



Who We Are

Global Vets is a program run through the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) which offers student veterinarians a unique opportunity to investigate animal health care in developing countries.



The program was founded in 1997 by two second-year students, and was formed to promote international collaboration in the fields of animal health and welfare, agricultural development and ecosystem health. The program strives to enhance working relationships and the exchange of ideas between Canadian veterinarians and their colleagues in developing regions of the world.



Each year, students intensively research animal and public health as well as environmental issues that are occurring in developing countries. With the help of the OVC's International Veterinary Medicine Club and faculty advisors, the students create project proposals and plan their projects and itineraries to maximize their experiential learning. This involves securing contacts in the countries that they will be visiting, raising awareness for their project and doing all their fundraising. Upon return to Canada, participants are required to present their experiences to their sponsors and the University community, as well as become mentors to future program participants.



The Community of Guelph, along with the University of Guelph play an integral role in assisting the students with their fundraising, whether it be through charitable donation, calendar sales, donations to a silent auction, or attendance at mini-vet school. Many individuals, clubs, organizations and businesses have assisted the Global Vets program over these last 13 years. It is with their help that this program has achieved its goals and has continued to expand year after year.



Thank You for your support with our Fundraising!

Check out our website:
www.uoguelph.ca/~gvets



UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

CHANGING LIVES
IMPROVING LIFE

Existing Long-Term Relationships

- The National Elephant Institute, Thailand
- The Jeevashram Animal Shelter, India
- The Children of Bukati Pig Project, Kenya
- Queen Elizabeth National Park, Uganda
- Tanzania Welfare Society, Tanzania



The National Elephant Institute

The National Elephant Institute was founded as the Thai Elephant Conservation Center (TECC). It was initially formed to address the issues facing Thailand's elephants such as injury or displacement via human activities. Natural habitats are being destroyed by the logging industry in Thailand and urbanization.

The main objective for the establishment of the National Elephant Institute is to develop sustainable elephant conservation and preserve local traditions for future generations. The Institute also aims to improve Thailand's tourism industry, in which there is an extensive involvement of elephants-related activities.



- The relationship between the TECC and the University of Guelph began with Scarlett Magda, a student who traveled to Thailand to initiate a project aimed at improving saddle designs for working elephants.
- It was continued by the first Global Vets group to visit the centre in the summer of 2007. The group spent two weeks at the centre working with the veterinarians and mahouts who provide the daily care for the elephants.
- Since then, Global Vets has sent numerous groups to the centre to gain similar experiences and to maintain the working relationship between the National Elephant Institute and the Ontario Veterinary College.
- This is just one example of the many relationships formed by Global Vets students since the program began.