

Regional Livestock Policy Framework COMESA



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PREFACE

In order to address the challenges faced by member states in developing and implementing policies, regulations and standards, the African Union, Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources [AU-IBAR] is implementing the Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa [VETGOV] program. This is designed to bring about institutional strengthening of veterinary services towards (i) the establishment of quality veterinary services at the national level (ii) strengthening regional institutions to play their roles of coordination, harmonization, integration and support to countries with the aim to stimulate a more conducive environment for public and private investments in the livestock sector.

The COMESA Livestock Policy Framework (LPF) is a result of various consultations among stakeholders deeply versed in and with long experience in the livestock sector of the COMESA region. The LPF also relies heavily on the review of livestock and related policies of member states and expansive body of literature and research on animal agriculture in the COMESA region, the livestock trade, its economics and sociology. The LPF was reviewed and validated by COMESA member states represented by Directors of Veterinary Services and/or Directors of Animal Production including partner organizations and adjacent Regional Economic Communities.

The development of the COMESA LPF was supported through the VETGOV program and is well aligned with livestock development strategy for Africa [LiDeSA] which is expected to transform the livestock sector in order to raise livestock production and productivity to a level that meets the projected demand for livestock and livestock products. The LPF is expected to open opportunities for all COMESA Member States to address those particular issues hindering the development of their livestock sectors, whether from the standpoint of health, production, competitiveness, trade, or other constraints. The LPF is also expected to facilitate and, indeed, accelerate the progress of all Member States, irrespective of their livestock sector's current status, towards the overall goal of a fully integrated regional livestock value chain.

The development of the COMESA Regional Livestock Policy Framework, in line with VETGOV expectations, will support the strengthening of COMESA to play its role of coordination, harmonization, integration and support to countries with the aim of stimulating a more conducive environment for public and private investments in the livestock sector.

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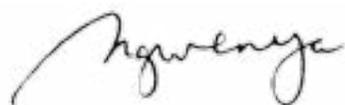


Agriculture is an engine for economic development in the COMESA region. The sector accounts for more than 32% of COMESA's gross domestic product (GDP), provides a livelihood for about 80% of the region's labour force, accounts for about 65% of foreign exchange earnings and contributes more than 50% of raw materials to the industrial sector. The agriculture program in COMESA aims to improve food and nutritional security, promote agricultural development by transforming both plant and animal agriculture and increase the resilience of its farmers and their ability to access domestic, regional and international markets. Livestock contributes close to 40% of the region's value of agricultural output and supports the livelihoods and food security of large communities of pastoralists and mixed crop livestock producers. The livestock sector is one of the fastest growing parts of the agricultural economy, driven by population growth, urbanization and income growth that has changed the food preference of its community creating growth in demand for livestock and livestock products.

In most of the COMESA member states, livestock keeping is a multifunctional activity. Beyond the direct role in providing food and generating income, livestock are valuable assets, serving as a store of wealth, collateral for credit and an essential safety net during times of crisis. Livestock are also central to mixed farming systems. The trend in the region of increased demand for livestock and their products is currently not matched by a similar growth in local production. COMESA and AU-IBAR, together with its member states, are now addressing how to best ensure that the farming community can produce more high quality livestock products, thus reducing the need for dependence on increased imports.

Despite the importance of the livestock sector to regional food and nutrition security, its development has not been supported by a harmonized livestock development policy and strategy. Recognizing this gap, the Sixth COMESA Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, directed COMESA, to spearhead the development of a harmonized Livestock Policy Framework through the Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa program. This is an EU funded joint program between AU-IBAR and COMESA in partnership with FAO and OIE.

The COMESA Livestock Policy Framework is consistent with EAC, SADC, IGAD and Continental Livestock and Agriculture strategies and policies. Once implemented the Livestock Policy Framework is expected to empower COMESA member states to attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains, enhance livestock production and animal health to increase productivity and resilience of livestock production systems. In addition, it will stimulate innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors and facilitate access to markets, services and value addition.



Sindiso Ngwenya

Secretary General, COMESA



The COMESA Regional Livestock Policy Framework has been drafted with the intention to support the strengthening of COMESA to play its role of coordination, harmonization, integration and support to member states with the aim of stimulating a more conducive environment for public and private investments in the livestock sector.

COMESA encourages competitiveness, value addition, trade and investment in livestock sector. However, increasing livestock agricultural productivity in COMESA requires harmonizing livestock policies and enhancing efforts of development partners, agribusiness and other stakeholders to efficiently and effectively create impact on the region's livestock production. The presence of trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs) and zoonosis have often been restrictive and act as barriers to market participation of livestock producers and traders. Thus, COMESA calls for broader policy and strategic frameworks that encompass competent veterinary and livestock extension services and their governance along with capacity for livestock product value addition and inputs and products trade. The region needs a livestock policy framework based on the existing development policy frameworks that could provide relevant complementarities and consistency towards providing an enabling environment for enhancing livestock productivity and returns to the livestock assets for the producers. Aligning the COMESA livestock policy framework with CAADP and Agenda 2063 is particularly relevant as it ensures accelerated growth in livestock subsector in a harmonised and comprehensive approach.

This is a critically important time for livestock development in Africa as there is an increasing recognition of a looming crisis of supply over demand for livestock and livestock products. The indications are that by 2030 to 2050 the demand will increase two to eight fold, largely due to the increase in human population in urban areas and rising affluence. Projections indicate that if the current scenario in the livestock sector (low levels of public and private investments and low sector growth) is maintained, the increase in demand will not be matched by a corresponding increase in production, leading to a critical shortfall in the supply of quality proteins of animal origin, with negative impacts on the food and nutritional security of many households in Africa. The writing is already on the wall with the current value of livestock products imports into COMESA MS [\$2,500,000] exceeding exports [\$500,000] by a factor of 5.

In response to the emerging realisation that Africa is facing an urgent need to dramatically increase livestock production and productivity, and taking due cognisance of her vast resources in terms of livestock numbers, land and livestock keepers, the African Union Commission [AU-C], Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture [AU-DREA], with the Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources [AU-IBAR] as the lead organisation, was requested by the AU-C to produce and deliver a livestock development strategy for Africa [LiDeSA] that transforms the livestock sector in order to raise livestock production and productivity to a level that meets the projected demands. This request came in response to a recommendation from the 9th Ministerial Conference on Animal Resources, held in Abidjan 2013, for a 20 year livestock development strategy.

The strategy, as embodied in the recently completed LiDeSA document, strongly signpost required and contemporary content for the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework [LPF] and it would make considerable sense

and coherence of purpose if there was a direct alignment between the two. The LiDeSA programme is based on four strategic objectives: To attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains; To enhance animal health and increase production, productivity and resilience of livestock production systems; To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors; To enhance access to markets, services and value addition. Taking these strategic objectives the following summary of the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework, creating an enabling environment for the attainment of the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa [LiDeSA], is given:

1. Strategic Objective I: To attract public and private investments along the different livestock values chains
 - 1.1 Identify, map and promote priority value chains with comparative advantage at the national levels
 - 1.2 Promote recognition of the asset values, socio-economic benefits and potential of the livestock sector
 - 1.3 Develop and implement public and private sector investment policies, incentives and regulatory frameworks to enhance performance of priority livestock value chains
 - 1.4 Put in place safeguard mechanisms to minimize the impact of negative externalities on public goods
2. Strategic Objective 2: To enhance Livestock Production and Animal Health to increase productivity and resilience of livestock production systems
 - 2.1 Enhance availability and access to quality feed and water
 - 2.2 Improve animal health systems and reduce impact of animal diseases on livestock production, productivity and public health
 - 2.3 Improve the genetic potential and performance of animals
 - 2.4 Promote the intensification of livestock production systems
 - 2.5 Enhance environmental health and ecosystem services
 - 2.6 Manage climate change and variability risks
 - 2.7 Establish support measures for social protection and diversified livelihoods
3. Strategic Objective III: To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors
 - 3.1 Adopt relevant livestock value chain technologies
 - 3.2 Generate and sustainably utilize new livestock value chain technologies
 - 3.3 Create conducive conditions for the progressive commercialisation of the traditional livestock Sub-sector
4. Strategic Objective IV: To enhance access to markets, services and value addition
 - 4.1 Improve marketing and value addition infrastructure
 - 4.2 Promote adoption of the value chain approach by stakeholders and implement strategies to increase total values (promoting contractual arrangements, market organisations and linkages)
 - 4.3 Enhance marketing information and leverage on ICT to improve access markets, services and value addition
 - 4.4 Strengthen capacity to develop quality standards and enforce sanitary measures affecting animal health, food safety and public health
 - 4.5 Improve access to inputs and services
 - 4.6 Promote risk management in livestock products value chain
 - 4.7 Encourage innovation through technology transfer, research and development for enhanced product competitiveness

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa
AnGR	Animal Genetic Resources
ARIS	Animal Resources Information System
ASF	Animal Source Food
AU-C	African Union Commission
AU-DREA	African Union Department for Rural Economics and Agriculture
AU-IBAR	African Union / Inter African Bureau of Animal Resources
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme
CAHWs	Community Animal Health Workers
CBPP	Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
EAC	East African Community
ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
EU	European Union
Extrapolate	Ex-ante Tool for Ranking Policy Alternatives
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FSS	Food Security Strategy
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GF-TADs	Global Framework for the control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
GM	Genetically Modified
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Development Authority
IVF	In Vitro Fertilisation
LDP	Livestock Development Plan
LDPS2	FAO's Livestock Development Planning System version 2
LEGS	Livestock Emergency Guidelines
LiDeSA	Livestock Development Strategy for Africa
LITS	Livestock Identification and Traceability Systems
LPF	Livestock Policy Framework
LSD	Lumpy skin disease
LSIPT	Livestock Sector Investment Policy Toolkit
MS	Member State
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NCD	Newcastle Disease
NRM	Natural Resource Management





OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services Evaluation Tool
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PPR	Peste des Petits Ruminants
REC	Regional Economic Community
SP	Strategic Plan
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Standards
TADs	Transboundary Animal Diseases
USD	United States Dollar
VCA	Value Chain Analysis
VETGOV	Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa programme
WAHIS	World Animal Health Information system
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation

1

Introduction and Background

In sub-Saharan Africa Livestock represents on average 30% of the Agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and about 10% of the national GDP and up to 250 million poor people depend on livestock for their income and livelihoods. However the sector is seriously constrained by animal diseases and inadequate investments to enhance its contribution to the development of the African Continent, despite its great leverage potential. Since the 1980's the livestock sub sector in Africa has been subjected to unfavourable government policies resulting from structural adjustment programs with consequent under-funding from both public and private sectors, as well as poorly functioning institutional settings and weak implementation capacity of policies, regulations and standards. In order to reverse the negative trends of livestock development in Africa, major institutional and policy reforms are required at national, regional and pan-African levels.

As a step towards addressing the challenges faced by member states [MS] in implementing policies, regulations and standards the African Union, Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources [AU-IBAR] is implementing the Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa [VETGOV] programme. This is designed to bring about institution strengthening of veterinary services towards (i) the establishment of adequate veterinary services at the national level (ii) strengthen regional institutions to play their roles of coordination, harmonization, integration and support to countries with the aim to stimulate a more conducive environment for public and private investments in the livestock sector.

The development of the COMESA Regional Livestock Policy Framework will support the strengthening of COMESA to play its role of coordination, harmonization, integration and support to countries with the aim to stimulate a more conducive environment for public and private investments in the livestock sector.

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) comprises nineteen member states namely; Burundi, Comoros, DR-Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe with a total population of 490 million people. The COMESA region is coordinated by a Secretariat which facilitates development and implementation of policies and programmes by member states. The Secretariat is guided by the COMESA Treaty - an instrument developed by member states and endorsed by their heads of states and governments otherwise called the COMESA Authority.

The COMESA Secretariat developed an Agricultural Strategic Framework (2010 to 2014) which is consistent with the overall strategy and aspirations of the COMESA Region, which seeks to achieve food security, assume a common agricultural policy and increase agricultural productivity of crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry (COMESA Treaty, 2004). Within COMESA, the agriculture sector accounts for more than 32 percent of GDP, supplies 65 percent of raw materials for industry, and employs 80 percent of the region's population. This sector's contribution to GDP ranges from 6 percent in Mauritius to 49 percent in Burundi. Agriculture, therefore, plays a pivotal role in the attainment of increased incomes and improved standards of living of the majority of the people. COMESA region relies heavily on agriculture for employment and economic growth and is well endowed with livestock resources: Cattle 142,494,104; Goats 134,114,802; Sheep 110,690,256;





Chickens 489,453,487; Pigs 10,990,057 and Camels 10,806,111 (FAOSTAT 2013). The livestock sector accounts for more than 35% of agricultural GDP and 30% of foreign exchange earnings. In COMESA, there is huge market potential and opportunity to increase livestock production and productivity. For instance, despite having huge livestock resources, member states in COMESA spent close to two billion USD (\$2,536,497,000) in 2012 for importing animal source foods from elsewhere to the region and the export accounted only for over half a billion USD (580,308,000) (FAOSTAT 2012). COMESA is the largest regional economic community in Africa with a total land mass of 12.6 million square kilometres, a GDP of US \$ 525 billion and a population of 490 million which shows tremendous opportunity for the development of the livestock sector.

COMESA encourages competitiveness, value addition, trade and investment in livestock sector. However, increasing livestock agricultural productivity in COMESA requires harmonizing livestock policies and enhancing efforts of development partners, agribusiness and other stakeholders to efficiently and effectively create impact on the region's livestock production. The presence of trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs) and zoonosis have often been restrictive and act as barriers to market participation of the poor livestock producers and traders. Thus, COMESA calls for broader policy and strategic frameworks that encompass competent veterinary and livestock extension services and their governance along with capacity for livestock product value addition and inputs and products trade. The region needs a livestock policy framework based on the existing development policy frameworks that could provide relevant complementarities and consistency towards providing enabling environment for enhancing livestock productivity and returns to the livestock assets for the producers. Aligning COMESA livestock policy framework with CAADP is particularly relevant as it ensures accelerated growth in livestock subsector in a coordinated and comprehensive approach.

It is expected that from the regional policy framework, national livestock policies could be drawn for implementing sector-wide livestock development, paying attention to the diversity of agro-ecological conditions under which livestock resources are produced and traded. This will enable effective integration and harmonized implementation. Therefore, the objective of having policy framework is:

- *To facilitate secured access to basic production inputs in order to engage in productive use of livestock assets.*
- *To support coordinated and harmonized control of TADS and ensure resilience to risks and shocks to secure livestock assets*
- *To support harmonized registration and control over veterinary medicinal products import and distribution*
- *To facilitate support to enhance livestock and livestock product trade among COMESA member countries and beyond*
- *To ensure sustainable livestock production, productivity and competitiveness in order to be responsive and adaptable to changing market conditions and consumer demands.*

The current productivity of the livestock sector in COMESA is characterised by low yields of both meat and milk through a complex of inhibitory factors of which nutrition, disease, breed and management practice are key factors. There is, however, a potential to significantly increase livestock productivity provided that current technical constraints are addressed. These constraints include inadequate nutrition, the impact of endemic and epidemic livestock diseases and pests and the subsistence orientated mindset of the majority of livestock keepers. Agro-ecological zones where mixed agriculture is possible have the highest potential. Within each agro-ecological zone elements of animal nutrition, animal health, feed resource management

and genetic upgrading have to be considered in order to realise the increased productivity. Whilst attention for the livestock industry has tended to focus on cattle it is important to recognise the presence of the large population of small ruminants and their meat and milk production potential as well as the significant and valuable role played by poultry production both in the commercial and rural sectors .





2

Aligning the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework with Current Strategies for Livestock Development in Africa.

This is a critically important time for livestock development in Africa as there is an increasing recognition of a looming crisis of supply over demand for livestock and livestock products. The indications are that by 2030 to 2050 the demand will increase two to eight fold, largely due to the increase in human population in urban areas and rising affluence [Alexandratos and Bruinsma. 2012]¹. Projections indicate that if the current scenario in the livestock sector (low levels of public and private investments and low sector growth) is maintained, the increase in demand will not be matched by a corresponding increase in production, leading to a critical shortfall in the supply of quality proteins of animal origin, with negative impacts on the food and nutritional security of many households in Africa. The alternative for meeting the increased demand will be to import the huge deficits expected. Consequently, this would increase livestock import bills for African countries, increase prices of livestock products, pose a potential crisis in food security, food safety and nutrition, affect the growth of local industries, deny employment opportunities to millions of youth, reduce income for African livestock producers, and other livestock value chains actors and lead to the loss of revenues from levies and taxes. This negative scenario requires urgent and effective government action to redress, particularly in creating an enabling policy environment that encourages greater private sector investment in the sector by business orientated livestock producers, traders and processors. A key target will be to increase the private sector's engagement in achieving inclusive and sustainable growth, supporting the role of livestock private sector operators on employment creation, better labour conditions, ensuring a progressive transition towards to the formal economy, building domestic institutions and legal frameworks that allow livestock markets to become more efficient.

Livestock production performs several functions primarily as source of household income, food and animal drought power for livestock producers. The livestock sector also supports and sustains enterprises and interest groups which are linked and associated with the livestock value chains such as the livestock traders, transporters, slaughter facilities/processors, feed manufacturers, government (veterinary/animal husbandry departments), local authorities, veterinary drug suppliers, etc. who also generate employment opportunities. Livestock, therefore, is a major source of sustainable employment for many people and supports rural development initiatives along the value chain. Value added activities, especially meat and milk processing, has the capacity to create higher employment opportunities along the value chain and should be encouraged in addition to marketing the primary products. Meat processing has a value added multiplier effect of 11.7, suggesting that processing of beef into assorted meat products creates more jobs, followed by livestock feeds and dairy products.

Whilst it is recognised that livestock provides an important livelihoods safety net through economic diversification and sustainable rural development, most agricultural policies are biased towards crops for food-security purposes. Recognition of the contribution made by livestock to livelihoods and income generation will be assisted if there is greater alignment of livestock development activity into the four pillars of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). These pillars comprise:

¹ Alexandratos, N. and J. Bruinsma. 2012. *World agriculture towards 2030/2050: the 2012 revision. ESA Working paper No. 12-03. Rome, FAO.*

Extending the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems; Improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities for market access; Increasing food supply, reducing hunger, and improving responses to food emergency crises; and Improving agriculture research, technology dissemination and adoption. There should be a particular focus on a growth-oriented livestock development agenda, aimed at contributing to the CAADP target of increasing agriculture growth rates to a minimum of six percent per year. The AU-IBAR publication "A Framework for Mainstreaming Livestock in the CAADP Pillars" provides clear guidelines on the activities that can be undertaken to increase the contribution of the livestock sector to the CAADP process. The COMESA Livestock Policy Framework must take due heed of the CAADP and create an enabling environment to implement activities in support of the four CAADP pillars and increasing livestock sector contribution to agricultural growth rates.

In response to the emerging realisation that Africa is facing an urgent need to dramatically increase livestock production and productivity, and taking due cognisance of her vast resources in terms of livestock numbers, land and livestock keepers, the African Union Commission [AU-C] Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture [AU-DREA], with the Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources [AU-IBAR] as the lead organisation, has been requested by the AU-C to produce and deliver a livestock development strategy for Africa [LiDeSA] that transforms the livestock sector in order to raise livestock production and productivity to a level that meets the projected demands. This request came in response to a recommendation from the 9th Ministerial Conference on Animal Resources, held in Abidjan 2013, for a 20 year livestock development strategy.

As a first step towards producing the LiDeSA, livestock resource assessments were commissioned by AU-IBAR and carried out in the five geographical regions of Africa. These indicate that the sector is affected by various issues including deficiencies in breeds, production capacities, productivity, availability of quality land, feed and water resources, animal health systems and disease control measures, input supply and service delivery, value addition, market information and market infrastructure, competitiveness of African livestock products and in the application of and compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary standards. These are coupled with deficiencies in policy, legislative and institutional frameworks as well as the inadequate application of available technologies, knowledge and skills. The issues compiled from the regional assessments are listed in table 1 and detailed for COMESA countries in Annex 1.

Table 1. Issues affecting livestock production in Africa

Livestock Resources	Animal Health
Inadequate use /recognition of indigenous genetic potential	Ineffective policies and lack of enabling frameworks
The failure to consistently utilise available technologies	Limited technical capabilities, outdated knowledge /skill sets
The failure to attract meaningful investments that match the potential of the sector	Inadequate human, financial and physical resources
The inappropriate use of land and water resources	Limited availability/use of applied research, technology, ICT
	Weak coordination, harmonization, collaboration and partnerships among actors with too many gaps and overlaps
	Low investment in 21 st century animal health systems





Production System	Markets, Trade and Value Chains
Insufficient targeting and balancing of domestic, regional and niche markets	Disconnect between decisions for regional/continental integration and implementation at the national level
Under-developed value chains – poorly organized small scale producers, entrepreneurs, service providers and cottage industry	Failure to address SPS issues in informal livestock trade.
Weak and unsustainable intensification systems	Low capacities of Member States to address Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade
Weak, fragmented and disconnected institutional efforts, partnerships and collaboration arrangements complex bureaucracy	Uneven access to market information
Weak financial and Insurance Services	Low competitiveness of Africa's livestock commodities in local and international markets
High energy use particularly in intensive production systems	Transport /Infrastructure
Inadequate alignment and effectiveness of tertiary and higher education and training to livestock production and development	Inadequate organization and integration of Livestock Value Chains
Inadequate knowledge management and research	Emerging role of Animal Welfare Standards in Livestock trade and marketing
Aging livestock farming community with a growing disinterest of the youth population in livestock production and business	Inadequate value addition and preservation of livestock commodities
Inadequate use of mechanization, technology and ICT in livestock production and development among the old and young	Inadequate Public Private Partnerships in marketing and provision of inputs and services.
Modernization of pastoral and agro-pastoral systems	Inadequate access to credit
	Unattractive policies for trade in Livestock
	Inadequate integration of gender in Livestock trade and marketing
	Poor linkages between institutions involved in Livestock trade and marketing

These issues, as embodied in the recently completed LiDeSA document, provide strong indicators as the required content of the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework and it would make considerable sense and coherence of purpose if there was a direct alignment between the two. The LiDeSA programme is based on 4 Strategic objectives as listed in table 2 below:-

Table 2. Livestock Development Strategy for Africa [LiDeSA] - Strategic Objectives

<i>Strategic Objective 1: To attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains</i>
<i>Strategic Objective 2: To enhance animal health and increase production, productivity and resilience of livestock production systems</i>
<i>Strategic Objective 3: To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors</i>
<i>Strategic Objective 4: To enhance access to markets, services and value addition</i>

A further document that should also be strongly reflected in the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework is the AU-IBAR Strategic Plan [SP] for 2014 -2017. This plan, developed in consultation with RECs and MS, reflects and builds on the experiences and lessons learnt from the preceding SP for 2010 -2014. The SP 2014-2017 contains 4 programmes as outlined in Table 3.

Table 3. AU-IBAR Strategic Plan for 2014 -2017.

<i>Programme 1: Animal Health, Disease Prevention and Control Systems - To strengthen veterinary governance and animal health systems for increased productivity, improved food and nutritional security, enhanced food safety and trade and public health protection.</i>
<i>Programme 2: Animal Resource Production Systems and Ecosystem Management - To strengthen animal resource production systems, improve management of animal resources and promote sustainable ecosystem management.</i>
<i>Programme 3: Access to inputs, Services and Markets for Animal and Animal Products - To facilitate increased access to inputs, services and markets for animals and animal products.</i>
<i>Programme 4: Animal Resources Information and Knowledge Management - To improve creation, dissemination and utilization of knowledge for effective animal resource development.</i>

As pastoralism forms a major part of livestock production for many countries in the COMESA block it will be important to consider and incorporate the policy framework as detailed by the AU, namely “The Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa: Securing, Protecting and Improving the Lives, Livelihoods and Rights of Pastoralist Communities”. Within this context policies should be drafted that encourage a greater degree of integration of pastoralist systems of production with commercial systems practised in areas with adequate supplies of crop residues, forage and pasture.

And finally it will be important to take into due consideration the details of the ACTESA Livestock Development Plan [LDP] - an inclusive LDP for COMESA where the following observation is made: “With much already known about the problems and issues impeding livestock development within the region, it is argued that COMESA’s efforts should now turn to establishing a long-term mechanism that is COMESA-focused, COMESA-owned and COMESA-financed, and which will coordinate, assimilate knowledge, build lasting regional capacity, and provide guidance to Member States, moving them in the direction of a fully integrated regional livestock market. An important step towards realising the aims of the LDP will be to ensure alignment of these aims with the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework [LPF]





3

Overview of the COMESA Livestock Sector

3.1 Livestock Resources

COMESA is well endowed with livestock resources (Table 4) and is focusing on ensuring these substantial animal resources make maximum contribution to the food security and long-term economic well-being of its populations. The vast majority of these animals are owned and raised by smallholder producers. They are valuable assets and have an important contribution to make in supporting livelihood and play an important role in food and economic security in most of the Member States [MS] through the provision of a variety of products and services inclusive of milk, meat, hides and skins, draught power, manure, fertilizer, traction and capital accumulation.

Table 4: Livestock population in COMESA member countries (2013)

MS	Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Chicken	Camels	Pigs
Burundi	777,786	2,489,304	352,722	2,705,000	-	434,204
Comoros	50,000	122,000	24,000	520,000	-	-
DRC	750,000	4,100,000	910,000	21,000,000	-	1,050,000
Djibouti	298,000	514,000	470,000	-	70,000	-
Egypt	4,950,000	4,350,000	5,450,000	126,100,000	107,000	10,600
Eritrea	2,080,000	1,800,000	2,300,000	1,400,000	350,000	-
Ethiopia*	52,000,000	30,000,000	33,000,000	63,000,000	2,500,000	33,000
Kenya*	17,467,774	27,740,153	17,129,606	25,756,487	2,971,111	334,689
Libya	198,500	2,600,000	7,200,000	34,850,000	57,000	-
Madagascar	10,030,000	1,472,000	839,000	27,000,000	-	1,500,000
Malawi	1,241,744	5,356,545	255,928	17,200,000	-	2,754,414
Mauritius*	7,000	28,300	2,000	14,500,000	-	23,500
Rwanda	1,140,000	2,680,000	810,000	4,700,000	-	990,000
Seychelles	300	5,500	-	450,000	-	5,550
Sudan*	29,618,000	30,837,000	39,296,000	35,000,000	4,751,000	-
Swaziland	635,000	270,000	36,000	3,700,000	-	35,000
Uganda	13,000,000	14,500,000	2,000,000	37,572,000	-	2,439,100
Zambia	3,100,000	2,500,000	240,000	38,000,000	-	730,000
Zimbabwe	5,150,000	2,750,000	375,000	36,000,000	-	650,000
Total	142,494,104	134,114,802	110,690,256	489,453,487	10,806,111	10,990,057

Source, FAOSTAT 2013, * Official

3.2 Livestock Production

Livestock have been traded in the COMESA region for millennia, particularly among the states in the Horn of Africa, where the majority of the population are dependent on livestock production and marketing for their livelihoods. The bulk of this trade passes through uncontrolled and unmonitored channels as it moves through

informal markets and across porous borders. Such movement makes the control of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) a challenging task. It also makes service delivery and sectoral planning difficult.

An examination of official livestock trade data for the COMESA region obscures the extent of this trade. For example, official trade data indicate that in 2012, COMESA member states generated \$580,308,000 USD from the export of animal and their products (Table 5) which is considered, by some authorities to represent less than a quarter of the overall trade. New approaches are needed towards cross border trade that gains the support of all stakeholders, inclusive of producers and traders, targeted at achieving better controls within a supportive and enabling environment.

Table 5: Animal Products Export from COMESA Member State in 2012

Products	Quantity (Tones)	Value USD
Skin Goats	907	2,168,000
Skin Sheep	437	1,150,000
Hides/wet salted/dry	17,657	17,350,000
Dairy product	192,776	498,180,000
Goats Meat	12,306	56,555,000
Sheep Meat	2,401	10,873,000
Beef	1,969	6,645,000
Sheep Wool	1,707	1,601,000
Eggs in shell	1,418	3,136,000
Total value exports		580,308,000

Source, FAOSTAT: 2012

Despite its vast potential to significantly contribute to poverty reduction, economic growth and social well-being and food security and nutrition, the animal resources sector was traditionally not given enough attention by policy makers and investors alike. This has led to chronic underperformance, high costs of production and sub-optimal productivity. Technical, technological, policy and institutional constraints are some of the reasons attributed to the poor performance of the sector. For instance, despite having such a huge livestock resource, Table 6 shows that COMESA MS spent more than 2.5 billion USD (\$2,536,497,000) in 2012 for importing animal source foods from outside of the region (FAOSTAT 2012).

Table 6 : Animal Source Food imports by COMESA MS in 2012

Animal Source Food (ASF)	Quantity (ton)	Value USD
Meat (beef Veal Boneless)	225,881	1,037,380,000
Chicken meat	138,450	257,773,000
Pork	10,760	18,160,000
Mutton	10,857	155,332,000
Milk skimmed dried	100,185	257,680,000
Milk whole dried	141,329	345,573,000
Cheese	65,266	464,599,000
Total value of imports		2,536,497,000

Source, FAOSTAT: 2012

To improve the livestock production and their product trade COMESA is working with African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR). AU-IBAR's mandate is to support and coordinate the utilization of livestock, fisheries and wildlife as resources for both human wellbeing and economic development. There are four strategic programs where COMESA is collaborating with AU-IBAR in the improvement of production and productivity of animal resources and their utilization. The programs are:





1. *Animal Health, Disease Prevention and Control whose objective is to strengthen veterinary governance and animal health systems for the prevention and control of animal diseases*
2. *Animal Resource Production Systems and Ecosystem Management, whose objective is to strengthen animal resource production systems, improve management of animal resources and promote sustainable ecosystem management.*
3. *Access to inputs, Services and Markets for Animal and Animal Products, whose objective is to facilitate increased access to inputs, services and markets for animals and animal products.*
4. *Animal Resources Information and Knowledge Management whose objective is to improve creation, dissemination and utilization of knowledge for effective animal resource development.*

A tabulated record of the Livestock Industry; Production; Stakeholders; and Economic, social and cultural context for keeping livestock as reported by MS are given in Tables A1-4 in Annex 1

4

COMESA MS views on the Rationale & Objectives of the Livestock Policy Framework

4.1 Objectives of the Regional Livestock Policy Framework

The given broad brush objectives for having a Regional Livestock Policy Framework, incorporating MS suggested additions, are:-

To facilitate secured access to credit and other basic production inputs in order to engage in productive use of livestock assets.

To support coordinated and harmonized surveillance and control of TADS and ensure resilience to risks and shocks to secure livestock assets

To support harmonized registration and control over veterinary medicinal products import and distribution

To facilitate support to enhance livestock and livestock product trade among COMESA member countries and beyond by harmonising SPS measures in the region

To ensure sustainable livestock production, productivity and competitiveness in order to be responsive and adaptable to changing market conditions and consumer demands.

4.2 Additional objectives of the Livestock Policy

The following additional objectives of the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework were suggested by the MS: [See Annex 1 Table A5 for received MS responses]

1. *Advocacy developed and disseminated that provides evidence based argument for the importance of the livestock sector for livelihoods and contribution made to GDP*
2. *Structures, legislation and regulations in place that enable the delivery of quality Veterinary Services in line with OIE standards as detailed in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code*
3. *The livestock sector supported to conduct studies that identify and prioritise short, medium and long term actions needed to address constraints affecting both production and productivity.*
4. *All MS encouraged to have a national breeding policy that is coherent between neighbouring countries and is towards a harmonised regional policy*
5. *Each MS to make and maintain an inventory of key livestock sector socio-economic indicators that inform policy and enables the impact of strategies developed to deliver that policy to be the monitored and evaluated*
6. *Realise improved production and productivity through:*





7. Preventive medicine programmes developed and delivered that are effective in addressing the socio-economic impact of epidemic, endemic and public health diseases of livestock
8. Breed improvement achieved through artificial insemination programmes.
9. Quality clinical veterinary services that are appropriate for the needs and accessible to all livestock keepers provided.
10. Animal rights protected through the attainment of international standards in animal welfare practice and policy
11. Livestock identification and traceability systems [LITS] to ensure food safety standards for the protection of human health established and maintained,
12. Genetic improvement programmes that improve the efficiency of production towards achieving self-sufficiency in animal source foods supported.
13. The storage and distribution of improved animal genetic material, particularly for poultry, subject of an enabling legal framework
14. Insurance schemes for cattle supported
15. The sustainable development of the rural sector supported by integrating livestock production systems with environmentally friendly land and water resource management practice
16. Achieving optimal levels of economic efficiency through the provision of informed services and quality inputs
17. Practical solutions provided for the problems and constraints faced by small holder livestock producers
18. Training in the use and application of modern technologies to feature in all Undergraduate and Continuing Professional Development programmes
19. Existing feed resources used more efficiently and the use of agricultural by-products expanded.
20. Provision for an exhaustive and livestock centric policy encompassing sustainable and holistic rangeland management to maximise and secure access and use by pastoralist livestock producers
21. Support services relating to livestock production, extension, research and training revitalized and strengthened
22. An information system on trade, prices and livestock products in COMESA established and functional
23. A coordinated and harmonized livestock inventory and conservation programme of endangered species common to two or more countries in place
24. Research and extension services strengthened to enable farmers access and benefit from new breeds and technologies
25. To foster the development and harmonization of livestock identification and traceability systems
26. One of the national livestock policy hubs established with support of the AU-IBAR VetGov

programme identified six thematic areas with six sub-committees to revise and update the policy and legislations. They are (i) feed and fodder policy, (ii) breeding policy including conservation of animal genetic resources, (iii) marketing, (iv) registering farmers and animals, (v) review of veterinary legislation, and (vi) auditing and review of government services, incentives and schemes.





5

COMESA MS views on the Challenges and Policy Objectives for the Livestock Policy Framework

5.1 Animal Genetic Resources;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A6 for received MS responses]

- * *Animal genetic resources [AnGR] service is struggling to be installed for lack of funds*
- * *Lack of a breeding policy resulting in loss of some local breeds*
- * *Despite the presence of diverse animal genetic resource, little work has been done to characterize, study their genetic potential and utilize it*
- * *The diverse resource has not been optimally exploited to the benefit of the people.*
- * *Only very few breeds have been characterized and their merits identified*
- * *Lack of clearly defined breeding strategies, coupled with insufficient investment in the area of breed improvement and poor targeting of these investments, has hampered the development and expansion of the livestock industry*
- * *Lack of proper data base of animal genetic resources*
- * *Inadequate access and affordability to breeding services*
- * *Breeding policy still in draft form*
- * *Lack of gene banks*
- * *Specific studies geared towards looking at domestic animal diversity have remained limited in some species and non-existent in others*
- * *Local breeds of cattle, goat, pig and poultry are disappearing rapidly with the importation of exotic genetic stock.*
- * *There is a policy on AnGR, but its implementation is not adequately financed by the lead Ministry and the Ministry of Finance respectively*
- * *The majority of emergent and smallholder livestock farmers have no access / cannot afford genetically superior breeding stock of all species.*
- * *There is currently no policy with farmers procuring exotic breeds and letting them breed indiscriminately under communal grazing setting, where the principle of 'survival of the fittest apply.*
- * *Absence of mechanisms for ex-situ conservation*

- * *Loss of indigenous genetic resource through rampant cross breeding*
- * *Bio-piracy without due recognition for community property rights*
- * *Rampant inbreeding and weak recording systems*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- * *Encourage the creation of breed societies;*
- Support the establishment of breed registers, particularly for the protection of endangered breeds; Regulate the import and export of animals and semen to protect against the loss of local breeds.*
- Facilitate access by emergent and smallholder livestock farmers to genetically superior breeding stock of all species.*
- Ensure sustainable supply of affordable good quality breeding stock and maintenance of indigenous livestock blood lines.*
- Control the indiscriminate cross-breeding of indigenous strains with the improved exotic breeds which is posing a big challenge in the conservation and sustainable utilisation of the indigenous breeds.*
- Provide due recognition for community property rights reducing the risk of bio-piracy*

5.2. Access to basic production inputs Land, Water and Feed;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A7 for received MS responses]

- Insecurity constraining access to grazing lands*
- Animal feed is a bottleneck because of the production monopoly by a single company and deficit of cereals for human consumption.*
- To increase the land area and water available for livestock production*
- Providing enough animal feed, especially cultivated green fodder, and concentrated feed at moderate prices.*
- In the highlands, due to dense human population, there is limited access to land and feed*
- Shortage of feed supply, seasonality in feed availability and low quality of feed are major problems affecting livestock development*
- With the rapid increase in human population and increasing crop production, the areas available for grazing and browsing are shrinking because they are being converted to arable farmlands. As a result, animals are left with poor marginal lands such as steep slopes and hilltops, swampy areas and roadside herbs with low feeding values.*
- Insufficient use of crop residues, forage and agro-industrial by-products*
- Low capacity in quality control of feed*
- There is shortage of water for livestock in lowland extensive grazing areas, especially as a result of*





recurrent drought

- Competition of land use between different enterprises
- Land fragmentation
- Livestock production is losing land to crop production.
- In some situations crops that have lower rates of return, but better organised value chains than livestock, are prioritised in the allocation of land
- Feed and fodder production is generally very low and it is a limiting factor in commercialization and intensification of livestock production
- Climate change
- Seasonality in availability of water and feed
- High cost of feed production
- Poor feed quality
- Land access constrained and all animal feeds are imported and sold at very high costs
- Frequent drought, seasonal water shortages and poor water reticulation
- Pollution of water with mining and industrial waste
- Shortage and seasonal shortage of grazing due to drought, veldfires, overgrazing and toxic plant invasions
- Conflict between livestock and wildlife and humans for land/pasture and water
- High cost of feed; high cost of non-GM feed, competition with human needs for maize and pulses
- Shortage of grazing land and water is a big seasonal problem
- Lack of a comprehensive animal feeds policy to streamline the industry

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- Invest in the growth of decentralised feed mills to foster the emergence of a livestock industry.
- Support the provision of animal feed, especially cultivated green fodder and concentrated feed at moderate prices
- Put in place animal feed standards which stipulate minimum as well as maximum levels of feed ingredients.
- Establish testing facilities' capacity to ensure compliance with animal feed standards

The essential elements of land policy should include the following:

- Public/state land ownership
- Free and non-time bounded access to farmers/pastoralists

- Leasing to other participants
- Compensation when land is taken by government
- Restriction of farming and grazing below and above certain slopes except for prescribed activities
- Lifting entitlement against unprotected and damaged land by holder
- Restriction of land redistribution without the will and consent of the farmers at large
- Leasing of peasant holdings to other farmers or investors
- Presenting land use certificate as collateral by investors
- Addressing conflict arising and related to land usage through bilateral discussions, mediation and the identification, implementation, and enforcement of rules of the land administration authority
- Establishment of regional enforcement institutions at all levels to oversee the implementation of these regulations.

5.3 Growth in livestock productivity and competitiveness.

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A8 for received MS responses]

Factors affecting growth **in livestock productivity and competitiveness include:**

- Limited land and water for feed production; Poor quality of feeds; Increased cost of feed for the animals; Poor pasture management leading to poor livestock feeding practices especially in lean periods; For ruminants the limiting factor is availability of land and/or feed and fodder resources, land degradation and overgrazing. For chickens and pig production the limiting factor is expensive inputs (feed, breeding stock), inadequate markets and low rates of return
- Prevalence of diseases, Infertility; Infertility from low plane of nutrition for livestock; GAP and hygienic practices; unharnessed genetic potential; High resource needs for hygiene and nutrition management
- Limited use of advanced technology and extension service; inadequate knowledge in animal husbandry by livestock extension worker; Poor management skills; Doing farming as a business;
- Low investment in the livestock sector; Low funding by the government in livestock sector;
- Inadequate marketing strategy; Poor market access and information; Poor linkages between producers and markets; Inadequate emphasis in the agricultural strategies and policies towards the livestock sector; Poor road networks in remote parts of the country; Poor infrastructure to assure efficient marketing, Unreliable supply of livestock inputs; Poor infrastructure; Poor bargaining power of farmers for equitable producer prices;
- Livestock and meat export trade is jeopardized by repeated bans, in particular from the countries in the Arabian Peninsula, due to the perceived risk of introducing trans-boundary livestock disease;
- Absence of products diversifications, market expansions and segmentation hampers export volume;
- Inadequate supplies of export quality livestock for slaughter have been identified by exporters as their principal limitation to increasing meat export;





- *Managing the demands of meeting internal market requirements for livestock and livestock products with those competing demands for the export market;*
- *Handling, loading and transporting of live animals are, in most cases, inhumane and is affecting the quality of meat and welfare of the animal;*
- *There is lack of beef processing facilities and limited experience of the industry both in processing and marketing and relatively high meat prices that challenges the competitiveness for processed products.*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Encouragement for farmers to invest in livestock production, through attractive schemes, grants and incentives.*
- *Restocking with breeds suited to the environment and genetic selection within those breeds for improved production and productivity traits;*
- *Enable deep penetration into supply areas, control of informal exports, slaughtering of heavier animals, enhance productivity and encourage commercial breeding (long term), strengthen marketing linkages between abattoirs and producer cooperatives and licensed traders,*
- *Strategies developed to increase domestic production;*
- *Major animal diseases controlled*
- *Meeting increased food safety requirements through the application of international SPS standards and guidelines*
- *Acceptable animal welfare codes of operation promulgated backed by appropriate government regulations that lead to improved productivity, food safety and economic benefits.*
- *Establishment of an institution working to secure and develop existing international markets and identify new opportunities*
- *Encourage meat companies to adopt collaborative marketing tactics rather than destructive competitive tactics that harm the industry.*

5.4 Access to Livestock Extension and Health Services

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A9 for received MS responses]

- *Updating the skills and knowledge of livestock service providers*
- *Exploiting the opportunities provided by ICT devices to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of livestock services being delivered*
- *Bias in extension system towards crop production*
- *Lack of adequate human resource and weak extension that no longer match market requirement.*
- *Inadequate extension/animal health infrastructure, transport and equipment.*
- *There is a gap in coordination of extension efforts and in basing livestock development interventions*

on scientific knowledge with the value chain in mind.

- *Strengthen the extension system to service the increasing demand for improved and market-oriented livestock production by farmers, pastoralists and the private commercial producers*
- *Poor veterinary chain of command, lack of linking of veterinary professionals in the districts level and the Central (national) level*
- *There are inadequate communication lines (and facilities) between the different levels of veterinary services*
- *Availability of livestock extension and health services is variable, limited by inadequate resources, particularly transport*
- *Decentralization of Veterinary Services de-linked veterinary professionals in the districts from the central veterinary chain of command.*
- *Growth of private animal health service delivery is constrained by subsidized delivery of clinical services and providing “public-good” vaccination services for free*
- *A system of sanitary mandates does not exist.*
- *High cost of services by private providers*
- *Inadequate participation of private sector in extension services*
- *Without special incentive programmes, few private veterinary service providers other than CAHWs supported by an NGO, can operate in the remote areas*
- *Implementation of control policies and strategies mainly monitored in terms of the number of vaccinations achieved, and not by monitoring impact on the disease targeted for control or eradication.*
- *Vaccinations delivered in the face of outbreaks rather than strategically to prevent outbreaks*
- *Need for training courses to improve the skills of service providers with the latest knowledge on ICT, veterinary extension and health.*
- *Inadequate knowledge in animal husbandry by livestock extension workers*
- *Inadequate emphasis in the agricultural strategies and policies towards the livestock sector*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Creation of improved institutional support services for health, extension, research, input supply, rural finance and marketing as key areas of intervention in the transformation of subsistence mode of production to market orientation*
- *Address the major input needs for livestock extension inclusive of animal genetic resources, feeds and forages, veterinary drugs, vaccines, machinery equipment and utensils as well as knowledge*
- *Provide credit facilities to support livestock asset accumulation and development*
- *Engage farmers and pastoralists in a more market-oriented livestock production in areas where the*





resources offer the opportunities

- Recognize and enable the private practice's contributions to developing and improving efficient veterinary services
- Provide support for public-sector regulatory functions, including newly emerging tasks such as food safety, and enhance its capacity to subcontract service delivery tasks to the private sector.
- Promote and support integrated delivery of quality veterinary services by an integrated network inclusive of private sector professional veterinarians, paraprofessionals, and trained livestock farmers/CAHWs

5.5 Control of Animal Diseases and Zoonosis;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A10 for received MS responses]

- Weakly resourced veterinary services that are not structured to deliver integrated, quality and affordable solutions to the disease problems constraining livestock production and productivity
- Inadequate material, financial and human resources to prevent and control transboundary diseases and zoonoses (FMD, LSD, PPR, NCD, CBPP, Rabies, Brucellosis)
- Inadequate strategies for control of animal diseases and poor implementation
- Weak coordination of animal disease control in devolved system
- Weak internal and external communications and ineffective early warning systems
- Changing disease and vector patterns due to climatic change
- Capacity building of livestock specialists.
- The development of research in Animal Health
- The regulation and quality control of livestock products
- Insufficient budgets for investment and operations of public veterinary services remains a major constraint that requires a diligent solution to the authorities.
- Inadequate funding in public sector
- High cost of services, Porous borders.
- Inadequate identification and traceability mechanisms
- Poor regional coordination of trans-boundary animal diseases
- Cultural practises
- The poor rural infrastructure (roads, electricity, telecommunications etc) causes high distribution costs leading to higher prices of food.
- Weak market linkages to local and international markets
- Limited capacity of farmers to access and utilize new technologies (and thus be able to produce

more efficiently).

- Insecurity of land tenure system for women., Environmental degradation.
- Low levels of investment in agriculture.
- HIV/AIDS.
- Inadequate value addition due to lack of fully developed agro-industries resulting in export of raw materials.
- High dependency on rain-fed agriculture
- Underutilization of land resources
- Inadequate and unaffordable agricultural finance and credit,
- Coordination of the different stakeholders, particularly the Ministries of Livestock and Health in the control of zoonotic disease.
- Despite the contribution of livestock to the agricultural sector being 35%, livestock budget allocation of the agriculture budget is only about 20%.
- No proper epidemio-surveillance programme,
- Poor implementation of veterinary programmes due to low staffing levels at the implementation levels-districts.
- Need for updating responsibilities of the Veterinary Service Division; establishment of quarantine stations; capacity building; research; quality control regulation for livestock products; database for livestock; strengthen internal and external communication and early warning system.

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- Development of strategies for National Livestock Development in line with the guidelines set out in broader national strategic framework aimed at reducing poverty, supporting livelihoods and increasing livestock contribution to GDP.
- Strengthened collaboration with neighbouring countries and regional and international organizations for the control and eradication of TADS, zoonosis and other important diseases learning from rinderpest experience.
- Fielding annual vaccination programmes against important diseases that are strategically timed, spatially informed and delivered by public / private / community partnerships
- Undertake regular OIE PVS evaluations and initiate the remedial actions required to improve critical competency scores

5.6 Registration and control over veterinary medicinal products

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A11 for received MS responses]

- Irresponsible use of pharmaceuticals and pesticides,





- *Smuggling of prescription drugs and pesticides, some which have been banned or discontinued and*
- *Unsupervised use of drugs, cross border trading and use of illegally introduced veterinary products.*
- *Lack of drug registration and control on importation.*
- *Lack of coordination between agencies charged with registration and control of veterinary medicinal products*
- *Inadequate numbers of veterinary inspectors to monitor distribution and usage of veterinary medicines*
- *Irresponsible use of pharmaceuticals and pesticides*
- *High cost of drug registration*
- *Use of medicated feeds in food animals*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Establish, under Veterinary Authority control, a body responsible for the inspection, control of medicines importation of veterinary drug and efficacy tests and their equivalent*
- *Various offices of the District Veterinary Officers spread throughout the country to carry the delegated responsibility of ensuring compliance of veterinary medicinal products.*
- *Provide continued advanced training for veterinary doctors on skills for effectively inspecting facilities producing veterinary products to meet global standards.*
- *Ensuring availability of quality veterinary products for the prevention and control of animal and zoonotic diseases.*
- *Ensuring the availability of quality feed additives and premixes for the improvement of livestock production and productivity and also ensuring food safety.*
- *Registering and controlling veterinary products, feed additives and premixes in a way that ensures their adequate quality and purity, efficacy and safety, and also assure that treated and fed animals prove no harm for the consumers.*
- *Controlling that all animal health products, feed additives and premixes are registered according to the criteria of quality, safety and efficacy as per set requirements.*

5.7 Livestock Marketing and Value Addition

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A12 for received MS responses]

- *Inadequate market intelligence gathering and information dissemination;*
- *Inadequate technology and skills*
- *Lack of credit facilities for farmers to carry out value addition of the raw and perishable livestock product;*
- *Poor competitiveness of the raw/primary products;*

- *Perishable nature of fresh livestock products Lack of marketing and distribution infrastructure;*
- *Sale and export of raw livestock products, Low awareness along the value chain;*
- *Low investment in the value chain; Farmers believe the rate of return for livestock enterprises is very low due to cartel practices by the markets.*
- *Whilst movement restrictions often represent the most effective method of disease control, they can also represent disaster for livestock producers in certain areas whose only realistic source of income are through the sale of animals and, at their most oppressive, encourage illegal movements to secure a market.*
- *Inadequate control of trade sensitive animal diseases;*
- *Weak capacity to comply with SPS measures;*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Supporting the private sector, through the establishment of livestock market infrastructure, such as the small stock markets and livestock service centres as well as the setting up of milk collection centres for bulking and organised milk sales.*
- *Training of farmers and other stakeholders in livestock marketing, entrepreneurship and value addition will lead to increased market information.*
- *Provision of advanced slaughter houses and cold chain facilities and development of processing infrastructure and placing on the market of livestock products*
- *Raising quality standards for identification and traceability system*
- *Promotion of free market economy and value addition including industrialisation.*
- *Training of farmers and other stakeholders in livestock marketing, entrepreneurship and value addition*
- *Changing emphasis of livestock ownership towards market orientation translating physical assets into monetary equivalent*

5.8 Trade and Food Safety

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A13 for received MS responses]

- *Lack of attention to food safety standards at the abattoir and meat selling outlets.*
- *Absence of well developed market infrastructure and information system.*
- *Often the responsibility of more than one Ministry leading to a disjointed approach*
- *Lack of awareness of food control and trade standards,*
- *Presence of zoonotic diseases and inadequate compliance with SPS measures*
- *Volatility of live animal exports due to outbreaks of animal disease, like Rift Valley fever*
- *Weak capacity on food safety surveillance*





- *Poor understanding of WTO/SPS and TBT agreements*
- *Costs of meeting international standards*
- *Environmental pollution with toxic wastes and chemicals*
- *Imprudent use of drugs and pharmaceuticals leading to residues in animal source food [ASF]*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Adopting the principles of “Compartmentalization” and “Commodity Based Trade”*
- *Implementation of HACCP in export abattoirs subject to verification via routine independent audits*
- *Application of stringent food safety standards, including a residue testing plan, to meet export market requirements.*
- *Establish measures to protect the consumer from unsafe, low quality, adulterated, misbranded or contaminated foods including provisions for minimum acceptable levels of food quality and safety*
- *Create transparent communication in food analytical services and accreditation of laboratories responsible for food safety*
- *Surveillance and monitoring programmes for food-borne diseases and contaminants to identify the sources and reduce exposure to food-borne health risks*
- *Strengthen the education and training of veterinarians to play a central role in ensuring food safety, especially the safety of foods of animal origin*
- *Encourage an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, considering the whole of the food chain, to best assure food safety and quality*
- *Place the responsibility of carrying out meat inspections at abattoirs and slaughterhouses with Veterinary not Ministry of Health staff.*
- *Support and strengthen Consumer Associations to play a vital role in educating and enabling the consumers to be more alert to food safety*

5.9 Access to Financial Services;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A14 for received MS responses]

- *Limited injection of fund from international organizations into livestock credit schemes*
- *In general, there is limited credit facility for livestock development and a dearth of livestock insurance schemes.*
- *High interest rates constraining the industry, which is relatively capital intensive.*
- *Short-cycle nature of bank loans for long cycle species*
- *No policy for livestock financing with few schemes accepting livestock as collateral for loans*
- *Institutions were not willing to risk their money for a highly volatile and nature dependant livestock/ agricultural sector*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Make funds with preferential interest rate available for investment in livestock value chains*
- *Loan schemes, in general, need to be tailored to livestock activities providing for longer repayment periods necessitated by the longer turnover periods common to livestock enterprises.*

5.10 Resilience to risks, shocks and adaptive capacity

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A15 for received MS responses]

- *Farmers lack awareness of resilience strategies to address risk, impact and adaptability.*
- *Alignment of the agricultural and livestock sector with projected climate changes.*
- *Risks of scarcity of water, shrinking agricultural land and epidemic animal diseases.*
- *No compensation and disaster preparedness policy in the Ministry of Agriculture.*
- *Available livestock insurance policies do not adequately address the concerns of the producers*
- *Poor coping mechanisms, Weak disaster preparedness and management*
- *Short term program funding cycles, Low capacity by program partners*
- *Poor relationships between funders and state players*
- *Poor implementation of development theory Unsustainable design of development programs (over-dependence on donors and government.)*
- *To maximize productivity and increase resilience to shock (mainly drought), without upsetting the environmental equilibrium so essential to food security in pastoral areas*
- *Enhancing the security of tenure of pastoralist and agro-pastoralists through efficient and effective land policies, legislation, certification and administration.*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Adaptive measures include knowledge dissemination to farmers, land reclamation, collaboration with various regional and international organizations when problems were beyond the control of the country.*
- *Farmer insurance scheme was set up in 2013 at a premium rate of 4%, whereby Government and farmers each contribute half each.*
- *Mechanisms put in place to ensure effective collaboration with various regional and international organizations when problems are beyond the control of the country.*
- *Support pastoralists to be engaged in different income generating activities including marketing and processing of livestock and livestock products as a means of increasing households’ resilience to shocks*
- *Facilitate commercial de-stocking to reduce vulnerability to shocks and to take advantage of favourable market conditions*





- *Develop regional and national control strategies and the establishment of a regional coordination mechanism for the control of TADs, Zoonosis and other livelihood limiting diseases*
- *Improve and integrate animal health advisory and regulatory services adding value to livestock commodity production chains through Public Private dialogue*
- *Establish “Push-Pull” models e.g. “Push” pastoralist and ex-pastoralist households out of chronic poverty via improved and sustained livestock assets while linking livestock products supply from pastoral areas to the value chains in productive areas. Establish ‘Pull’ activities by linking the aggregators and processors such as feedlots and abattoirs based in the productive areas to source livestock from pastoralist producers and marketing groups.*

5.11 Pastoralism-cross border mobility and livelihoods including health, education and food security;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A16 for received MS responses]

- *A remote, rugged and harsh environment with few basic public services, practically no infrastructures, a history of frequent droughts and famine, superimposed upon by civil war and clan conflicts.*
- *National and regional borders established without consideration of pastoral migratory traditions and without territorial agreement.*
- *Cross border marketing of livestock had become chaotic, corrupt and intertwined with the illegal, duty-free importation of goods ranging from soap and sugar to televisions and satellite dishes*
- *Inability to provide health, education and food security in pastoral areas*
- *Lack of harmonised policies across the region*
- *Conflict over resources such as water and pastures*
- *Control of trans-boundary animals diseases*
- *Stock theft due to inadequate livestock identification and traceability systems*
- *Unauthorised transfer of animals and products across border,*
- *Low literacy level,*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Creation of an enabling policy and legislative environment supportive of pastoralist systems of production in arid and semi arid rangelands.*
- *Develop conflict mitigation measures to address conflicts over resources such as water and pastures*
- *Establish nomadic schools, health centres, clean water supply, and dams*
- *Minimise the challenges and restrictions and maximise the opportunities inherent in cross border movement and trade in livestock and livestock products.*

5.12 Natural Resource management and improving ecosystem productivity;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A17 for received MS responses]

- *Considered a “project” activity not a national need*
- *Underutilisation of the NR such as in the DRC with 87 million Ha of pasture.*
- *Efficiency in use of rainwater harvesting for livestock production in ASALS*
- *Sustainable use of grazing areas and its improvement through communally accepted practices.*
- *Combating soil erosion, the most visible form of land degradation, affecting agricultural land and resulting in soil loss of up to 1.5 to 2 billion tonnes annually, equivalent to 35 tonnes per hectares and monetary value of USD1 to 2 billion per year.*
- *Understanding and, where necessary, redressing role of livestock in causing soil erosion.*
- *Poverty and high population densities*
- *Lack of implementation and enforcement of land policy*
- *Conflict over resources and lack of compensation strategy*
- *Unsustainable land use practises*
- *Impact of climate change*
- *Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources*
- *Communal resources leading to “tragedy of the commons”,*
- *Settlement of people on grazing areas and maintenance of sustainable stocking levels*
- *Problems of land tenure lead to low land productivity because of little incentive to invest in land development for the livestock sector*
- *Overgrazing and uncontrolled movements of large numbers of livestock in grazing areas threatens sustainable livestock development which requires proper utilization and management of the environment*
- *Proper management of the grazing lands and pastures is constrained by inadequate land use planning for livestock production and low awareness among livestock keepers.*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Creation of a national NRM agency that supports the livestock sector by regulating the use of natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all*
- *Recognising the importance of rainwater harvesting in attaining food security and broad-based rural development*
- *Promotion of forest reserves with sustainably managed grazing and fuel and construction wood extraction.*

5.13 Animal Welfare;





Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A18 for received MS responses]

- *The concept of animal welfare is marking time in our country: the road ahead is still very long.*
- *Taking a rational and informed approach to the complex nature of the relationship between livestock, with their many uses and purposes, and their owners*
- *Lack express policy on animal welfare*
- *Weak enforcement of legislation on animal welfare*
- *Low awareness on animal welfare issues*
- *Cultural and religious practices*
- *Implementation of the Animal Welfare Act is not adequately followed owing to the low logistical support and low awareness levels across all stakeholders*
- *Challenge of poverty, ignorance and conflict between traditional and modern perceptions of welfare*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Make legal or policy provision for animal welfare issues such as humane handling and utilization of the different species of animals for different services including production, recreation, research and other duties.*
- *Ensure that the national veterinary services follow international standards in handling the various animal species for treatment, research and production of biological materials.*

5.14 Mainstreaming Gender and cross cutting issues;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A19 for received MS responses]

- *Providing services that recognise that both men and women are involved in the work of animal breeding*
- *Cultural and religious practises conflict with gender roles.*
- *Cultural influences at cross purposes with modern economy*
- *Poor enforcement of gender mainstreaming policies*
- *Limited access and control of livestock resources to women and youth*
- *Incomplete understanding of the meaning of 'Gender'*
- *On average, women have fewer years of schooling and heavier workloads than men.*
- *Women perform a significant portion of farm work but tend to be excluded from control of farm income and inheritance of property.*
- *Women suffer disproportionately from environmental degradation as they have to walk longer distances to collect water and firewood*
- *The lack of draught animal power tends to intensify the vulnerability of women.*

- *The incidence of poverty in woman-headed households is higher.*
- *Significant gender inequality continues to exist, particularly in terms of enrolment at post-primary education, economic empowerment and political representation.*
- *Capacity constraints exist to mainstream gender equality in policy formulation and implementation*
- *The contribution and potential of women and youth to livestock development have consistently been undervalued*
- *Women are often denied, frequently because of their occupation with other family activities, access to livestock production extension, information and credit schemes.*

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- *Removing gender disparity and ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment is key to accelerated economic growth and social development.*
- *Decisive moves are needed to create a conducive environment for women's effective participation, contribution to and benefits from the economic, social, and political processes*
- *Instigate national measures to increase girl's and women's education, to improve access to water supply and sanitation, to focus on services related to mothers and women's health, and to adapt agricultural programs and technical and vocational training to the needs of women.*
- *Ratify international and regional conventions and protocols on women and child rights*
- *Adopt strong measures in the economic sphere to ensure women's equal access to economic recourses including land, credit, science & technology.*
- *Creating awareness on existing international and domestic laws on women's rights;*
- *Strengthening institutional mechanisms for protecting women's and children's rights;*
- *Developing a comprehensive policy response to harmful traditional practices and gender-based violence;*
- *strengthening of women's associations and Civic Society Organizations;*
- *Creating strong coordination and partnerships among stakeholders to ensure increased impact of policies and programs;*
- *Designing and implementing income generating models for poor women;*
- *Strengthening capacity across government institutions in gender mainstreaming and gender responsive budgeting; and strengthening Business Development Services schemes for female entrepreneurs.*
- *Investment in the livestock sector will have beneficial effects on reducing the female workload in crop production through improved access to draught power and increased income generation potential through the management of small stock.*
- *Support the rapid expansion of broiler and egg production which can provide income for many households and is frequently managed by women.*





- Support the crucial role Women play in livestock production especially with respect to small livestock rearing (poultry, rabbits and small ruminants), on-farm processing, and marketing of livestock products.

5.15 Research in Livestock Sector;

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A20 for received MS responses]

- Lack of livestock scientists, shortage of finance and research facilities and not enough applied research aimed at achieving farmers' concerns.
- High investment cost, flight of research expertise, low understanding and poor perception of role of research, lack of proper prioritisation
- Livestock research had received little attention and has often performed poorly compared to other research areas such as crops and soils
- Erroneous priorities, with the focus mostly on "modern" production systems and on-station research
- With finite land resources, the increasing demand for animal food products requires further improvement in productivity per animal and per hectare;
- Intensification, which implies an increasing demand by producers for access to knowledge;
- Lack of sustainability in production systems, which implies the need for better waste and natural resource management;
- Reduction of grazing areas, which requires a shift in rangeland management;
- Increased globalization and, therefore, disease risks, which requires more attention to epidemiology;
- Weak research extension liaison, policy not informed by research and lack of demand driven research
- Not enough farmer-oriented research and not enough aiming at achieving farmers' concerns.

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- Policies should be set up to review the priority areas where research should be done
- Develop project proposals that should be cooperation with other countries to take advantage of its expertise in the maintenance of animal genetic resources.
- Development and application of reliable and user-friendly viral and bacterial vaccines and simple top apply disease control technologies
- An improved understanding of nutrient requirements and the technology to compose balanced rations
- A better understanding of breed vs environment interactions
- Undertake research on traditional and indigenous knowledge to improve the application of new technologies and understanding between herders and service providers

- Development of applied research to meet the needs of producers
- Policies should be set up to review the priority areas where research should be done.

5.16 Application and benefits of biotechnology.

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A21 for received MS responses]

- Misconceptions of the import of modern biotechnology
- Incomplete knowledge about long term potential harmful effects of modern biotechnology
- Poor technical and regulatory capacity to lack of appreciation of opportunities provided by agro-biotechnology by the public and decision makers.
- May only offer part solution with low cost: benefit ratio
- Technological advances not being systematically transferred to the national agricultural research and extension system
- Ignorance on biotechnology, lack of skills and capacity to implement biotechnology, costly undertaking and ethical issues
- Fear of the unknown, limited resources and inadequate trained manpower in the discipline

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- The use of artificial insemination to help improve animal production
- Exploit application of biotechnology for artificial insemination, molecular diagnostics, vaccine production and molecular genetic analysis
- Exploit biotechnological advances for the control of animal diseases including the development of vaccines [eg recombinant DNA-based vaccines] and disease diagnostic tools [eg ELISA, cDNA probes and PCR-based methods].

5.17. Conservation and enhanced utilization of livestock resources

Key Challenges: [See Annex 1 Table A22 for received MS responses]

- Rational utilization and protection of existing genotypes from genetic erosion
- If breeds are geographically isolated (endemic) as is the case for some local and rare breeds, there is a risk of their being lost in localized disasters
- Information for sustainable utilization and conservation of the farm animal genetic resources is limited and full of gaps
- Fertility and longevity of introduced breeds is so poor that continual importation of exotic breeds is necessary
- Rare breeds often crossed with 'improved' breeds, due to small population, leading to a dilution of breed characteristics and the creation of an "exotic" gene pool making it difficult to identify and utilize favourable local breeds.





- Impediment by culture on utilization of livestock resources , lack of animal resources gene bank, impact of climatic change and lack awareness on potential of animal resources
- It has been noted that although the Government is offering incentives to crop farmers, there are no similar incentives offered to livestock farmers.
- Grading systems biased against local genetic resources, poor promotion of beneficial traits of local genetic resources and relatively high cost of genetic characterisation

Suggested Policy Objectives:

- Provide artificial insemination centres and extension support and soft loans and the supply of animal genetic resources with genotypes improved to encourage the breeding of those resources and to increase their numbers and productivity.
- Create databases and reproductive productivity for selected breeds and through the activities of some of the research bodies, universities and support networking and dissemination of information between livestock breeders
- Preserve local breeds of various animal species for the purpose of maintaining the genotype with in-breed selection for genetic improvement and productivity to support and stimulate interest in them.
- Identifying the status of the livestock genetic resources and designing conservation strategies based on the priorities is crucial
- Sustainable use of genetic resources should effectively deal with semen and embryos preservation as a part of ongoing utilization and improvement programs.

6

COMESA MS views on Additional specific areas that the policy framework should address.

Table 26. Additional specific areas that the policy framework should address.

Country	The challenges faced and relevant policy instruments [if any], it operates facing these challenges
Republic of Burundi	<p>The lack of data in the sector that generates the negligence of the importance of the sector in GDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate human resources in the sector and the mismanagement of the past • Not updating legislation • Lack of promotion of products of animal origin: • Inadequate food supplies and livestock feed livestock balanced • Lack of sufficient multiplication and feed ingredients for the manufacture of concentrated land: • Lack of infrastructure epidemiological services nonfunctional veterinary health inspection at the national level • Structural problem of veterinary services (lack of command chain of veterinary services for the continuance of many animal diseases or recommendation of the report of the OIE PVS) • Lack of qualified staff in the sector • Low diagnostic capacity of veterinary laboratories (hence the low capacity to respond to epidemics) • The lack of traceability of animals and animal products: • The lack of research in the livestock sector • Inadequate control of the quality of food of animal origin • Threat of disappearance of the local race • Inadequate control of the production of food of animal origin: • Low production of fish:
DRC	We believe that the strategic framework under review questionnaire addressed the critical areas.
Arab Republic of Egypt	<p>In zoos and wildlife conservation there are a range of challenges are summarized in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the necessary financial resources for the development of zoos and wildlife conservation. • Development of human resources working in the field of zoos and wildlife conservation.
State of Eritrea	What has been mentioned in the above is enough.
Madagascar	<p>Consideration of Vulnerable groups are women and school dropouts:</p> <p>The intensification of production areas and exploitation, through the promotion of investment areas and contract farming, development of partnerships Public, Private</p>





7

Institutional and Legal Frameworks

7.1 Institutional Frameworks

Table 24. in Annex 1 provides MS detail of their institutional frameworks grouped under Private, Government and Civil Society categories. By and large the model is one where the state both regulates and delivers livestock services with the private sector largely concentrated on the provision of inputs and some private good services. Civil society continues to play an important role in filling gaps, particularly in the more remote and underserved areas

The sector suffers from a lack of working and effective partnerships between government, private and civil society entities and numerous fracture lines within those entities – as in the disconnect between animal health and animal production and the unclear often conflicting relationship between professionals and paraprofessionals. Until these disconnects are addressed the livestock sector will continue to underperform and investments fail to realise the expected returns.

Recent initiatives have been taken to address these institutional roadblocks inclusive of: encouraging the formation of public-private partnerships, moves towards the rationalisation of livestock services; designating regulation of services as the role of government and delivery of services the role of the private sector; and the formation, in many MS, of livestock policy hubs where livestock policy, strategy and delivery can be discussed and agreed in a forum broadly representative of all stakeholders in the sector.

7.2 Coordination and implementation of policies

Table A.25 in Annex 1 provides details of how policies are coordinated and implemented in the COMESA MS. The dominant model is that of the relevant line Ministry, commonly the Ministry of Agriculture, producing policy in response stakeholder expressed concerns and with a level, in some cases a well formalised level, of stakeholder consultation. Implementation of the policy is generally the responsibility of the relevant department.

It has long been viewed that the interests of the livestock sector are better served when it is looked after by a Ministry dedicated to livestock as attention to crops tends to take the major share of time and resources in Ministries of Agriculture. This interest is better served in the MS with sizeable livestock resources where a Ministry of Livestock or of Animal Resources is the norm. Other countries have suffered the disruption of having the interests of the livestock sector in a constantly changing Ministry set up – oscillating between that of a separate Livestock Ministry or combined with other departments within a Ministry of Agriculture.

A common weakness in the coordination and implementation of livestock sector policies is that the responsibility for implementing the Health, Production and Marketing components is separated to different departments, commonly under different administrations. With increasing attention being given to enhancing production, productivity and value addition along livestock market chains there is an increasingly strong argument for adopting systems that bring health, production and marketing activities into a more coordinated framework delivered by skilled and complementary multi-disciplinary teams.

Republic of Mauritius	<p>Livestock is part and parcel of the overall agriculture strategic plan.</p> <p>http://agriculture.gov.mu/English/Archives/Pages/Policy-Documents-and-Reports.aspx</p> <p>http://agriculture.gov.mu/English/Documents/Archives/Policy%20Documents%20and%20Reports/bprinta-griju08.pdf</p>
Republic of The Sudan	<p>LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT SECTORAL POLICIES:</p> <p>Institutional policies:</p> <p>Adoption of policies towards development of the three production systems in Sudan. Adoption of bank financing for the development of the sector semi-intensive and intensive to reduce the costs of production to serve domestic consumption and export. Adoption of micro financing policies to develop the traditional sector to promote production.</p> <p>Internal marketing policies: Establishment of livestock export entities to run the specialized activities of livestock and meat marketing. Expediting the issuance of the livestock markets regulating laws</p> <p>Information policies : Conduct livestock census.</p> <p>Develop livestock statistics and database for development livestock and fisheries sector production, marketing, export and food security.</p> <p>Land Use policy: Accelerate the implementation of land use map of the country, especially natural pastures and nomadic routes.</p> <p>Allocation of industrial areas to accommodate all the industries related to animal production (city of the leather industry).</p> <p>Enforcement of animal integration into irrigated schemes and rain-fed mechanized farms for the development of animal feed systems and production.</p> <p>Investment policies: Develop encouraging investment policies to attract investors in the livestock and fisheries sector.</p> <p>Encourage investment in logistics support, such as refrigeration, storage, transport and packaging of livestock and fish products.</p> <p>Encourage strategic partnerships in the field of production and export services.</p> <p>Marketing and promotion policies: Activate the National Agency for Exports to do its role in financing of livestock exports and increasing its capital and to consider the possibility of conversion to a public company.</p> <p>Establishment of infrastructure for marketing support such as roads, transport services, storage capacities and electricity and water services.</p> <p>Establishment of commercial attaché offices for livestock and fishery promotion and marketing, especially in the Gulf States. production and productivity policies: Strengthen efforts to combat epizootic and zoonotic diseases and supportive services and the privatization of veterinary services in coordination with the states, ministries and relevant bodies and the Government of Southern Sudan and the regional and international organizations.</p> <p>Establishment of a central body for marketing of livestock, meat and animal products and fish.</p> <p>The involvement of traditional pastoral communities and fishermen in the development of production policies. Transfer and application of technology to improve the productive qualities of the national herd to upgrade competitive advantages through breed selection.</p> <p>Upgrading ways of milk harvesting in the dairy and the traditional pastoral systems. Dissemination of technology and the development of aquaculture and white meat industry.</p> <p>Development of infrastructure for the fishing and aquaculture and organization of the fishing process and</p>
Republic of Uganda	<p>i. In ability to trade livestock and livestock products within the region on an equitable basis.</p> <p>ii. There is the East African Trade Treaty, Common Markets Protocol which if embraced could overcome the above challenge</p>





7.3 Networking and Capacity Building

Table A. 26 in Annex 1 provides details of how networking and capacity building is being implemented in the COMESA MS.

The National Livestock Policy Hubs, set up by the EU funded, AU-IBAR implemented VETGOV programme are providing an extremely important networking service for stakeholders of the livestock sector and is geared towards enabling their voices to be heard in the establishment of policies, strategies and legal framework for the development of the local livestock sector. These hubs are complementing the traditional forms of networking within the livestock which takes place in a variety of forms inclusive of associations starting from young farmers and women's clubs, producer or farmer organisations and commodity groupings, professional clubs, processors associations, marketing cooperatives and industrial lobby groups. These groups may also organise training sessions and fairs at which information and knowledge is disseminated. Some will invite expert speakers of various backgrounds from within and outside the country to inject new experiences and knowledge through conferences and seminars.

An important capacity building initiative directed at the continuing professional development [CPD] of veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals is gaining ground in COMESA MS and warrants strong endorsement and support to see all MS with formally adopted and deployed CPD programmes. This initiative provides a very effective and cost efficient way of ensuring the updated skills and knowledge of livestock service providers needed to meet the demands of radically increased levels of production and productivity if 2050 targets for animal source foods are to be met from within the continent. Such skills will also be needed if the opportunity to promote significantly greater levels of value addition activity to the multiplicity of primary livestock products with the consequent benefits by way of income, GDP and employment – particularly for the burgeoning population of un-employed school leavers and graduates of technical training courses.

7.4 Communication and information sharing

Table A.27 in Annex 1 provides details of the current status of communication and information sharing by COMESA MS. The majority of MS report using and reporting to the OIE [WAHIS] and the AU-IBAR [ARIS] information systems. Some have self maintained national livestock information systems but these are the exceptions rather than the rule. Many MS report that they have established a website where information concerning the livestock sector can be accessed, sometimes embedded in a larger Ministry of Agriculture site, though often these sites can suffer from a lack of updating or maintenance.

A weak point in the use of communication and information sharing systems is seen at the interfaces between national, regional and district livestock sector administrations, both vertically and horizontally. Many systems still rely on paper based reporting formats with the added impediment of decentralisation that has required field service personnel to report to local administrations rather than directly to the national technical authority.

Overall the livestock sector has been slow to adopt modern communication and information sharing systems with a generally poor level of ICT competence displayed by both management and service providing personnel. A lot of time, money and effort is being expended in holding meetings and seminars, the outcomes of which are generally very limited in impact. There is, however, an interest to maintain the status quo and resistance to adopting more cost effective e-communication and information sharing tools. More effort is needed to engender acceptance of the benefits these tools provide for driving agendas and the real time monitoring of the uptake of resolutions and ideas generated.

COMESA needs to adopt a strong policy position in encouraging and supporting the uptake and utilisation of modern communication and information sharing systems. In particular the use of e-platforms should be vigorously promoted for all facets of doing business by the livestock sector, with particular emphasis on networking between disciplines and specialities and for delivering quality controlled updated learning materials to enhance the skills and knowledge of service providers tasked to raise livestock production, productivity and value addition.

7.5 The legal framework

Table A.28 in Annex 1 provides details of the current status of legal frameworks for the livestock sector in COMESA MS. Outdated and/or lack of relevant veterinary legislation was highlighted by the OIE PVS as a consistent gap for many MS. This is reflected in Table A.28 that shows some MS with outdated legislation, some that dates back more than 100 years, there is a considerable number of MS with recently revised and updated legislation. This process has been assisted, in recent years, by the work of the OIE "Veterinary Legislation Support Programme", which provides an opportunity for OIE Members to obtain specialized technical support and guidance from OIE trained and certified experts.

The majority of COMESA MS remain with the challenge of completing the process of revising and updating their legislation to provide an enabling and comprehensive legal framework for increased production, productivity and value addition along livestock value chains. An important consideration in this process is to address the challenge of harmonising legislation between neighbouring MS to facilitate, amongst others, cross border trade, livestock movement and joint programmes for the control of TADs and Zoonosis. A second consideration is that of compliance. Whilst time and effort must necessarily be expended to revise and update legislation – it will be for not material gain of the new legal framework fail to be complied with. Carrot and stick strategies that encourage compliance need to be developed alongside the legislative review processes. A critical requirement for these to succeed will be genuine and effective stakeholder consultation

7.6 Monitoring and evaluation of policies

Table A.29 in Annex 1 provides details of the current status of monitoring and evaluation [M&E] of policies for the livestock sector in COMESA MS. It would seem that only a few MS have active M&E systems in place with others in the process of developing such a system. It should be noted that none of the MS mention the OIE PVS and Gap Analysis tools despite the fact that all MS in COMESA have undergone the PVS evaluation and many also the gap analysis. With some 38 critical competencies evaluated under 4 fundamental components addressing Resources, Technical Capacity, Stakeholders and Markets, the PVS and Gap Analysis tools provide for valuable and harmonised data on the performance of MS VS and their capacity to implement policies. The OIE PVS pathway tools provide an indication of the overall competency rating and, over time, any change in that rating towards increased production, productivity and value addition along livestock value chains. It would make sense that COMESA, in partnership with OIE, pursues a policy of promoting the use of the PVS tools and encourages MS to undertake annual self assessment with periodic independent assessments as fielded by the OIE.





Livestock Policy Framework for COMESA and MS aligned to the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa

Whilst it will be the decision of each MS as to the categories and detailed content of their livestock policies, there is an opportunity, if the large 19 member COMESA bloc of countries, combine approaches and resources, to make a significant contribution to the Continents' future and ever enlarging demand for animal source foods [ASF]. To realise this opportunity the policies adopted need to be focused and harmonised, creating an enabling environment to support livestock producers radically increase production, productivity and value addition along targeted priority livestock value chains.

The recently published and AU-C endorsed "Livestock Development Strategy for Africa" [LiDeSA] lays out a very clear set of strategic objectives and actions needed to dramatically strengthen production, productivity and value addition along African livestock value chains. The strategy provides a readymade guide to the drafting of a focused and harmonised livestock policy framework that will enable, if adopted, each MS to create the strongly enabled environment needed to support delivery of LiDeSA outputs. The following section takes forward this position by drafting the COMESA Livestock Policy Framework closely aligned to and fully supportive of LiDeSA.

8.1. Policies to achieve Strategic Objective I: To attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains

1.1 Identify, map and promote priority value chains with comparative advantage at the national levels

1.1.1 Oversight / providing support for MS to map, analyse and compare value chains

- Analysing the existing value chains and identifying opportunities for their enhancement.*
- Documenting the existing animal value chains in the REC and MS.*
- Facilitating the development and dissemination of a harmonized value chain analysis framework.*
- The documentation and mapping of trade flows of animal and animal products across countries and regions to guide decision-making and strategy-formulation in the animal health and trade areas.*

1.1.2 Selection of and targeting value chains with comparative advantages

- Identifying and promoting the prioritization of value chains for which MSs have comparative advantages.*
- *Providing policy guidance for interventions to support national value chains*

1.2 Promote recognition of the asset values, socio-economic benefits and potential of the livestock sector

1.2.1 Support MS to undertake studies on asset values, socio-economic benefits and potential of the

livestock sector

- *The asset values, socio-economic benefits and potential of the livestock sector recognized and promoted*
- 1.2.2 Promote evidence based advocacy on the value and benefits of livestock
- *Improve, through capacity building in the use of existing performance assessment tools [OIE-PVS, LSIPT, Easypol, Extrapolate] management and planning skills for guiding livestock development*
- *Providing direct institutional support to the regional stakeholder organizations, in particular by strengthening their policy advocacy skills, and supporting their participation in policy dialogue mechanisms for supporting trade in animal commodities*

1.3 Develop and implement public and private sector investment policies, incentives and regulatory frameworks to enhance performance of priority livestock value chains

1.3.1 Create enabling conditions and incentives to support private investments

1.3.2 Develop specific investment frameworks for priority value chains

1.3.3 Promote and establish innovative funding mechanism in support of the values chains

1.3.4 Improve inter-sectoral linkages and collaboration to enhance public funding and ensure infrastructural development to support livestock value chains

1.4 Put in place safeguard mechanisms to minimize the impact of negative externalities on public goods

1.4.1 Develop and implement policies that safeguard public goods against negative externalities

8.2. Policies to Achieve Strategic Objective II: To enhance Livestock Production and Animal Health to increase Productivity and Resilience of livestock production systems

2.1 Enhance availability and access to quality feed and water

2.1.1 Support MS re-characterization and assessment of the potential and comparative advantages of the different agro-ecological zones to best match production systems and environments at national levels

2.1.2 Securing access to natural resources (pasture and water) critical for livestock production at national levels

- Facilitate strengthening of governance and sustainable management of Natural Resources at the crop-livestock-wildlife interface to improve conservation practice, community livelihoods, biodiversity, and reduce land degradation.*

· *Facilitate regional comparative learning on pastoral development issues*

· *Collating, packaging, disseminating and/or facilitating the testing of available best practices from public domain sources by Member States and RECs.*

· *Coordination of trans-boundary natural resources management, interventions and policies.*





- *Build on the experiences and existing policy guidelines from the ALive platform and other networks and fast track the operationalisation of the UNCCD Regional programme on Fodder and Range Management (TPN3).*

- *Popularize, facilitate domestication and fast track the establishment of an institutional framework for the implementation of the AU Policy Framework for Pastoralism in Africa [PF4PA] in MS*

2.1.3 Support MS Formulate enabling and smart water subsidy, use and management policy frameworks and appropriate partnerships for water harvesting, storage, conservation, business models and reticulation of underground and surface water

2.1.4 Support MS undertake Feed resource inventory and development/ revitalization of policies and systems for research and development of feeds

2.1.5 Promote incentives, partnerships and delivery models for enhanced access to, multiplication and utilization of existing feed technologies

2.1.6 Support MS Create an enabling environment, models and incentives for enhanced commercial feed production, processing, marketing and utilization

2.1.7 Promote and integrate crop-livestock production systems

□ *Facilitation of technology transfer, in particular for animal-based mechanisation and integrated nutrient management;*

- *Development and promotion of dual-purpose/ food-feed crops;*

- *Production of fodder in region with high potential and transportation in areas of greater need*

- *Development and promotion of fodder conservation strategies;*

- *Support to the development of intensive commercial livestock production enterprises around large coastal cities;*

2.2 Improve animal health systems and reduce impact of animal diseases on livestock production, productivity and public health

2.2.1 Strengthen veterinary governance, animal health systems and service delivery

□ *Scale up of VET-GOV programme best practice / lessons learnt and support MS do the same*

- *Undertake pilot studies addressing areas of veterinary governance not covered by VET-GOV and support MS do the same*

- *Build on VET-GOV advocacy and awareness raising on the need for institutional changes and processes implementation in the livestock sector and support MS do the same*

- *Strengthen quality of integrated public private veterinary service delivery (including accreditation of private practitioners to provide public good services) and private sector involvement in livestock development*

- *Support MS formulation of an enabling policy environment and implementation guidelines for establishing integrated public private livestock service delivery including animal health service*

delivery

- *Facilitate MS develop innovative animal health extension packages, for commercial, mixed and extensive production systems, through analysis and dissemination of past and existing best practice models,*

- *Support MS promotion of experiential learning, [learning by doing], indigenous knowledge and appropriate technology development*

- *Assist MS Improve compliance with OIE PVS performance standards for the delivery of animal health services*

- *Support MS development of institutional capacity building and strengthened human and financial resources and physical infrastructure in line with PVS assessment outcomes*

- *Support MSs to identify knowledge gaps, develop/ customize tools and access new technology to enhance disease surveillance, monitoring, reporting, diagnosis and control*

2.2.2 Support MS Strengthen and harmonize veterinary curricula and training and continuing professional development in line with OIE guidelines

□ *Foster partnerships and collaboration among learning and research institutions and facilitate the convening of a periodic forum for heads of the relevant institutions of learning, with a view to exchanging information and knowledge on current developments, innovations and issues in the animal resource sector, and consequently using these to arrive at common approaches on updating their curricula and meeting day 1 competencies*

- *Develop framework for harmonization of training curriculum*

- *Strengthen core competences of the national and regional animal health institutions mostly in the fields of disease surveillance, reporting, diagnostic, emergency preparedness and response*

- *Capacity building for human resources and institutions at all levels to support research, technology development and dissemination for the livestock sub-sector at all levels*

- *Collaborate with relevant partners and academic institutions in developing and implementing training programs and continuous learning curricula for animal health personnel, in order to improve the technical and managerial capacity of animal health systems.*

- *Support MS Veterinary Statutory Bodies [VSB] develop and proclaim CPD guidelines and regulations*

- *Support REC / MS institutions and organisations capacity to develop CPD learning materials that improve the technical and managerial skills and knowledge of both private and public animal health professionals delivered face to face or by e-platform*

- *Establish a network of training institutions in all aspect of livestock development*

2.2.3 Support MS harmonize and apply veterinary and drug legislations and improve compliance with OIE animal health and welfare standards

□ *Support capacity building and the development of legislation, procedures and guidelines for disease prevention and control;*





- *Support quality assurance of vet vaccines, drugs and reagents and enhance delivery systems*
 - *Harmonize approaches for qualitative risk assessment, building resilience to AH and zoonotic emergencies*
 - *Improve compliance with OIE PVS performance standards for the delivery of animal health services*
 - *Participate in and support participation of MS in the sanitary standard setting processes and support their national SPS committees as decided by the Heads of State of the AU.*
 - *Enhance MS capacity for implementation of and compliance with animal health standards including animal welfare*
 - *Support MS to develop and implement adaptive animal health certification and traceability approaches*
 - *Promoting the use of available standards and principles such as compartmentalization, principle of equivalence, commodity- based trade, certification and concepts such as traceability to boost regional trade.*
- 2.2.4 Control and progressively eradicate priority animal diseases and zoonoses
- *In collaboration with AU-IBAR: - Participate in the Global Control and Eradication Strategy [GCES] for PPR, Progressive Control of FMD, and other OIE-FAO led initiatives*
 - *Co-ordinate and provide technical support to the MS for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of regional / REC strategies and frameworks towards the prevention, sustainable control and emergency response to priority TADs and zoonoses in livestock, wildlife, bees and fish. Focus will be given to PPR, ASF, ND CBPP and high-impact emerging TADs and zoonoses. Support MS to:*
 - *Strengthen bio-security, and promote good and safe practices in particular in poultry, bees and fish farming for effective disease control.*
 - *Enhance disease reporting and sanitary information management and sharing to support timely disease prevention and control.*
 - *Develop cost effective disease surveillance strategies and collect, collate, analyse and share disease information to facilitate coordination and harmonisation of disease management procedures.*
 - *Facilitate the adoption and utilisation by MS of disease prioritization tools and selection of major TADs and zoonoses in livestock, wildlife, bees and fish farming.*
 - *Cooperate with relevant academic and research institutions to identify research needs to support successful formulation and implementation of disease prevention and control strategies and programmes.*
 - *Coordinate and support studies to generate knowledge on socio-economic impact of priority TADs to increase support and improve control.*
 - *Establish / Strengthen disease Early Warning & Rapid Response (EWRR) mechanisms and decision support tools for disease outbreaks and other emergencies*
 - *Develop modalities for more effective partnership with IBAR and MS including using new*

information technologies

- 2.2.5 Support One Health and cross-border/regional coordination mechanisms for harmonization of disease prevention and control approaches aligned to the AU integration agenda
- *Promoting One Health initiatives at the national and regional levels and spearheading networking and consensus building among stakeholders for effective inter-sectoral collaborative coordination mechanisms between animal and public health sectors for efficient, timely response and effective management of zoonoses*
 - *Facilitating and coordinating the development and implementation of programmes and projects for the prevention and mitigation of selected zoonotic diseases, food safety challenges, and epidemiological surveillance of food- borne diseases*
 - *Fostering formal cooperation between Ministries of Health and Animal Resources and joint development of strategies to adequately address zoonotic and food safety threats*
 - *Promoting and coordinating review and reform of health policies and legislation for adoption of the One Health approach*
 - *Strengthening core functions of veterinary public health, including integrated food safety monitoring and residues control in animal-source foods (ASFs)*
 - *Strengthening surveillance, prevention and control of zoonotic diseases and emerging pathogens with pandemic potential*
 - *Monitoring anti-microbial and other drug and pesticide residues. Bio-security and animal production good practices and safety standards will be promoted to minimize risk of transmission of pathogens to humans*
 - *Identifying and prioritizing zoonoses and food safety threats at MS levels. Primary focus could be on rabies, tuberculosis, brucellosis, HPAI and emerging zoonotic threats of major importance*

2.3 Improve the genetic potential and performance of animals

- 2.3.1 Support MS to accelerate genetic improvement and access to appropriate, productive and resilient breeds that best match the production systems / environments mediated by innovative research and development, business, PPP and ICT
- 2.3.2 Formulate and promote supportive, inclusive and integrated institutional and policy frameworks for the sustainable management of animal genetic resource
- 2.3.3 Support MS Conduct inventory, characterization and innovatively utilize indigenous bio-resources (e.g. rumen and milk microbes, genes) with potential industrial and business application in African production system
- 2.3.4 Support MS Design and implement innovative and sustainable breeding and conservation programmes at national and regional level
- 2.3.5 Support MS Develop appropriate and more effective delivery systems of appropriate and superior genetic material
- 2.3.6 Support MS develop and support inclusive community-public-private partnerships and business





models for generation, implementation and delivery of appropriate genetic resources

2.4 Promote the intensification of livestock production systems

- 2.4.1 Mapping of high potential zones for intensification and development of appropriate models at national level
- 2.4.2 Support MS Develop an enabling environment to support, incentivize and build capacity for transition to more intensive production and for management of the external factors
 - *Formulating strategies and building capacity to unlock the potential of major and emerging animal resources production systems*
- 2.4.3 Support MS undertake innovative research and development in intensification systems, up-scaling and improving dissemination of existing technologies
 - *Developing and facilitating implementation of animal recording systems to monitor productivity indexes of animal resources.*

2.5 Enhance environmental health and ecosystem services

- 2.5.1 Support MS Develop an enabling environment and promote innovation, incentives and partnerships to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, degradation and other negative impacts
 - *Developing and supporting implementation of the regional strategies, action plans and legislative frameworks on conservation and utilization, in the framework of the Global Plan of Action.*
 - *Support MS Promoting/facilitating rangeland rehabilitation, water harvesting, restoration of ecosystems including degraded terrestrial and aquatic habitats, biodiversity and landscape conservation, sustainable management of wildlife-livestock-human interface, conflict management, etc.*
 - *Collating, packaging, disseminating and/or facilitating the testing and uptake of available best practices.*

Coordinating trans-boundary natural resources management, for animal resources in particular, interventions and policies as well as supporting regional arrangements for exploitation of shared wildlife resources and highly migratory species

- 2.5.2 Support MS Create an enabling environment to institutionalize and generate incentives for enhancing livestock ecosystem services including biodiversity services, carbon credits, nutrient recycling and contribution to water recharge systems
 - *Promoting mainstreaming diversification of livestock resources at the interface between mixed production ecosystems and protected areas through supporting sustainable land management systems for livestock and wildlife at the interface.*
 - *Promoting regional collaboration and cooperation in the management of shared and transboundary terrestrial and aquatic resources.*
 - *Identifying and facilitating avenues for exploitation of opportunities for livestock keepers to benefit from payments for ecological services.*

Promotion of activities that bring about the payment of ecosystem services (PES) or reward for environmental services from participatory conservation and restoration of degraded rangelands

2.6 Manage climate change and variability risks

- 2.6.1 Promote mainstreaming of climate change and variability planning and development and adoption of appropriate technologies
 - *Conduct vulnerability assessment mapping of hazards, gaps and stakeholder analysis*
 - *Strengthen forecasting abilities, through increased understanding of the impact of climate fluctuations on provision of productive inputs (fodder and water), greater predictions of extreme weather events, and increased information exchange and overall awareness at all levels of the implications of these forecasts*
 - *Strengthen capacity for best technological and environmental practices for sustainable animal resources development, including environmental impact assessment, identification of hotspots and effects of climate change on species*
 - *Recognize the short and long-term impacts of climate variability and climate change on livestock production, adaptation planning taking into account both the need to increase the current ability of pastoral communities, to lessen and cope with the impacts of extremes as well as the need to conserve and improve the resilience of pastureland.*
- 2.6.2 Promote early-warning disaster preparedness and response mechanisms for drought, floods and others
 - *Develop/strengthen early drought/disaster warning systems, preparedness and contingency plans – risk management approach*
 - *Strengthen forecasting abilities, through increased understanding of the impact of climate fluctuations on provision of productive inputs (fodder and water), greater predictions of extreme weather events, and increased information exchange and overall awareness at all levels of the implications of these forecasts*
 - *Conduct vulnerability assessment mapping of hazards, gaps and stakeholder analysis*
 - *Facilitate domestication the livestock index based insurance*
 - *Facilitate the implementation of the Livestock Emergency Guidelines (LEGS)*
 - *Support climate change adaptation and mitigation mechanisms*
 - *Educate grassroots herder communities on climate information incorporating traditional approaches to weather forecasting.*

2.7 Establish support measures for social protection and diversified livelihoods

- 2.7.1 Support MS Create an enabling environment for strengthening and harnessing social protection mechanisms and traditional social safety nets
- 2.7.2 Support MS Create an enabling environment and incentives for diversification of livestock livelihoods and productive and sustainable exit/entry into alternative livelihoods





□ *Strengthen governance of natural resources, particularly the communal use areas, to create a more stable foundation for livestock sector resilience and biodiversity conservation.*

· *Facilitating the scaling-up of the livestock index-based insurance initiatives*

· *Facilitating the implementation of the Livestock Emergency Guidelines (LEGs).*

8.3. Policies to achieve Strategic Objective III: To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors

3.1 Adopt relevant livestock value chain technologies

3.1.1 Compilation of an inventory of existing technologies

3.1.2 Support MS Disseminate and promote appropriate technologies through extension services

□ *Develop a framework for and pilot livestock identification and recording.*

· *Support promotion of experiential learning, indigenous knowledge and appropriate technology development*

3.2 Generate and sustainably utilize new livestock value chain technologies

3.2.1 Support and build capacity of research institutions – [not duplicating existing EU funded actions]

□ *Establish a network of training institutions in all aspect of livestock development*

· *Foster partnerships with the relevant institutions of learning and research as sources of expertise, knowledge and innovation, civil society organizations and producer organizations, and national and international institutes of policy research.*

· *Provide guidelines and frameworks for innovative and demand driven research approaches*

· *Strengthen training and research for evidence-based livestock management and development*

3.3 Create conducive conditions for the progressive commercialisation of the traditional livestock Sub-sector

3.3.1 Support MS mainstream entrepreneurship and livestock business and industry training into the education system.

3.3.2 Support MS provide formal training of livestock producers as farming professionals

3.3.3 Creating awareness on market opportunities and providing incentives for market-oriented entrepreneurship.

3.3.4 Promoting attitude/mindset change to catalyze commercialization of traditional livestock systems

8.4 Policies to achieve Strategic Objective IV: To enhance access to markets, services and value addition

4.1 Improve marketing and value addition infrastructure

4.1.1 Promotion of innovative Private-Public Partnerships for infrastructure development

4.1.2. Lobby for minimum public sector investment to stimulate public good services and open up marginalized areas

4.1.3 Promote the Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) Concept

4.2 Promote adoption of the value chain approach by stakeholders and implement strategies to increase total values (promoting contractual arrangements, market organisations and linkages)

4.2.1 Adoption and promotion of existing successful value chains development models

4.2.2 Development, piloting and promotion of new evidence-based value chains

□ *Facilitate the formulation of policy frameworks and advocate for policy options that promote and encourage value addition and reduction of post-harvest losses*

· *Support and facilitate the development and adoption of technologies aimed at improving value addition and reducing post-harvest losses, by commissioning research on specific aspects or facilitating access to information and knowledge related to these technologies.*

· *Improving capacities of stakeholders in value addition and reduction of post-harvest losses (e.g. training of trainers, production and dissemination of training materials).*

4.2.3 Support and capacity building to enhance stakeholder organization (e.g. cooperatives,) and coordination

□ *Strengthen stakeholders' partnerships and commodity organizations*

· *Facilitate increased participation of stakeholders organizations in the policy dialogue*

· *Support capacity of continental stakeholders' organizations to participate in the policy dialogue*

· *Promoting the establishment of livestock producer's organizations at local, national and regional level:*

4.2.4 Support and facilitate stakeholder participation in policy processes

Facilitate increased participation of regional and national stakeholders' organizations in the policy dialogue

4.3 Enhance marketing information and leverage on ICT to improve access markets, services and value addition

4.3.1 Promote partnership with ICT companies to develop innovations for livestock marketing, information sharing and other services including financial transfers, disease reporting and extension

□ *Compilation of an inventory of existing market information systems for livestock and fisheries commodities at the national levels*

· *National trade and market information systems established / strengthened*

· *Development of regional market information systems (RMIS) to play a key role in linking producers, marketers and other interested stakeholders in the different regions of Africa through a common market information exchange platform.*





- *Support MS Strengthen/Enhance data collection, information analysis, knowledge management, and communication in livestock development for information exchange, learning and advocacy*
 - *Capacity building and support for strengthening of Information / knowledge on AR;*
 - *Document and disseminate information, best practices and lessons learnt*
 - *Develop KM tools to enhance knowledge sharing and performance*
 - *Creating awareness on animal and animal products trade issues.*
 - *Facilitating and supporting the development of financial products that are adapted to the production cycle of rural livestock enterprises, addressing appropriate repayment terms and collateral for loans, appropriate insurance products, and relevant banking services that use new ICT platforms that allow financial transactions via mobile telephones*
- 4.3.2 Strengthen public sector support and investment to create an enabling environment
- 4.3.3 Promote incentives for value addition with commensurate dis-incentives for the export of raw commodities
- *Enhance value addition along the market chain inclusive of all stakeholders and reduce post-production losses*
- *Facilitate and support Development of financial products that are adapted to the production cycle of rural livestock enterprises*
 - *Identify opportunities and challenges for development of value chains*
- 4.4 Strengthen capacity to develop quality standards and enforce sanitary measures affecting animal health, food safety and public health**
- 4.4.1 Support capacity building and coordination mechanisms for sanitary enforcement at National levels
- *Support participation of MS in the sanitary standard setting processes*
- *Enhance capacity for implementation of animal health and welfare standards*
 - *Support MS to develop and implement adaptive animal health certification and traceability approaches*
 - *Develop guidelines and standard operating procedures to facilitate compliance*
 - *Formulating and facilitating the implementation of traceability and livestock identification systems adapted to different productions systems in the region.*
- 4.4.2 **Support advocacy and lobbying among stakeholders to enhance knowledge of and compliance to standards**
- *Promoting trade with acceptable level of risk.*
- *Advocate for international standards to adopt a 'commodity-based' approach.*

- 4.4.3 *Support establishment of self-regulation compliance mechanisms through capacity building, cooperative development and public-private partnerships*
- *Improve compliance with sanitary standards and regulations for market access*
 - *Support harmonisation of SPS regulatory frameworks*
 - *Develop guidelines standards operating procedures on Cross Border Inspection to facilitate inter and intra-regional trade*
- 4.5 Improve access to inputs and services**
- 4.5.1 Promote innovative public private partnerships enabling private sector participation in the provision of services and inputs
- *Compiling and sharing of good practices of improved access to services and market through stakeholder organizations and PPP.*
- *Mobilizing resources for piloting models of successful PPP mechanisms, involving animal commodities stakeholder organizations, and facilitating access to markets and services.*
 - *Development of infrastructure services*
 - *Securing access to output markets (public) investment for and regulation/management of slaughterhouses and milk processing plants*
 - *Feeder road network from producer to market;*
 - *Watering facilities along established livestock's trek routes on the way to markets;*
 - *Milk collection centres*
 - *Mobile laboratory for disease screening;*
 - *Regional reference laboratories (e.g. for quality control and assurance);*
 - *Mobile communication*
 - *Securing access to credit and other inputs*
- 4.5.2 Create enabling policy environment and incentives to reduce the cost of inputs and services
- 4.5.3 Promote local production and intra-regional distribution of essential inputs and supplies
- *Promoting regional consultation and coordination of stakeholders and assisting animal commodity trade stakeholders to develop trade partnerships and synergies within Africa.*
- *Facilitating consultations and linkages between stakeholders from African exporting countries and counterparts in key importing countries.*
- 4.6 Promote risk management in livestock products value chain
- 4.7 Encourage innovation through technology transfer, research and development for enhanced product competitiveness





9

Ratification and implementation Modalities of Livestock Policy Framework in COMESA member countries

9.1 Ratification within COMESA member countries

Draft livestock policy framework to be circulated to all COMESA MS for views and comments and to be further discussed and critiqued at a stakeholder workshop. Views and comments as received to be incorporated into a final draft of the livestock policy framework. Endorsement of the final draft for adoption by COMESA MS to be undertaken by the appropriate COMESA authority.

9.2 Implementation of policy framework within COMESA member countries

The endorsed COMESA Livestock Policy Framework to be published and distributed to all MS to guide the development and publication of national livestock policy frameworks. These should follow the overall framework as laid out by the COMESA document to keep the policy framework aligned to the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa [LiDeSA] and harmonised at national, regional and continental levels. It is expected that from the regional policy framework, national livestock policies could be drawn for implementing sector-wide livestock development, paying attention to the diversity of agro-ecological conditions under which livestock resources are produced and traded. This will enable effective integration and harmonized implementation.

9.3 Way forward for the LPF – (as suggested at Stakeholders Workshop)

Group 1. After validation let the LPF go through the policy organs of COMESA and then to member countries. At MS level:

- Make people aware immediately at the departmental level*
- Align the MS livestock policy to the regional framework*
- Take it through the national policy making mechanisms-Livestock policy hub*

Group 2

- Validation of the Draft RLPF by the CVOs,CVOs’ report to the Accounting Officer and Minister responsible for livestock*
- The National Livestock Policy Hubs’ contribution to the draft are sought variously*
- Incorporation of the comments of the NLP Hub into the Draft-Feedback provided*
- Presentation of the Draft to the council of Ministers for ownership and signing*
- The MS domesticating the RLPF in their individual countries (country policies) and subsequently enacting relevant Legislations to back the policies*

Group 3

- Involvement of policy frameworks: Ministers*
- Information / Validation by the National Platform*
- Alignment with national policy*

Group 4.

- Align national program framework to the LPF*
- Engage policy makers for buy-in*
- Sensitisation of Public / Private / Producer / Partnerships [4Ps]*





10

Aligning the RLPF to CAADP and Agenda 2063

A “Sustaining CAADP Momentum Results Framework”, endorsed in the AU Malabo Declaration (2014), has been put at the centre of the strategic thrust for CAADP for the next decade. The framework provides tangible parameters to benchmark and measure achievement in the performance of the agricultural sector. Increased livestock production, productivity and value addition can make substantive contributions to the agricultural sector performance measures through the COMESA Regional Livestock Policy Framework [LPF] with its focus on achieving demonstrate-able results and impact as shown in Annex 2. The LPF is closely aligned to the CAADP focus on job creation, income generation, food security and prosperity. The LPF provides COMESA MS with a recipe for transformative actions to enhance systemic capacity and ability to provide livestock service personnel with the required skills and knowledge to apply innovation, science and technology increasing value addition and servicing regional markets. The LPF mirrors the two pronged transformation and productivity approach of the CAADP results framework [CRF] through all three levels. Specifically the LPF provides for social and economic transformation [CRF level 1], productivity and competitiveness [level 2] and the requisite systemic capabilities [level 3]. This alignment is demonstrated in Table 27 below

Table 27 CAADP Result Areas Served by Livestock Policy Framework

Level 1 Social and Economic Transformation Impact Indicators	
CAADP Result Area	LPF Contribution
1.1 Agricultural contribution to creation of national wealth	Enhance Livestock Production and Animal Health and increase productivity and resilience of livestock production systems
1.2 Impact of agriculture on poverty alleviation	Establish support measures for social protection and diversified livelihoods; Promote the intensification of livestock production systems
1.3 Food Security; food autonomy and Nutritionally secure	Enhance Livestock Production and Animal Health and increase productivity and resilience of livestock production systems
1.4 Resilience to stresses and shocks	Manage climate change and variability risks; Enhance environmental health and ecosystem services
Level 2 Agricultural Transformation and Sustained Agricultural Growth Indicators	
Result Area	LPF Contribution
2.1 Increased agriculture Production and Productivity	Improve the genetic potential and performance of animals; Improve animal health systems and reduce impact of animal diseases; Minimise the impacts of animal diseases on livestock production, productivity and public health;
2.2 Markets and Trade	Enhance access to markets, services and value addition
2.3 Empowered and expanded domestic agro-industry	Promote adoption of the value chain approach by stakeholders and implement strategies to increase total values
2.4 Increased investments in Agriculture (commercialisation of agriculture)	Develop and implement public and private sector investment policies, incentives and regulatory frameworks to enhance performance of priority livestock value chains; Put in place safeguard mechanisms to minimize the impact of negative externalities on public goods
2.5 Sustainable NRM (Environmental resilience)	Enhance environmental health and ecosystem services

2.6 Value Addition and market development	Adopt existing and relevant livestock value chain technologies; Generate and sustainably utilize new livestock value chain technologies
Level 3 Strengthening Systemic Capacity for Effective Execution & Delivery of Results	
Result Area	LPF Contribution
3.1 Improved and inclusive policy design and implementation capacity for agriculture	COMESA Regional Livestock Policy Framework
3.2 More effective and accountable institutions to drive planning and implementation of public policies and investment programmes	LPF will build in foundation created by the Reinforcing African Veterinary Governance” [VetGov] Project
3.3 More inclusive and evidence based agriculture planning and implementation processes	Identify, map and promote priority value chains with comparative advantage at the national levels; Promote recognition of the asset values, socio-economic benefits and potential of the livestock sector
3.4 Improved coordination, partnerships and alliances within and across sectors and countries (regional trade and collaboration)	Strengthening of National Livestock Policy Hubs and formation of a COMESA Regional Livestock Policy Hub
3.5 Increased (public/private) investment financing in agriculture achieving better value for money	Develop and implement public and private sector investment policies, incentives and regulatory frameworks to enhance performance of priority livestock value chains
3.6 The knowledge, innovation and learning system and processes effectively informing and supporting farmers, producers and entrepreneurs.	Enhance leverage on ICT to improve access markets, services and value addition

The RLPF will make equally strong contribution towards the vision of Africa as envisaged in the Agenda 2063 document. The strategy to implement the RFLP as laid out in LiDeSA provides significant opportunity for the livestock sector to support key Agenda 2063 objectives – particularly the creation of job opportunities and empowerment of women and youth. The relationship between Agenda 2063 and the RFLP is demonstrated in table 28 as given below.

Table 28 Regional Livestock Policy Framework aligned to Agenda 2063 Goals

Agenda 2063 Goal	LPF / LiDeSA alignment
Africa to finance own development	The standing asset value of the livestock renewable resource in Africa is worth billions of dollars which the LPF and LiDeSA have been designed to mobilise
Mobilise the human resource for self reliance	Enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors
Recognise critical role of RECS as building blocks	COMESA LPF provides specific guidance for this role
Accountable Institutions	LPF will build on the institutional governance gains made under the VetGov programme
Potential of Women and Youth realised	The LPF creates an enabling environment for the deployment of the LiDeSA within which there are huge opportunities for creating meaningful and sustainable employment for women and youth [See working document Annex 3]
Inclusive growth and sustainable development	Establish support measures for social protection and diversified livelihoods
Enhance education, skills revolution, S&T, innovations and knowledge	Enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors
Modern agricultural practice to increase production, productivity and value addition	Enhance Livestock Production and Animal Health and increase productivity and resilience of livestock production systems





Environmental ecosystems healthy, preserved with climate resilient economies and communities	<i>Enhance environmental health and ecosystem services; Manage climate change and variability risks</i>
Seamless borders and, management of cross-border resources through dialogue	<i>Identify, map and promote priority value chains with comparative advantage at the national levels</i>
Competent professional rules and merit based public institutions to serve and deliver effective efficient services	<i>LPF will build on the livestock institutional governance gains made under the VetGov programme</i>
Full access by Youth to education, training, skills and technology through strengthened technical vocational education and training [TVET]	<i>Enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors</i>
Development of African private sector through engagement & conducive climate, regional manufacturing hubs and scaled up intra-Africa trade.	<i>Develop and implement public and private sector investment policies, incentives and regulatory frameworks to enhance performance of priority livestock value chains</i>
Consolidate modernisation of African Agriculture and Agri-business through scaled up productivity and value addition reducing food imports enabling intra-Africa trade.	<i>Enhance Livestock Production and Animal Health and increase productivity and resilience of livestock production systems; and enhance access to markets, services and value addition</i>

In the implementation of the RLPF the following scaling up actions are needed

- Identifying and championing working models, encouraging innovation and disseminating good practice
- Forming effective public / private / producer partnerships [the 4 Ps]
- Leveraging the necessary resources against evidenced based results
- Production of an agreed Livestock Development strategy and putting in place an enabling environment to implement that strategy inclusive of legislation and policy.

An agreed livestock development strategy – LiDeSA is in place. The RFLP provides an enabling environment for the implementation of this strategy. Clear guidance is given to the actions needed for the livestock sector to meet the rising demand for animal source foods and to play its part in the broader objectives as detailed in Agenda 2063.

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