

Emergency Veterinary Support Programme II (EVSP II)

BACKGROUND

Food Security: When there are poor rains, there is usually below normal harvest. Crop stocks last for three months until January, instead of the typical 5 to 6 months up to April, followed by reduced access to fish and wild foods. The lack of food stocks exacerbates food shortages during April to June, leading to a more severe hunger season, which could severely constrain the cultivation capacity of poor households who lack sufficient income to purchase much needed grain. Above normal food shortages cause reduced food intake and subsequently exacerbate child malnutrition during April to June. The malnutrition is mostly accompanied by poor hygiene, water, sanitation, and associated diseases.

Security: Inter-ethnic and cattle raiding conflicts cause displacement especially in Jonglei state. In some areas, displacement has been compounded by the inability to cultivate, weakened kinship support, and/or the poor harvest.



Animal Health: The main livestock diseases that lower productivity are CBPP, internal parasites, trypanosomosis, brucellosis, TB, HS, anthrax, blackquarter and Foot and Mouth disease in large ruminants, while PPR, CCPP, sheep pox and mange are common in small ruminants. Continuous organized vaccination against some of these diseases has reduced the incidences as well as mortality rates.

Goal of the Project:

To contribute to an improvement in the health and nutrition status of vulnerable communities in South Sudan by increasing their capacity to proactively address their own needs in relation to livestock, food production and accessibility.

Overall Objective

To increase the capacity of vulnerable communities in local livestock food production and access to safe food of animal origin.

SUSTAINABILITY

All cadres of animal health workers were trained and refreshed to improve their skills and efficiency in disease monitoring, surveillance and response. Through community dialogues and training workshops, communities have been exposed to the practicalities and skills of disease searching and reporting of outbreaks. Extensive experience in this process has been gained from the Rinderpest eradication and surveillance programmes. Every livestock supervisor will be expected to visit cattle camps on active search for clinical diseases that are prioritised. Disease surveillance is a public good and thus a function of the government. Therefore, the project has been working with the Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (MARF) to support county-level veterinary offices to handle epidemiological information for onward transmission to MARF.

Vaccination procedures have been developed to encourage communities to carry out strategic vaccination campaigns in their areas so as to successfully prevent and/or contain livestock diseases.





The community animal health workers have been carrying out treatment against common diseases including trypanosomiasis, bacterial infections, internal and external parasites as cases are reported. The animal health workers were provided with field veterinary equipment in form of kits.

With a viable market economy becoming a reliable potential for private supply of veterinary inputs, privatisation has been encouraged. As such, VSF-Germany has supported the establishment of locally managed private veterinary supplies outlets in various locations. VSF-G has supported the local authority's capacity to enable them to supervise and regulate the private suppliers of veterinary inputs. This has been done through awareness workshops and training of animal health supervisors attached to local authorities. Animal health workers engaged in veterinary supply business have been trained in entrepreneurship and business management. The local authorities and communities have been encouraged and supported to buy into the whole privatisation process and thus community workshops were carried out to create more awareness.



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