

International Veterinary CPD Programme Kathmandu Valley and Chitwan National Park, Nepal.

**Open to veterinary surgeons, veterinary academics and veterinary nurses,
professional zoologists, and field biologists.**

An incredible opportunity to see, participate and discuss first hand with Nepal's top veterinary surgeons, academics and field scientists the full ecosystem of challenges of livestock management, wildlife health, animal health, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and disease prevention in both domestic (small animals/farm), and national park (wild) scenarios.

This 7-day programme of lectures and participation includes 40 hours of Continued Professional Development (CPD) and also allows time for sightseeing to appreciate Nepal's culture and beauty. Enjoy a safari and canoeing on the Rapti River flowing on the border of Chitwan National Park. There are also opportunities for bird watching and to safari with Nepal's top wildlife researchers.

Launched in 2025 by the World Pheasant Association (WPA) and Biodiversity Conservation Society Nepal (BIOCOS Nepal), the programme is supported logistically by Namaste Manang Tours & Trekking Pvt. Ltd. Building on the success of the first year, the Nepal Veterinary Association (NVA) has now partnered with WPA and BIOCOS Nepal to enhance this programme's structured scope and credibility.

Active participation includes the opportunity to assist during clinical hours, with several afternoons dedicated to assessing sick animals admitted to the hospital and performing surgical interventions. Participation in surgery is entirely optional, as with any component of this comprehensive programme. Please note that if you wish to take part in surgical procedures a temporary veterinary license, in accordance with the regulations of the Nepal Veterinary Council will need to be obtained for you and proof of surgical competence will need to be provided. (Please also note that the fee is not included in the tour cost as not everyone may wish to do this and currently the temporary license is USD \$150).

Your journey to Nepal makes a real difference. A portion of every booking supports conservation efforts in the Pipar Pheasant Conservation Landscape (PPCL) - The PPCL in the Seti Khola Valley is an extraordinary ecosystem in Northern Central Nepal, located in the Annapurna Conservation Area, where Clouded leopards, Himalayan black bears, and Nepal's most charismatic pheasants, including the Satyr Tragopan and Himalayan Monal, still thrive in the wild.

Local Nepal tour operators Namaste Manang, arrange this programme at cost on behalf of BIOCOS Nepal www.biocosnepal.org.np, who will be accompanying you throughout. All proceeds over and above the cost of the trip go to BIOCOS Nepal to enhance community based conservation including anti-poaching initiatives, habitat protection, and local awareness programmes in the Seti Khola Valley (PPCL). They work in tandem with WPA in UK www.pheasant.org.uk who have been working in Nepal for over 45 years. Two WPA members in UK are facilitators for this experience, so available for all questions and advice on visas, what to take etc.



International Veterinary CPD Programme Kathmandu Valley and Chitwan National Park, Nepal.

Itinerary

Dates: 11th November to 23rd November 2026

Final registration: End of May

Language: English

Location: Nepal

CPD Hours: 35 hours

Cost: £3300

Course Coordinator: Dr Himal Luitel

Dr. Himal Luitel, PhD — Associate Professor, Center for Biotechnology, Agriculture and Forestry University (Nepal); Editor-in-Chief of Nepalese Veterinary Journal. He holds a B.V.Sc & A.H. (Veterinary Science), an M.Sc. in Molecular Biology from Belgian universities, and a PhD in Molecular Biology & Medicine from Germany, followed by postdoctoral training in cardiovascular and pulmonary biomedical research. His research spans animal reproduction, wildlife health (notably captive Asian elephants), molecular diagnostics, and veterinary biotechnology. With a unique blend of classical veterinary training and molecular-biological expertise, Dr. Luitel brings both regional insight from South Asia and global-standard scientific rigour. Through collaborative initiatives linking veterinary, medical, and environmental sciences, Dr. Luitel promotes a comprehensive One Health perspective, helping position AFU as a national hub for AMR awareness, surveillance, and containment. His leadership and technical insights bring substantial value to international veterinary CPD programs, especially those focused on AMR, diagnostics, public health, and sustainable livestock management. <http://afu.edu.np/center-biotechnology>, <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3844-0469>, <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=PJcQIW0AAAAJ&hl=en&authuser=5>

7 Day International Veterinary CPD programme.

Day 1: Arrival in Kathmandu:

- Arrival, airport pick up.
- Transfer to the Himalayan Hotel Laltipur.
- Evening tea/briefing: course overview, safety, logistics.
- Welcome dinner with the Nepalese Team.

Breakfast will be available at the hotel every morning starting at 7.00am.

Day 2: Kathmandu: Lectures and Small Animal Clinical Skills.

Morning Session – One Health & Nepal Context [3.5 credit hours]

Time: 9.00am -12:30 hrs

Venue: Himalayan Hotel, Lalitpur, Kathmandu Valley.

9:00 to 10:00 – Overview of Nepal’s veterinary landscape:

Lecture: Dr. Barun Kumar Sharma.

- Status of livestock in the Nepalese economy, livestock diseases in the tropical region, sub-tropical region, and temperate region of Nepal.
- Policy, Surveillance and One Health Efforts in Nepal.

10:00 to 10:15 Q&A session

Dr. Barun Kumar Sharma is a senior veterinary expert and senior civil servant with over twenty years of experience, currently acting as the Chief Veterinary Officer. He holds a B.V.Sc. & A.H. in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry and an MVSc in Veterinary Science, developing expertise in animal health, disease prevention, livestock development, and veterinary management. Progressing from Veterinary Officer to senior leadership, Dr. Sharma now manages state-wide veterinary services, leading initiatives in disease eradication, One Health, livestock productivity, food safety, and policy development. Known for his farmer-focused and science-based approach, he promotes preventive, technology-based veterinary care that boosts livestock productivity, protects public health, and enhances food security.

10:15 to 11:00 AMR patterns in Nepalese pet and farm animals.

Lecture: Dr. Himal Luitel.

- AMR as a global and national threat, AMR in poultry, cattle and buffalo, small ruminants, swine, mechanism of AMR spread in Nepal.
- National policies and one health AMR response in Nepal.

11:00 to 11:15 Q&A session.

11:15 to 11:25 Tea/Coffee Break.

11:30 to 12:15 Case studies by a canine practitioner in Kathmandu.

Lecture: Dr. Arjun Aryal.

- Background of canine practice in the Kathmandu Valley.
- The lecture includes 4-5 case studies of different categories such as parasitic, skin diseases, enteritis, antimicrobial use and resistance, road accident and trauma cases in canines.

12:15 to 12:30 Q&A session.

Dr. Aryal is a renowned clinical canine specialist in Kathmandu valley. He also serves as an Undersecretary at Nepal's Department of Livestock Services (DLS). Known for his excellence in companion animal medicine, diagnostics, and surgery, he has earned a strong reputation in the region. Besides his clinical work, Dr. Aryal plays a key role in national veterinary administration and policy, aiding programmes that improve animal health and livestock development. His dual position as a practitioner and policymaker highlights a rare combination of practical veterinary skills and strategic leadership, making him a prominent figure in advancing both companion animal care and livestock services across Nepal.

12:30 to 13:30 Lunch Break.

Afternoon Session: Hands-On Small Animal Clinical Practice & Surgery (CPD) [3.5 credit hours].

Time: 14:00 to 17:30 hrs

Venue: Valley Animal Clinic, Kathmandu.

Lead Facilitator: Dr. Arjun Aryal

Participants will attend clinical cases at the veterinary hospital/clinic and engage in the following activities:

- Physical examination of sick animals presented to the hospital.
- Surgical intervention procedures (participants should bring their own scrubs if preferred; hospital scrubs can be confirmed in advance).
- Neutering procedures (target: at least two dogs/cats per participant group; suitable for up to 10 veterinarians).

✪ Note: All necessary equipment will be provided. Participants wishing to perform hands-on surgical procedures must hold a temporary veterinary license under the Nepali Veterinary Council.

17:30 to 18:00 Drive to Hotel Himalaya and freshen up.

18:45 to 20:00 Discussion before Dinner.

Topic: Comparative Reflections — Clinical Practice in Nepal vs. the UK

Venue: Japanese Restaurant, Jhamiskhel, Lalitpur.

20:00 Dinner

Day 3: Kathmandu: Small Animal Hospital Practice: Emergency Care & Diagnostics.

Morning Session – Clinical Practices [3.5 Credit Hours]

Time: 8.30 am -12:00 hrs.

Venue: Animal Hospital Center, Kathmandu.

8:30 to 12:00 – Clinical Practice in Small Animal Hospitals: Case Management, Emergency Care & Diagnostics.

Lead Facilitator: Sushil Poudel.

- Emergency and trauma management: Fluid therapy.
- Ecto and endoparasites disease: Diagnostics and treatment.

Sushil Kumar Paudel is a veterinary professional from Nepal, currently working as the Hospital Director and Senior Surgeon at Animal Medical Center in Maharajgunj, Kathmandu. He earned his Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.VSc & A.H.) from the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science (IAAS), Tribhuvan University, graduating with distinction in 2008. With over ten years of experience both nationally and internationally, he has practised as a veterinary surgeon in Kathmandu and Kuala Lumpur and completed an externship at Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists in Wisconsin, USA. His expertise includes small animal surgery, emergency medicine, fracture treatment, diagnostic imaging like ultrasound and endoscopy, and reproductive health. He actively contributes to veterinary health camps, surveys for farmers, and training programmes for community-based animal health workers. Dr. Paudel is registered with the Nepal Veterinary Council (Reg. No. 489), is a Life Member of the Nepal Veterinary Association, and has served on the Executive Committee of the Nepal Veterinary Council. His work reflects strong leadership, technical skill, and dedication to advancing veterinary services in Nepal.

12:10 to 12:35 Drive to restaurant nearby Swayambhunath.

12:40 to 13:30 Lunch Break.

Afternoon Session: Visit to UNESCO world heritage site and clinical practices and observation.

13:30 to 15:00 – Visit to Swayambhunath, one of the UNESCO world Heritage Sites in Kathmandu.

Sight-seeing tour of Swayambhunath: Perched on a forested hill overlooking the Kathmandu Valley, Swayambhunath (often called the Monkey Temple) is more than just a monument—it is the legendary birthplace of Kathmandu itself.

16:00 to 18:00 Clinical Observation & Case Handling [2 credit hours]

Venue: Animal Hospital Center, Kathmandu

Lead Facilitator: Drs. Sushil Poudel.

At the small animal clinic, participants will observe real-time clinical operations. Participants holding a temporary veterinary license (Nepal Veterinary Council) may also perform selected hands-on procedures under supervision.

Participants will observe (and, for license holders, perform):

- Routine patient intake and clinical examination.
- Diagnostic procedures and treatment planning.
- Emergency case handling, when applicable.
- Clinical team workflow, communication, and decision-making in a hospital setting.

18:00 to 18:30: Drive to Hotel Himalaya and freshen up.

19:00 to 19:30 Reflection of the day (half an hour)

Venue: Nepalese & Continental Restaurant (near Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur).

19:30 to 20:30 Dinner.

Day 4: Kathmandu: Integrated Livestock Health Management in Nepal: Epidemiology, Diagnostics, and Disease Control Across Large Ruminants, Small Ruminants, and Poultry.

Morning Session – Diseases in different species and their Management
[3 credit hours]

Time: 9.00 to 12:30.

Venue: Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur, Kathmandu Valley

9:00 to 10:00 – Large ruminant diseases and their management system in Nepal.

Lecture: Dr. Balram Thapa.

- Nepal-specific epidemiology, disease burden, primary diseases diagnostics, treatment, prevention and national programmes for extensive ruminant development

10:00 to 10:15 Q&A session.

Dr. Balram Thapa is a highly skilled senior veterinarian known for his long-term dedication to animal health and veterinary services in Nepal. His career focuses on clinical practice, livestock development, and farmer extension programs, significantly strengthening veterinary care both in the field and at institutions. His expertise includes disease diagnosis, treatment, and preventive health measures, as well as promoting livestock welfare and supporting rural livelihoods. Recognised for his practical knowledge and commitment to science-based solutions, Dr Thapa is respected by peers, farmers, and policymakers. As a senior veterinarian, he continues to push for improved veterinary infrastructure, greater farmer awareness, and the adoption of modern technologies to enhance animal health and productivity.

10:15 to 11:00 – Poultry disease management system in Nepal

Lecture: Dr. Dinesh Gautam.

- Challenges in the poultry sector.
- Effective management: Biosecurity status, vaccination programmes, diagnostics.
- Emerging issues: AMR, climate change-driven disease shifts and nexus of backyard and commercial flock with its challenges in disease management.

11:00 to 11:15 Q&A session.

Dr. Dinesh Gautam is a renowned Nepalese veterinarian, celebrated as a poultry expert with vast experience in animal health and production systems. Throughout his career, he has focused on advancing poultry science by emphasising disease prevention, biosecurity, and sustainable practices that boost productivity and improve farmers' livelihoods. Recognised for his technical skills and practical advice, Dr. Gautam has enhanced veterinary services, supported farmers with evidence-based solutions, and promoted food safety in the poultry industry. His work centres on science-led strategies to tackle issues like infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and market competitiveness, making him a leading figure in Nepal's livestock development. Through his leadership and dedication, he continues to improve poultry health, contribute to food security, and foster growth in Nepal's agricultural sector.

11:15 to 11:25 Tea/Coffee Break

11:30 to 12:15 Small ruminant diseases and their management:

Lecture: Dr. Rupak KC

Overview of key goat/sheep diseases, Nepal-specific epidemiology, management & prevention.

12:15 to 12:30 Q&A session.

Dr. Rupak KC is a veterinarian and academic at Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU), Nepal. With a solid background in clinical practice and teaching veterinary medicine, he is engaged in advancing veterinary education and research. His expertise includes animal health management, diagnostics, and therapeutic care, benefiting both livestock and pets.

12:30 to 13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session: Site Visit [2.5 credit hours]

Time: 13:40 to 16:30

Venue: National Agriculture Research Council

13:40 to 14:00 Drive to National Agriculture Research Council.

14:00 to 16:30 Visit to farm research station and research units (Only livestock related) of the National Agriculture Research Council.

- Visit to farm research station - cattle, poultry, buffalo and observation.
- Discussion with scientists in different research units (animal breeding, fodder and paster, poultry research, swine research, animal health research, animal nutrition).

16:30 to 17:00 Drive to Hotel Himalaya and freshen up.

Evening Session: Wildlife Conservation in Nepal [1.5 credit hours]

Time: 17:30 to 19:30

Venue: Hotel Himalaya and Patan Durbar Square.

17.30-18:15 - Wildlife Conservation in Nepal.

Lecture: Dr. Paras B. Singh

- Conservation Principles and Strategies in Nepal.
- Rhino, Tiger and Snow Leopard Conservation.
- Community forest.

18:15 -18:30 Q&A session.

19:00 – 19:30 Reflections of the day.

Venue: Nepalese & Continental Restaurant (Patan Durbar Square)

Dr. Paras Bikram Singh is a Nepali conservation ecologist with a PhD and postdoctoral training in Ecology. He spent six years as a Conservation Officer in the Annapurna Conservation Area, where he conducted extensive field research on Himalayan musk deer, red pandas, and snow leopards. He is currently the Director of BIOCOS Nepal, a nonprofit organisation dedicated to biodiversity conservation through scientific research, community partnerships, and youth mobilisation.

Dr. Singh's work focuses on carnivores and mountain ungulates, along with long-term conservation of Himalayan pheasants. He leads innovative approaches that integrate science with community-based stewardship, including youth engagement, conservation-themed sports, and collaboration with public figures to enhance awareness of snow leopard conservation.

He has authored more than 25 peer-reviewed publications and continues to advance conservation research, outreach, and policy dialogue across the Himalayas. His contributions have strengthened local capacity, improved understanding of mountain ecosystems, and promoted coexistence between wildlife and people in some of Nepal's most fragile landscapes.

19:30 to 20:30 Dinner

Day 5: Transfer to Chitwan National Park; HOME OF GREATER ONE HORNED RHINO and visit to Elephant Breeding Centre.

8:30 to 14:00 – Transfer to Chitwan and Check in to the Park Safari Resort.

13:30 to 17:00 – Visit to the Elephant Breeding Centre [1.5 Credit Hours].

- Introduction and briefing on the Breeding Centre
- Overview of elephant care, mating, breeding, and pregnancy management
- Q&A session with Elephant Keepers

Chitwan National Park: Land of the Greater one horned Rhino

Established in 1973, Chitwan National Park, spanning 932 sq.km, stands as a successful example of nature conservation in Asia. The park showcases the intricate ecosystems of Churia hills, ox-bow lakes, and the floodplains of Rapti, Reu, and Narayani rivers, each holding significant ecological value. Recognised for its remarkable biodiversity, the park attained UNESCO's 'World Heritage Site' status in 1984. With over 535 birds species, 68 mammal species, 45 amphibians and reptile species, the park boasts a rich diversity that includes the Great One-horned Rhino, Royal Bengal Tiger, Common Leopard, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear, Asian Elephant, Rhesus Monkey, Common Langur, Sambar deer, Hog Deer, Spotted Deer, Four Horned Antelope, Wild Boar, Otter, Fishing Cat, Gharial Crocodile, Mugger Crocodile, Golden Lizard etc.

Embarking on a jungle safari, you'll have the opportunity to witness rhinos grazing or wallowing, sometimes engaging in territorial disputes and pursuing females. The landscape may reveal basking crocodiles, wandering bears, leaping deer, and captivating monkey activity from treetops to bushes. Additionally, you might encounter herds of wild elephants, and if luck is on your side, a majestic Royal Bengal Tiger might cross your path. But you will definitely see how tiger use trees to mark their territory

Day 6: Chitwan: Large Animal Camp

Full-day session: Large Animal Camp with Local Livestock Farmers [8.5 Credit hours].

Time: 8:30 to 17:00

Venue: Rajahar, Nawalpur, Chitwan

Facilitators: Drs Himal Luitel, Gokarna Gautam, Rupak KC, Chet Raj Pathak, Ram Prasad Poudel.

Large Animal One Health Camp conducted in the field in collaboration with the Faculty of Animal Science, Veterinary Science, and Fisheries, Agriculture and Forestry University, Nepal.

Focus species: Cattle, buffalo, goats.

8:30 to 9:30 Drive to the health camp site. Full insight about the camp will be given during the journey

9:45 to 12:45 Various activities in health camp

- Clinical examination of cattle, buffalo, and goats.
- Field diagnosis and examination techniques.
- Assessing nutritional problems.

12:45 to 13:10 Lunch Break (Packed lunch will be provided).

13:10 to 16:10

- Reproductive health checks – rectal palpation (demonstration), Ultrasound (Pregnancy diagnosis)
- Parasite load assessment (FAMACHA, deworming strategies): faeces
- Discussion: AMR and antimicrobial stewardship in rural Nepal

16:10 to 17:00 Drive back and freshen up.

Evening Session

Time 17:30 to 18:45

Venue: Park Safari Resort, Sahuraha, Chitwan

17:30 to 18:00 Discussion about the animal health camp and learnings facilitated by Dr. Himlal Luitel

18:00 to 18:45

- Lecture: Suraj Baral.
- Gharial Crocodile Breeding Programme and Gharial and Mugger Crocodile Conservation in Chitwan National Park

18:45 to 19:00 Q&A session.

Suraj Baral is a conservation biologist with specialised expertise in crocodylian ecology and landscape connectivity, currently pursuing a Ph.D. at the Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change (LIB), Germany. His doctoral research focuses on quantifying functional connectivity for the Mugger Crocodile (Crocodylus palustris) in Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape, integrating GIS, remote sensing, and spatial ecology to assess habitat use, movement corridors, and human/wildlife interfaces. Through his work, he applies advanced connectivity modelling to inform evidence-based conservation planning for freshwater and riverine ecosystems, contributing directly to the long-term conservation of crocodile populations in Nepal.

19:00 to 20:00 Dinner

Day 7: Chitwan: Understanding habitat of various fauna and diseases in megafauna in Chitwan National Park. [4 credit hours]

7:15 to 9:15 Boating down the Rapti River to observe the natural habitat of Gharial and Mugger Crocodiles, greater one horned rhinoceros along with bird watching led by a nature guide and wildlife specialist.

9:15 to 10:15 Jungle Safari to Gharial Breeding Center and drive back to Sahuraha. (Observation of rhinoceros habitat and wetlands).

10:15 to 10:30 Snacks and coffee/tea break.

10:30 to 11:15 Explore Gharial Crocodile Breeding Center.

11:15 to 12:40 Safari back to Sahurah.

13:00 to 14:00 Lunch Break

Afternoon: Lecture on diseases in Megafauna.

Time: 14:10 to 16:35

Venue: Park Safari Resort

14:10 to 15:10 Diseases in Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros and Asian Elephant.

Lecture: Dr Kamal Gaihre.

15:10 to 15:30 Q&A session.

15:30 to 16:15 AMR and antimicrobial stewardship in rural Nepal

Lecture: Dr. Himal Luitel.

16:15 to 16:45 Q&A session.

Dr. Kamal Gaihre is a distinguished wildlife veterinarian in Nepal, known for his expertise in the health, conservation, and management of wild animals. His career focuses on protecting Nepal's biodiversity, collaborating with national parks, conservation agencies, and research institutions to address challenges in wildlife medicine. He worked in disease diagnosis, rescue, rehabilitation, and developing protocols for safely handling and treating endangered species. He actively promotes the One Health approach, emphasising the links between wildlife, livestock, and human health, especially concerning zoonotic diseases and ecosystems. Respected for his practical knowledge and conservation-driven vision, Dr. Gaihre continues to enhance Nepal's capacity for wildlife health and biodiversity conservation.

Evening: Bird Watching Optional or time at leisure.

19:00 to 20:00 Tharu Culture Show.

20:15 to 21:00 Dinner.

Day 8: Chitwan: Wrap-up, Certification, Cultural Experience

Time 8:30 to 21.30.

Venue: Park Safari Resort

Summary workshop: Group Discussion and participant's reflections.

- Disease patterns observed.
- Clinical learning reflections.
- Lesson learnt and feedback.

10:00 to 11:00 Visit to the National Cattle Research Program (NCRP).

NCRP is the government cattle research farm under NARC (an apex body of agricultural and livestock research in the country) Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal. Participants will observe ongoing research activities in the centre including research trials. They will be familiar with the NCRP's past achievements.

11:00 to 12:00 Interaction with the Faculty of Animal Science, Veterinary Science and Fisheries, Agriculture and Forestry University, where participants will discuss with the faculty members and senior students, especially with the Research and Extension Committee of Nepal Veterinary Student Association and get to know academic activities.

12:30 to 13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon: Visit to Kumroj Bufferzone Forest with wildlife specialist.

14:00 to 17:00 Jungle Safari in Kumroj Bufferzone Forest; Chitwan National Park with wildlife ecologist to become familiar with habitats of royal Bengal tiger, greater one horned rhinoceros and understand community based conservation.

17:00 to 17:20 – Back to the resort.

17:30 Certificate Distribution.

Certificates awarded to all participants.

18:30 BBQ party.

Day 9: Drive back to Kathmandu.

9:00 Departure time from Chitwan.

12:00 to 13:00 Lunch Break.

16:00 Check in Hotel Timila, Patan Durbar Square.

Day 10: Flight back home or continue additional tours/trekking.