

Risk Policy

1. Purpose

Vets Beyond Borders (VBB) is committed to operating with the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability. As such, this Risk Policy outlines our approach to identifying, mitigating, and managing risks related to fraud, corruption, money laundering, and theft. These risks not only threaten the integrity of our organisation but also undermine our ability to fulfill our mission of providing veterinary care and support to communities in need worldwide.

2. Scope of the policy

This policy applies to:

- all our personnel (being our directors, employees, volunteers and independent contractors and consultants); and
- our Partner Organisations (PO) and their staff involved in our activities

3. Policy Statement

- 3.1. Fraud Prevention:** VBB recognises that fraud can take various forms, including misrepresentation of financial information, embezzlement, and misuse of organisational resources. To prevent and detect fraud, we implement the following measures:
- 3.1.1. Clear segregation of duties to minimise opportunities for collusion or unauthorised transactions.
 - 3.1.2. Regular review and reconciliation of financial records by independent parties.
 - 3.1.3. Implementation of internal controls and monitoring mechanisms to identify suspicious activities.
 - 3.1.4. Confidential reporting channels for staff, volunteers, and stakeholders to report suspected fraud anonymously.
- 3.2. Anti-Corruption Measures:** VBB strictly prohibits any form of corruption, bribery, or unethical conduct in all its operations. To uphold this commitment, we adhere to the following principles:
- 3.2.1. Compliance with relevant anti-corruption laws and regulations in all jurisdictions where we operate.
 - 3.2.2. Establishment of clear guidelines and procedures for interactions with external parties, including vendors, partners, and government officials.
 - 3.2.3. Mandatory training for staff and volunteers on recognising and addressing situations that may constitute corruption or bribery.
 - 3.2.4. Implementation of due diligence processes for vetting potential partners, suppliers, and contractors to mitigate corruption risks.

3.3. Money Laundering Prevention: VBB acknowledges the importance of preventing our organisation from being used as a vehicle for money laundering or terrorist financing activities. To mitigate these risks, we implement the following safeguards:

- 3.3.1. Monitoring and reporting of suspicious financial transactions to relevant authorities in accordance with legal requirements.
- 3.3.2. Regular training and awareness programs for staff and volunteers on identifying and reporting potential money laundering activities.

3.4. Theft Prevention: VBB is committed to safeguarding its assets and resources against theft and misappropriation. To prevent and deter theft, we implement the following measures:

- 3.4.1. Physical security measures to protect equipment and inventory.
- 3.4.2. Secure storage and handling of cash, valuables, and sensitive information.
- 3.4.3. Regular audits and inventory checks to detect discrepancies and identify potential theft or loss.
- 3.4.4. Implementation of access controls and authorization procedures to restrict unauthorised access to organisational resources.

3.5. Record Keeping: We will ensure that accurate and complete records of reports, our reviews, any referrals and any investigations are securely retained for a minimum of 7 years after receipt of the report.

4. Roles, responsibilities and delegations

ROLE	RESPONSIBILITY
Governance Committee Chair	Oversees the development, implementation, and periodic review of policies and procedures aimed at identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks to ensure compliance, transparency, and accountability within the organisation's operations and decision-making processes.
General Manager	Responsible for leading the identification, evaluation, and management of risks, ensuring that strategies are in place to safeguard the organisation's assets, reputation, and mission while promoting a culture of risk-aware decision-making across all levels of the organisation.

5. Related documents and links

- Vets Beyond Borders [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- Vets Beyond Borders [Code of Conduct](#)

6. Definitions

Volunteer means an individual who freely offers their time and services to Vets Beyond Borders without financial compensation.

Partner Organisation means animal welfare, One Health, or Government Organisations who have been granted Partner Organisation status by the Programs Committee of Vets Beyond Borders.

Staff means paid employees and individuals contracted by Vets Beyond Borders to perform specific tasks or roles.

Money laundering means the concealment of the origins of illegally obtained money, typically by means of transfers involving foreign banks or legitimate businesses.

Anti-corruption means a practice designed to eradicate or prevent dishonest or fraudulent conduct, especially in a political context.

Fraud means wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Approved By	Board of Directors
Policy Owner	Governance Committee Chair
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