



**animalNEPAL.org**



**THE DONKEY  
SANCTUARY**

# **INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT**

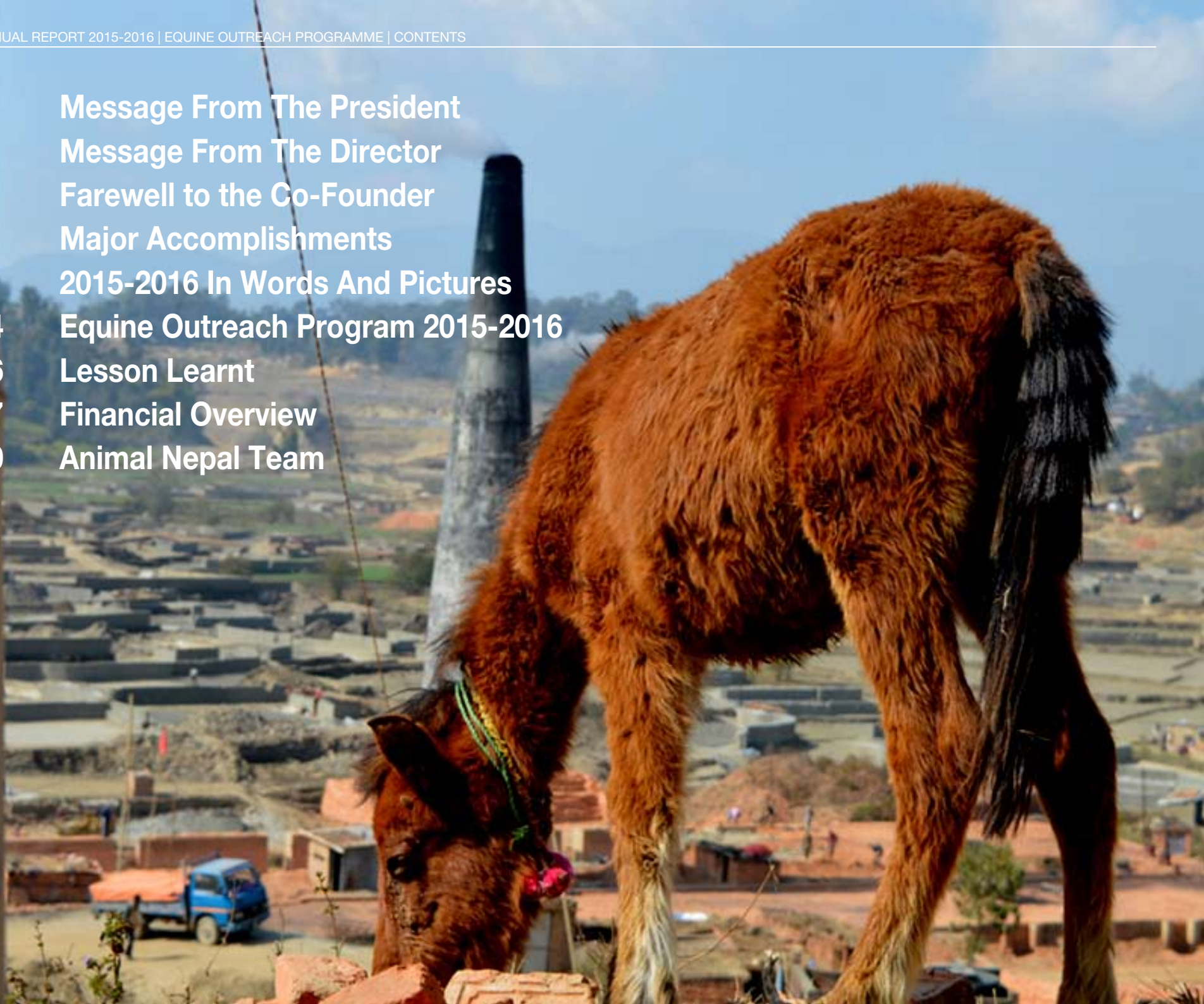
## **EQUINE OUTREACH PROGRAMME**

### **YEAR 2015-2016**



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# PRAMADA SHAH

*Founder, President  
Animal Nepal*



2015 was an intensely challenging year for Nepal and for the people of Nepal. I would like to take a moment to remember the victims, both humans and animals, who lost their lives to the devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck us on April 25th.

The Animal Nepal team deserves a big thank you for springing into action immediately, despite some of them having lost their own homes. Animals were the last things on people's minds. Yet, the courage our staff showed to tend to injured animal, despite the great human loss, by visiting villages and providing their services to those most in need was heartrending and inspiring.

We were also able to help our friends in the brick kilns with the support from our partner Donkey Sanctuary UK, who were the first ones to call me and ask how they could help the donkeys and their owners. We provided the donkey owners with the much needed tarpaulin and food. Thank you DS UK, we know we can count on you always.

Our regular work was obviously hampered by the earthquake and in addition the 5 months blockade severely affected the availability of fuel which again impacted our work. However we have got back on track and the humane dog management program spayed about 400 dogs. The donkey outreach programme continued its work in 15 brick kilns of Laitpur. Animal Nepal is currently lobbying with the Nepal government for the formation and adoption of an Animal Welfare Act. I hope 2016 will be a more stable year for Nepal and that Animal Nepal will be able to reach out to as many needy animals as possible.

A big thank you to all our supporters and donors, both international and local. We look forward to your continued support and belief in our work. Animal Nepal continuously endeavors to improve our quality of services, and the board are involved and motivate the team to work with compassion and professionalism.



# UTTAM KAPHLE

## *Executive Director Animal Nepal*

The 7 years journey of AN, a lot of success and changing perception of the whole country towards animal welfare issues, increasing national and international supporters, kind community people, support from government agencies and donors made us proud today. This is just a beginning, we believe achievement of today is paving our journey to see Nepal as an animal cruelty free nation.

The death ratio of donkeys, mules and horses of Animal Nepal's working area is sharply reduced. Various good practices has been successfully introduced in brick kiln like one day off for working equine during weekend, limit the load, minimize wounds and improve

living and working condition of working equines. Our work has drawn attention of public and related stakeholders which is very important to establish animal welfare in Nepal.

We would like to invite all of you to be part of this challenging movement. Together we can bring happiness in the lives of needy animals in Nepal. Our deepest gratitude goes to executive board, dedicated staff, kind community people, helpful media personality/house, government line agencies and of course our wonderful donors and well-wishers worldwide.





## Farewell to the Co-FOUNDER/ VOLUNTEER DIRECTOR and a WONDERFUL COWORKER!

*Lucia De Vries*

This year we faced a major organizational shift when we bid farewell to our wonderful co-founder and a volunteer director Lucia de Vries. She handed over her responsibilities as a Volunteer Director to Uttam Kafle and now acts as an Advisor.

A Dutch journalist and communication consultant, Lucia has lived in Nepal since 1992. Together with friends Jessy and Maria Rai, Roselle Prisno and Jiggy Gatton, she founded Animal Nepal as a non-profit company in 2004. After teaming up with

social activist Pramada Shah, the organisation spread its wings and Animal Nepal was registered as an NGO in 2008.

A student of Peace Studies, Lucia has been a vegetarian from the age of 17. Her desire to help animals started when she found an injured dog on the street of Kathmandu in 1992 and realized there was no place to provide affordable, quality treatment.

Although she continued to make her living as a foreign correspondent and communication consultant, caring for Nepal's animals soon

took over her life. She focused on developing Animal Nepal as a professional organization, combining the best of practices from the East and West. She promoted advocacy and campaigning to bring about lasting changes, mobile treatments (versus hospitalization), close collaboration with communities and creative approaches attracting wider audiences. Lucia continues to work in Nepal, and presently joined Oxfam in Nepal's earthquake response programme. She continues to conduct mobile treatments in her free time and

caring for four rescued strays, Bobby, Chalky, Tutti and Bhangi.

It was a great pleasure working with Lucia and her loss will be greatly felt, including the creative ideas she brought to the team on a regular basis. Thank you Lucia for your time and dedication in establishing and building Animal Nepal. Animal Nepal family will miss your bright and cheerful face around. And remembering the impact you've made on the organization and Nepal's suffering animals, we would like to wish you all the best for your future!





# MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS







1152 EQUINE  
TREATMENT CASES



7 EQUINE  
RESCUED



374 EQUINE  
VACCINATED



10,000+  
FOLLOWERS ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA



104 EQUINE  
HANDLERS REACHED



21 EQUINE  
OWNERS REACHED

A total of 468 equines were brought this season to work in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur. We witnessed that the culture of bringing sick animals from Nepalgunj had reduced substantially compared to previous years as equine owners have become much aware. The project year marked 1,152 equine treatment cases along with 7 rescues. A total of 374 equines were vaccinated against tetanus and rabies.

2015 remained extremely challenging for us as the country was hit by the great earthquake on April 25. The beginning this project year remained affected as our rescue programme continued even during the disaster aftermath. We also went out on relief distribution in brick factories and treatment of injured animals with the support of The Donkey Sanctuary UK.

Middle of our project year marked our visit to Nepalgunj where we set up an office (resource centre) for the equine owners through which we aim to conduct basic trainings of simple wound dressing, saddle and harness making, community education to make equine owners understand value of their animals etc. This will not only help the equine owners and their animals but also support the women of their family by organizing a micro credit service for them. During the visit our team also visited the Kanji house where they talked to sub metropolitan city for some improvement.

AN also conducted the assessment of Mountain mules with the aim of working towards a better understanding of mule use in and after natural disasters in the mountain region of Nepal. Our outreach team went up to Gorkha district to find the working condition of mules and their owners.

After returning from the survey, our team remained busy conducting health camps and emergency treatments in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur. Beside health camps, this year we shifted our area of focus in community education by conducting donkey owners and handlers workshop in 5 brick factories where we were able to reach 104 handlers and 21 donkey owners. Inspired by the result of our 2015-2016 project year, we aim to focus more on education programme in our upcoming project year.



# 2015-2016

## IN WORDS & PICTURES





Nov  
2015



### GETTING TO KNOW THE MOUNTAIN MULES

To understand the welfare conditions of mountain mules after the earthquake, Animal Nepal, with the support of The Donkey Sanctuary UK (TDSUK), started rapid Assessment of Mountain Mules. Due to a lack of medical support and resources mountain mules suffered from various medical conditions including preventable wounds, lameness, colic, anurea, injuries and other communicable diseases.

17 mules' owners were interviewed and requested to fill out a questionnaire. Not all the mules could be covered in the survey as more than half are stuck in places where the routes collapsed by landslides caused by the April and May earthquakes. Over half of the mules were sent to places as far as Samagaun, Chaikampar, Machi Khola, Tsum Valley and even till Tibet before the beginning of our survey. A total of 1300 animals are being used for transportation in the region.



DEC  
2015



### A VISIT TO NEPALGUNJ

Animal Nepal with the support of The Donkey Sanctuary UK went to Nepalgunj on December where the team set up an office which is to work as a resource center for the equine owners. Through this office our outreach team aims to conduct some basic trainings for the equine owners like simple wound dressing, saddle, harness making, community education to make them understand the value of donkeys and mules and basic trainings on other health related problems. The visit not only helped the equine owners and their animals but also supported the women of their family by organizing a follow up meeting on micro credit service for them. Besides, our team also visited the Kanji house (place where sub-metropolitan city collects abandoned animals and keep it in the house) where they talked to sub-metropolitan city for the improvement.



March  
2016



### ANIMAL NEPAL STARTS IT'S DONKEY HANDLERS WORKSHOP FOR THE BRICK SEASON 2015-2016

Animal Nepal this brick season worked in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur where we conducted basic treatments like vaccinations and deworming including a donkey handler workshop in some brick factories with the aim of improving the overall condition of working equines. During the workshop, the handlers and owners were taught basic dos and don'ts of donkey handling. Besides, the workshop turned out to be really fun and productive with some enthusiastic and interactive donkey handlers. This brick season Animal Nepal reached a total of 104 donkey handlers and 21 donkey owners from various brick factories of Lalitpur.

Feb  
2016



### THE DONKEY SANCTUARY UK TEAM VISITS ANIMAL NEPAL

Animal Nepal was privileged to receive a lovely visit from the high level team of The Donkey Sanctuary UK in February 2016. The team also had a memorable visit to 2 brick factories of Lalitpur, Om Shree No.1 and UK Brick factory, where they observed a health camp along with our hard working equines during work. TDS UK team carefully examined the loading and unloading of brick from working equine, their walking routes and other aspects of HANDS. Animal Nepal's president Pramada Shah along with TDS UK team also handed over reports of our work to the Livestock Development Minister. The visit followed a meeting with BCN (Brick Clean Nepal) and Dr. Natasha's visit to Gorkha as part of our Mountain mule assessment programme. During the visit to Gorkha, Dr. Natasha and AN team had a fruitful meetings with Mule Association of Gorkha and equine owners.





### **AN ORGANIZES CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON ANIMAL WELFARE LAW REVIEW**

With the support from The Donkey Sanctuary UK, Animal Nepal in March 2016 conducted a successful consultative meeting on the draft report of Animal Welfare Law Review. Various stake holders from government agencies (including representatives of OIE) and local NGOs attended the meeting where President Shah requested all parties involved to create a Humane Society for Animals and also mentioned that working animals (particularly equines) have limited protection under the law. The honorary board member and legal advisor of AN Shubu Tewari pointed out that the law seemed to protect a certain group of domestic animals (cattle and meat production animal) more than others and went on to explain the limited legal protection of working equines, companion animal and entertainment animals under national legal system. Many honorary members like Mr. Bishewoshar Koirala, from District Development Committee, Mr. Umesh Dahal from Animal Health Directorate, Dr. Ram Krishna Timilsena, ex-registrar of Supreme Court from National Law College, Dr. Narayan Sharma from Department of Livestock and many other important guest presented their views on the subject.

See more at <https://animalnepal.wordpress.com/2016/04/19/an-organizes-consultative-meeting-on-animal-welfare-law-review/>







### **ANIMAL NEPAL CONSTRUCTS A MODEL SHELTER FOR WORKING EQUINES AT BAJRA BARAHI**

Animal Nepal in the beginning of year 2016 signed a MOU with the owner of Bajra Barahi Brick factory regarding building of a model shelter at Bajra Barahi brick factory of Lalitpur. With the kind support of TDS UK the construction of the shelter for working equines has now come to an end. Owner of the brick factory happily invested half of total cost of the construction where remaining 50% of the cost was supported by TDS UK. The main objective of building the model shelter was to provide a better place for the working equines who are brought from Nepalgunj to Kathmandu at the beginning of brick season. Most of the equines tends to get sick due to lack of proper shelter. Hence, in order to minimize the risk of them getting sick, our newly built shelter at Bajra Barahi acts as a model shelter and aims to encourage other brick factory owners in upcoming brick seasons.



May  
2016



### WORLD DONKEY DAY 2016

Animal Nepal on World Donkey Day worshiped its 23 rescued donkeys at Godawari Donkey Sanctuary. The programme started by worshiping them with Tika, Khada and lots of healthy snacks. A short workshop on the importance of Donkey was also conducted with donkey owners from brick factories of Lalitpur.





# EQUINE OUTREACH PROGRAMME 2015-2016





**TOTAL NO. OF BRICK FACTORIES  
OPERATING THIS YEAR: 12**

**TOTAL NO. OF WORKING EQUINES: 468**

**TOTAL NO. OF EQUINE OWNER: 35**

**TOTAL NO. OF TREATMENT CASES: 1152**

**TOTAL NO. OF WORKSHOP CONDUCTED  
(DONKEY HANDLERS): 5**

**TOTAL NO. OF WORKSHOP CONDUCTED  
(DONKEY OWNERS): 2**

**TOTAL DONKEY HANDLERS REACHED:  
104**

**TOTAL EQUINE OWNERS REACHED: 21**



Table 1- Welfare assessment in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur at the beginning, mid and end of the brick season 2015-2016

SN	Name of Brick Factory	No. of Owners	No. of Donkeys		BCS			Wound			Lame			Other Injuries			Behaviour			Comments
			BS	ES	BS	MS	ES	BS	MS	ES	ES	MS	ES	BS	MS	ES	BS	MS	ES	
1	RM brick Factory	4	54	49	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	1	1	1	0	1.5	1	0	0	Ap	AI	AI	Equines need to travel a long distance to transport brick 4 equines added in the mid season 3 spare equines 5 equines Euthanised 1 equine death Lameness increased due to long distance walking
2	UK Brick Factory	3	42	38	2	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	2 new equine owners 7 spare equines All equines were the same one from last year Some owners have cheating attitude towards Animal Nepal They are making animals overwork at the end of the season.
3	Kantipur Brick Factory	2	19	20	2	2.5	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	Ap	AI	AI	Lot of improvement than the last year Samim Kasagar one of the owner won 2nd best donkey owner award at the end of the season.
4	Bol Bom Brick Factory	2	33	35	2	2	2.5	0	0	1.5	1	1	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	One Equine euthanized Mange infection in few equines The owners are happy to have more income than previous year
5	Bajra Brick Factory	4	53	51	2	2.5	2.5	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	All equines used this season were new ones purchased from India One wound case due to a cut from Zinc sheet (jasta) One new born horse foal attacked by local dogs (recovered now) Gunu Kasagar from Bajra won 1st prize on Best Donkey owner this season.



6	Champi Brick Factory	4	57	53	2.5	2.5	2	0	0	1	0	1.5	2	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	Over loading in donkeys A donkey was made to work during her late pregnancy stage Most of the equines were sold in the mountain region
7	Om Shree no. one Brick Factory	5	47	45	2	2	2.5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	15 buggy introduced Lack of clean drinking water Joint problem and bite wound seen in two donkeys 1 death
8	Gautam Buddha Brick Factory	1	27	26	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	1 case of injury during transportation 1 death case due to disease
9	Gyan Brick Factory	1	11	11	2.5	2.5	2.5	2	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	1 equine was purchased from RM brick factory in the middle of the season 1 equine euthanized
10	New Bhairab Brick Factory	2	35	30	2	2	2	3	3	1	0	1.5	0	2	1	1	D	D	AI	Suspected Glander in few equines
11	Santaneshwor Brick Factory	3	39	37	2	2	2.5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	8 new animals this season 1 died from Dystocia
12	Hanuman Brick Factory	2	31	29	2	2	2.5	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	AI	AI	AI	Over smart owners One equine abandoned due to disease 1 died from a truck accident
<b>Total:</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>AI</b>	<b>AI</b>	<b>AI</b>	

\*BS= Beginning of the Season

\*MS= Middle of the Season

\*ES= End of the Season

\*Ap= Apathetic

\*D= Depressed

\*AI= Alert



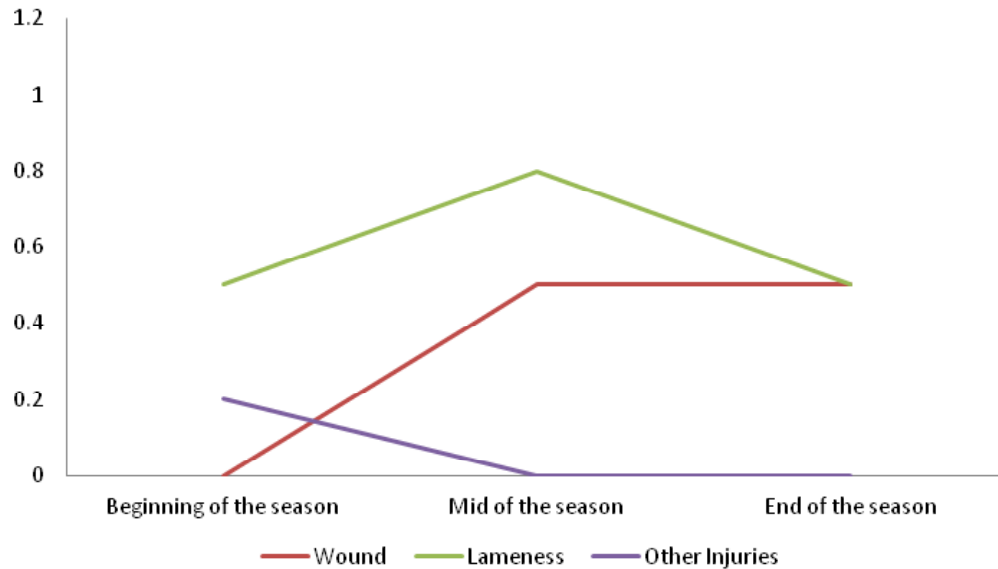


Figure1- Graph showing the wound, lameness and other injuries in the beginning, mid and end welfare assessment of the season.

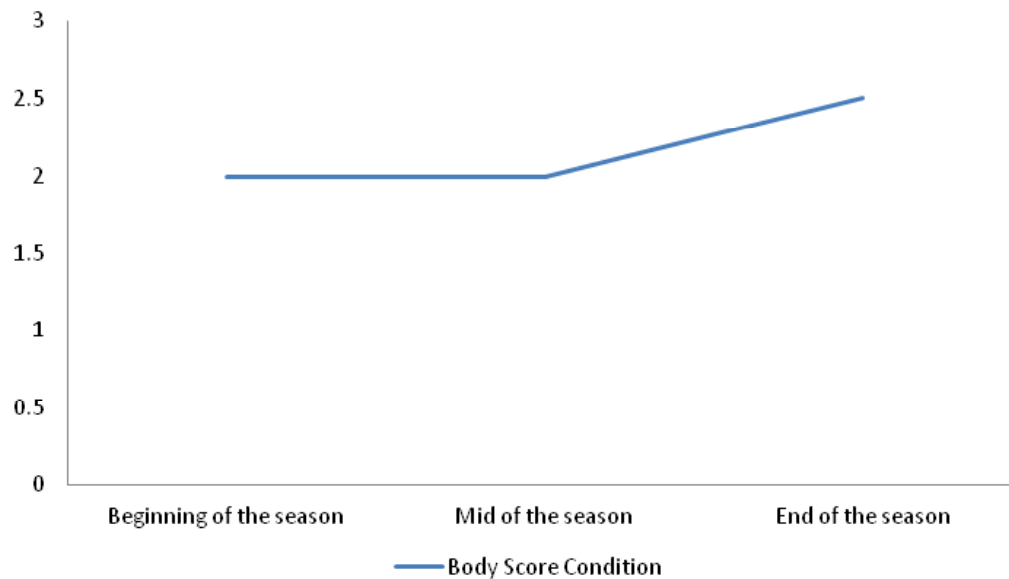


Figure2- Graph showing the the improvement in the body score condition in working animals till the end of brick season.

A welfare assessment was conducted in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur in the beginning, middle and end of the brick season 2015-2016. Wounds and other health problem decreased drastically this season recording only 36 saddle and harness wound cases this season. However in this season, maximum cases of lameness and wound were seen during our mid-season assessment which again decreased at the end of the season. Extremely less amount of other signs of injuries were found on working equines.

With the training provided by of TDS India in February, 2015 we tried to develop our own saddle and harnesses this season and distributed them to the brick factories. With the introduction of proper saddle the number of wounds ultimately reduced. The equine owners highly appreciated our new saddle making approach. With the opening of resource center at Nepalgunj we aim to provide saddle and harness making training to the equine owners group during the off season of brick production. With that we aim to further subsidise the number of wound in our next brick season.

The body score condition of working equines gradually improved till the end of the season. The community education we conducted this season helped the owners and handlers to take proper care of their animals. They also seem highly motivated on working towards even better practices in upcoming seasons.



Table 2- Treatment cases in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur in the brick season 2015-2016

S.N.	Treatment cases	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	Total
1	Harness wound	1	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	2	1	12
2	Saddle wound	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	4	9	3	24
3	Hobbles wound	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	6
4	Hoof Problem	3	14	4	3	-	5	14	-	6	4	53
5	Hip dislocation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
6	Leg lameness	1	2	-	-	-	11	14	15	13	18	74
7	Eye problems	1	-	2	-	-	4	6	-	1	1	15
8	Mixed infection	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	3	-	7	20
9	Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
10	Anaemic condition	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	4
11	Mineral deficiency	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	7	3	13
12	An urea condition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
13	Diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4
14	Colic	-	3	-	-	-	2	1	1	3	-	10
15	Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Circling movement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
17	Dystocia condition	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
18	Dermatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	6
19	Anal prolapse	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	4
20	Tetanus vaccine	-	3	25	-	-	160	173	-	11	2	374
21	Deworming	-	15	25	-	-	150	167	-	11	-	368
22	Emergency	-	-	-	-	-	130	-	-	3	2	135
23	Anaplasmosis	1	-	-	2	-	3	4	4	-	1	15
24	Strangle Suspicion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	1
25	Maggot infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1,152</b>

A total of 1152 treatment cases were recorded this season where the maximum numbers of cases were of lameness. Comparing to the other cases lameness in working equines increased till the end of the season when the equine owners started to overload and made their animals overwork as the monsoon approached. And in some brick factories like RM, due to the long walking distance of transportation the lameness ultimately increased in the working animals. Other major cases this season was hoof problems in equines. The saddle and harness wound drastically reduced after we introduced newly made saddle in the factories. This season we not only worked inside the Lalitpur district but also outside the valley including Gorkha, Nepalgunj and Dhading. In Dhading we were able to conduct a quick health camp in the brick factory where we provided emergency treatment to no less than 130 working equines.

Our outreach team conducted emergency treatment in Dhading district of Nepal where we provided emergency treatment to 130 equine suffering from saddle wounds and injuries in 5 brick factories of Dhading.



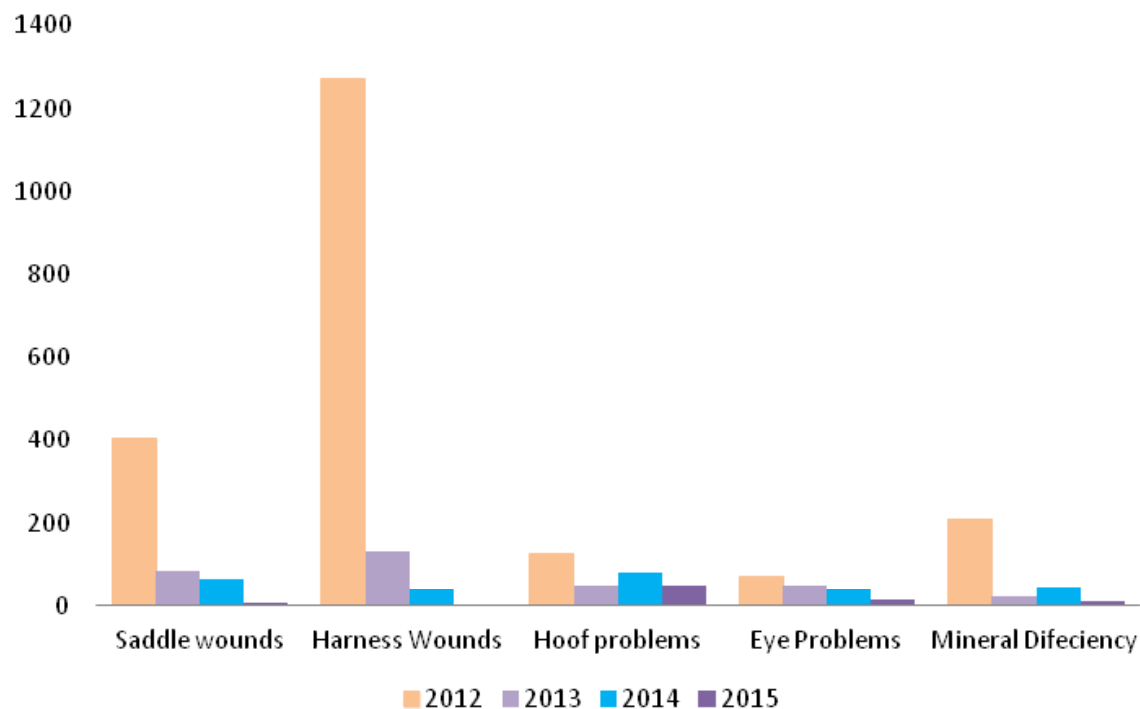
Table 3- Quarterly distribution of the major treatments under equine outreach programme 2015-2016

Major Treatments	1st Quarter (August-October)	2nd Quarter (November- December)	3rd Quarter (January-March)	4th Quarter (April-May)	Total
Rabies and Tetanus vaccination	28	0	333	13	374
Deworming	40	0	317	11	368
Other treatment cases	32	5	273	91	401

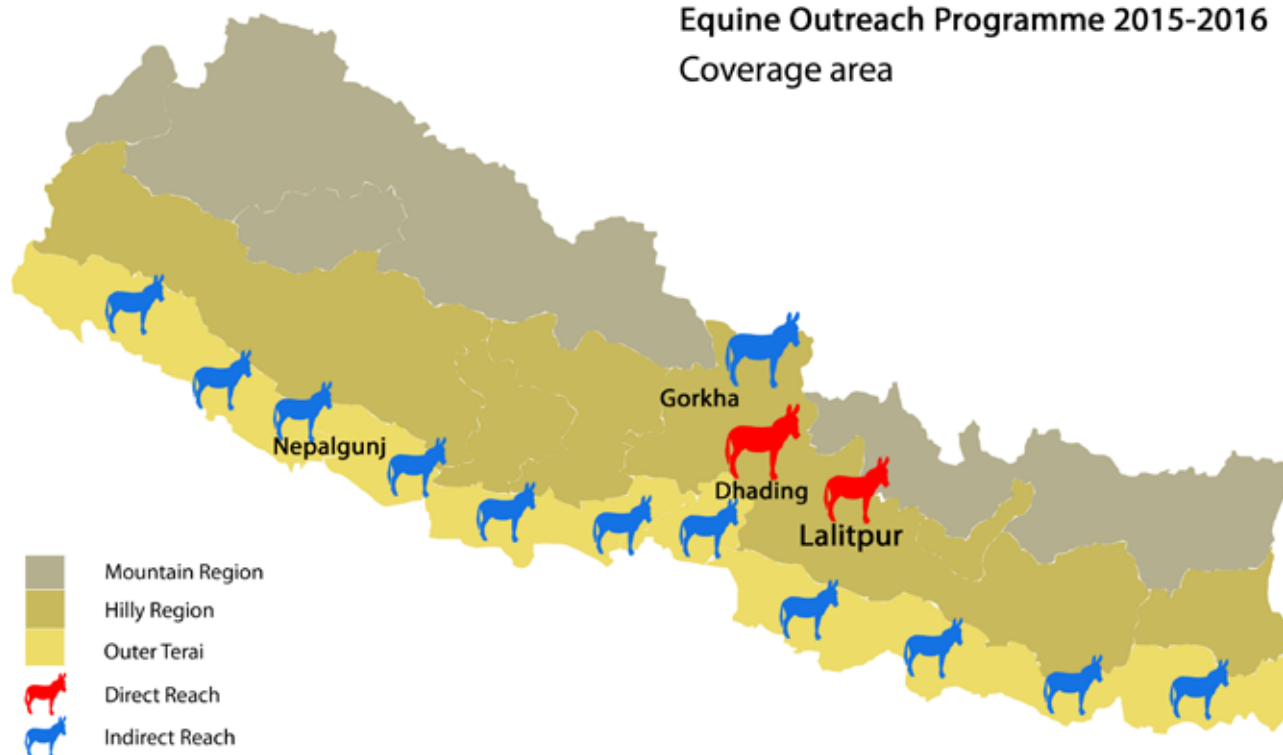
Table 4- Table showing major decline in the health problems of working equine since 2012.

Major Treatments	2012	2013	2014	2015-2016
Saddle wound	403	86	64	24
Harness wound	1271	132	43	12
Hoof problems	128	51	82	53
Eye problems	73	52	43	15
Mineral deficiency	207	22	47	13

Figure 3- Major decline in health problems of working animals in brick factories since 2012



## Equine Outreach Programme 2015-2016 Coverage area



- LALITPUR: 468 Equines reached (Through our Equine Outreach Programme in 12 brick factories of Lalitpur)
- DHADING: 130 equines reached (During our survey, 130 equines working in the brick factories received emergency treatment)
- GORKHA: Mountain mules assessment programme 2015
- NEPALGUNJ: By establishing a resource centre we aim to conduct some basic trainings for the equine owners like simple wound dressing, saddle, harness making, community education to make them understand value of donkeys and mules and basic trainings on other health related problems.
- TERAI REGION: Animal Nepal conducted a survey on the number of working equines being used in the brick factories of terai region.



**A** **578 equines directly reached** through our equine outreach programme 2015-2016

**B** **6 Community educations** conducted in the brick factories of Lalitpur,

- **104 donkey handlers reached**
- **21 donkey owners reached**

**C** **2 events organised** during this season

- **World Donkey day:** During world donkey day, rescued donkeys at Godavari donkey sanctuary were worshipped with tika and mala, providing them fresh vegetables and fruits. 10 donkey owners from various brick factories of Lalitpur participated in the programme where we talked about donkey welfare, and how their livelihood depends totally upon their animals.
- **Take A Stand "Youth Speak up for Animals":** An awareness programme was organised by students of Bright Vision College on 28th May, 2016 which was focused totally on the youth through dance music, T-Shirt sale, face painting and other activities. 136 young students participated on the event.

**D** **Media Outreach:**

- Reached to every corner of Nepal through a weekly based awareness programme on animal welfare broadcasted on Nepal fm 91.8mhz
- 11.5K+ Social Media followers
- 557 Newsletter subscribers

## Stakeholder Reachout:

- **Opened Resource center at Nepalgunj:** Animal Nepal with the support of The Donkey Sanctuary UK went to Nepalgunj on December where the team set up a office which is to work as a resource center for the equine owners. Through this office our outreach team aims to conduct some basic trainings for the equine owners like simple wound dressing, saddle, harness making, community education to make them understand value of donkeys and mules and basic trainings on other health related problems. This will not only help the equine owners and their animals but also support the women of their family by organizing a micro credit service for them. During the visit our team also visited the Kanji house (place where sub-metropolitan city collects abandon animals and keep it in the house) where they talked to sub metropolitan city for the improvement.
- **Conducted Law review on Animal Welfare:** With the support from The Donkey Sanctuary UK, Animal Nepal in March 2016 conducted a successful consultative meeting on the draft report of Animal Welfare Law Review. Various stake holders from government agencies (including representatives of OIE) and local NGOs attended the meeting where President Shah requested all parties involved to create a Humane Society for Animals and also mentioned that working animals (particularly equines) have limited protection under the law. The honorary board member and legal advisor of AN Shubu Tewari pointed out that the law seemed to protect a certain group of domestic animals (cattle and meat production animal) more than others and went on to explain the limited legal protection of working equines, companion animal and entertainment animals under national legal system. Many honorary members like Mr. Bishewoshar Koirala, from District Development Committee, Mr. Umesh Dahal from Animal Health Directorate, Dr. Ram Krishna Timilsena, ex-registrar of Supreme Court from National Law College, Dr. Narayan Sharma from Department of Livestock and many other important guest presented their views on the subject.



Date	Name of Brick Factory	No. of Equine owner reached	No. of Equine handlers reached	Major teachings under workshop
Jan 23, 2016	UK Brick Factory	3	15	Handling the donkey, Empathy teaching for handlers, saddle and harness making for owners, importance of nutritious feeds and clean dinking water for equines
March 12, 2016	New Bhairab Brick Factory	2	15	Handling the donkey, Empathy teaching for handlers, saddle and harness making for owners, importance of nutritious feeds and clean dinking water for equines
March 19, 2016	Bol Bom Brick Factory	2	17	Handling the donkey, Empathy teaching for handlers, saddle and harness making for owners, importance of nutritious feeds and clean dinking water for equines
April 23, 2016	Kantipur Brick Factory	2	19	Handling the donkey, Empathy teaching for handlers, saddle and harness making for owners, importance of nutritious feeds and clean dinking water for equines
April 30, 2016	RM Brick Factory	4	38	Handling the donkey, Empathy teaching for handlers, saddle and harness making for owners, importance of nutritious feeds and clean dinking water for equines
May 7, 2016	Godawari Donkey Sanctuary (World Donkey Day)	10	0	Making them understand the importance of donkey for their livelihood, empathy teaching, importance of proper saddle and harness
<b>Total:</b>		<b>21</b>	<b>104</b>	

Table 5- Total number of community education conducted in the season.

## OUR CREATIVE APPROACH ON COMMUNITY EDUCATION:

- A separate session was conducted for donkey owners and handlers and different topic was discussed depending on their role. When donkey handlers were given a separate session we found out that they were more open than they used to be in front of their owners.
- A healthy lunch was provided in order to encourage them to attend the whole workshop. Since most of them are from India, they were treated with delicious Indian sweets and samosas including fruit juice.
- To make the handlers more interactive they were shown short cartoon movies downloaded from YouTube and a full length movie named "Tahanaa" where a Kashmir boy goes through every obstacles just to bring back "Bilbaroo" his donkey sold by her mother due to economic crisis in the family.
- Readymade saddle and harness were gifted to the owners during workshop

in order to encourage them to work on good practices.

- A very attractive prize was given to the best three donkey owners who were judged on the basis of their welfare assessment results of the season. We were surprised to see some donkey owners known for mishandling their donkeys in previous season gave tough competition to one another this season.
  - 1st prize winner: Gonu Kasagar (Bajra brick factory)
  - 2nd prize winner: Samim Kasagar (Kantipur BF)
  - 3rd prize winner: Firoz Kasagar (Bajra Barahi)
- Animal Nepal will be conducting the best donkey handler award ceremony at the end of the season.
- To keep the handlers away from frustration of their work, sports like football, chess and ludo were gifted to them. Those who seemed more interested in papers and drawings were gifted colors, drawing books and cartoon arts of the donkeys.
- Separate copies of donkey cartoon were printed where the owners and handlers were made to write messages by themselves like "I will provide my donkey with clean drinking water", "I will stop beating my donkey and stop others from beating their animals too" etc. We made them hang the pictures in their room so that they could remember the important message each and every day of their work.



Photo1. Messi 10 intrested only on football at New Bhairab Brick factory.



Photo 2. Happy kids at New Bhairab



Photo 3. Donkey handlers from Bol Bom.



Photo 4. Curious listeners at RM.



Photo 5. "Please take proper care of me and I will earn a lot of money for you my owner" a donkey pleads at Kantipur.



Photo 6. Director Uttam Kafle during a workshop at Santaneshwor.



## LESSON LEARNT

This season we introduced many new approaches to our programme. Based on the results we obtained, we consider 2015-2016 brick season to be an extremely successful season in the history of our outreach programme. However, some errors remains and with that remains our chance for improvements. We learnt some important lesson this season:

**Community Education:** This season we conducted 6 equine owners and handlers' workshop and we realized that the community education is the ultimate and a permanent solution to the suffering of working animals in brick factories. We were amazed to see more than 50% decreases in the number of wounds and other injuries and introduction of good practices in the factories. We aim to conduct maximum numbers of education programme in upcoming seasons.

**Leading by example:** When we approached brick factories of Lalitpur for building model shelter for working animals none of them supported our idea. After quite an effort, Bajra brick factory agreed to support Animal Nepal in building Model Shelter by supporting 50% of total cost. But after the completion of the model shelter, many brick factories are now approaching us to help them build similar shelter in their factories too.

2015-2016 was definitely a very ambitious year as we not

only intended to work inside the valley but also outside valley including major places of terai region including Kapilvastu and places nearby. But later under our survey we realised that only few working equines are used in the region and our programme is not really needed in that part of country. Hence, we learnt that before mobilising our energy and resources in certain places we need to first do a preliminary research on whether our programme is needed or not.

**Media outreach:** In the upcoming season we aim to increase our media campaigning by providing informative ads on online news portal and radios. We will also be working with government agencies to increase involvement of government sector into brick industries.





## INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

### EQUINE OUTREACH PROGRAMME

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