WORLD VETERINARY DAY AWARD

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) is proud to announce the 2019 World Veterinary Day theme: *Value of Vaccination*. World Veterinary Day will be held on 27 April 2019 and is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of veterinarians to the health of animals and society.

Applications are now open for the *World Veterinary Day Award*, which honours one WVA Member’s activities related to this theme.

The WVA is partnering with HealthforAnimals to improve visibility of the Award and increase the value of the award to $2500. Applications are due by 27th May 2019.

The Award

For nearly 20 years, World Veterinary Day has been an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of veterinarians to the health of animals and society. Each year, we honour one WVA Member Association that has undertaken activities that best embody the annual theme of the World Veterinary Day Award.

The 2019 World Veterinary Day will celebrate the *Value of Vaccination*. Vaccines are one of the most valuable tools in any veterinarian’s arsenal. These medicines protect the health of animals and the livelihood of farmers.

The World Veterinary Association will co-host the 2019 World Veterinary Day Award with HealthforAnimals, the global animal medicines association. The Award is open to all WVA Veterinary Associations who may submit evidence of any activities that demonstrate their support of the *value of vaccination*.

This could include local vaccine campaigns for animals, educational seminars for the public, media campaigns, new research, or anything else that promotes the value of vaccination.

The Award value has increased to USD $2500. Funds will be provided directly to the Association, which may use it for activities, reward hard-working staff, provide scholarships, support their community, etc.

Why Apply?

The World Veterinary Day Award is an opportunity to:

- Showcase your Association’s diligent efforts to the global veterinary community
- Receive a prize of USD$2500 to fund new activities, reward staff, provide scholarships, etc.
- Be honoured during a ceremony in your country/region or at the 2020 WVA Congress
- Improve the visibility and recognition of the veterinary profession in your country and worldwide

The Theme

The 2019 World Veterinary Day and Award theme is *Value of Vaccination*. Vaccination is an essential tool for preventive veterinary medicine, promotion of animal health and welfare, and reducing the risk of human exposure to many zoonotic pathogens.
Historically, immunization practices and vaccination protocols have contributed to significantly reduce the prevalence of many life-threatening diseases. The risks of not vaccinating can be significant to individual animals and populations, and can have consequences on livelihoods of rural livestock producers in economically developed and emerging regions.

Effective vaccination programs, broadly implemented, are likely to reduce the need for antimicrobials, which in turn can help reduce the risk of emergent antimicrobial resistance. The World Veterinary Association and HealthforAnimals believe it is essential for the global veterinary profession to educate the public, particularly animal owners and producers, about the benefits of vaccination for animal, human, and public health.

SELECTION PROCESS

ELIGIBILITY

The WVD competition is open to all WVA member associations. WVA associations are encouraged to celebrate the World Veterinary Day 2019’s theme in collaboration with any other entity.

CRITERIA

The WVD 2019 Award will be given to the veterinary member association that best promotes the theme of “value of vaccination”.

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

Main criteria for evaluation are:

- Contribution and achievements on the WVD 2019 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 to wva_assistant@worldvet.org no later than 27th May 2019.

Applications received after the deadline will be not be reviewed.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Examples of activities (the list is not exhaustive):

- Identification and implementation of good practices and programmes related to the WVD 2019 theme.
- Seminars and workshops for veterinarians/physicians/public health workers on WVD 2019 theme.
- Release studies, statistical data, surveys related to the WVD 2019 theme.
- Education sessions for the general public on WVD 2019 theme.
- Celebrate the works of a notable researcher or veterinarian on WVD 2019 theme.
- Create an online source containing general information about WVD 2019 theme.
- Concerts, public performances, fairs, etc. organised for the WVD 2019.
- Media involvement such newspaper articles, radio and television discussion on WVD theme, etc.
- Promote activities on WVD 2019 theme through social media.
- Distribution of promotional materials related to WVD 2019 theme.
- Any other initiative would be most welcome!!!

For more information, visit

www.worldvet.org / www.healthforanimals.org