

Livestock Emergency Intervention to Mitigate Food Crisis in Somalia (LEISOM) Project

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Livestock is the mainstay of the Somali economy and the basis for the livelihoods of the largely pastoral and agro-pastoral population. The export of live animals, hides, skins and chilled carcasses generates the foreign currency that the country depends on to feed its population. However, uncontrolled livestock disease outbreaks have kept threatening the livelihood of vulnerable pastoralists. It was in mitigation of this that The African Union's Intra-African Bureau of Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), in partnership with VSF Germany implemented the 24-month LEISOM Project.



GOAL OF THE PROJECT

The aim of the project was to reduce the negative effect of soaring food prices on Somali pastoralists and agro-pastoralists and to increase the sustainable contribution of livestock in mitigation efforts through:

- Promotion of productivity of small ruminants through enhanced animal health status in the pastoral production systems in Somalia (vaccinations and treatments of sick stock).
- Improved performance of livestock marketing systems through the rehabilitation of infrastructures and improvement of management systems (This would improve the quality of animals marketed hence the pastoralists incomes).

KEY ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

- Training for vaccination teams and refresher training on the use of drugs for treatment.
- Vaccination against PPR, CCPP, sheep and goat pox.
- Target treatment of livestock for other endemic diseases.
- Training of public sector personnel to follow up animal health activities.
- Development of management framework for marketing infrastructure facilities.
- Enabling the Local Authorities to follow up the running and management of infrastructures once they are built.
- Carrying out rehabilitation of infrastructure facilities.





SUSTAINABILITY NEEDS

The benefits brought about by this intervention could be replicated further in other areas and regions. Also, the sustenance of good animal health is a continuous exercise that should be supported on an equally continuous basis.

DONOR INFORMATION

On 10th August 2009, The African Union's Intra-African Bureau of Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), on behalf of the African Union Commission, signed with the European Union a 4 MEUR – 24-month Financing Agreement (FA) for a contribution by the European Union under the Action entitled: Food Facility, EC-AU IBAR - Somalia, for the implementation of the Livestock Emergency Intervention to Mitigate Food Crisis in Somalia (LEISOM) project.



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