

TREVOR BLACKBURN AWARD 2009

CITATION FOR DR ANDY CATLEY BVetMed MSc PhD DipECVPH MRCVS

The recipient of the fourth Trevor Blackburn Award is **Dr Andy Catley** for the dedication and professionalism he has shown to the strengthening of veterinary services in developing countries over the past two decades. The impact of his work has been felt by hundreds of thousands of poor livestock keepers who have had their livelihoods improved through the production and productivity gained from healthier stock, access to prompt and effective disease surveillance and outbreak response and, indeed, the human lives saved through more effective humanitarian response to disasters.

Andy's work at the interface between animal health, poverty reduction and humanitarian crises started when working for NGOs including Oxfam, Christian Aid and Save the Children in remote and conflict-affected areas of Somalia, Eritrea and Ethiopia. He was among the pioneers of novel community-based animal health and disease surveillance systems. He used these experiences to lead the production of the first comprehensive guide to community-based veterinary services, now the 'standard textbook' on these approaches in marginalised parts of the developing world.

After joining the International Institute for Environment and Development, one of the world's leading research and policy institutes for sustainable development, Andy focused on field epidemiology and disease surveillance systems. Based in Nairobi, he developed and tested participatory epidemiology (PE) techniques in South Sudan, Kenya and Tanzania which led to the adoption of PE by the Pan African Programme for the Control of Epizootics in early 2001. PE methods have now become normalised in global disease control programmes, such as current avian 'flu programmes led by the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Working with Tufts University's School of Nutrition Science and Policy and seconded to support the African Union's Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources in Nairobi, Andy's research on primary veterinary services in Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia contributed to the official recognition of community-based animal health workers as '*para-veterinary professionals*' by the OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

In 2005, in response to constant requests from NGOs on how best to respond to disasters (floods, drought and conflict) affecting livestock owning communities, Andy initiated a global collaborative effort to develop a set of international standards for livestock-related interventions in humanitarian disasters. These have become known as the *Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS)*. About to be translated into five languages, and promoted through training events in Africa, Asia and Latin America, this manual will undoubtedly impact the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of the poorest and most destitute livestock owners around the world, through improved, timely emergency responses.

Currently Research Director, Feinstein International Center, Tufts University, Andy is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, focussing on livelihoods-based approaches to humanitarian practice and policy. He is also Clinical Associate Professor, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine (Tufts) and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine.

Andy Catley has had tremendous influence and impact on the livelihoods of livestock owners, and remains a great advocate for an increasing role for veterinary surgeons in strengthening veterinary services in developing regions, as a means to improve both animal and human welfare. He is indeed a worthy recipient of the Trevor Blackburn Award.