INTRODUCTION TO COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR VETERINARIANS

SAVC - ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP

MPHANE MOLEFE - DAFF

30 MAY 2018
BACKGROUND TO COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICE (CCS) PROGRAMME

• In 1994, the government committed in addressing shortage of essential scarce skills in many rural areas.

• In 1997, after wide consultations, Cabinet approved the concept of a one year Compulsory Community Service (CCS) for scarce skills.

• The Department of Health (DoH) implemented the CCS programme as follows:
  • Medical Doctors – 1998
  • Dentists – 2000
  • Nurses – 2008
CCS FOR VETERINARIANS

- For Agriculture, the Department approved the CCS concept for veterinarians in 2003 and adopted a similar approach for Health professionals CCS.

- Skewed distribution of veterinary services is a major constraint in South Africa – veterinarians are mainly concentrated in more urbanised provinces and cities and are often not attracted to rural provinces.
OBJECTIVES OF THE CCS PROGRAMME FOR VETERINARIANS

- To promote accessibility of veterinary services particularly in under-served and resource poor areas.

- To distribute veterinary profession in an equitable manner and;

- To provide an opportunity for CCS veterinarians to acquire knowledge, critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will help their professional development.
LEGISLATIVE PROCESS FOR CCS IMPLEMENTATION

- CCS implementation required an amendment of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act, 1982 (Act No.19 of 1982)

- Veterinary and Para-veterinary Professions Amendment Act, 2012 (Act No.16 of 2012) was assented to by the President in December 2012.

- The Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Amendment Act, 2012 was proclaimed on the 9th November 2015 together with enabling regulations:
CCS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

To promote accessibility of veterinary services particularly in under-served and resource-poor areas, highly specialised veterinary mobile clinics and support vehicles were commissioned as indicated below.

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<th>32 Tons Trucks</th>
<th>Prefabs</th>
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CCS FACILITIES

- Any interested party, including the State, may apply to acquire a CCS vet.
- The facility will be pre-approved by the relevant provincial coordinator.
- PAHC / CCS Implementation Committee is responsible for the final approval of CCS places.

**Requirements for CCS places**
- Must meet the objectives of CCS
- SAVC registration as a CCS facility
- Availability of a suitably qualified advisor/mentor (veterinarian)
- Detailed work plan for the position
CCS PLACEMENT PROCESS

- Placement of CCS vets
  - List of approved CCS facilities and application form sent to students – 2 years in advance
  - Application for placement by students
  - Placement of students by Placement Committee – Manual (special circumstances) and Computerised (others)
  - Applicants notified of outcomes via email
  - Swapping of placements amongst students allowed
  - Final placement and notification of students
  - Foreign qualified veterinarians accommodated after meeting the SAVC requirements
  - Any candidate who is aggrieved by their placement may appeal in writing to Director: Veterinary Public Health at DAFF
## CCS Numbers

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THANK YOU