
- Seminars and workshops for veterinarians/physicians/public health workers on WVD 2018 theme.
- Release studies, statistical data, surveys related to the WVD 2018 theme.
- Education sessions for the general public on WVD 2018 theme.
- Celebrate the works of a notable researcher or veterinarian on WVD 2018 theme.
- Create an online source containing general information about WVD 2018 theme.
- Concerts, public performances, fairs, etc. organised for the WVD 2018.
- Media involvement such newspaper articles, radio and television discussion on WVD theme, etc.
- Promote activities on WVD 2018 theme through social media.
- Distribution of promotional materials related to WVD 2018 theme.
- Any other initiative would be most welcome!!!

For more information, visit our websites: [www.worldvet.org](http://www.worldvet.org) / [www.oie.int](http://www.oie.int)